IMMA

Patrick Scott IMAGE SPACE LIGHT

information and resources for second level students and teachers



Patrick Scott, Small Rosc Symbol, 1967

16 February – 18 May 2014 Garden Galleries, Irish Museum of Modern Art Dublin and VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art, Carlow

Patrick Scott *IMAGE SPACE LIGHT* will travel to Glebe Gallery, Churchill, Co. Donegal, 14 July - 29 August 2014 and Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, 14 July - 27 September 2014.

About the Resources

These resources are intended to provide information and ideas about the exhibition Patrick Scott Image Space Light for second level teachers and students before, during and after the exhibition.

The resources provide information about the exhition, the artist and his materials and methodologies. We have five selected artworks to look at in detail in terms of form, materials and style. Key words are highlighted in red and are explained in text boxes throughout the document.

Other resources include a timeline which situates Patrick Scott within the events of the twentieth century; some ideas and suggestions for looking at and discussing the exhibition; and a map of the gallery spaces indicating where the selected artworks are situated.

Further information including suggestions for books, websites and other resources are included at the end of the document.

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We hope you will enjoy your visit to the exhibition and that these resouces will be of use.

Lisa Moran,

Curator: Education and Community Programmes

About the Exhibition	Patrick Scott Image Space Light 16 February –18 May 2014 Garden Galleries, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin and VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art, Carlow.	
	This exhibition is a major retrospective of the work of Irish artist Patrick Scott, showing across two venues - IMMA and VISUAL Carlow - the exhibition Patrick Scott <i>Image</i> <i>Space Light</i> will bring together the most comprehensive representation of this artist's long career.	A retrospecctive is an exhibition of an artist's practice over a period of time. It usually features the work of a well-established artist who has built up a body of work over time.
curation Curation refers to the strategy for an exhibition: how it is displayed, its themes, content, layout, etc.	The exhibition is curated by Christine Kennedy, Senior Curator: Head of Collections, IMMA, and the exhibition coordinator is Johanne Mullan, National Programmer, IMMA. The exhibition considers Scott's career as a Gesamkunstwerk, looking at the interdisciplinary nature of his work spanning architecture, painting, drawing, textiles and furniture design.	Gesamtkunstwerk is a German word for 'total work of art'. It refers to the idea of an artist working in many disciplines and in different mediums where the overall body —of work is considered to be the work of art.
	The exhibition at IMMA concentrates on Scott's early works from 1940-1969 while VISUAL displays works from the 1960s to the present. The immense scale of the spaces at VISUAL provides a unique opportunity to exhibit together a number of Scott's monumental tapestries which were created for many of the leading modernist buildings of the 1960s designed by architectural firm Scott Tallon Walker, such as the Bank of Ireland Headquarters.	
display and layout	Patrick's Scott's work varies considerably in size and medium from small paintings to industrial-sized tapestries. The size and form of an artwork can influence the way in which it is displayed - large works need large spaces - and also to what extent it can be shown in relation to other works so that themes can be explored and developments in an artist's practice can be seen over time.	
	The exhibition is displayed in two venues: the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Dublin and VISUAL in Carlow. In IMMA, the work is displayed in the Garden Galleries which is a self-contained building comprising a number of medium-sized rooms on three floors. The layout of the rooms enables the viewer to encounter the works thematically, where similar works such as the <i>Bog Paintings</i> and the <i>Devices</i> are displayed together to show the development of Scott's ideas over time and through his use of materials. Much of Scott's work is painting which requires suitable wall space and lighting. VISUAL has very large gallery spaces and high ceilings which provide a good opportunity for Scott's very large tapestries to be shown together along with other large-scale works such as his tapestries, <i>Kite</i> and his <i>Mediation Tables</i> .	Patrick Scott tapestry in the new Mater Hospital, Dublin 2014.
lighting	The lighting for the exhibition includes the use of natural and artificial lighing. Many of Scott's paintings use bright colours which are vulnerable to fading under strong light. Spot lights are used on many of these works to manage the amount of light they are exposed to. In some rooms there is a combination of natural light (from the windows) and artificial light. Some of the large paintings such as <i>Girl with Grass</i> , 1958, need a careful balancing of spot lighting to ensure there is an even lighting over the entire painting. The drawings and works are paper are particularly vulnerable to	
A vitrine is a glass or perspex display case for the presentation of art objects or fragile material. information	light exposure and they are displayed in vitrines using spot lights. The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue of images and essays from artists, writers, curators and collectors who provide an insight to the artist's broad practice. There is also a gallery guide which provides an overview of the exhibition.	
Biographical material is information about — an artist's life, their history and their life	The exhibition includes documentary, photographic and biographical material which provides insights into the artist's interests, influences and motivations.	
events.	There are guided tours and talks and events about aspects of the exhibition. See IMMA's website www.imma.ie for further information.	3



