

Deirdre McLoughlin Ireland b. 1949

'I make a work to discover what it is'



Purp, 2023, High Fired Ceramic, 26H x 20W x 19D cm

Deirdre McLoughlin Biography

Irish artist Deirdre McLoughlin is a graduate from Trinity College Dublin from where, in 2021, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate.

'Her art is her 'great adventure', in which she humbly allows the material to take her with it, not unlike a fabulous tale she beautifully recalls of those early Irish monks who sailed without oars on the Atlantic Ocean, entrusting themselves to the winds.' Public Orator Professor Anna Chahoud

Moving to Amsterdam in the early 1970's she was inspired by the sculptures of Rosemary Andrews to work with clay. Finding form in this medium she would eventually come to the realisation that the shapes she was making were a language of expression and were what was generally termed art. Up until then and it took some years, she had been unable to answer the on-going question from those around her - 'why do you not make something useful'.

The realisation brought her to work in Kyoto, which she considers to be her main study period in the field of ceramics. She set up studio and worked alongside the artists of the Sodeisha Group. The sculptures of Yasuo Hayashi in their sublime geometry and the early works of Susumu Arioka with their impossible balances have had a lasting influence on her. After her first solo exhibition in Kyoto she travelled throughout China visiting Liling, Jingdezhen, Xian and Bezeklik.

The archetypal form, the ovoid, remains central in Deirdre McLoughlin's work. Imbued with an intense physicality and dedication to perfection of form and surface, her sculptures are layered with meaning, charged with movement, a feeling of power, a sense of purity. Her making process is slow and demanding; initially coil built, her pieces undergo a protracted process of polishing and multiple firings. This can last for days into weeks. 'I know a work has come to an end when an inner logic reveals itself. The work in an instance feels right.' Deirdre McLoughlin lives and works in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Selected Collections

National Museum of Ireland
Ulster Museum, Belfast
Irish State Art Collection
Trinity College Dublin
Arts Council of Ireland
Hunt Museum, Limerick
AIB Bank, Ireland
Limerick City Gallery of Art
National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland
Icheon World Ceramic Center, Korea
Mark Rothko Art Centre, Daugapils, Latvia

Museum het Princessehof, Netherlands
 Frank Steyaert Museum, Belgium
 Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Germany
 Lotte Reimers - Stiftung, Diedesheim, Germany
 St. Patrick's Seminary, Carlow
 Farmleigh House, Dublin

Exhibitions | Solo

2022 *MCLOUGHLIN Modern Shapes*, Antwerp, BE
 2018 *Deirdre McLoughlin Recent Work* Clara Scremini Galley Paris, FR
 2013 *Sculptor Le Vide*, Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, FR
 2012 *Shaping the Void*, National Craft Gallery & Wandsford Quay Gallery, Cork, IE
 2008 Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, IE
 2003 Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, IE
 1999 Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, IE
 1997 Galerie Amphora with Sonja Landweer, Oosterbeek, NL
 1996 Galerie Maas, Rotterdam, NL
 1994 *Recent Work*, Green on Red Gallery, Dublin, IE
 1993 *Recent Work*, Ulster Museum Belfast, UK & Limerick City Gallery of Art, IE
 1992 Galerie Maas, Rotterdam, NL
 1990 Galerie Ram, Arnhem, NL
 1984 *Ceramic Sculpture* Gallery Beni, Kyoto, JP

