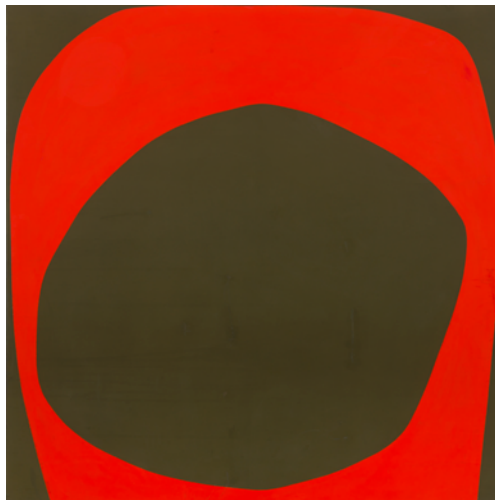# ROSC 50
1967-1988

Rosc was a series of exhibitions of international art that took place approximately every four years between 1967 and 1988.

This project, a collaboration with NIVAL, seeks to mark the 50th anniversary of the first exhibition in 1967 and to examine the importance of Rosc and its legacy.

Patrick Scott, *Small Rosc Symbol,* 1967

Rosc, which means 'poetry of vision,' was a series of international art exhibitions that took place in various venues between 1967 and 1988.

The first Rosc exhibition took place in 1967 and then approximately every four years until 1988. In the absence of a museum of modern art, the purpose of the Rosc exhibitions was to display international modern and contemporary art for an Irish audience and also to situate Ireland within an international art context.

The first Rosc exhibition set out to show the work of the fifty 'best' living artists who were selected by a jury of three international selectors.

Each Rosc exhibition was accompanied by a supplementary exhibition intended to create a dialogue with the main exhibition, such as Ancient Celtic Art, Viking Age Art and the Avant-Garde in Russia.

Rosc attracted large audiences and public interest and there were many controversies during its 21 years such as the movement of ancient monuments for the 1967 Rosc, the exclusion of Irish artists from the first two Rosc exhibitions and the ongoing debate about the representation of Irish art and artists in Rosc.

The Rosc exhibitions are presented here in a timeline so that they can be situated within the changing social, political and cultural context of the 1960s, '70s and '80s.

1960–1970

1960

Fr. Donal O'Sullivan S. J. appointed Director of the Arts Council

Independent Artists hold first exhibition

Patrick Scott represents Ireland at the Venice Biennale

Sharpeville massacre in South Africa

Introduction of birth control pill

Clement Greenberg emphasises the importance of 'flatness' in *Modernist Painting*

1961

Last legal execution in Ireland

Ireland submits application to join EEC

First RTE broadcast

Graphic Print Studio established

Trial of Adolf Eichmann in Jerusalem

John F. Kennedy elected President of USA

Patrice Lumumba of Republic of Congo assassinated

Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba

Construction of Berlin Wall begins

US military arrive in Vietnam

Bienal de São Paulo

1962

Contemporary Irish Art Society established

Niland Goulding Collection established in Sligo

Cuban Missile Crisis

Vatican II

Nelson Mandela imprisoned in South Africa

Algerian independence from France

Beginning of Fluxus movement

Beginning of Viennese Actionism

The Great Experiment: Russian Art 1863-1922 by Camilla Gray

Venice Biennale

1963

History of Art degree established in UCD

Kilkenny Design Workshops set up

US President John F. Kennedy visits Ireland

Martin Luther King Jr. and civil rights activists march on Washington

President John F. Kennedy assassinated

Frankfurt Auschwitz trials begin (1963-65)

Bienal de São Paulo

1964

'Art: USA: Now' exhibition, Municipal Gallery of Modern Art

James White appointed Director of the National Gallery of Ireland

P. J. Carrolls Annual Artist Prize inaugurated

Martin Luther King Jr. wins the Nobel Peace Prize

PLO established

US Civil Rights Act

documenta III curated by Arnold Bode and Werner Haftmann

Venice Biennale

1965

Cork Arts Society founded

Francis Bacon exhibition at Municipal Gallery

Vietnam War begins

Malcolm X assassinated

Art and Objecthood Michael Fried criticises the tendency towards 'theatricality'

The term 'Minimalist' coined by Richard Wollheim

Donald Judd proposes a new theory of Minimalist aesthetics in *Specific Objects*

Bienal de São Paulo

1966

Exhibition of Kinetic art at the David Hendriks Gallery

History of Art Department established in TCD

Nelson's Pillar on O'Connell St. blown up by IRA

Civil Rights Movement founded in Derry

50th anniversary of the Easter Rising

UVF founded

'Eccentric Abstraction' curated by Lucy Lippard

'Primary Structures' exhibition of American and British Minimalist art in The Jewish Museum, NY

Robert Morris develops a conceptual framework for Minimalism in *Notes on Sculpture 1-3*

Venice Biennale

1967

Project Arts Centre established

Censorship of Publications Act

Trinity Exhibition Hall opened in TCD

'Banners' exhibition of US art, TCD

Aspen 5+6, first conceptual exhibition outside the gallery

Outbreak of foot and mouth disease in United Kingdom

Arab-Israeli six day war

Sony introduces the Portapak portable video camera

Term 'Arte Povera' introduced by Germano Celant

Sol LeWitt coins the term 'Conceptual art' in *Paragraphs on Conceptual Art*

Bienal de São Paulo

Rosc '67
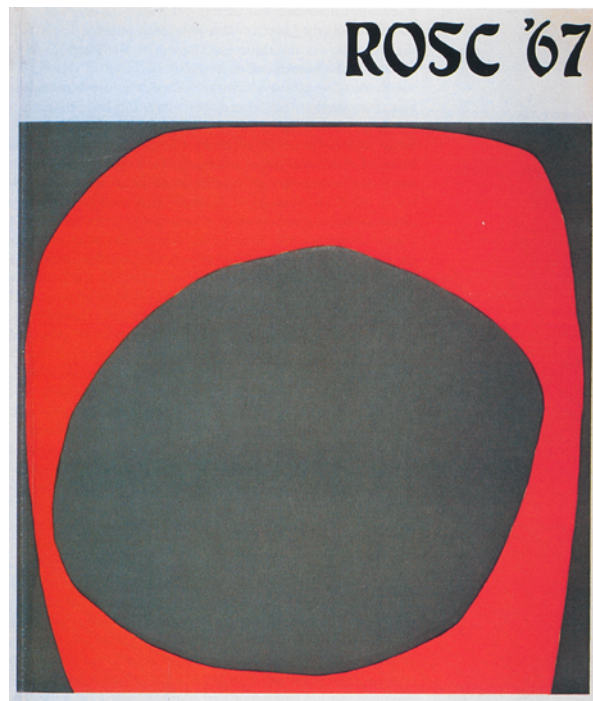
Rosc '67 Venue
Royal Dublin Society (R.D.S.)
and the National Museum

**Rosc '67 supplementary
exhibition**
'Ancient Celtic Art (Bronze Age
- Early Christian)', National
Museum and Royal Dublin
Society (R.D.S.)

