

Kerlin Gallery

Dorothy Cross

## **Dorothy Cross**

b. 1956, Cork, Ireland

Like many of Dorothy Cross' sculptures, *Family* (2005) and *Right Ball and Left Ball* (2007) sees the artist work with found objects, transforming them with characteristic wit and sophistication.

*Right Ball and Left Ball* (2007) presents a pair of deflated footballs, no longer of use, their past buoyancy now anchored in bronze. Emerging from each is a cast of the artist's hands, index finger extended upwards in a pointed gesture suggesting optimism or aspiration.

In *Family* (2005) we see the artist's undeniable craft and humour come together. Three spider crabs were found, dead for some time but still together. The intricacies of their form and the oddness of their sideways manoeuvres forever cast in bronze. The 'father' adorned with an improbable appendage also pointing upwards and away.

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Working in sculpture, film and photography, Dorothy Cross examines the relationship between living beings and the natural world. Living in Connemara, a rural area on Ireland's west coast, the artist sees the body and nature as sites of constant change, creation and destruction, new and old. This flux emerges as strange and unexpected encounters. Many of Cross' works incorporate items found on the shore, including animals that die of natural causes. During the 1990s, the artist produced a series of works using cow udders, which drew on the animals' rich store of symbolic associations across cultures to investigate the construction of sexuality

Dorothy Cross  
Right Ball and Left Ball  
2007

cast bronze, unique

34 x 20 x 19 cm / 13.4 x 7.9 x 7.5 in

37 x 19 x 17 cm / 14.6 x 7.5 x 6.7 in

DC20407A









Dorothy Cross

Family

2005

cast bronze

edition of 2/4

dimensions variable

element 1: 38 x 19 x 20 cm / 15 x 7.5 x 7.9 in

element 2: 25 x 24 x 13 cm / 9.8 x 9.4 x 5.1 in

element 3: 16 x 15 x 13 cm / 6.3 x 5.9 x 5.1 in

DC17405-2/4











# Dorothy Cross

b. 1956, Cork, Ireland.

Working in sculpture, film and photography, Dorothy Cross examines the relationship between living beings and the natural world. Living in Connemara, a rural area on Ireland's west coast, the artist sees the body and nature as sites of constant change, creation and destruction, new and old. This flux emerges as strange and unexpected encounters. Many of Cross' works incorporate items found on the shore, including boats and animal skins, while others reflect on the environment. During the 1990s, the artist produced a series of works using cow udders, which drew on the animals' rich store of symbolic associations across cultures to investigate the construction of sexuality and subjectivity.

Recent solo exhibitions/projects include *I dreamt I dwelt*, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, (2019); *Heartship*, Sounds from a Safe Harbor festival collaborative performance with Lisa Hannigan, Cork, Ireland (2019); *Stalactite*, Libby Leshgold Galley, Vancouver (2018); *Glance*, New Art Centre, Roche Court, UK (2017–18); *Connemara*, Turner Contemporary, Margate (2013), touring to Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin (2014); *Eye of Shark*, Lismore Castle Arts, County Waterford (2014); Bloomberg Space, London (2009); Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane, (2008); Irish Museum of Modern Art, (2005); Douglas Hyde Gallery, (2002, 1993 & 1988); Camden Arts Centre, (1993); ICA Philadelphia, (1991). Recent group exhibitions include *Lucid abnormalities*, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork, Ireland (2020/21); *other.worldly*, Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, Netherlands (2020/21); *ELLIPTICAL AFFINITIES: IRISH WOMEN ARTISTS AND THE POLITICS OF THE BODY, 1984 TO THE PRESENT*, Limerick City Gallery of Art, Ireland (2020); *Desire: A Revision From the 20th Century to the Digital Age*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Ireland (2019/20) and *Sea Garden*, Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, UK (2019). Cross has participated in the Venice, (1993), Istanbul, (1997) and Liverpool (1998) biennials, and the ground-breaking 1994 exhibition: *Bad Girls*, ICA, London and CCA, Glasgow.

