

ISABEL NOLAN

b. 1974, Dublin

Lives and works in Dublin

EDUCATION

2006 MA Visual Arts Practices, Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dún Laoghaire

2001 Postgraduate, University College Dublin

1995 BA Fine Art & History of Art, National College of Art & Design, Dublin

CURRENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

2026 Ireland at Venice, 61st Venice Biennale, curated by Georgina Jackson and The Douglas Hyde Gallery of Contemporary Art (April – November)

2025 Bedrock, 13th Liverpool Biennial, curated by Marie-Anne McQuay (biennial exhibition, 7 June – 14 September)

2024 Take A Breath, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland (group exhibition, 13 June 2024 – 17 March 2025)

Twilight is a Place of Promise, Esther Schipper, Berlin, Germany (group exhibition, 29 June – 24 August)

Cityscape with Sleeping Dog, public sculpture commission, Temple Bar Square, Dublin, launched 7 June

SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2024 Material Flux, two-person exhibition with Aleana Egan, Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda, Ireland

2023 499 seconds, Château La Coste, Aix-en-Provence, France

Permanent public artwork for Butler Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland

2022 flotsam, jetsam, lagan and derelict, Void, Derry, Northern Ireland

2021 Spaced Out, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

A delicate bond which is also a gap, Solstice Art Centre, Navan, Ireland

2019 The air between things, two-person exhibition with Stephen McKenna, OCT Boxes Art Museum, Shunde District, Guangzhou, China

2018 Ein Fuß in der Welt / One Foot in the World, Kunstverein Langenhagen, Germany

2017 Another View from Nowhen, London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE, London, UK

Curling up with reality, Grazer Kunstverein, Graz, Austria

Calling on Gravity, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2016 Run for the Shadows, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria

The weakened eye of day, Contemporary Art Gallery (CAG), Vancouver, Canada

The weakened eye of day, Mercer Union, Toronto, Canada

SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

- 2015 A Thing Is Mostly Space, Launch Pad New York, USA
Bent knees are a give, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2014 The weakened eye of day, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
An answer about the sky, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA
- 2012 Unmade, The Return Gallery, Goethe-Institut Irland, Dublin, Ireland
A hole into the future, Musée d'art moderne de Saint Etienne, France
- 2011 A hole into the future, The Model, Sligo, Ireland
The Outward Form, permanent public artwork for The Model, Sligo, Ireland
- 2010 Clocks and Seasons and Promises, Gallery Side 2, Tokyo, Japan
Turning Point, permanent public artwork for Terminal 2, Dublin Airport, Ireland; commissioned by the DAA
- 2009 on a perilous margin, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2008 The Paradise [29], Gallery 2, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Trance in Inaction, Gallery 3, ARTSPACE, New Zealand
- 2007 This time I promise to be more careful, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2006 Gallery 3, Douglas Hyde Gallery, off-site project at Farmleigh House, Dublin, Ireland
Here and Now, The Studio, Glasgow International, Glasgow, Scotland
Rise to the occasion, Four, Dublin, Ireland
Two-person exhibition with Jo McGonigal, Ard Bia, Galway, Ireland
- 2005 Together at last, Studio 6, IADT at Temple Bar Gallery & Studios, Dublin, Ireland
Everything I said let me explain, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland
- 2003 Death creeps in through the mouth, Goethe Institute, Dublin, Ireland
- 1998 I keep dreaming that I'm a fictional character, Proposition Gallery, Belfast

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Following Threads, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork, Ireland
Finding Form, McKenna Gallery, Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, Ireland, curated by Paula Barrett
- 2022 Odysseys, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork, Ireland
- 2021 Ghosts from the Recent Past, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Line as Thought, Lines as Universe, Salzburger Kunstverein, Austria
- 2020 Shine Your Light Art Commission, RTE, Dublin, Ireland
Double M, Double X, Kerlin Gallery, Ireland
IMMA Screen Showcase, Online exhibition and interview, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Ireland