Rosc '67 Jury
James Johnson Sweeney
Director Museum of Fine
Arts, Houston
Jean Leymarie
Art Historian and Critic,
Professor, University of
Geneva
Willem Sandberg
Chairman Israel Museum,
Jerusalem

Rosc '67 Patron
President of Ireland
Éamon De Valera
Honorary President
Charles J. Haughey, TD
Minister for Finance

**Rosc '67 Executive
Committee**
Michael Scott, Chairman
P. J. Brennan
Anne Crookshank
R. R. Figgis
Cecil King
M. K. O'Doherty
Dorothy Walker
Secretary:
Barbara Young

Rosc '67 Artists
Pierre Alechinsky
Karel Appel
Francis Bacon
Lee Bontecou
Camille Bryen
Tadeusz Brzozowski
Alberto Burri
José Luis Cuevas
Alan Davie
Jim Dine
Jean Dubuffet
Lucio Fontana
Sam Francis
Hans Hartung
Frederich Stowasser
Hundertwasser
Robert Indiana
Lester Johnson
Asger Jorn
Willem De Kooning
Wilfredo Lam
Gerard Lataster
John Latham
Roy Lichtenstein
Mary Martin
Roberto Matta Echuarren

Manolo Millares
Joan Miró
Barnett Newman
Ben Nicholson
Kenneth Noland
Kenzo Okada
Gea Panter
Victor Pasmore
Pablo Picasso
Serge Poliakoff
Robert Rauschenberg
Jean-Paul Riopelle
Antonio Saura
Toko Shinoda
Joseph Sima
K. R. H. Sonderborg
Jésus-Raphael Soto
Pierre Soulages
Pierre Tal-Coat
Antoni Tàpies
Mark Tobey
Günther Uecker
Bram Van Velde
Victor Vasarély
Jaap Wagemaker
Zao Wou-Ki

Opening of Rosc '67, 13 November 1967
(photo: Irish Photo Archive)

Opening of Rosc '67 by Charles Haughey. Seated: Dr Willem
Sandberg, Kevin O'Doherty, James Johnson Sweeney and J. D. J.
Moore, 1967 (photo: Irish Photo Archive)

Rosc '67, (photo: Irish Photo Archive)

Rosc '67 attracted considerable local and international interest with large attendance figures and a range of critical responses.

'Rosc is one of the boldest and most illuminating international exhibitions of modern art ever held … the new and the old salute each other over the centuries … Dublin has provided the ideal setting for their astonishing encounter.'

Brendan Gill,
The New Yorker, 1967

No Irish artists were included in Rosc '67.

The Department of Education enabled all schools to take a day to visit the Rosc exhibition. This policy was maintained for all subsequent Rosc exhibitions.

There was a public outcry about the inclusion of ancient monuments, some of which were removed from their permanent sites.

'Examples of our ancient heritage, the majority of them religious monuments, are being used as a gimmick to support a selection of profane paintings not one of which is more that four years old and none of which has been painted by an Irishman'

Michael O'Kelly, Professor of Archaeology,
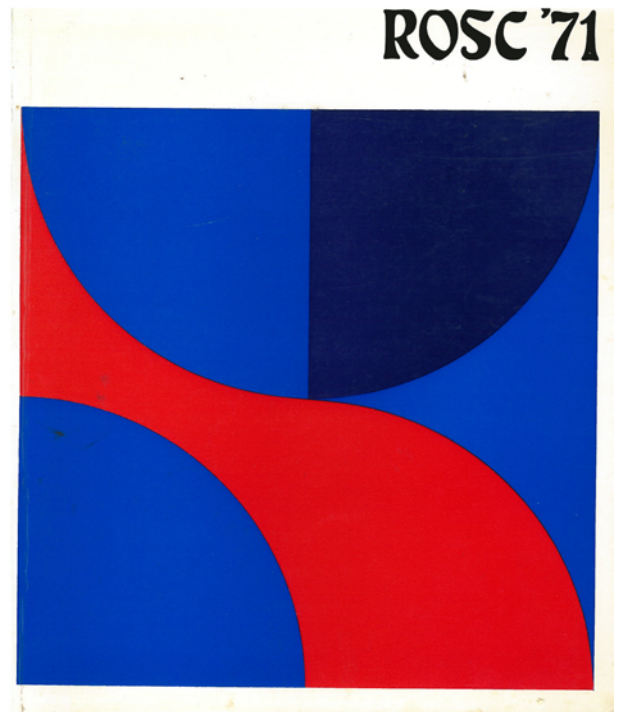University College Cork, 1967

'And maybe it is just as well that Ireland's first introduction to contemporary advanced art on a broad front did include so much of the fatigue of the fifties, and the fatigue of painting on the Continent. At this point all of the novelty and razzmatazz of the sixties might have been too bewildering.'

Clement Greenberg, *Artforum*, 1968

1968

'Light and Movement' exhibition in TCD

Student protests in Paris and other cities, including the National College of Art (NCA)

Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated

Assassination of Robert Kennedy

'Prague Spring' crushed by Soviet troops

Tet offensive and My Lai massacre, Vietnam

Humanae Vitae, encyclical by Pope Paul VI rejecting artificial contraception

documenta IV curated by 24-person council

Venice Biennale interrupted by student protests

1969

Finance Act introduced by Charles J. Haughey establishes tax exemption for artists

British troops deployed to Northern Ireland, marking the start of the Troubles

Samuel Beckett wins Nobel Prize for Literature

'Modern Irish Painting' tours to Germany, England and Scandanavia

Neil Armstrong lands on the moon

'Anti-Illusion: Process/ Materials' exhibition in the Whitney Museum, NY

'Live in Your Head: When Attitudes Become Form' Kunsthalle, Bern, curated by Harald Szeemann

Bienal de São Paulo

1970

Ban lifted on Catholics attending Trinity College Dublin

Charles J. Haughey and Neil Blaney dismissed as cabinet ministers for alleged involvement in smuggling arms for the IRA

'Arte Povera' exhibition in the David Hendriks Gallery curated by Germano Celant

Hans Haacke exhibition at the Guggenheim cancelled

Venice Biennale

1971

1971 internment without trial introduced in Northern Ireland

Exhibition of US and British Pop Art in TCD

Student protests at the National College of Art (NCA)

Women get the vote in Switzerland

Robert Morris's 'Bodyspacemotionthings' exhibition at Tate London

Bienal de São Paulo

Rosc '71

Rosc '71 Venue
Royal Dublin Society (R.D.S.)