Patrick Scott in his studio

About the Artist	Patrick Scott was born in Kilbritten, Co Cork. He studied architecture at UCD and, from 1945-1960, he worked for the architectural practice of Michael Scott where he was involved in the design of Busáras and Iranród Eireann trains. He also created design work for Signa design consultancy established in 1953 by Michael Scott and Louis le Broquy.	
The White Stag Group was a group of artists established in the early 1940s which included several emigre artists such as Kenneth Hall and Basil Rakosci who came to Ireland during WWII.	In 1941 he became affiliated with the White Stag Group and had his first solo exhibition at the White Stag gallery in 1944. He represented Ireland at the Guggenheim International Award In 1958 and 1960 and he also represented Ireland at the Venice Biennale in 1960.	Rost
	Scott gave up architecture to become a full-time artist in 1960 and has continued to practice as an artist and designer. In 1969 he joined the board of Kilkenny Design Workshops and in 2007 he was elected Saoi of Aosdána.	Patrick Scott (second from left) at White Stag exhibition.
Methods and Techniques	Patrick Scott's work encompasses a range of methods and techniques spanning architecture, painting, drawing, printmaking and design. As a self-taught artist he did not identify with or subscribe to any style, school or theoreticla framework, although many associations can be made with Minimalism, Pop Art, Taschime and Lyrical Abstraction.	
by assembling small pieces of glass, tile or other objects in different colours to create a pattern or image which is embedded or fixed to a flat surface such as a wall or floor or to an object such as a vase.	Scott worked as an architect in the offices of Michael Scott (no relation). He was involved in the design of Busáras, the central bus station in Dublin, including the complex mosaics throughout the building. The use of murals and colour as decorative elements was also associated with the modernist architecture of architects such	
Le Corbusier (1887-1913) was a pseudonym for Charles-Edouard Jenneret- Gris, a Swiss-French modernist architect,	as Le Corbusier, who included murals in the interiors of many of his public buildings and private buildings. Scott was also involved in the design of Iranród Eireann trains. His training as an architect	Busaras, c. 1953, architect Michael Scott

designer and artist whose work was very influential on modern architecture.

in the design of Iranród Eireann trains. His training as an architect influenced his ongoing concerns with structure and space.



Busaras, c. 1953, architect Michael Scott, mosaic detail

'I have no aim in my painting, other than my own happiness.'

Abstration the process of making a work abstract through the elimination elements of an artwork.

Geometric abstraction is a form of abstraction which uses geometric forms: cones, cylinders, cubes, rectangles, etc. It is associated with Cubism, Vorticism, DeStijl, Suprematism, Constructivism and Minimalism.

Motif is a recognisable element or theme which may be repeated in a work in various formats, such as the circle in Patrick Scott's work.

Tempera is colour pigment mixed with a waterbased medium such as egg yolk. It is associated with fresco painting where the pigment is applied to wet plaster on a wall.

elements and by emphasising the formal Painting Scott is considered to be one of the first Irish artists to employ pure abstraction in his painting which is evident in his flattening of the picture plane (abandoning both perspective and use of light and shade to create depth) and his use of geometric forms such as the rectangle and circle. However, despite the label of abstract artist, Scott believed all his work begins with a form in his vision.