GROUP EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

- 2019 'Inside The Department of Ultimology Radio Essay' Contributor. Commissioned by The Department of Ultimology, produced by RTÉ's Drama On One. Broadcast twice in 2019
Extreme Imagination – inside the mind's eye, Tramway, Glasgow travelling to Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, UK
- 2018 Sea Change, Dún Laoghaire Lexicon, Dún Laoghaire, Ireland
Die wechselnde Erscheinung / The Changing Appearance, Kunstverein Langenhagen, Langenhagen, Germany
But still, like dust, I'll rise, Galway Arts Centre, Galway, Ireland
Dorothy Cross, Aleana Egan, Siobhán Hapaska, Isabel Nolan, Kathy Prendergast, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
An Act of Hospitality Can Only Be Poetic, Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda, Ireland
EVA International, Limerick, Ireland
- 2017 Drawing Biennial 2017, The Drawing Room, London, UK
Park, Holly's Gallery, Guangzhou & 218 Hollywood Road, Hong Kong (co-presented by Kerlin Gallery & Holly's Gallery)
- 2016 Periodical Review 2016, Pallas Projects/Studios, Dublin, Ireland
- 2015 Engage Arts Festival, Bandon, Co Cork, Ireland
Lofoten International Arts Festival (LIAF), Svolvær, Norway
Überschönheit, Salzburger Kunstverein, Austria
An Imprecise Science, Artspace, Sydney, Australia
- 2014 PULL BITE RALLY, NCAD Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Re Framing the Domestic in Irish Art, Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda, Ireland
The Retired Architect, Wallspace Gallery, New York, USA
- 2013 Sculpture after Artschwager, David Nolan Gallery, New York, USA
Re/Turn, Studio 10, Temple Bar Gallery + Studios, Barbara Knezevic & Isabel Nolan
The Black Moon, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
Points of Orientation, Andrew Jensen Gallery, Sydney, Australia
Beasts of England, Beasts of Ireland, VISUAL, Carlow, curated by Stephen Brandes
Sculptrices, Villa Datriis, Fondation pour la Sculpture Contemporaine France
- 2012 Into the Light, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork; The Model, Sligo, Ireland
Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Gracelands: Circling The Square, The Milk Market, Limerick, Ireland
After the Future, EVA International, Limerick, Ireland
Laurence Callaghan and Isabel Nolan, Rhubaba Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland
Dogs, Ormston House, Limerick, Ireland

GROUP EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

- 2011 Collecting for Ireland, The Hunt Museum, Limerick, Ireland
Gracelands: Substance Abuse, Dromahair, Co. Leitrim, Ireland
Mark Garry and Isabel Nolan, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK
Beholder, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland
- 2010 Forms of Reason, Lullin + Ferrari, Zurich, Switzerland
Gracelands, I'm Sparticus, Dromahair, Co. Leitrim, Ireland
Instantaneous Personal Magnetism, Galway Arts Centre, Galway, Ireland
something tells me it's all happening at the zoo, Kevin Kavanagh Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Group Show Summer 2010, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
King Rat, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland
The Material Consequence, Bluewall Gallery, Cavan, Ireland
Arrivi e Partenze Europa, Mole Vanvitelliana, Italy
Invisible, Original Print Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
What you see is where you're at, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK
- 2009 Fragile, Fields of empathy, Musée d'art moderne de Saint Etienne, France; Accademia d'Ungheria, Rome; The Daejeon Museum of Art, South Korea
Mehr Als ein T-shirt, Bielefelder Kunstverein, Germany
Into Irish Drawing, Limerick City Gallery of Art, Ireland; AkkuH, Hengelo, The Netherlands; Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris; Millennium Court Arts Centre, Portadown, Northern Ireland
Gracelands: Folly, Dromahair, Co. Leitrim, Ireland
Something Else, Rothe House, Kilkenny, Ireland
Gallery for One, Dublin, Ireland
Solas, Naas General Hospital, Naas, Ireland
Doggerfisher, Edinburgh, Scotland
Coalesce: Happenstance, SMART Project Space, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2008 Fifty Percent Solitude, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Gracelands, Dromahair, Co. Leitrim, Ireland
Mediations Biennale, 'Gardens and Islands', Poznan, Poland
Micro-narratives: tentation des petites réalités, Musée d'art modern et contemporain de Saint Etienne, France
Order, Desire, Light, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Beijing Art Museum of the Imperial City, Beijing, China
Economic Thought, Ard Bia, Berlin, Germany
10,000 to 50: Contemporary Art from the members of Business to Arts, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland

GROUP EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

- Exploration, an exhibition of drawings, Droichead Arts Centre, Drogheda, Ireland
Self as Selves, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
- 2007 Like Leaves, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York, USA
Lost Tongues Rediscovered, Stroom Den Haag, The Netherlands
- 2006 If I Can't Dance, I Don't Want to Be Part of Your Revolution, De Appel, Amsterdam
Three person show, Glassbox, Paris, France
100 Tage = 100 Videos, Heidelberger Kunstverein, Germany
Ireland at Venice, Lewis Glucksman Gallery, University College Cork, Ireland
- 2005 Ireland at Venice 2000, Venice Biennale, Italy
K3, Centre of Contemporary Art, Geneva, Switzerland
Superbia 2, St Columbas Boys School, City of Culture, Cork, Ireland
- 2004 Coalesce: With All Due Intent, Model Arts and Niland Gallery, Sligo, Ireland
Thinking about Ideas, Golden Thread Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
Tír na nÓg, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Yugoslav Biennale of Young Artists, Vršac, Serbia
Room 106, La Stampa Hotel, Dublin, Ireland
Views from an Island, Millennium Monument, Beijing; Shanghai Art Museum, China
- 2003 Flix, Rubicon Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Superbia, 1 Coultry Gardens, Ballymun, Dublin, Ireland
Hibernia, The Lola Gallery, San Francisco, USA
Permaculture, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland
- 2002 Body Images, Draíocht Arts Centre, Blanchardstown, Dublin, Ireland
The Holiday Show, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland
How Things Turn Out, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
- 2001 Perspective, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 1999 Pause, Rewind, Fast Forward, Play, Record, Basement Gallery, Dundalk, Ireland
- 1998 EVA International, Limerick, Ireland

COLLECTIONS

Tate Collection, London
The Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin
Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin
Crawford Gallery, Cork
Butler Gallery, Kilkenny
Arts Council of Ireland
Bloomberg, London
JP Morgan
European Investment Bank, Luxemburg
Press Up Group, Dublin
Ard Bia, Berlin
Dublin Airport Authority (DAA)
Office of Public Works (OPW), Dublin
Azure Collection, Monaco
Castle Kingdom Ltd, Shanghai
Salama bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation, Abu Dhabi
Allied Irish Bank (AIB), Dublin
Dundalk Urban District Council
Dundalk Institute of Technology
Kildare County Council Municipal Art Collection
Various private collections in Europe and USA

TEACHING

Part-time lecturer (MA Art in the Contemporary World) at National College of Art & Design

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2024 Isabel Nolan, A delicate bond which is also gap, Solstice Arts Centre, Navan; texts by Sue Rainsford, Martin Herbert, Belinda Quirke
- 2020 Isabel Nolan: Curling up with reality, Kerlin Gallery and Launch Pad
- 2017 Writing: Cabin Fever, Launch Pad Art, London; short stories by Heman Chong, Travis Jeppesen, Isabel Nolan, Benjamin Seror and Maria Taniguchi
- 2012 Lapse, Willie Doherty 'Black and White and Grey'. Published by Kerlin Gallery, Dublin on the occasion of the Willie Doherty exhibition Lapse
- 'How things meet?' Published by Project Arts Centre, Dublin on the occasion of the exhibition A MacGuffin and Some Other Things, curated by Vaari Claffey

BIBLIOGRAPHY CONTD.