Rosc '71 supplementary exhibition
'Viking Age Art', Royal Dublin Society (R.D.S.)

Rosc '71 Satellite Exhibitions
'The Irish Imagination' 1959-1971, Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, curated by Brian O'Doherty
'Nineteenth-century art', Crawford Gallery, Cork
'Irish glass', Limerick
'Irish silver', Dublin
'Irish delftware', Kildare
'International Graphics', Waterford
'Young Irish Artists', Galway
'Early Irish architecture and sculpture', Mayo
'Jack B. Yeats and his Family', Sligo
'Folk art', Kilkenny

Rosc '71 Patron
President of Ireland
Éamon De Valera
Honorary President
Dr Tim O'Driscoll
Honorary Vice-President
Charles J. Haughey, TD

Rosc '71 Jury
James Johnson Sweeney, Director Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
K. G. Pontus Hultén, Director Moderna Museet, Stockholm
Werner Schmalenbach, Director Nordrhein-Westfalen Museum, Düsseldorf

Rosc '71 Executive Committee
Michael Scott, Chairman
Cecil King, Vice-Chairman
Anne Crookshank
Christopher Fitz-Simon
John McMahon
Dorothy Walker
Secretary: Kenneth McQuillan
Administration:
Amanda Douglas
Catherine O'Brien

Rosc '71 Artists
Eva Aeppli
Joseph Albers
Horst Antes
Shusaku Arakawa
Jagoda Buik
Pol Bury
Alexander Calder
Giuseppe Capogrossi
César (Baldaccini)
Pierre Clerk
Dado (Miodrag Djuric)
Lars Englund
Max Ernst
Oywind Fahlstrom
Domenico Gnoli
Bruno Goller
Gotthard Graubner
José Guerrero
Renato Guttuso
Al Held
Jasper Johns
Donald Judd
Konrad Klapheck
Jiri Kola
Julio Le Parc
Richard Lindner

Richard Paul Lohse
René Magritte
Robert Morris
Louise Nevelson
Richard Oelze
Claes Oldenburg
Pino Pascali
Michelangelo Pistoletto
Arnulf Rainer
Bridget Riley
Mark Rothko
Niki de Saint Phalle
Lucas Samaras
Johannes Jacobus Schoonhoven
Emil Schumacher
Henryk Stazewski
Frank Stella
Kumi Sugai
Wayne Thiebaud
Jean Tinguely
Cy Twombly
Marie-Hélène Vierira da Silva
John Walker
Tom Wesselman

Taoiseach Jack Lynch opens ROSC '71. Also Michael Scott and
Charles J. Haughey seated in front of Al Held, *Phoenicia VI,* 1971
(photo: Irish Photo Archive)

Student William Belton, NCA (now NCAD) protesting
about the state of third level art eduction at the
opening of Rosc '71. (photo: Irish Photo Archive)

No Irish artists were included in Rosc '71. The
jury to select artists for Rosc '71 insisted that the
purpose of the exhibition was to bring art from
abroad to the Irish public.

As a consequence of the lack of representation of
Irish artists in Rosc '71, a programme of associated
exhibitions was implemented around the country
including 'The Irish Imagination' in the Municipal
Gallery of Modern Art, curated by Brian O'Doherty;
'Irish Art in the 19th Century' in the Crawford
Municipal Art Gallery, Cork, curated by Cyril Barrett;
and 'Young Irish Artists' in Galway.

'Is Brian O'Doherty right when he
says – in his interesting text for the
catalogue of The Irish Imagination
show – that, 'With the decline of
modernism, local art looks better'?

Clement Greenberg, 1972

'The very idea of aesthetic, elitist standards which Sweeney accepts so
unreservedly, and Schmalenbach questions so positively (see catalogue), is alien
to a good deal of current thinking. The cultural neophyte who visits Rosc is not
likely to come away with a realisation that *participation* rather than observation,
processes rather than products, *concepts* rather than conclusions are the
preferential concerns of a good deal of modern art.'

Bernard Denvir, *Art International*, 1972

Rosc Chorcaí 1975
Irish art 1900-1950
Cork

Rosc '75 did not happen due to financial constraints; however ,the Cork Rosc committee, Rosc Chorcaí, decided to procede with their exhibition 'Irish art from 1900 to 1950' curated by Hilary Pyle.
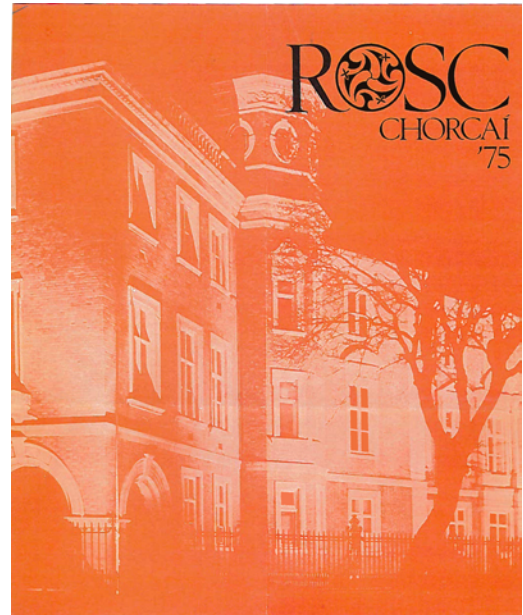
1972

'Bloody Sunday' 14 civil rights marchers killed by British army paratroopers in Derry

Brian O'Doherty changes his name to Patrick Ireland in a performance at Project Arts Centre in protest at Bloody Sunday shootings

Structure: A Magazine of Art & Thought founded by artist Michael Kane

Watergate break-in, Washington D.C.

documenta V curated by Harald Szeemann

Venice Biennale

1973

Ireland joins the European Economic Community (EEC)