> Scott's work in the 1950s can be seen to evolve over several phases. His early work employed simple motifs such as birds, trees and geometric shapes, in particular the circle which is a recurring **motif** in his work. In the early 1960s he created a series of 'bog' paintings inspired by his journeys between Dublin and Galway. This was followed by his 'device' paintings which employed the circle motif and the use of tempera on canvas. These works involved spilling and dripping paint on the canvas which was often saturated. They were partly inspired by the testing of hydrogen bombs in the 1950s and '60s during the early stages of the Cold War.

Scott is most well known for his 'Gold' paintings which he began in the mid 1960s. These works combine gold leaf and tempera on raw canvas to create geometric images which emphasise the beauty of materials. Scott employed a more preceise and controlled technique creating these works. These works are partly influenced by his interest in eastern philosophy and his visits to China and Japan.

- Design Scott's design work included tapestries, textiles, set designs, screens, furniture, posters, brochure covers, Christmas cards and postage stamps.
- Scott designed tapestries woven at Atelier Tabard, Frères et Textiles Soeurs in France and carpets produced by V'Soske Joyce in Galway, and he also designed a variety of rugs. He created a kite for the Kilkenny Arts Festival in 1981 which can be seen in VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art in Carlow.
- Other design works include folding screens and meditation Furniture tables. Between 1977 and 1984 Scott created ten screens made of raw canvas mounted on wood and thinly framed with pale oak. These screens were square or rectangular and employed simple design motifs such as the circle or square. In 1991 he made a series of Tables for Mediation inspired by his interest in Zen Buddhism. When folded vertically the table tops provide opportunities for visual contemplation while mediatating in a seated or lotus position.



visiting an exhibition PART 2

Patrick Scott teachers' resources

Patrick Scott, Meditation Painting 28, 2007



Patrick Scott, Device Tapestry, 1971



Patrick Scott, Goldpainting 57, design for postage stamp, date of issue 23 October 1980



Patrick Scott, Double-sided Twofold Screen I, front, 1979



Patrick Scott, Table for Meditation III, 1991



The Art Work Date Materials Dimensions Location Collection Renvyle

Oil on canvas

Room 1, First Floor

Private Collection

30 x 40 cm

1943

About the artwork Form

Renyville is a very early oil painting by Scott which gives an indication of his interest in abstract form and its relationship to space which becomes a recurring feature of his later work. In this work he flattens out the picture space by simplyfying the form of the wall and gate so that they form a series of horizontal and vertical lines. We know it is a gate by the small decorative elements at the top. He reasserts depth in the picture with the tiny faint boat in the upper right-hand corner.

Materials

ials Scott uses oil paint on a very small canvas in this work. The paint is applied thinly onto the canvas so that the linear mark making in a grid format can been seen. This echoes the grid form of the gate and contributes to the flattening of the picture plane. In later works Scott began to use tempera and acryllic paint on unprimed canvas which enabled him to experiment with colour and techniques by applying paint through dripping, pouring and saturating.

Style This painting is created during the period when Scott was associated with the White Stag group. The influence of artists associated with that group such as Kenneth Hall can be seen in Scott's work of this period. In its use of simple graphic forms and mark making and the play on abstract and representational forms, it is also suggestive of the work of Paul Klee, a Swiss artist who was very influential no many artists in the 1940s.



Paul Klee, Pavillion Decked with Flags, 1927





lvy Mike test, US hydrogen bomb test on the Enewetok Atoll in the Marshall Islands, October 31, 1952

The Art WorkBig Solar Device (Large Solar Device)Date1964MaterialsTempera on unprimed canvasDimensions234 x 153 cmLocationBasementCollectionDublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane

About the artwork Form

Diptych a pair of paintings hung together. Traditionally they featured religious imagery painted on two panels hinged together. This painting is part of Scott's 'device' series where he employs a large centrifugal, circular form in the upper part of a vertical canvas. The origin of the form is influenced by the mushroom clouds associated with the testing of hydrogen bombs in the US in the 1950s which were referred to as 'devices'. The large circular motif also refers to Scott's interest in meditative forms associated with Zen Budhhism which is a recurring element in his work. In this painting he uses two canvases (diptych) one above the other which creates a horizon line.

