



## Talking Art With IMMA / 7

Welcome to Talking Art with IMMA, where we invite you to take a closer look at selected artworks from the permanent collection of the Irish Museum of Modern Art. We encourage you to use the questions below to have a conversation about the work with someone in your household, or with a friend or family member over the phone. There is no limit to the number of participants, the more the merrier!

Talking about an artwork with someone else can open our eyes to new details and reveal things we did not see at first. There is no need to rush, so get comfortable, take your time to discover and remember, there are no right or wrong answers. Have fun!

# Talking Art With IMMA

## → Let's Look Closely

This installation is full of details that could be missed at first glance so let's slow down, take a close look and tackle the image bit by bit.

- What colours and shapes do you see?
- What objects can you spot?
- What materials can you identify?
- How would you describe the textures within the installation – if you could touch the various elements, how would they feel?

## → Let's Look Deeper

After looking closely, we can have more questions than answers - this invites us to wonder what the artwork might mean or represent. Let's see what interesting ideas emerge!

- Can you identify the animal used in the assembly? What can you tell by the animal's pose/positioning?
- Look at the qualities of the fabric above the animal, what type of fabric do you think it is? Does it remind you of anything?
- What's one word that comes to mind as you look at this installation.
- How does this artwork make you feel? Why is that?

## → Let's Connect

Let's use what we have discussed and uncovered to connect more personally with the work.

The idea of joining different items (sometimes called ready-mades) to create something new dates to the early 1900s and was a term made famous by the French artist Marcel Duchamp.

- What objects would you be drawn to, if creating your own ready-made? Would you use large or small items? What colours and textures would you like to include?

## → Let's Create

Look for items around your home, do not feel restricted as anything can be used. Try to put them next to each other, change one quality about them, join them together, and see what interesting things might happen. If you have any type of camera, why not take it a step further and photograph your assemblage?

## → Let's Discuss

Interesting discussions can arise from an artwork that includes unique objects. This installation includes a taxidermy bird, what are your thoughts about the wellbeing of Irish wildlife? What about the current situation of their habitats?

---

We hope you've enjoyed Talking Art with IMMA and we'd love to hear your feedback. Please send us your thoughts either by post, using the enclosed IMMA-addressed postcard, by email to [talkingart@imma.ie](mailto:talkingart@imma.ie) or leave us a voicemail on our Talking Art phonenumber at 01 612 9952.

Talking Art with IMMA was developed by Bairbre-Ann Harkin, Bryan Hogan, Ciara Magee, Aidan O'Sullivan and Domnick Sorace and produced by IMMA as part of Creative Ireland's Creativity in Older Age Programme.

## Find Out More

### About the Artwork

---

<b>Artist:</b>	Dorothy Cross
<b>Title:</b>	Parachute
<b>Date:</b>	2005
<b>Medium:</b>	Parachute and Gannet
<b>Dimensions Framed:</b>	Dimensions Variable
<b>Credit Line:</b>	IMMA Collection: Purchase, 2005

### About the Artist

---

Irish artist Dorothy Cross was born in Cork in 1956 and currently lives on the wild west coast of Ireland, in Connemara. She is interested in the connection between living things and the world they inhabit. Traces of these environments can be observed in her work, including sculpture, photography, and film. The artist sees the body and nature as sites of constant change, creation and destruction, new and old.

Dorothy Cross often integrates objects that she finds on the sea-shore in her work, ranging from pieces of boats to deceased animals. She came across this washed up gannet on Ireland's Atlantic coast. In the last few years, her attention has shifted to aquatic life and the ocean using and depicting jellyfish, whales and sharks, as well as exploring sea caves and grottos.

---