'Irish Exhibition of Living Art' includes categories of traditional and experimental media

Arts Council restructured

Roe vs Wade legalises abortion in USA

US-backed coup in Chile, General Pinochet ousts Salvadore Allende

Yom Kippur war

OPEC oil embargo

Six Years: the Dematerialisation of the Art Object from 1966 to 1972 by Lucy Lippard gives an account of Conceptual art

Bienal de São Paulo

1974

Dublin - Monaghan bombings 34 people killed by UVF

Grapevine Arts Centre established (later City Arts Centre)

Joseph Beuys exhibition 'Secret Block for a Secret Person' at the Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, Dublin and Arts Council, Belfast, and lecture tour to promote his idea of the Free International University

Gallery of Photography opens

Munich Olympics terrorist attack

Richard Nixon resigns

Venice Biennale

1975

Colm Ó Briain appointed Director of the Arts Council

First personal computers become commercially available

US withdrawal from Vietnam

Pol Pot and Khmer Rouge take control of Cambodia

Death of General Franco, Spain moves towards democracy

Civil war in Lebanon

Bienal de São Paulo

1976

Oliver Dowling Gallery established

Soweto Anti-Apartheid Riots

Apple computer company founded

Inside the White Cube: the Ideology of the Gallery Space, essays by Brian O'Doherty in Artforum

Venice Biennale

1977

Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams, founders of the peace movement in Northern Ireland, win the Nobel Peace Prize
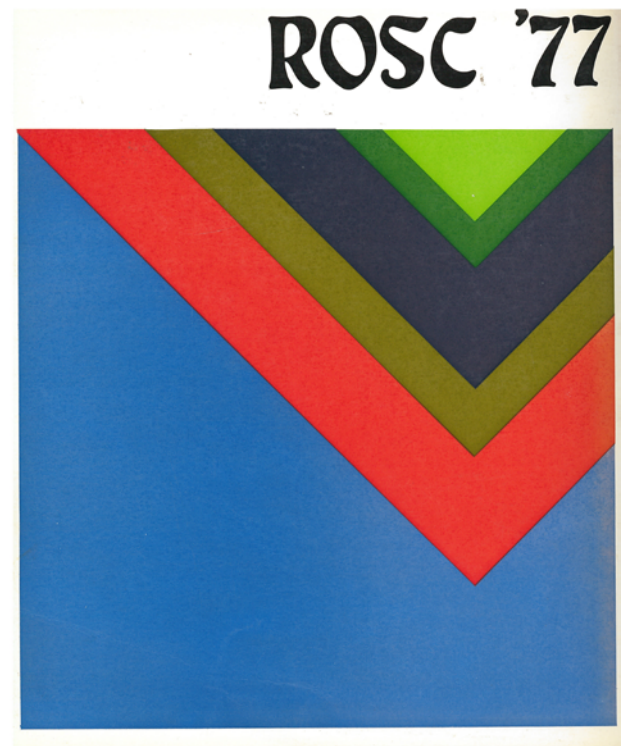
Exhibition of Visual Art (EV+A) established in Limerick

Patrick Ireland exhibits at documenta VI curated by Manfred Schneckenburger

Centre Georges Pompidou opens in Paris

Bienal de São Paulo

Rosc '77

Rosc '77 Venue
Municipal Gallery of Modern
Art and National Museum

**Rosc '77 supplementary
exhibition**
'Early Animal Art in
Europe', National Museum

Rosc '77 Jury
Ronald Alley,
Keeper Modern Collection
Tate Gallery
Dominique Fourcade,
critic and philosopher
Ryszard Stanislawski,
Director Museum Sztuki,
Lodz, Poland

Rosc '77 Patron
President of Ireland
Dr. Patrick J. Hillery
Honorary President
Dr Tim O'Driscoll
Honorary Vice-President
Charles J. Haughey

Rosc '77 Committee
Michael Scott, Chairman
Cecil King, Vice-Chairman
Cyril Barrett
Anne Crookshank
Christopher Fitz-Simon
Sir Basil Goulding
John Meagher
Dorothy Walker
Secretary:
Kenneth McQuillan
Finance:
Peter Owens
Administration:
Mimi Behncke
Sara Horgan

Rosc '77 Artists
Eduardo Arroyo
Martin Barré
Janez Bernik
Joseph Beuys
Alberto Biasi
Christian Boltanski
Marcel Broodthaers
Anthony Caro
Patrick Caulfield
Mario Ceroli
Christo (& Jeanne-Claude)
James Coleman
Gianni Colombo
Jan Dibbets
Dušan Džamonja
Lars Englund
Hamish Fulton
Juan Genovés
Zbigniew Gostomski
Gerhard von Graevenitz
Richard Hamilton
Simon Hantaï
Władysław Hasior
David Hockney
Phillippe Hoiassion