- 2011 'Donkey' Isabel Nolan. Intimately unrelated / Intimentement sans rapport.
Published by The Model, Sligo and Musée d'art moderne de Saint Etienne. (With essays by Graham Harman, Seamus Kealy, Declan Long and Isabel Nolan.)
- 2010 'How was it made?' The Visual Artist's News Sheet, Issue 2. March / April
- 2006 Profile 23: Daphne Wright, Gandon Editions. With essays by Penelope Curtis, Isabel Nolan and interview by Simon Morrissey
- 2002 William McKeown 'The sky begins at our feet' The Ormeau Baths Gallery. With essay by Isabel Nolan

SELECTED PRESS

- 2023 Chris Hayes, 'In Conversation: Chris Hayes and Isabel Nolan, Paper Visual Art, 8 May
Martin Herbert, ArtReview, April
Kevin Mullan, 'Coming up at Derry's Void gallery this February!', Derry Journal, 31 January
Kevin Burns, 'Exhibition profile | flotsam, jetsam, lagan and derelict', Visual Artists News Sheet, January/February (Cover feature)
- 2022 'New writing: Kora of Sicyon by Isabel Nolan', Sunday Miscellany, RTÉ, 11 July
Cian Ó Broin, 'In pictures: Limerick celebrates Europe as unique 'Belonging' exhibition opens', Limerick Live, 10 February
Contemporary Art Daily, 12 January
Kevin Courtney, 'Gig of the Week: First Fortnight powers ahead for its second week', The Irish Times, 10 January
- 2021 Eoghan O'Sullivan, 'GunPlot, The Witness, Joanne McNally: the best new Irish podcasts of the year', 21 December
Lucy White, 'Self-reflection and strippers – three audio treats ahead of International Podcasts Day', 26 September
'\$40M Basquiat, 2500-Loaf 'Bread House' Among Highlights at Art Basel', Artfix Daily, 21 September
Colin Graham, 'Review: Isabel Nolan Curling up with reality', Paper Visual Art, August
Penny McCormick, 'The Best Art Exhibitions To Visit In Ireland This Summer', The Gloss Magazine, 15 July
- 2020 RTÉ Culture, 'Illuminations - RTÉ explores shades of lockdown', 5 November
Sinéad Crowley, 'Digital gallery launched as arts move online', RTÉ News, 21 October
Gemma Tipton, 'The safe way to staycation in Dublin this mid-term', The Irish Times, 17 October
- 2019 'OCT Boxes Art Museum held the Stephen McKenna and Isabel Nolan two-person exhibition', Chinese Culture News [Art and Culture Weekly], 17 May

SELECTED PRESS CONTD.

- 2018 Stephanie Bailey, 'EVA International: Ireland's Biennial Talks About Power', Ocula, 6 July
Aidan Dunne, 'This week's visual art highlights', The Irish Times, 19 May
Mary Conlon, 'Dismantling the Monolith', The Visual Artists' News Sheet, 1 May
Mimi Chu, 'EVA International: A Heavy Duty Show on Limerick's Industrial History', Frieze, 30 April
Sabrina Mandanici, 'Dam It', Artforum, 25 April
Aidan Dunne, 'This week's visual art highlights', The Irish Times, 21 April
Caroline Douglas, Contemporary Art Society, 19 January
- 2017 Harriet Thorpe, 'On the rise: Bloomberg's new HQ ramps it up a notch', Wallpaper*, 11 December
Kristine Moore, 'A Reconstructed Roman Temple Dedicated To Mithras In 240AD Will Be Opening Its Doors In London', Inquisitr, 10 November
- 2016 Aidan Dunne, 'Building a Pallas: 20 years of modern art in Ireland', The Irish Times, 13 December
Hans Schneider, 'Atelier Van Lieshout & Isabel Nolan at Galerie Krinzinger, Wien', Blouin ArtInfo, 1 December
Martin Herbert, '10 shows to see on now', ArtReview, September
Nancy Lanthier, 'Things to do in Vancouver today', Vancouver Sun, 29 July
Eileen Kinsella, 'What Are Dealers Bringing to Frieze New York 2016?', artnet News, 3 May
Karina Irvine, 'Isabel Nolan at Mercer Union: When Seeing is Disbelieving', Canadian Art, 14 March
Murray Whyte, 'On the wall: What's in the galleries this week', The Star, 9 February
- 2015 Olivier Basciano, 'Lofoten International Art Festival: Disappearing Acts', ArtReview, October
Alan O'Riordan, 'Inspired by the knees of a dying man', The Irish Examiner, 22 September
John Graham, 'Isabel Nolan, Bent knees are a give', Paper Visual Art, 9 June
Gemma Tipton, 'Isabel Nolan, Kerlin Gallery', frieze, June
Isobel Harbison, Review of Bent Knees are a Give, Art Agenda, 12 May
Aidan Wall, Review of Bent Knees are a Give, Totally Dublin, May
Aidan Dunne, Review of Bent Knees are a Give, The Irish Times, 14 April
- 2014 Barry Schawabsky, 'Pictures of Icarus', The Nation, 21 October
Alana Shilling-Janoff, The Brooklyn Rail, 7 October
Declan Long, Artforum, VOL. 53 No. 2, October, pp. 293–294
Ed Krčma, 'Isabel Nolan: The Weakened Eye of Day', Enclave Review, Autumn, pp. 15–16

