

## Selskar College, Westgate, Wexford Town

With thanks to School Completion Officer Bernie Lambert and Teacher Marie Prendergast

## **Oonagh Latchford (Lead Artist)**

Over a ten-week period, third year students from Selskar College, Wexford Town, explored a diverse range of processes including drawing, painting and mono-printing. The focus for the project was mindfulness and wellbeing. Pupils embraced working with both traditional and non-traditional processes, on activities designed to contribute to each student's self-efficacy and motivation. The project took place within the classroom setting and included a studio visit and workshop in the Cow House Studios in Rathnure, Co. Wexford.





Oonagh Latchford holds a BA (Hons.) in Fine Art, awarded from the Wexford Campus School of Art and Design, Carlow IT. Her paintings are held in both private and corporate collections within Ireland and abroad. As an appendage to her painting practice, she is an experienced workshop facilitator and is a certified GOLDEN artist educator. Recent exhibitions include a solo show in March 2018 in the Anita Chan Lai-Ling Gallery in Hong Kong and with Creative Macau.

In 2013, the Living Arts Project was established as a long term visual arts educational scheme, supporting the existing partnership between the Arts Department of Wexford County Council and Wexford Arts Centre. The aim of this project is to provide children with an understanding and appreciation of contemporary visual art. The Living Arts Project exhibition represents a selection of work produced by the participating primary schools and artists, offering pupils a chance to see their work presented in a professional gallery.

The following artists and schools were selected for this year's programme; Orla Bates with Scoil Mhuire, Horeswood, New Ross; David Begley with St. Senan's National School, Enniscorthy; Clare Breen with St. Ibar's National School, Castlebridge; and John Busher with St. Mary's National School, Ballygarret, Gorey.

Over the course of a fifteen-week programme, each artist brought their own unique styles, talents and disciplines to the participating schools, encouraging pupils to think beyond the classroom and respond visually to the world around them. The project challenged the pupils and teachers through the mediums of film making, mixed media sculpture, printmaking, painting and drawing processes.

This year, in addition to the residencies in primary schools, the Living Arts Project included Ramsgrange Community School and Selskar College supported by the Creative Ireland Programme. An innovative ten-week residency was developed with each school by artists Oonagh Latchford and Els Dievorst, focusing on promoting artistic and interpersonal skills, and integrating cross curricular subjects.

The Arts Department of Wexford County Council and Wexford Arts Centre would like to take this opportunity to thank all schools, artists and mentors involved in the project, and the local community for their support and interest in the project to date.

## Scoil Mhuire, Horeswood, New Ross, Co. Wexford

With thanks to Principal Brian Flood, and Teachers Evelyn O'Connor, Melissa Walsh and Darren Keating

### Órla Bates (Lead Artist)

Órla Bates worked with third class in Scoil Mhuire, Horeswood, New Ross and was assisted by artist Gwenda Wallace. The class explored themes based on change, transformation and chance in the art making process. Over fourteen weeks, children had the opportunity to expand on these ideas through drawing, animation and printmaking. Throughout the project children engaged with both contemporary and traditional art practices. The use of technology in contemporary drawing was explored, as children encountered the work of contemporary artists and learned how to make their drawings move through animation.

Órla Bates is a visual artist living and working in County Wexford. She studied at the Limerick School of Art and Design and graduated in 2000 with a BA (Hons.) in Printmaking. Orla has exhibited extensively throughout Ireland and recent group exhibitions which include RHA, Dublin; Peripheries, Gorey School of Art; RUA RED Arts Centre, Dublin, Impressions, Galway Arts Centre, Limerick Printmakers, and The Lavit Gallery Cork. In 2012 and 2016 she was awarded the Artlinks Bursary Award.



# Gwenda Wallace (Assistant Artist)

Gwenda Wallace studied at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin. Selected solo exhibitions include *Exhibition of New Paintings*, ArtBank Gallery, Bunclody, Co. Wexford (2016); *Life is a Journey*, The Cockleshell Art Gallery, Duncannon, Co. Wexford (2014) and *Impressions of a Young Artist*, Wexford Opera Festival, Wexford (2006).