John Hoyland
Patrick Ireland
Alain Jacquet
Tadeusz Kantor
R. B. Kitaj
Stanislav Kolíbal
László Lakner
Jan Lebenstein
Richard Long
Marcel Maeyer
Kenneth Martin
Jacques Monory
Georges Noël
Roman Opałka
Giulio Paolini
Arnulf Rainer
Carl Frederik Reuterswärd
Gerhard Richter
Klaus Rinke
Tim Scott
Daniel Spoerri
Takis
Jef Verheyen
Claude Viallat
Carel Visser
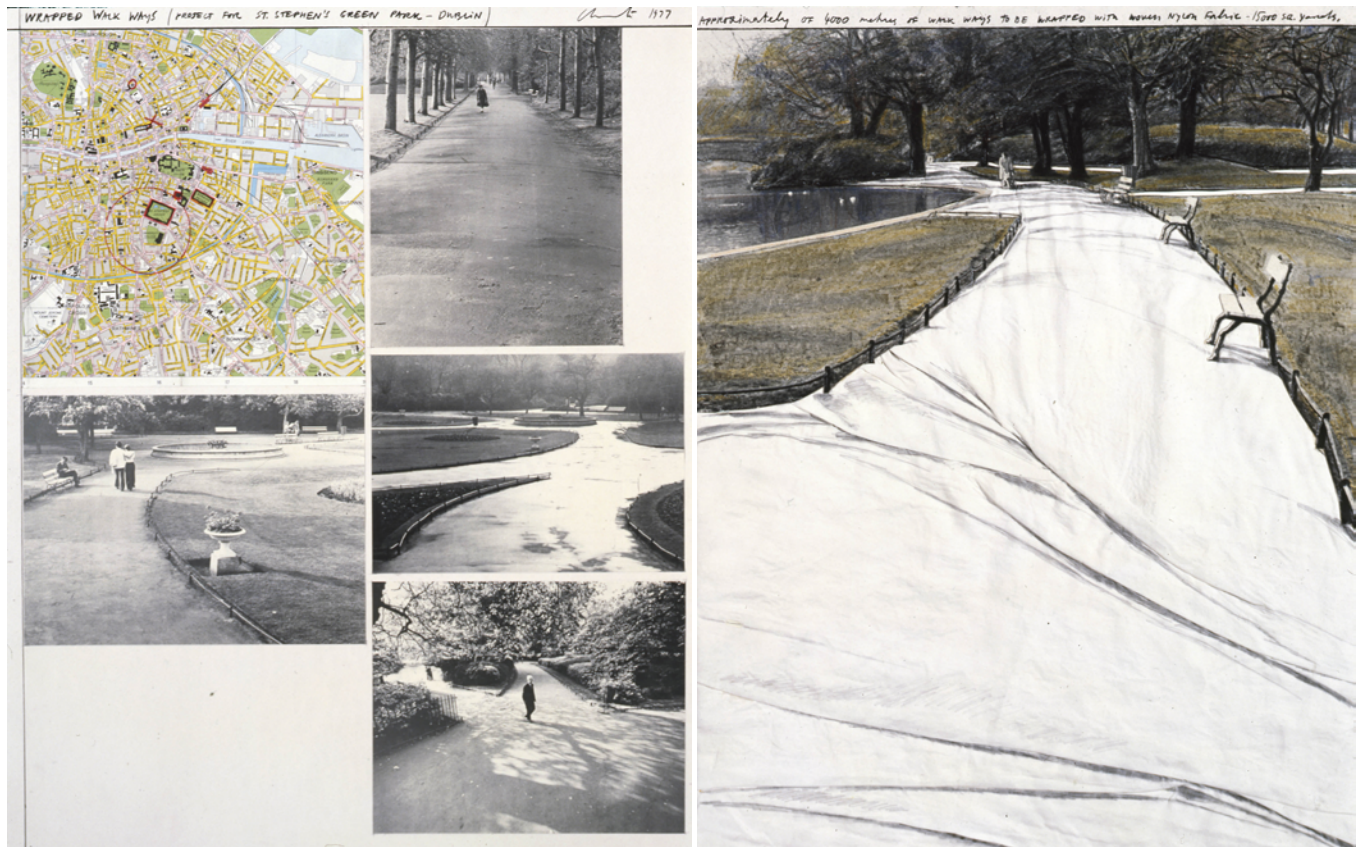
Christo
Wrapped Walk Ways (Project for St. Stephen's Green Park – Dublin)
Collage 1977 in 2 parts: 55.9 x 71.1 cm and 55.9 x 71.1cm (22 x 28")
Pencil, fabric, charcoal, pastel, wax crayon, photographs, staples and map on card.
Copyright Christo 1977.

James Coleman and Patrick Ireland are the first Irish artists to be included in Rosc

Brian O'Doherty had changed his name to Patrick Ireland in 1972 in protest at the Bloody Sunday massacre in Derry. The documentation of that *Name Change* performance was excluded from the exhibition due to objections that it would offend the Unionist community in Northern Ireland.

'They [OPW] repeatedly asked if it was to advertise the product; the concept that the project would be considered as a work of art was totally outside their experience.'

Dorothy Walker, 1997

Christo was invited to create a work for Rosc '77. *Wrapped Walk Ways* was a proposal to wrap the walkways in St. Stephen's Green in golden coloured fabric. The proposal was refused permission by the Office of Public Works (OPW).

1980–
1990

1978

The Douglas Hyde Gallery opens in TCD replacing The Trinity Exhibition Hall

Taylor Gallery, formerly the Dawson Gallery, opens in Dublin

Orchard Gallery opens in Derry

RTE 2 launched

Protests at building of civic offices at Wood Quay, the site of a former Viking settlement

'Transavanguardia' movement of Italian Neo-Expressionists

Venice Biennale

1979

First papal visit to Ireland

Arrival of Vietnam refugees in Ireland

Health (Family Planning) Act regulating contraception

'The Place of the Arts in Irish Education' report of the Working Group appointed by the Arts Council.

Introduction of Sony Walkman

Iranian revolution, first Islamic Republic founded

Margaret Thatcher elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

Bienal de São Paulo

1980

Sculptors' Society of Ireland established (later Association of Artists in Ireland and then Visual Artists Ireland)

World Congress of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA), Dublin
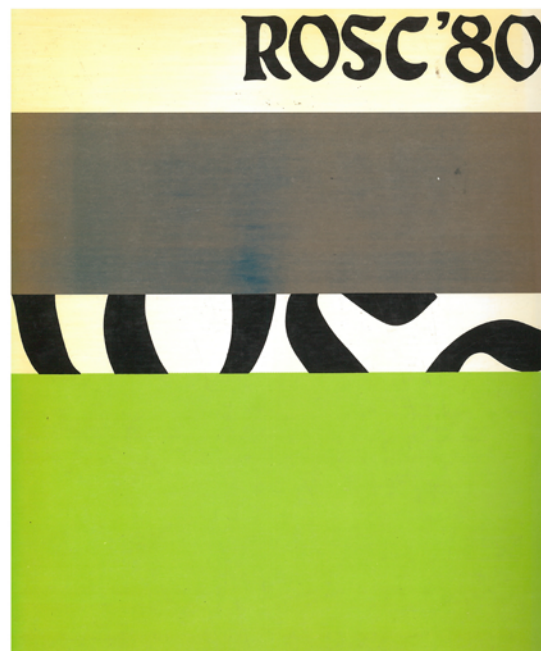
'Sense of Ireland' festival, London, intended to promote a positive view of Ireland during the Troubles in Northern Ireland

Paris Biennale de Jeunes included three Irish artists two of whom were from Northern Ireland, prompting a diplomatic crisis

US and world economy in recession

Venice Biennale

Rosc '80

Rosc '80 Venue
School of Architecture, U.C.D.,
Earlsfort Terrace and National
Gallery of Ireland

**Rosc '80 supplementary
exhibition**
'Chinese Art', National
Gallery of Ireland

**Rosc '80 associated
exhibitions**
Rosc Chorcai '80, 'Irish
Art 1943-1973', curated
by Cyril Barrett, Crawford
Municipal Gallery
Shannon Rosc

