



PRESS RELEASE June 2017

Please join us for the opening of three new exhibitions

Preview 7-9pm, Friday 30th June. All Welcome

Isabelle Gaborit / Alchemy - Hanne T. Fisker / Water Stories –

Kathryn Kelly / Adrift With Uncertainty

Exhibitions run from Saturday 30th July – Saturday 29th July

Drawing together three artists with disparate practices working in varied media, the new exhibitions at The Courthouse Gallery explore the environment, from the wild Atlantic coast to unnamed fiery worlds and a mysterious yet beautiful frozen landscape.

In the main gallery, West of Ireland based artist Isabelle Gaborit has mastered the ancient art of encaustic, or painting with pigmented wax, a technique mastered by the Greeks. Hanne T Fisker meanwhile, is drawn to the wildness of the Clare coastline, photographing what she terms its 'sea explosions' at close quarters. In our Red Couch space, Cork-based artist Kathryn Kelly's installation of photographs and light evoke explorations of the self, its cool ambiance belying the turmoil of the unknown.

Isabelle Gaborit / Alchemy

In her studio on the scenic shores of Lough Derg, Isabelle Gaborit has rekindled the ancient painting process of encaustics, an immediate and tactile painting method using molten pigmented beeswax. Her creative process involves the application of semi-transparent layers of wax, paint, photography and pigment, striving to create depth and translucency without compromising the spirit of the medium or subject matter.

In this exhibition, 'Alchemy', she explains: "I was compelled to explore the primal theme of light embedded in our connection to watery depths and fiery furnaces. I strive to conjure up a sense of mystery in my works, in order to ignite the imagination of the viewer while I reflect on the aesthetic power of light enhanced through layers of translucent beeswax. Beeswax has been used since ancient times to preserve, protect and seal. The encaustic layering process allows the capturing of the dynamics of flow, light and imagery emerging in unexpected ways, luring the viewer to dive in ghostly pools and through fiery gateways."

Hanne T. Fisker / Water Stories

With my camera I paint on the canvas that is my life. A life exploring the edge. The edge of land and sea, the edge of my mind where life becomes abstract and reality is challenged, the edge of the reach of my eyes. Photography to me is listening, listening in presence of the natural world. In nature I remember, I am nature too; inherently connected. Expansion, contraction, ebb and flow; the pulse and breath of life that simply is. I continuously find myself drawn towards the ever changeable rhythm and infinite expressions of water where separation between the outer and inner landscapes seemingly ceases to exist. Black and white is my preferred form due to its naked simplicity which appears to hold quiet stories of its own, it opens the space and invite the viewer in to fill the image with their own colours and imagination, the story in between the lines.

Kathryn Kelly / Adrift With Uncertainty

Kelly explains her work: “ ‘Adrift with Uncertainty’ is a series of landscape-based photographic works, taken during a time living abroad, relaying a period of personal significance. Working with the medium of photography I undertook to document my observations of the natural environment as a means to create and reveal accounts of emotional, psychological and sensory experiences. The works which are figurative in nature are a contemplation on our position in, and connection to, place and time within our outer surroundings and inner experience. They act metaphorically, to express the fragility and transience of the passing of time.”

Artist Biographies

Isabelle Gaborit

Gaborit holds foundation certificate from l'Ecole des Beaux Arts in Poitiers, France, and graduated in 2006 with an honours degree in fine arts in Ireland. Since then she has been exhibiting her work extensively nationally and internationally in, among others, Northern Ireland, China and France. She is a former member of Artspace in Galway and G126, and is now one of the founding members of Art in Studios, East Clare Art Trail. She is also experienced in conducting workshops and demonstrations on demand for art enthusiasts, absolute beginners and developing artists alike. isabellegaborit.com [facebook.com/isabelle.gaborit.artist](https://www.facebook.com/isabelle.gaborit.artist)

Hanne T. Fisker

“One day I packed a suitcase and left life as I knew it in Denmark. Little did I know that I in 2011, five years later, would put my suitcase down in Doolin, Co. Clare, and pick up a camera, embarking on yet another journey new to me, that of art and creativity. With attentive curiosity and growing focus I began exploring the infinite field of photographic expression which lead to my first exhibition ‘Storm & Still’ in 2015. I am grateful to have the opportunity to share snippets of my work once again. www.htfisker.com

Kathryn Kelly graduated from Limerick School of Art and Design in 2009 with an Honours degree in Fashion Design. She currently lives and works in Cork, Ireland, and holds a studio

at Sample-Studios centre for contemporary arts in Cork city. Her current creative practice is predominantly in the field of visual art, working with mixed media print and collage, sculpture, installation, text and lens-based work. Recent exhibits include, 'Whispered Beginnings', a solo exhibition as part of Cork Photo Festival Cork Ireland (2016), 'Void Manifested' an Installation at Kfest Art & Music Festival, Kerry, Ireland (2016) 'Soul Yearnings' with Maureen exhibition at the Iontas Arts Centre, Monaghan, Ireland (2015), and the IMPACT 8 Print Festival, Dundee, Scotland (2013).

For further information please contact The Courthouse Gallery on 065 707 1630