

The Trinity College Dublin Art Collections

Artist: Jennifer Lane
Title: *Carraig Rua*
Medium: wood block print
Framed dimensions: 51.5cm x 39cm

b.1952, Dublin

Jennifer Lane is a contemporary printmaker specialising in wood block printing, a technique first recorded in the 13th century in China. Lane studied at the Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology in the 1970s. Following her studies, Lane joined Dublin's Graphic Studio. The Graphic Studio was established in 1960 as a not for profit agency, whose primary function was to aid artists in learning traditional printing techniques, providing the studio space and technology needed to achieve this aim.

Wood block printing involves the artist carving a relief image in to a wooden block; whatever is carved away from the wooden block will not appear on the final printed image. The block is then coated in ink. The artist presses paper on to the carved, inked wood block and peels away the sheet to reveal their printed image on the paper. Lane's printing process involves the use of wood blocks made from plywood birch, printing her designs on specialised Japanese printing paper. Her work over the past few decades has revealed a passionate interest in trees. Trees provide Lane not only with artistic inspiration but are also the source materials for her preferred printing technology; wood block printing on paper. The value and significance of trees, from a literal and symbolic standpoint cannot be overestimated for the artist who has defined the tree 'as a double-edged symbol, simultaneously evoking both the scars of the past and the possibilities of the future'.

Lane has exhibited with the Graphic Studio printmakers on numerous occasions; recent exhibitions include *The Living Air* (2009), *Artist's Proof* (2009) which was held at the Chester Beatty Library and *Gold* (2010). For the exhibition *Artist's Proof*, printmakers supplied both the finished print and preparatory prints which allowed viewers to trace the process of printmaking to the final artwork. Lane has also participated in the RHA Annual group exhibitions. Abroad, Lane's work appeared at the Bradford International Print Biennale (1984) and the Print Biennale in Ljubljana (1993). Lane's most recent solo exhibition was held at the Graphic Studio Gallery in 2001. The artist's prints are in both public and private collections, notably the Office of Public Works, the Irish Management Institute and the Bank of Ireland.

The information in this article was taken from the website of the artist, Jennifer Lane, and www.graphicstudiodublin.com

This information has been compiled by Art Collections assistants, interns, and volunteers
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