Rosc '80 International Advisors
James Johnson Sweeney (USA)
Georges Boudaille (France)
Germano Celant (Italy)
Johannes Cladders (Federal
German Republic)
Rudi Fuchs (Holland)
Jorge Glusberg (Argentina)
Werner Hofmann (Federal
German Republic)
Miguel Logrono (Spain)
Tadeo Ogura (Japan)
Ryszard Stanislawski (Poland)
Marina Vaizey (Great Britain)

Rosc '80 Patron
President of Ireland
Patrick J. Hillery
Honorary President
Charles J. Haughey
Honorary Vice-President
Dr Tim O'Driscoll

Rosc '80 Committee
Michael Scott, Chairman
Dorothy Walker, Vice-
Chairman
Cyril Barrett
Anne Crookshank
J.B. Kearney
Cecil King
Gordon Lambert
John Meagher
Hon. Secretary:
Kenneth McQuillan
Hon. Treasurer:
Patrick J. Murphy
Administration:
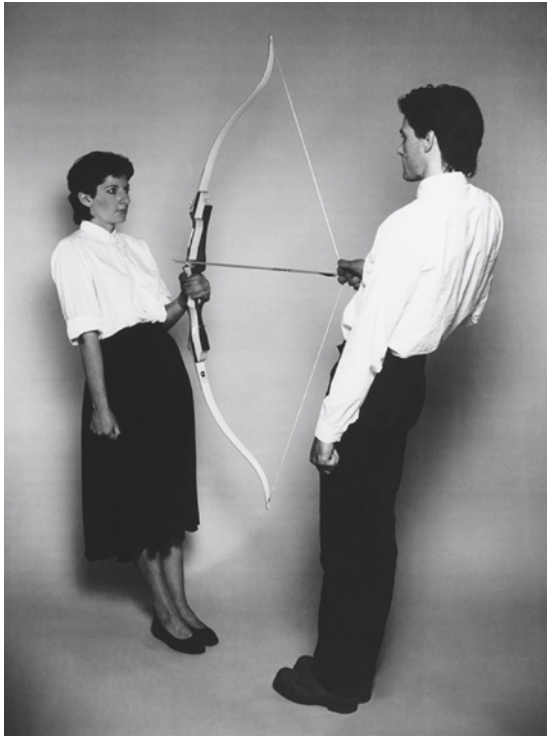Mimi Behnke
Dorothy Molloy
Jenny Haughton

Rosc '80 Artists
Magdalena Abakanowicz
Marina Abramovic and
Ulay
Laurie Anderson
Carl Andre
Robert Ballagh
Bram Bogart
Daniel Buren
Peter Campus
Louis Cane
Rafael Canogar
Robert Cottingham
Michael Craig-Martin*
Walter De Maria
Koji Enokura
Jose Luis Fajardo
Barry Flanagan*
Jochen Gerz
Raymond Girke
Red Grooms
Duane Hanson
Timothy Hennessy
Edward Kienholz
Brian King
Jannis Kounellis

Louis le Brocquy
Sol LeWitt
Robert Mangold
Agnes Martin
Mario Merz
Marta Minujin
Lucio Munoz
Leopoldo Nóvoa
Dennis Oppenheim
Nam June Paik
Roger Palmer
Giuseppe Penone
James Reineking
Manuel Rivera
Nigel Rolfe*
Ulrich Ruckreim
Kikuo Saito
Miriam Schapiro
Ben Schonzeit
Patrick Scott
William Scott*
Charles Simonds
Kenneth Snelson
Saul Steinberg
Günther Uecker
Jerry Zeniuk

* born or resident in the UK

Argentinian artist Marta Minujin constructed a replica of the Martello Tower in Sandycove associated with James Joyce, using 5,000 loaves of Downes' Buttercrust bread. At the end of the event, the tower was turned on its side and the loaves were given away to the public.
(photo: Dorothy Walker Estate)

Ulay/Marina Abramović, *Rest Energy*, Performance for Video, 4 minutes
ROSC' 80, Dublin, 1980

Marina Abramović and Ulay perform *Rest Energy,* 1980, for the first time at Rosc '80. Ulay held a sprung steel arrow pointing directly at Abramovic's heart for four minutes.
(photo:© Ulay/Marina Abramović, Courtesy of the Marina Abramović Archives)

Art critic Clement Greenberg with a loaf of Buttercrust bread from Marta Minujin's James Joyce Tower.

Performance and live art were included in Rosc for the first time. 14 artists were invited to create site-specfic works or live performances. Artists included Laurie Anderson, Timothy Hennessy, Marina Abramovic and Ulay, Nam June Paik, Nigel Rolfe and Marta Minujin.

Untitled No. 7, 1980 by the American artist Agnes Martin was shown in Rosc '80 and was subsequently purchased by the Municipal Gallery of Modern Art. The purchase of the abstract painting engendered considerable public criticism, most notably from Gay Byrne on RTE's Late Late Show.

Rosc '80 coincided with the 14th Congress of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA) held in Dublin resulting in substantial international exposure to Rosc. The theme of the Congress was 'International Influence on Local Art Communities.'

'I think the word "Rosc" should be substituted with the word "Rubbish"'
letter to the Irish Times, 16 August 1980

Rosc '80 was the first exhibition where there was an increased representation of Irish artists including Robert Ballagh, Louis le Brocquy, Brian King, and Patrick Scott.

1981

Bobby Sands MP dies while on IRA hunger strike along with nine others

Guinness Peat Aviation awards for Emerging Artists

Circa art magazine founded

Black Church Print Studio founded

Aosdána established

1981 Section 32 of Finance Act established to provide tax relief on contributions to the advancement of the arts

Ronald Reagan elected president of USA

'A New Spirit of Painting' exhibition at the Royal Academy, London, examines the contemporary state of painting

Bienal de São Paulo

1982

Corporal punishment in schools banned

Hyde Park and Regent's Park bombings by IRA

Falklands war

Sabra and Shantila massacre in Lebanon

Death of Brezhnev

'Zeitgeist' exhibition in Berlin curated by Norman Rosenthal

documenta VII curated by Rudi Fuchs

Venice Biennale

1983

Referendum led to the eighth amendment to the constitution preventing abortion from being legalised

38 prisoners escape from the Maze prison in Belfast

'Six Artists from Ireland: An Aspect of Irish Painting', exhibition by the Arts Council and the Cultural Relations Committee of the Department of Foreign Affairs

Temple Bar Gallery and Studios founded

Bienal de São Paulo

1984

15 year old Ann Lovett dies giving birth in a grotto in Co. Longford

US President Ronald Reagan visits Ireland

Dublin Area Rapid Transit (DART) begins

Royal Hospital Kilmainham restored

The Irish Association of Art Historians organised a symposium Rosc Reconsidered, in NCAD, to reflect on the significance of Rosc.

