

## BUTLER ■ GALLERY

### *Gems from the Collection*

January 20 – March 4, 2007

The Butler Gallery has an extraordinary resource in its fine permanent collection. Established in 1943, the collection has continued to flourish through gift and purchase. It is a rich archive to which the inquisitive eye may turn and return. Including loans from the Sir Basil Goulding Collection, the Graphic Print Studio and private collections, the Butler Gallery Collection is an eclectic catalogue that can be read and appreciated on many levels.

*Gems from the Collection* delves into the racks and draws our attention to works in the collection that have not been viewed in recent times. This current selection embraces a variety of genres through sculpture, painting, drawing and printmaking. Moody Irish landscape is represented with works by Gwen O'Dowd, Sean McSweeney and Tim Goulding in addition to an exquisite suite of watercolours by Nathaniel Hone. Works by Patrick Collins, Barrie Cooke, Evie Hone, Mainie Jellett and Tony O'Malley also feature along with sculptural works by Dorothy Cross, David Nash and Eilis O'Connell.

This exhibition includes a new loan to the collection of a previously un-exhibited watercolour by Mildred Anne Butler, entitled *Kilmurry*, c.1911. Two new works that entered the collection in 2006 will be featured. These include *Victoria*, a tiny rubber figurative sculpture by Jeanne Silverthorne that addresses the literal and metaphorical implications of DNA and *Mind's Eye*, a video work that focuses on the traditional medium of drawing, by New York based Irish artist Simon Reilly. This work expresses the joy and frustration of a young artist's attempt to render a beautiful and constantly moving horse. Horses also find their way into playful works by Honor Grundig, Stephen Lawlor and Liam O'Brien. This diverse collection is always a visual delight and exemplifies the best of Irish art. We are privileged to have its home base here in Kilkenny.

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### *Solas Exhibition*

February 24 – March 4, 2007

When *Solas* was launched in the Butler Gallery in March 2000, it was hoped that it would encourage children and their families to visit the gallery and respond to a wide variety of exhibitions. Seven years on and *Solas* has become incredibly popular with a dedicated following of young budding artists. To celebrate the success of *Solas* and the inspiring creativity of the children who regularly attend, the Butler Gallery is delighted to conclude this years annual collection exhibition with an exhibition of work by the children. On Sunday January 21st the creativity will begin. In the following weeks over 130 children will attend *Solas* workshops. The resulting works of art will present a fresh, unique and inspiring interpretation of ‘Gems from the Collection’.

*Solas* exhibition opens at 3pm on Saturday February 24th and runs to March 4th 2007.

*Solas* workshops are designed for children aged 5 to 12 years and take place in the gallery on alternate Sundays.

### **ADMISSION FREE**

Butler Gallery, The Castle, Kilkenny, Ireland

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