Selected Exhibitions | Group & Two-Person 2005 - 2023

2023 ***Matters of the Heart* [two-person exhibition with Helena Gorey], Taste Contemporary, Geneva, CH**
 2022 *MODERN MASTERS*, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, DE
Life Rhythm, Alan Davie and Deirdre McLoughlin, Fen Ditton Gallery, Cambridge, UK
 Symposium & Exhibition, International Ceramics Studio, Kesceket, HU
SÚNYATÁ, four artists, Fermleigh Gallery, Dublin, IE
 2021 *Pioneering Women* Oxford Ceramics Gallery, UK
Marian Bijlenga & Deirdre McLoughlin, Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL
 2020 *Frank Steyaert Collection* Keramis, Centre de La Ceramique, La Louviere, BE
Royal Hibernian Academy 190th Annual Exhibition, Dublin, Ireland also 2010 2008, IE
Double Estate, Pearse Museum, Dublin, IE
Zomersalon, Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL
Land/Marks Farmleigh Gallery, Dublin, IE
Showing Rob Regeer & Deirdre McLoughlin Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL
L'abstraction: L'expression Essentielle Le Don Du Fel Gallery, FR
 2018 LOEWE Craft Prize, Design Museum, London, UK
***Contained/Contenu*, presented by Taste Contemporary, Musée Ariana, Geneva, CH**
About Clay, Pearls of European Ceramic Art, Fiskars Village, FI

- 2017 *Shadow of Sodeisha*, National Museum of Ireland, IE
5th KITSa, International Triennial of Silicate Arts, Kecskemet, HU
TOUCHSTONE, Farmleigh House, Dublin, Ireland
- 2017 - 2010 Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL
- 2016 - 2007 15a Galerie & Beeldentuin, Lochem, NL
- 2016 Sitka Centre for Art and Ecology, Otis, Oregon, USA
Irish Contemporary Ceramics Collection, Hunt Museum, Limerick, IE
- 2015 *CON - TIN - YOO - UM, TEN SCULPTORS*, OBA Amsterdam, IE
 Keramik Europas-13 European Parliament Strasbourg, France & Stadtmuseum, DE
- 2014 Keramik Europas, *WESTERWALDPREIS Ceramics of Europe*, Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Hohn-Grenzhausen [also 2004, 2009] DE
Life Lines, Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL
EUROPE & BEYOND, Coach House Gallery, Dublin Castle, IE
Royal Ulster Academy of Arts; invited artist, Belfast, UK
- 2013 *JANUS*, Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, IE
Future Beauty? National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, IE
LANDescape, Mark Rothko Art Center, Daugavpils, LV
- 2009 *From Traditional Expression to Modern Context*, ISU, Terre Haute, USA
Eenvoud, Museum Nagele, NL
- 2008 *VII International Ceramics Congress*, Afyonkarahisar, TR
- 2007 *4th Cebiko Icheon World Ceramic Center*, Icheon, KR
- 2006, 05, 00 *Royal Hibernian Academy Annual Exhibition*, Dublin, IE
- 2006 *European Ceramic Context 2006*, Bornholm, DK
East West Ceramics Collaboration IV, Oahu, Hawaii, USA
- 2005 *Ruth Duckworth Homage; Abstract Expression in Ceramics*, Garth Clark Gallery, NYC, USA
Irish Ceramics of the 21st Century, National Museum of Ireland, IE
SIAR 50, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, IE

Selected Art Fairs

- 2022 *COLLECTIBLE*, Modern Shapes, Antwerp, BE
- 2018 **Artgenève [represented by Taste Contemporary], Geneva, CH**
- 2017 *VUE*, *Royal Hibernian Academy* [represented by the Peppercanister Gallery] [also 2016, 2015, 2011] IE
- 2016 ART.FAIR Keulen, represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, DE
- 2015 ART BREDA represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, NL
 artKARLSRUHE represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, DE
- 2014 RAW ART FAIR, Rotterdam, represented by Galerie Franzis Engels NL
 kunstRAI Amsterdam represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, NL
- 2012 COLLECT London represented by National Craft Gallery, Ireland, UK
- 2011 ART & Antiques Fair's-Hertogenbosch represented by Bruijstens Modern Art, NL
- 2010 Affordable Art Fair Amsterdam represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, NL
- 1986 OB'ART Paris represented by David Rose Project, FR