The Chairperson of Wexford County Council & the Board of Wexford Arts Centre

has the pleasure of inviting you, family and friends to the official launch of the

# **Living Arts Project Exhibition**

Saturday 14th April at 2pm

# at Wexford Arts Centre

Opened by Artist Arno Kramer

A partnership initiative between the Arts Department of Wexford County Council, Wexford Arts Centre and the Arts Council.

## St. Ibar's National School, Castlebridge, Co. Wexford

With thanks to Principal Edward Lyons, Deputy Principal Mary Kavanagh, and Teachers Aphra Fortune and Jennifer Nolan

### Clare Breen (Lead Artist)

Clare Breen worked with third and fifth classes in St. Ibar's National School, Castlebridge and was assisted by artist Mairead Stafford. The project, titled Breadfellows' Chats asked the question 'what does an artist do?'. Working closely with ten international artists with diverse practices, workshops were developed that introduced the children to a wide spectrum of contemporary material processes. The children worked with painting, collage, sculpture, performance and the body, textiles, writing, film, photography, ceramics and sound. Collaborative making was an essential part of the process.



Clare Breen obtained a BA (Hons.) in Fine Art from the National College of Arts and Design, Dublin in 2011 and a Masters in Education in the Arts from the Piet Zwart Institute, Rotterdam in 2016. In 2017, she worked as part of the Documenta 14 education team and completed a residency at Yellow Brick Project Space. In January 2018, Clare received the Arts in Education Portal Documentation Award for Breadfellows' Chats as part of the Living Arts Project.



# Mairead Stafford (Assistant Artist)

Mairead Stafford is a Wexford based visual artist who produces sculpture, painting and clay work. She is currently on the Artist in Creative Communities Panel in JCSP Projects throughout Wexford, and facilitates workshops for adults and children in her own purpose built ceramic studio in Castlebridge. She has exhibited work in group shows in Oriel St. David's, Wexford Arts Centre, Wysing Arts, Greenacres Art Gallery and the Denis Collins Gallery.

#### Ramsgrange Community School, New Ross. Co. Wexford

With thanks to Acting Deputy Principal Mary Cullinane and Art Teacher Aoife Power

#### Els Dietvorst (Lead Artist)

Leaving Certificate students from Ramsgrange Community College explored themes of self-portraiture and metamorphoses over a series of ten workshops. Facilitated by artist and filmmaker Els Dietvorst, the students had the opportunity to use a range of different materials as they explored line, composition and colour. Step by step, they transformed the self-portrait into an animal through drawings and stop motion animations.





Els Dietvorst is a Belgian visual artist, filmmaker and shepherd who lives and works in Duncormick, Co. Wexford. Els' work has been shown and supported by renowned art institutes and festivals such as the Kaaitheatre, Brussels; Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Brussels; Museum of Modern Art, Antwerp; and shown internationally in New York, Utrecht, Casablanca, London and Vienna. In September 2015, Els was selected for the Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, and in May 2017 she is chosen by an international jury to win the Evens Arts Prize.

The exhibition will run in the upper and lower galleries of Wexford Arts Centre from Monday 9th April to Saturday 5th May 2018, and gallery hours are Monday to Friday from 10am-5pm, and Saturday from 10am-4pm. If your school is interested in participating in the Living Arts Project 2018/2019, please contact Catherine Bowe, Visual Arts Manager on +353 (0)53 9123764 or email catherine@wexfordartscentre.ie.

Catherine Bowe, Visual Arts Manager Wexford Arts Centre Cornmarket, Wexford T: +353 53 9123764 E: catherine@wexfordartscentre.ie

### St. Mary's National School, Ballygarrett, Gorey, Co. Wexford

With thanks to Principal Niall Madden, and Teachers Eveleen O'Sullivan and Aoife Gardiner

### John Busher (Lead Artist)

John Busher worked with fifth and sixth classes at Ballygarrett National School, Gorey and was assisted by artist Anne Martin Walsh. Communal themes fed into the project, as Ballygarrett as a recreational site was investigated. In print form, collective notions of leisure activity in addition to the threat of local erosion were explored. Contemporary attitudes to lo-fi materiality, such as glitter and poster paint were examined alongside found materials that were foraged on the local beach. A variety of paint techniques such as masking, transferring, stencilling and spray-painting were reconfigured in works that sits somewhere between two and three dimensions.