Miners' strike in UK

Brighton bombing by IRA

Postmodernism, or the Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism, Fredric Jameson

Venice Biennale

Rosc '84

Rosc '84 Venue
Guinness Hop Store

Rosc '84 supplementary exhibition
Exhibition of Drawings by Joseph Beuys

Rosc '84 International Advisors
The Earl of Iveagh (Ireland)
James Johnson Sweeney (USA)
Karl Ruhrberg (Federal German Republic)
Diane Waldman (USA)
Nobuo Nakamura (Japan)
Count Panza Di Biumo (Italy)
Illa Kodicek (U.K.)
Fritz Becht (Netherlands) (resigned.)

Rosc '84 Council
Cyril Barrett
Cecil King
Gordon Lambert
John Meagher
Dorothy Walker

Rosc '84 Patron
President of Ireland
Dr Patrick J. Hillery
Honorary President
Charles J. Haughey
Honorary Vice-President
Dr Tim O'Driscoll

Rosc '84 Executive Committee:
Patrick J. Murphy, Chairman
Kenneth McQuillan, Deputy Chairman
Michael Scott, Founder
Peter Doyle
Vincent Ferguson
Patrick J. McKenna
Rosemarie Mulcahy
Mike Murphy
Noel Sheridan
Noel Wallace
Administration:
Siuban Barry
Anya von Gosseln

Rosc '84 Artists
John Aiken
Jean-Michel Alberola
Carl Andre
Robert Barry
Georg Baselitz
Peter Bömmels
Deborah Brown
Louis Cane
Alan Charlton
Sandro Chia
Francesco Clemente
Barrie Cooke
Tony Cragg
Enzo Cucchi
Martin Disler
J. G. Dokoupil & W. Dahn
Felim Egan
Tom Fitzgerald
Gérard Garouste
Gilbert & George
Leon Golub
Bryan Hunt
Albert Irvin
Donald Judd
Anish Kapoor
Ellsworth Kelly

Anselm Kiefer
Cecil King
Jannis Kounellis
Bob Law
Richard Long
Markus Lüpertz
Anne Madden
Robert Morris
David Nash
Bruce Nauman
Eilis O'Connell
Mimmo Paladino
A. R. Penck
Beverly Pepper
Sigmar Polke
David Salle
Julian Schnabel
Seán Scully
Richard Serra
Joel Shapiro
Vladimir Velickovic
Emo Verkerk
Michael Warren
Lawrence Weiner
Frans Widerberg
Bill Woodrow

Opening night of Rosc '84, Guinness Hop Store. (photo: Irish Photo Archive)

Lawrence Weiner 'Stone upon Stone upon Fallen Stone' 1983, Cloch ós cionn cloiche ós cionn cloch leagtha', Rainsford Street, Guiness Hop Store.

Joseph Beuys and President Patrick Hillary, 1984, (photo: Irish Photo Archive)

1984 'Sean's Spiral' Richard Serra, Sugar House Lane, Guinness Hop Store.

Further controversy over the inclusion of Irish artists resulted in the withdrawal of a juror, the withdrawal of funding by Guinness Peat Aviation and the selection of ten Irish artists to be included in Rosc '84 by architect Ronald Tallon.

'There is a lot of art in Ireland, but not of a quality to rank with the forty best artists in the world'
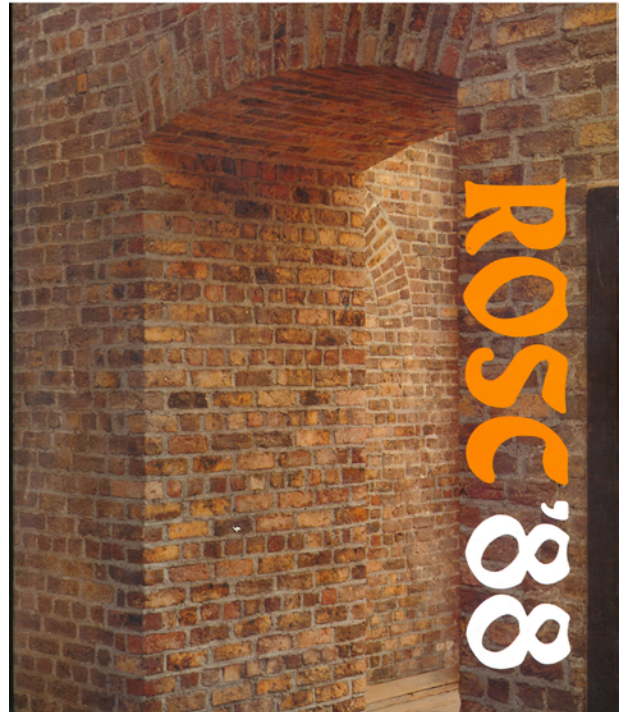Fritz Becht, juror, Rosc '84

'What we wanted were the fifty most important artists of the last four years. If they were Irish, I would be happy to have fifty Irish artists'
Patrick J. Murphy, Chairman, Rosc '84

American artists Richard Serra and Lawrence Weiner created site-specific works for Rosc which can still be seen. Serra created a triangular steel spiral, 'Sean's Spiral' which is embedded in the cobbles on Sugar House Lane near the Guinness Hop Store. Weiner created a text work 'Stone upon Stone upon Fallen Stone' 1983, Cloch ós cionn cloiche ós cionn cloch leagtha' on an external wall on Rainsford Street.

