

Artist Niamh O'Malley
Title *Nephin* (2014)
Medium pencil on paper, coloured glass
(grey & pale straw), extended
walnut frame
Notes Exhibited at the Douglas Hyde
Gallery, Dublin, 12th December 2014
- 25th February 2015
Purchased 2016 from The Provost's
Fund for Contemporary Art



b. 1975, Co. Mayo

Niamh O'Malley works across the disciplines of sculpture, drawing, painting and film, often combining these elements. Many of the artist's works play with vision and perception. As part of O'Malley's investigation, she has constructed installations using sculptural, drawn or projected elements to disrupt and intrigue the vision of her audience. In this way, the artist questions the truth in vision and perception, in what our eyes choose to see and how we interpret this information.

The artist received a BA in Combined Studies in Art and Design from the University of Ulster in 1996, returning to the university in 2000 to work on a combined studio and theoretical research PhD. O'Malley has exhibited regularly since 1995, with notable group exhibitions including Ireland's Visual Art Biennial, EVA International (2003); regular appearances at the VOLTA art show in Basel, Switzerland; Dublin Contemporary (2011); 'All Humans Do' held at the White Box Gallery in New York (2011); TULCA Festival of Visual Art held in Galway (2012) and 'Island: New Art from Ireland' at the Palazzini dei Giardini in Modena, Italy (2013). Since 1997, the artist has been a visiting lecturer in Fine Art at a number of institutions, including Limerick College of Art and Design, and the Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design & Technology on the MA in Visual Arts Practice.

Solo exhibitions of O'Malley's work have been held throughout Europe and in Asia, with recent exhibitions at the Bluecoat in Liverpool, the Project Arts Centre in Dublin and in Prestegard, Norway. The artist has received a number of awards, bursaries and residencies including a project award from Centro Cultural Mothermose Kulturune, Spain (2009), and a residency award from the Helsinki International Artist Programme in Finland (2008). In 2003, O'Malley was the recipient of the PS1 Fellowship in New York, awarded by the Arts Council of Ireland. Works by Niamh O'Malley have been acquired by Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane; the Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA); the Arts Council of Ireland and the Galleria

Arte Moderna in Turin, Italy, and Trinity College Dublin. In 2015, a monograph on the work of Niamh O'Malley was published featuring essays by Rebecca O'Dwyer and a foreword by then-director of the Douglas Hyde Gallery, John Hutchinson.

Nephin

As the basis for this recent exhibition, the artist filmed the Nephin mountain in the west of Ireland, as seen from the window of a moving car. Painted on to the car window is a black smudge which simultaneously calls attention to the subject of the mountain whilst obstructing our complete view of it. The lens or eye, never settles upon a framed perspective of the mountain but weaves around it, carried by the winding roads. Our vision is interrupted further not only by the slight wave created by the glass car window, but by sculptural interventions used in the installation of the piece, such as panes of yellow and pink glass, which are set at various distances from the projection.

The work acquired by Trinity College Dublin, also titled *Nephin*, is a pencil drawing framed by the artist with an attached panel of coloured glass and was exhibited in Gallery 1 at the Douglas Hyde Gallery, Trinity College Dublin in 2015.

The information in this article was sourced from www.niamhomalley.com and Brenda Moore McCann's review for CIRCA "Niamh O'Malley" at the Green on Red Gallery, published in September-October issue, 2006

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