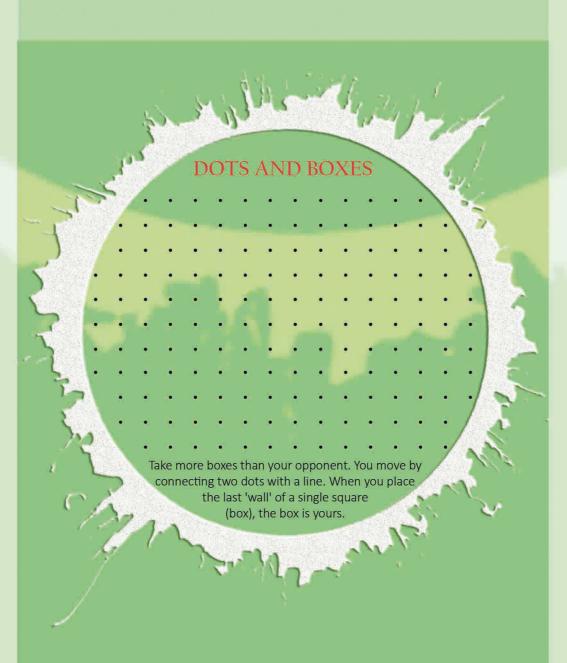


John Busher graduated from the National College of Art and Design with an MA Art in the Contemporary World in 2015, a Post Grad in 2008, and a BA (Hons.) Degree in 1999. He was recently selected for the Turps correspondence course at Turps Art School (London). Recent solo exhibitions include *Jostle*, Pallas Projects, Dublin (2017); and *Floorplan*, NAG Gallery, Dublin (2015). Selected group shows include *Paper Cuts*, Kristian Day, London (2017); and Impressions Biennnial, CCAM, GMIT, Galway (2017). He was the recipient of the 2018 Artlinks Bursary and recent publications include Art Maze Magazine (Issue 6), curated by Kristian Day (London).



# Anne Martin Walsh (Assistant Artist)

Anne Martin Walsh is currently studying for a Masters in Art and Process at CIT Crawford College of Art and Design. She graduated with a BA (Hons.) in Fine Art from the Wexford Campus School of Art and Design, IT Carlow in 2017.







### St. Senan's National School, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

With thanks to Principal Oona Rackard, and Teachers Jenna Kenny and Eugene Sheridan

### **David Begley (Lead Artist)**

David Begley worked with two sixth class groups at St Senan's National School, Enniscorthy and was assisted by artist Deirdre Buttimer. Pupils were asked to create stories based on the sea and respond to these in drawing, printmaking, painting and sound. Two magical and imaginative stories evolved out of the project entitled 'The legend of Little Island' and 'Lavinia Lazar and the Sea Monster'. The project led to fantastical sea monster paintings, treasure maps, monotypes, and the children also recorded their stories in sound.

David Begley is an artist and writer based in Blackwater, County Wexford. In 2017, he was awarded an Artlinks Literature Bursary and a Travel and Training Award for Literature from The Arts Council of Ireland. David exhibits regularly nationally and internationally. His animations have been presented at galleries, arthouse cinemas and festivals in Greece, USA, UK and Ireland. His work is in the collections of AXA, The Contemporary Irish Art Society, The EPA, OPW, INTO and Wexford County Council.



## **Deirdre Buttimer (Assistant Artist)**

Deirdre Buttimer graduated with a B.A. (Hons) in Fine Arts from the Wexford Campus School of Art and Design, IT Carlow in 2016. Recent exhibitions include *The Caged Bird Sings*, Wexford Arts Centre, Wexford (2016), *Albedo*, Drinagh, Wexford (2015); and *Eclectic Vision*, Wexford County Council, Selskar Street, Wexford (2012).



For further information on Wexford County Council's full arts programme please visit www.wexfordcoco.ie/arts-and-culture or call 053-9196441 or email arts@wexfordcoco.ie.

Susan Murphy, Clerical Officer The Arts Department, Wexford County Council Carricklawn, Wexford T: +353 53 9196441