Materials

Style

Un/Primed Canvas primed canvas involves coating the canvas with material which protects it from the corrosive properties of paint by creating a barrier between the canvas and the paint. Unprimed canvas is very porous and absorbs the paint or liquid.

Device, 1971 Tapestry / Wool

In this work Scott uses tempera on unprimed canvas. The unprimed canvas absorbs the paint very quickly giving the work its saturated, luninescent effect. The sunburst effect is created by positioning the canvas in an upright position and rotating the canvas so that the wet paint can drip down the canvas. Scott also experiemented with devices such as straws to blow the paint on the canvas. The paint has congealed along the horizon line where the two canvases meet.

The work is suggestive of the staining techniques employed by artists such as Helen Frankenthaler who was also associated with post-painterly abstraction in the 1960s. Similarly the use of bright, clear, saturated colour suggests the work of artists such as Kenneth Noland and Louis Morris.

Post-painterly absraction is a term devised by American critic Clement Greenberg to describe a form of painting employing clear, flat colour as opposed to the dense expressive painting associated with abstract expressionism. It was associated with the work of Helen Frankenthaler, Kenneth Noland, Louis Morris Ellsworth Kelly and Jules Olitski.

Abstract Expressionism was an American abstract art movment in the 1940s and 1950s which emphasised a non-figurative, emotionally engaged, expressive approach to painting. Predominantly New York based, it was also referred to as the New York School. It was associated with artists such as Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, Willem De Kooning, Arshile Gorky and Barnett Newman.

'I painted them in sort of anger. They were all very explosive kind of paintings.'

Centrifugal refers to a force or movement outwards, away from the

visiting an exhibition PART 2 Patrick Scott teachers' resources





Patrick Scott, Girl Carrying Grass, 1958

Materials

About the artwork

Date

Form

Gold leaf is a traditional technique in painting that involves applying thin sheets of hammered gold onto objects such as paintings, frames or ornaments. It is often associated with medieval paintings and Russian Orthodox icons Style



Copy of Russian Orthodox icon Our Lady of Kazan, 16th century.

The Art Work Gold Painting 47 1969 Oil and gold leaf on linen **Materials** Dimensions 178.2 x 81.8 cm Location Room 6. Ground Floor Collection Collection Irish Museum of Modern Art, Donation Gordon Lambert Trust, 1992

> Referred to as his Gold Paintings, these paintings use simple geometric forms in gold leaf and tempera paint. Many of his gold paintings are created on large rectangular unprimed canvases presented vertically. There is often a horizontal line dividing the canvas in two. In this work the gold leaf is employed to create a rectangular form open at the bottom which marks out the lower half of the painting. This is balanced by a centred circular form in the upper half of the painting containing three black V forms which converge on the centre. In these paintings Scott is concerned with balancing the relationship between the forms and the space in which they are placed.

Scott began using gold leaf in his work from 1964. The technique for applying the thin sheets of gold leaf is complex and requires considerable dexterity and patience. Scott employs a subdued palette of colour in these works to emphasise the subtle qualities of the gold leaf.

Scott's use of clean, simple geometric forms with little expressive markmaking or gesture, and the creation of these works in a series, is suggestive of 1960s Minimalism. The richness of the colour and texture of the gold leaf are the only areas where personal mark making are evident. While this work is considered to be a form of pure abstraction, Scott continues to reference the figure through the use of the vertical canvas (usually used for portraits) and by his combination of a circular form in the upper half and a square or rectangular form in the lower half. This combination of forms is reminiscent of his earlier figurative work such as Girl Carrying Grass, 1958.



