

CIT HOSTS PRIZE WINNERS EXHIBITIONS

Cork Institute of Technology hosts new exhibitions, running from mid October to late November at the James Barry Exhibition Centre, CIT Bishopstown Campus, which will feature the work of **Rory Mullen**, **Laura Crotty** and **Cassandra Eustace**. The exhibitions are free and run daily.

Both Rory and Laura received CIT Artsfest Development Bursaries, awarded to support the professional development of a graduate at the beginning of their career. The award can be used to attend or participate in an exhibition or conference relevant to the graduate's area of work. It may also be used to attend an approved professional training course.

Cassandra Eustace is the winner of the CIT Artsfest Prize established to give artists an opportunity to showcase their work as part of the festival. This year the artists will have an exhibition as part of national science week to further develop a body of work in their area of interest.

For the curious: take tea with the artist **Rory Mullen** in his cardboard home from 17-25 October. Following from his highly praised installations at the CIT CCAD Hons Degree Show in June, at the Irish Examiner Food Fair in Fitzgerald Park in July, and most recently at the Crawford Gallery for Culture Night, Rory Mullen will build another unique and idiosyncratic living environment specially for the James Barry Exhibition Centre. Cardboard becomes every surface, and every object – from books and watches to the plates and the kitchen sink – it all feels strangely familiar and personal. Modern disposable culture replicated and patched together with lots of brown tape.

Running from 11-16 November, the second exhibition features the work of **Cassandra Eustace**. “The materiality and structure of my work plays with this balance of differences joining, creating temporary situations using shadow and rejections or by combining intentionally sourced materials and found objects.

Drawing through observation and process underpins my work. Often the non-representative results of a drawing process can reveal something previously unknown. It is this translation from the known to the unfamiliar that informs the ambiguous nature of my work, alluding to the often-unnameable space of commonality that exists beyond all our differences.”

The third exhibition takes place during Positive Mind & Body Week organised by CIT Students Union and runs 21 - 30 November. The work of **Laura Crotty** refers to female hunger with its main focus on the media and cosmetic industry. “Recently, I’m using video to examine the nature of female self-destructive energy in the face of the oppressive beauty industry. I believe that male anger tends to be focused outward, while female anger seems to focus inward. Personally I’m trying to express how self-harm mechanisms such as eating disorders, alcoholism or cutting are really a bizarre displacement of power. The relentless pressure from the beauty industry for women to conform to the body beautiful ideal, and be ‘perfect’ has caught us up in a ritual use of constant self-surveillance.”

ENDS

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