Awards

- 2021 Doctor honoris Causa, Honorary Doctorate, Trinity College, Dublin
- 2019 Diploma of Honour Korean International Ceramic Biennale
- 2018 Shortlisted for the LOEWE Craft Prize
- 2015 Elected Member of the International Academy of Ceramics
- 2014 First Prize Vessel; Ceramics of Europe – Keramik Europa Westerwaldpreis 13
- 2011 Stamp issued by An Post to celebrate Year of Craft Ireland
- 2007 Diploma of Honour 4th World Ceramic Biennale Korea
- 2004 First Prize Vessel; Ceramics of Europe - Keramik Europa Westerwaldpreis 11
- 2000 Alexander Foundation Grant Geneva
- 1991 Self Portrait commissioned by the National Self Portrait Collection of Ireland
Recent Work travelling exhibition funded by the Ulster Museum Belfast, Northern Ireland
Shaping the Void travelling exhibition funded by the National Craft Gallery Kilkenny, Ireland
 Travel awards from Culture Ireland

Bibliography

- 2021 Game, Amanda, *PIONEERING WOMEN*, Oxford Ceramics Gallery catalogue, UK
 Ting Ju Shao, *Deirdre McLoughlin*, Taipei Art magazine, TW
- 2020 Osborne + Tyrrell, *Deirdre McLoughlin*, Sonnets and Dirty Dishes
- 2019 Sisypusam, *STILL WALKING*, Wallpaper, CN
 Murphy, Roisín, *Objects of Desire*, Irish Independent, IE
 Culley, Derek, *Deirdre McLoughlin*, Art ad Museum, UK
- 2018 LOEWE Foundation, Craft Price 2018, Catalogue Essay
 Viva, Antonio Deirdre McLoughlin, *Ceramica y Ceramistas* no. 148
- 2017 Grenham, Sophie, Line & Detail, *Irish Times*, [17 June], IE
- 2015 Flegg, Eleanor, Gathering Shape, *Ceramic Review*, [July/August], UK
 Masa, A Soul Stirring Art Show, *China Art Ceramic*, [June], CN
 Van Hoften, Teja, Over Trage Wegen en Volle Leegten, *Klei*, [June Nr.3] NL
- 2013 Girard, Gaetane, Deirdre Mcloughlin, *La Revue de la Ceramique et du Verre*, [No. 189] FR
- 2012 Dunne, Aidan, Touching the Void, *Irish Times*, [18 January], IE
 Pim, Henry, Body and Soul, *Ceramics Ireland*, [issue 29], IE
- 2011 Murphy, Patrick J, Maker of Shapes, Catalogue essay *Shaping the Void*, [November] IE
- 2010 McLoughlin, Deirdre, *Neue Keramik/New Ceramics*, [5/2010] DE
- 2008 Van der Meulen, Yna, Ooggetuigen van het Leven, *Klei*, [January/February] NL
- 2007 Pim, Henry, Dynamisierte Materie, *Keramik Magazin Europa*, [Juni/Juli] DE
 Augustijn, Piet, Deirdre McLoughlin, *Keramiek*, [Juni] NL
- 2006 O’Kelly, Hilary, *The National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland*, 246-247, vol. 2, University of Limerick Press, IE
 During, Nesrin, Deirdre McLoughlin, *Ceramics Monthly*, [March] USA
- 2005 Steyaert, Frank, Amlash Modern Design van 3000 *Klei*, [November] NL
- 2004 McLoughlin, Deirdre, McLoughlin, *Neue Keramik*, [September/October] DE

- 2001 Blandino, Betty, *The Figure in Fired Clay*, London: A & C Black, UK
1995 Robinson & McLoughlin, Swimming in the Pool, *Ceramic Review*, [issue 151] UK
1994 Dunne, Aidan, A Sculptor of Top Rank, Review, *The Sunday Tribune*, [3 March] IE
1998 McCrum, Sean, Ceramics as Sculpture, *Irish Arts Review Yearbook 1988*, IE

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