Cross' work is represented in the collections of The Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; The Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin; The National Gallery of Ireland; Dublin; The Ulster Museum, National Museum, Belfast; Crawford Art Museum, Cork, Ireland; Art Pace Foundation, Texas; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle; The Arnolfini Trust, Bristol; TATE, London.

## DOROTHY CROSS

b. Cork, Ireland, 1956

lives and works in Connemara, Ireland

## EDUCATION

1980–82 San Francisco Art Institute, California (MFA)

1974–77 Leicester Polytechnic, England (BA)

1973–74 Crawford Municipal School of Art, Cork

## CURRENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

2020 *other.worldly*, Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, Netherlands (group show, 15 February 2020– 14 February 2021)  
*Lucid abnormalities*, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork, Ireland (group show, 1 July 2020 – March 2021)  
*The Museum of Ancient History*, The Classical Museum, University College Dublin, Ireland (group show, dates TBC)

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2019 *I dreamt I dwelt*, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland  
*Heartship*, Sounds from a Safe Harbor festival collaborative performance with Lisa Hannigan,, Cork, Ireland  
Dorothy Cross: *Croquest*, The Model, Sligo, Ireland

2018 *Stalactite*, The Libby Leshgold Gallery, Emily Carr University of Art and Design, Vancouver

2017 *Glance*, New Art Centre, Roche Court, Salisbury, UK

2015 *Eye of Shark*, Frith Street Gallery, London, UK  
*TROVE*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland (curator)

2014 *Connemara*, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland  
*Eye of Shark*, Lismore Castle Arts, St. Carthage Hall, Co. Waterford, Ireland  
*View*, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2013 *Connemara*, Turner Contemporary, Margate, Kent, UK  
*Croquet*, The Model, Sligo, Ireland

2009 *COMMA Series*, Bloomberg Space, London, UK

2008 *Stage*, Shrewsbury useum and Art Gallery, UK  
*Landscape*, Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2007 *Sapiens*, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2005 Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*Gone*, McMullen Museum of Art, Boston, MA, USA

2002 *Salve*, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland  
*The Paradise*, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2001 *Come into the garden Maude*, Fourth Wall, projection for the National Theatre; commissioned work by the Public Art Development Trust, London, UK

1999 *Ghost Ship*, Nissan Art Award IMMA, Dublin, Ireland

1998 Model Arts Centre, Sligo, Ireland

1996 *Even*, Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol; Ikon Gallery, Birmingham; Oriel Mostyn Gallery, Llandudno, UK

1993 Parthenon, Camden Arts Centre, London, UK  
*Works from Power House*, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