Small Rosc Symbol, 1967, cover image for the first Rosc in 1967



The Art Work Date	Rosc Diptych 1967
Materials	Acrylic on canvas - two panels
Dimensions	122 x 121.5 cm each panel
Location	Room 6, Ground Floor
Collection	Irish Museum of Modern Art, Donated by the Artist, 2013
About the artwork	This work, which comprises two square canval panels (dipytch), was created in the context of the first Rosc exhibition of international art in 1967. It was not included in the exhibition which featured the work of international contemporary artists.
Form	The motif for the diptych is drawn from the Small Rosc Symbol (see image upper left) which Scott designed as the motif for Rosc 67 and which was featured on the cover of the catalogue. In the diptych Scott inverts the colours of the Rosc symbol and employs the motif in a repeating pattern. This work was informed by Scott's interest in forms from early Christian sites and structures which he used to create motifs and designs. It also reflects an ethos of the Rosc initiative to create a link between traditional and modern Ireland. They also suggest the ongoing influence of simple, meditative forms such as the circle derived from Scott's interest in eastern philosophy and Zen Buddhism.
Function	While the <i>Small Rosc Symbol</i> was used as the motif for Rosc 1967 the large <i>Rosc Diptych</i> was created as an artistic response. It remained in Scott's studio for many years and was recently donated by the artist to the Irish Museum of Modern Art.
Materials	The diptych consists of two square panels of unprimed linen canvas displayed horizontally. One

Andy Warhol , Self Portrait, 1966

Pop Art was an art movement which developed in the UK and US in teh 1950s drawing on aspects of popular culture and entertainment as subject matter. It is associated with artists such as Andy Warhol, Edward Ruscha and Richard Hamilton.

Style

panel is an inversion of the colour and pattern of the other. Scott's interest in colour is evident in the way he activates the neutral colour of the canvas by using a bright contrasting colour of similar value. This is more evident in the Small Rosc Symbol where the colours tend to vibrate.

The bright, flat colours and simplified forms are reminiscent of the work of artists associated with Pop Art in the 1960s such as Andy Warhol and Edward Ruscha. The use of simplified forms and the presentation of work in a series is also suggestive of Minimalism however Scott resisted the tendency within Minimalism to abandon forms of expressive mark-making and the transcendental potential of the artwork.







The Art Work Meditation Table IX Date 1991 Materials Sculpture / Tempera and gold leaf on native ash Dimensions 76 x 87 x 87 cm Location **VISUAL** Carlow Collection Collection Irish Museum of Modern Art, Purchase, 2006 About the work Form Inspired by his interest in Zen Buddhism, Scott created a series of mediation tables. Each table has a square top surface which can be folded down to function as a low-standing screen. Each table surface is decorated with a unique version of a circular motif (mandala) to facilitate mediation. A small circular form is also painted on the back of the table top which can be seen between the folded forms of the legs. Function The mediation tables function both as table and, when the table top is folded down, as mediation screen. They are designed to facilitate a person mediating on the floor in a lotus or sitting position. Materials The tables are made from a light ash wood and are decorated on the table top with tempera and gold leaf. The use of natural materials and simple geometric forms is in keeping with the ethos of

Zen Buddhism and mediation

1921 born in Kilbritten, Co Cork 1930s 1939 studied architecture at UCD 1940s 1941 became affiliated with the White Stag Group 1943 foundation of the Irish Exhibition of Living Artists (IELA) 1944 first solo exhibition at the White Stag gallery **1945-60** worked for the architectural practice of Michael Scott: involved in the design of Busáras and Iranród Eireann trains 1950s 1953 created design work for Signa design consultancy established by Michael Scott and Louis le Broquy 1958 represented Ireland at the Guggenheim International Award 1960s 1960 represented Ireland at the Guggenheim International Award and won the National Prize for Bog Grasses 1960 represented Ireland at the Venice Biennale **1960** gave up architecture to become a full-time artist 1960 begining of 'bog' paintings 1962 beginning of 'devices' paintings **1963** began designing tapestries **1964** early 'gold' paintings 1967 designed the catalogue motif for Ist Rosc exhibition joined the board of Kilkenny Design Workshops 1969 1970-present 1080 exhibited work in Rosc

1980	exhibited work in Rosc
1983	elected member of Aosdána
1984-45	Visits China as part of trade mission for Kilkenny Design
	Workshops
1986	Visits Japan and Australia
2007	elected Saoi of Aosdána
2014	Patrick Scott died