SELECTED PRESS CONTD.

- Lorraine Rubio, 'artnet Asks: Isabel Nolan', artnet News, 12 September
Gemma Tipton, Frieze Blog, 10 July
Darran Anderson, Studio International, 19 June
Eithne Shortall, 'Feeling at home', The Sunday Times, 15 June
Robert Clark, Guardian Guide, 6 June, p. 38
- 2013 The Arab Irish Journal, Issue 5, December, pp. 64–65
Roberta Smith, '40 Nations, 1,000 Artists and One Island: Frieze New York at Randall's Island', The New York Times, 10 May
IMAGE Magazine, May, pp. 56–57
Tim Stott, ArtReview, March, pp. 154–155
- 2012 ARTStap Journal for Contemporary Visual & Sonic Art, Vol. 2, Issue 3
Áine Phillips, 'Isabel Nolan, A hole into the Future', The Visual Artists' News Sheet, Issue 2, March/April, front cover, p. 21
No. 85 Graham Harman, The Third Table, 100 Notes – 100 Thoughts, dOCUMENTA 13
Robert Clark, 'This week's new exhibitions', The Guardian Guide, 14 January
Gemma Tipton, 'Hanging in the balance of order and chaos', The Irish Times, 12 January
Derek O'Connor, 'Featured Artist: Isabel Nolan', IMAGE Magazine, January
- 2011 Aidan Dunne, The Irish Times, The Ticket, 9 December, p. 24
Jenny Fitzgibbon, Irish Arts Review, Winter, pp. 78–79
Roberta Smith, 'Free-for-all Spirit Breezes into a Vast Art Fair', The New York Times, 3 March
The Fold, Issue 6: The Future, Autumn, front page
- 2010 Catherine Marshall, 'The elegance of choice', Irish Arts Review, Summer, p. 71
Isobel Harbison, Frieze, Issue 129, March, pp. 137–138
Jo McKinley, 'Flash Art', Corridor 8, Issue 1
- 2009 Gemma Tipton, 'Art at Both Ends of the Scale', The Irish Times, 14 August
NRC Handelsblad, 9 February
Michael Gibbs, Art Monthly, Issue 323, February
- 2008 Jacqui McIntosh, 'From Jesus to Sartre', Magill
Aidan Dunne, 'Messing with the Modernist Flat-Pack', The Irish Times, 26 March
- 2007 Caoimhín Mac Giolla Léith, Artforum, Summer
Luke Clancy, Art Review, Issue 11, May, pg.12
Aidan Dunne, 'A Careful Look at the Small Details', The Irish Times, 7 March
Catherine Leen, The Sunday Times, 4 March