

**COMMON THREADS:
THE LINKS BETWEEN
ART AND FASHION**

Seminar: Saturday 18th February 2006, 10.00am – 2.00pm

museum

National Museum of Ireland

Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

National Museum of Ireland
Decorative Arts & History,
Collins Barracks,
Benburb St., Dublin 7.

COMMON THREADS: THE LINKS BETWEEN ART AND FASHION

This seminar has been organised in conjunction with the temporary exhibition, When Philip Met Isabella – Philip Treacy's Hats for Isabella Blow, on loan from the Design Museum, UK. The seminar will explore whether Art and Fashion inform and influence each other. A number of artists, designers and curators will talk about their own work and focus on how they see these connections as an influence on their own practice. This seminar is for anyone with a general interest in Art and Fashion including those working in the areas of Art or Fashion as students, practitioners or educators.

PROGRAMME

9.30am	Registration and Coffee
9.50am	Welcome <i>Helen Beaumont, Education and Outreach Officer</i>
10.00am	When Philip Met Isabella - Philip Treacy's Hats for Isabella Blow: Curating Contemporary Fashion <i>Donna Loveday, Head of Exhibitions, Design Museum, London and curator of the exhibition 'When Philip met Isabella'</i>
10.40am	Full Nettle Jacket: Alice Maher and the Language of Clothes <i>Alice Maher, artist</i>
11.20am	Coffee Break
11.40am	Wearable Unwearable <i>Angela O'Kelly, artist and curator</i>
12.20pm	The Shoe is on the Other Foot <i>Helen McAllister, artist and lecturer, National College of Art and Design</i>
1.00pm	A Not so Common Thread <i>Nigel Cheney, artist and Head of Department of Fashion and Textiles (Acting), National College of Art and Design</i>
1.40pm	Panel Discussion <i>Chair: Hilary O'Kelly, lecturer in the History of Design, National College of Art and Design</i>
2.00pm	Close of Seminar

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Nigel Cheney is the Head of Department of Fashion and Textiles (Acting) at the National College of Art and Design in Dublin. Trained in both traditional and computer aided embroidery, he has worked in the fashion industry at both high street and designer level. Recently his work has been exhibited internationally as a textile artist and often uses clothing references as a starting point. He is the Irish selector for the prestigious Lodz Tapestry Tirenale in Poland.

Donna Loveday is Head of Exhibitions at the Design Museum, London and has curated a wide range of exhibitions including Verner Panton: Light and Colour, Modern Britain 1929-1939, Somewhere Totally Else – The European Design Show and Saul Bass. She is also course director for an MA in Curating Contemporary Design, which the Design Museum runs in conjunction with Kingston University. She was previously Exhibition Organiser at the British Film Institute and the Barbican Art Gallery.

Alice Maher is an artist whose work often takes the form of installation and can include drawing, sculpture, print and photography. Materials taken directly from the countryside, like nettles, thorns or snails, have been utilised by her to make sculptural objects that use myth and fairytale as investigative narratives. There is often a simultaneous attraction and repulsion in her combination of materials, which appear both frightening and funny, sad and uplifting all at once. Maher studied fine art in the late eighties at Cork and Belfast. Her work can be seen in the public collections of the Irish Museum of Modern Art, The Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery, the British Museum and the Arts Councils of Ireland and Northern Ireland, as well as in many private collections in Ireland, England, France and America.

Helen McAllister is at present a practice-based PhD research student. She has an MA in Embroidered Textiles from the National College of Art and Design. McAllister's work is influenced by referencing historical and aesthetical elements of Italy and in particular Venice, with specific focus on Venetian surfaces. The shoe-derived form continues to be the vehicle for philosophical responses to what constitutes a pair, the dynamics and the tensions within what are not equal units. These dynamics are challenged further when expressed through the embroidery medium. The Venetian theme and the shoe entity articulated through embroidery makes for a pairing of harmony.

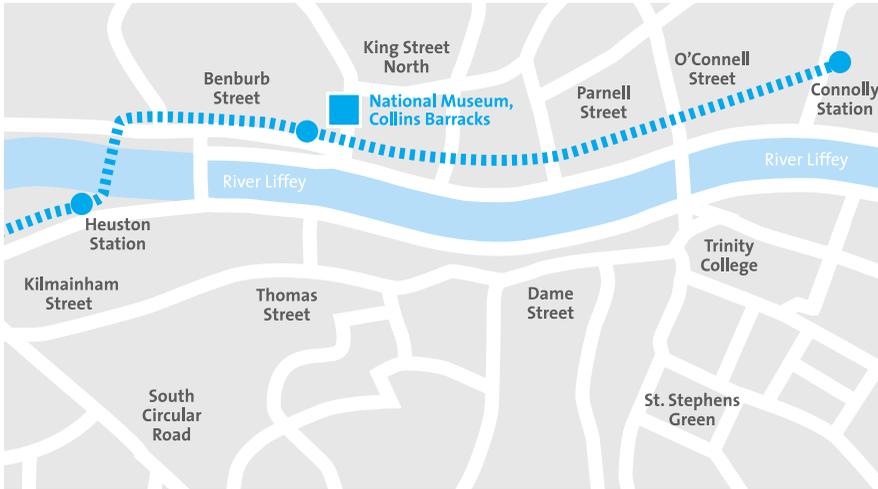
Angela O' Kelly's wearable art crosses boundaries between sculpture, jewellery and textile art. She produces large sculptural wearable art pieces and a range of smaller neckpieces, brooches and bangles. Her inspiration derives from a fascination with simple shapes, textures and repetition in nature. She studied at the Edinburgh College of Art and has a Masters of Arts Management and Cultural Policy from University College Dublin. She exhibits extensively in Europe and the USA and her work in public collections includes the OPW Ireland, Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, the American Museum of Art and Design in New York and the British Crafts Council Collection, London.

Hilary O'Kelly is a Dress Historian whose work involves interpreting the role and significance of dress in the History of European art and culture. Her research interests also relate to dress and material culture in 20th century Ireland. This includes the relationship between dress in Ireland and notions of national identity, gender, status and religion.

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HOW TO GET THERE



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO BOOK A PLACE CONTACT:

The Education and Outreach Department

Tel: 01 648 6453, Fax: 01 679 1025

Email: bookings@museum.ie

Booking Office hours are Monday – Friday, 10.00am – 5.00pm.

Places are limited and booking is essential.

Admission Free

Car parking available or take the LUAS red line to the dedicated Museum stop.

This seminar has been organised by the Education and Outreach Department in conjunction with the temporary exhibition, *When Philip Met Isabella – Philip Treacy's Hats for Isabella Blow*, on loan from the Design Museum, UK. This exhibition runs at the National Museum of Ireland – Decorative Arts and History until 28th February 2006. For further information contact the Education and Outreach Department.

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