Timeline

1921	Irish Free State established
1929	Wall Street crash
1933	Nazi party assume power in Germany
1936	Spanish Civil War
1939-1945	World War II
1943	Irish Exhibition of Living Art formed
1945	Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki
1949	Creation of NATO
1950-1954	Korean War
1951	Samuel Beckett Waiting for Godot
1955	Warsaw Pact
1959-1975	Vietnam War
1962	Cuban Missile Crisis
1963	Assasination of President Kennedy
1963	Civil Rights movement in US
1968	Student riots in US and Europe
1969	Moon landings
1972	Bloody Sunday in Derry
1986	Chernobyl nuclear disaster
1987	Stock Market crash
1989	fall of the Berlin Wall
1990	invention of world wide web
1999	Euro introduced
2001	September 11 attacks
2003	Iraq war
2005	end of IRA military campaigne
2007	beginning of global recession

visiting an exhibition PART 2 Patrick Scott teachers' resources



IMMA

Room 8

visiting an exhibition PART 2 Patrick Scott teachers' resources

Mapping the exhibition

Use the attached floor plan to map out the exhibition indicating the following:

· · ·	
Exhibition Space	
What kind of exhibition space is it – new, old, renovated,	
etc.?	
How many rooms and floors does the exhibition comprise?	
Display	
How are the art works displayed?	
What is the layout of the exhibition?	
Describe the spaces of the exhibition?	
Is there a theme/s to the exhibition?	
How is/are the theme/s presented throughout the	
exhibition?	
Access	
How do visitors find their way through the exhibition?	
Is it possible to get close to the artworks?	
Are there any obstacles to getting around the spaces?	
Consider the following in terms of access: space, lighting,	
information.	
Seating	
Is there seating for visitors to sit and rest and/or	
contemplate the works?	
What kind of seating is available?	
Where is it situated?	
Lighting	
What kind of lighting is used in the exhibition – daylight,	
artificial, bright, low, spotlight, theatrical?	
What are the effects of the lighting?	
Information, Reading and Resource Material	
What kinds of information, reading and resource material	
about the exhibition are available in the gallery spaces, at	
the reception desk, on the website, over the phone, etc.?	
Are there labels and/or wall texts, gallery guides, guided	
tours, etc.?	
Security	
What are the security issues for this exhibition?	
What security mechanisms are in place?	
what security meenanisms are in place:	



Suggestions for teachers and tutors

Provide time for the students to look at and become familiar with the art works.

Provide factual and contextual information about the artist, the exhibition and the art works.

Try to facilitate a discussion that takes account of the student's observations and impressions.

Encourage students to:

- o spend some time looking at the art works before beginning a discussion
- o make visual and written notes about the exhibition
- o interact with the art works where appropriate
- o discuss their impressions and observations
- o support their impressions and observations with examples
- o think about the materials and techniques the artist uses in her work
- o make comparisons with other artists and art works
- o identify aspects of the exhibition they consider successful and unsuccessful
- o consider the broader context of the artist's work: the cultural context such as literature, film, music and popular cultural references; the social context; the political context.

Research the artist and the exhibition.

Further reading and resources

Publications Christing Kennedy, PATRIC

Christina Kennedy, PATRICK SCOTT: IMAGE SPACE LIGHT, Dublin: Irish Museum of Modern Art, 2014 Patrick Scott, Patrick Scott, Dublin: Liberties Press, 2008 Yvonne Scott, Patrick Scott, Retrospective, Dublin: Hugh Lane Gallery, 2002

Websites

Irish Museum of Modern Art www.imma.ie

VISUAL Carlow www.visualcarlow.ie

Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, www.hughlane.ie

Stoney Road Press www.stoneyroadpress.com

Patrick Scott on the Kite tapestry www.tcd.ie/artcollections/exhibitions/scott-kite.php

Art Terms

IMMA, *What is_*? programme - Glossary of Art Terms www.imma.ie/en/subnav_112.htm

Tate Modern, Glossary www.tate.org.uk/collections/glossary

Museum of Modern Art, New York, Index of Art Terms www.moma.org/collection

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Patrick Scott: IMAGE SPACE LIGHT Curated by Christine Kennedy, Senior Curator: Head of Collections, IMMA Exhibition Coordinator, Johanne Mullan, National Programmer, IMMA



Notes