1991 *Power House*, ICA, Philadelphia, USA

1988 *Ebb*, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *BLUE*, Garter Lane Arts Centre, Waterford, Ireland  
*ELLIPTICAL AFFINITIES: IRISH WOMEN ARTISTS AND THE POLITICS OF THE BODY, 1984 TO THE PRESENT*, Limerick City Gallery of Art, Ireland
- 2019 *Desire: A Revision From The 20th Century To The Digital Age*, IMMA, Dublin, Ireland  
*Shaping Ireland: Landscapes in Irish Art*, National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland  
*Sea Garden*, Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, UK  
*21st Century Ireland in 21 Artworks*, Dorothy Cross & Willie Doherty, Glebe house and Gallery, Donegal, Ireland  
*Coming Home: Art and the Great Hunger*, An tSeaneaglais (Glassworks), Derry, NI  
*The Keeper. To have and to hold*, The Model, Sligo, Ireland  
*Sights & Sounds, Art, Nature, and the Senses*, Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio, USA  
*In the Labyrinth*, Large Glass, London, UK
- 2018 *Dorothy Cross, Aleana Egan, Siobhán Hapaska, Isabel Nola, Kathy Prendergast*, Kerlin Gallery  
*Reclaimed*, Linda Pace Foundation, San Antonio, Texas  
*Coming Home: Art & The Great Hunger*, The Coach House, Dublin Castle;  
 Uilinn West Cork Arts Centre, Skibbereen; Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin:  
*An tSeaneaglais*(Glassworks), Derry
- 2017 *The Time. The Place. Contemporary Art from the Collection*, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA  
*Alchemy: Transformations in Gold*, Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, Iowa, USA;  
 Akron Museum of Art, Ohio, USA  
*Legacies: JMW Turner and Contemporary Art Practice*, New Art Gallery, Walsall, UK
- 2016 *A Weed is a Plant Out of Place*, Lismore Castle Arts, Lismore, Ireland  
*two birds / one stone*, Farmleigh Gallery, Dublin  
*Riddle of the Burial Ground*, Extra City Kunsthall, Antwerp
- 2016 *Found*, The Foundling Museum, London Mystics and Rationalists, Modern Art Oxford  
*It's Me to the World*, Modern Art Oxford  
*Head Above Water: Swimmers' Perspectives*, Peninsula Arts Gallery, Plymouth  
*The Universe Cleft to the Core*, De León, Bath
- 2015 *What We Call Love*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*Riddle of the Burial Ground*, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland  
*The Untold Want*, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland  
*New Art New Nature*, Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
*The Art of a Nation*, Mall Galleries, London, UK
- 2013 *Crescendo*, Australian Center for Contemporary Art, Victoria, Australia  
*Aquatopia: The Imaginary of the Ocean Deep*, Nottingham Contemporary & Tate St. Ives, Cornwall, UK  
*3am: wonder, paranoia and the restless night*, The Bluecoat, Liverpool, UK, travelling to Chapter, Cardiff, Wales; The Exchange, Penzance, Cornwall, UK (2014) and Ferens Art Gallery, Hull, UK (2014)  
*A Subtle Matter*, Queen's University, Belfast, in collaboration with Catalyst Arts  
*Island: New Art from Ireland*, Galleria Civica di Modena, Modena, Italy  
*Skin*, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland  
*Changing States: Contemporary Irish Art and Francis Bacon's Studio*, Bozar, Brussels, Belgium
- 2012 *The Enchanted Isles: Re-imagining Galapagos*, Centre for Contemporary Art, Lisbon, Portugal  
*Into the Light: The Arts Council – 60 Years Supporting the Arts*, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork, Ireland  
*The Enchanted Isles: Re-Imagining Galapagos*, Bluecoat, Liverpool, UK, travelling to Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK and the Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal  
*Time out of Mind*, IMMA @ NCH, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*Under the Sea*, Millennium Gallery, Sheffield Museum, Sheffield, UK



## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS CONTD

2011	<i>De L'Emergence du Phenix</i> , Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, France <i>Eleventh Plateau</i> , Archeological Society Museum, Athens, Greece <i>The Surreal in Irish Art</i> , Highlanes Municipal Art Gallery, Drogheda, Ireland <i>Walking Blooming Flowers</i> , Stadtgalerie, Kiel, Germany
2010	<i>Underwater</i> , Towner Gallery, Eastbourne and touring to Spacex, Exeter; Ferens Art Gallery, Hull; Bluecoat Art Gallery, Liverpool; Tulie House, Carlisle, all UK <i>Superficies del deseo</i> , Museo Universitario de Arte Contemporáneo (MUAC), Mexico City, Mexico
2009	<i>Underwater/Above Water</i> – from the aquarium to the video image, Kunsthalle Wilhemshaven, Germany <i>A Duck for Mr. Darwin</i> , Baltic Arts Centre, UK <i>DLA Piper Series: This is Sculpture</i> , Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
2008	<i>Exquisite Corpse</i> , Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland <i>Through the Lens: New Media Art from Ireland</i> , Beijing Art Museum of the Imperial City, Beijing, China

## SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

The Arnolfini Trust, Bristol  
Art Pace Foundation, San Antonio, Texas  
Arts Council of Ireland, Dublin  
Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Belfast  
Celebrity Cruises, Greece  
Contemporary Irish Art Society, Dublin  
Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, Dublin  
Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, USA  
Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin  
Limerick City Art Gallery, Limerick  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
National Self-Portrait Collection, Limerick  
The National Gallery Of Ireland  
The Norton Collection, California, USA  
Tate Gallery, London  
Ulster Museum, Belfast