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# OUTSIDE THE LINES

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## *Contemporary Drawing Practice*

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This exhibition platforms a range of contemporary drawing practice in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. It presents work by nine artists who are pursuing drawing as an independent practice in its own right or for whom drawing forms an important element of their visual language or process. It also offers some examples of work in other media including printmaking and sculpture where drawing has been integral to realising the final work.

*Outside the Lines* includes both traditional approaches as well as work by artists who are re-imagining the possibilities of drawing as a mark making process and applying it in innovative ways through the use of unconventional tools and methodologies.

For some of the artists mark making is a carefully controlled and executed process while others adopt a more open-ended approach which allows for the unknown or unexpected element and the chance occurrence. For all of the artists however, the placement of each individual mark, whether deliberately or randomly occurring, has an integrity and a significance of its own within the rhythm of the overall work. The marks that are left out are as important as those that do appear.

Some artists share common links including the influence or harnessing of modern technology in making work and the referencing of formal drawing conventions used by

other disciplines such as architecture and cartography. However, this exhibition primarily seeks to allow the opportunity to view every artist's work as an individual practice. Each artist has developed their own distinct visual language using a variety of processes from pencil on paper and animated drawing to 3D installation that invades the architectural space or drawings created without visual stimuli.

The exhibition includes work that is abstract and representational, serious and playful, that both draws upon art historical influences and embraces up to date technologies and innovative approaches. It offers an insight into the rich breadth of practice, working methods and commitment to drawing by a selection of artists connected to the County. *Outside the Lines* shows how drawing practice is currently being reinvented and revitalised, challenging conventional expectations of what a drawing can be and how it should be achieved.

Sincere thanks are due to all of the artists – Kate Betts, Cecily Brennan, Brian Fay, Anita Groener, Niamh Jackman, Caoimhe Kilfeather, Patricia McKenna, Julie Merriman and Joe Stanley. We greatly appreciate their generosity in welcoming us into their studio spaces and sharing insights into their working practices.

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Curators, **Ashleigh Downey & Síle O'Sullivan**  
August 2011