1985

The Centre for Culture and Arts established in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham

First Ryanair flight

Anglo-Irish Agreement signed

Health Act enables contraceptives to be sold without prescription

Gorbachev becomes leader of the Soviet Union

Bienal de São Paulo

1986

First baby born in Ireland by IVF

Referendum to legalise divorce defeated

Founding of Womens Action Group (WAG) by Pauline Cummins

RHA Gallagher Gallery opened

Per-cent-for art scheme established by Deptartment of the Environment

Chernobyl nuclear disaster, Ukraine

Venice Biennale

1987

IRA killed 11 people at Enniskillen

Exhibiton 'The Irish Women Artists' in Douglas Hyde Gallery, National Gallery of Ireland and the Municipal Gallery of Modern Art

First Palestinian Intifada

Black Monday - stock market crash

documenta VIII curated by Manfred Schneckenburger

Bienal de São Paulo

1988

Dublin celebrates its millennium

Major anti-apartheid protest in Dublin

Murder of 'Gibralter three' by SAS. Michael Stone murders three at funeral of 'Gibralter three' and two British soldiers murdered at funeral of Michael Stone's victims

Ian Paisley heckles Pope John Paul II at the European Parliament

Venice Biennale

Rosc '88

Rosc '88 Venue
Guiness Hop Store & Royal
Hospital Kilmainham

Rosc '88 supplementary exhibition
'The George Costakis
Collection of the Avant-
Garde in Russia',
Royal Hospital Kilmainham

Rosc '88 Executive Committee
Patrick J. Murphy, Chairman
Kenneth McQuillian, Deputy
Chairman
Peter Doyle
Brian Ferran
Ted Hickey
Mike Murphy
Michael Scott
Noel Sheridan
Catalogue editor:
Rosemarie Mulcahy
Administration:
Siuban Barry
Catherine O'Brien
Sarah Foster

Rosc '88 Patron
President of Ireland
Dr Patrick Hillery
Honorary President
Charles J. Haughey
Honorary Vice-President
Dr Tim O'Driscoll

Rosc '88 Council
Cyril Barrett
Vincent Ferguson
Gordon Lambert
John Meagher
Dorothy Walker

Rosc '88 Jury
Knyston McShine, Senior
Curator, MoMA
Olle Granath, Director
Moderna Museet, Stockholm
Patrick J. Murphy, Chairman

Rosc '88 International Advisory Committee
The Earl of Iveagh (Ireland)
Jean-François de Canchy
(France)
Rudi Fuchs (Netherlands)
Toshio Hara (Japan)
F. Donald Kenney (USA)

Rosc '88 Artists
Davida Allen
Giovanni Anselmo
Basil Blackshaw
John-Charles Blais
Jonathan Borofsky
Brian Bourke
Günter Brus
Ricardo Cavallo
James Coleman
Robert Combas
Richard Deacon
Erik Dietman
Luciano Fabro
Mary Fitzgerald
Ferrán Garcia Sevilla
Anthony Gormley
Rolf Hanson
Jenny Holzer
Rebecca Horn
Shoichi Ida
Cristina Iglesias
Neil Jenney
Bill Jensen

Olle Kåks
Cecil King
Wolfgang Laib
Bertrand Lavier
Christopher Le Brun
Keith Looby
Olli Lyytikäinen
Ian McKeever
Brice Marden
Gerhard Merz
Tomoharu Murakami
Elizabeth Murray
István Nádler
Tony O'Malley
Mike Parr
Kathy Prendergast
Tim Rollins & K.O.S.
José Maria Sicilia
Hiroshi Sugimoto
Francis Tansey
Shigeo Toya
Jeff Wall
Terry Winters
Gilberto Zorio

Taoiseach Charles J. Haughey views *From the Animal Farm: Charles J. Haughey*, 1988, Tim Rollins and K.O.S. (photo: Irish Photo Archive)

Rosc Na N-Óg (Young Rosc) a guide for young people to a selection of artworks featured in Rosc '88

Tim Rollins and K.O.S. (Kids of Survival), which comprises a group of high-school students from the South Bronx, in New York, and their art teacher Tim Rollins, were invited to create a work for Rosc '88. Using the subject of George Orwell's book Animal Farm, they created an interpretation of Taoiseach Charles J. Haughey depicted as a hound in *From the Animal Farm: Charles J. Haughey,* 1988.

The supplementary exhibition for Rosc '88 was the Costakis Collection of Russian Suprematist and Constructivist Art, which was exhibited in the newly-restored Royal Hospital Kilmainham. Curated by Angelica Zander Rudenstein and assisted by Ruairi Ó Cuiv, it included work by Kasimir Malevich, El Lissitzky, Ivan Kliun, Liubov Popova, Olga Rozanova and Alexandr Rodchenko.

1990–

1989

Irish Art of the Eighties – Nature & Culture, Sexuality & Gender, Myth & Mystification, Douglas Hyde Gallery

Guildford Four released from prison

The Future of Rosc, symposium held in NCAD

Tianamen Square massacre, Beijing

Fall of the Berlin Wall

World Wide Web developed

Richard Serra's *Tilted Arc* removed from Federal Plaza in NY

'Les Magiciens de la terre' exhibition in Paris

Bienal de São Paulo

1990

Rubicon Gallery opens in Dublin

Irish Art of the Eighties – Modernism & Abstraction, Politics & Polemics, Douglas Hyde Gallery

Declan McGonagle appointed Director of the Irish Museum of Modern Art

Mary Robinson becomes the first female President of Ireland

Venice Biennale

1991

Dublin is European Capital of Culture

The Irish Museum of Modern Art opens to the public

'It is fitting, if only in retrospect, that IMMA should have been the proposed venue for the Rosc that did not happen, for since 1991 the museum has focused much of its energies on bringing first-rate art from around the world to Dublin. In this sense, it is taking on the burden that Rosc shouldered for two decades.'

Dorothy Walker, 1997

Acknowledgements

Seán Kissane, Curator: Exhibitions, IMMA
Lisa Moran, Curator: Engagement and Learning, IMMA
Brenda Moore McCann, Art Historian, Rosc Researcher
Louise Donnelly, Student Researcher, UCD MA in Cultural Policy
and Arts Management
Christina Kennedy, Head of Collections, IMMA
Johanne Mullan, Collection Programmer, IMMA
Donna Romano, Head Librarian, The Edward Murphy Library and NIVAL
Jenny Fitzgibbon, NIVAL Administrator
Marguerite O'Molloy, Programme Production Manager, IMMA
Jennifer Phelan, Programme Production Coordinator
Teresa Reeves, Fulbright Researcher
Brid Dooley, Head of RTÉ Archives
Patrick J. Murphy Archive
Dorothy Walker Archive, NIVAL
James Johnson Sweeney Archive, NIVAL
Patrick Scott Archive, NIVAL
Michael Scott Archive, AAI
The Dorothy Walker Estate
National Museums Northern Ireland
Eric Pearse

Research project kindly supported by: