Our current exhibition introduces ten new artists to the collections whose work we have purchased and received by donation this year. By selecting contemporary art for the University, we hope to ‘open up’ new kinds of opportunities – or apertures - for contemplation, stimulation and inspiration across the campus. Art has the power to foster new ways to connect creatively with our own thoughts and with artists whose work and ideas are new to us or to the collections.

College Gallery Art Hire Scheme Purchases

This panel focuses on two recent purchases using funds gathered from individual and departmental hire fees from students and staff. Every year a limited selection of pictures from our University Art Collections are made available for hire at a nominal rate for students with residential rooms and staff with offices on campus.

Supported by the Hire Scheme fees, we are delighted to add for the first time to the collections, the work of Alan Phelan and Blaise Drummond. In addition this year, we have also used the Hire Scheme fees to purchase recent works by David Beattie, Brian Duggan, Anita Groener, and Breda Lynch, all new artists to Trinity’s collection.

Included at the centre of the display is a work by Deborah Brown, not purchased with hire fees but donated by the Estate of Professor Anne Crookshank FTCD, first Head of the Department of the History of Art and Architecture and pre-eminent scholar and patron of Irish Art and Art History, who passed away in October 2016. This painting is one of two donated works, both by Deborah Brown, which were with her in her final days. Professor Crookshank was pivotal to the curation and development of both the Historic and Modern Art Collections at Trinity, in particular, in the acquisition of pioneering contemporary art, often using hire fees. This display pays homage to her.

For a full list of 2016-17 purchases using the College Gallery Art Hire Scheme funds, please scan the QR tag at the top of this page or go to www.tcd.ie/artcollections/acquisitions/college-gallery.php

List of artworks, from left to right

Alan Phelan
‘Our Kind – Roger and Adler, Norway, 1941’ (2016)
diptych, photogravure edition from the short film ‘Our Kind’, exhibited at Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane, 10th March – 2nd October 2016
College Gallery Art Hire Scheme funds, purchased 2016 from the Artist

Deborah Brown
‘White on Canvas with Blue’ (1962, ref. no. 206/14/62)
oil on canvas
Donated in 2017 by the Estate of Professor Anne Crookshank FTCD

Blaise Drummond
‘Lake Eden’ (2016)
intaglio print
College Gallery Art Hire Scheme funds, purchased 2016 from Stoney Road Press

Special thanks to Meabh Noonan, Art Collections Intern 2016-17, for assisting on this exhibition
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