

WILLIAM McKEOWN

b. 1962 Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland

d. 2011, Edinburgh, Scotland

EDUCATION

1993–94 University of Ulster, Belfast, Northern Ireland (MA Fine Art)

1986–87 Glasgow School of Art, Scotland, (MA Design)

1981–84 Central St Martin's School of Art & Design, London, UK

1980–81 University College London, UK

CURRENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

2025 The Mac, Belfast (Solo, 9 October 2025 – 4 January 2026)

2024 Coalescence: Happenstance, Shimmer Shimmer, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
(Group, 1 December 2024 – 30 November 2025); curated by Paul O'Neill

SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2023 An Open Room, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2022 William McKeown, Château La Coste, Aix-en-Provence, France; curated by
Jonathan Anderson

2021 William McKeown, Casey Kaplan, New York

2016 The Dayroom, 2004-2010, Dallas Museum of Art, TX, USA
Chance Encounters II, two-person exhibition with John Ward, LOEWE Design
District Store, Miami, FL, USA; ; presented by Jonathan Anderson

2015 Cloud Cuckoo Land, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2013 St Carthage Hall, Lismore Castle Arts, Ireland; curated by Eamonn Maxwell

2012 William McKeown, Inverleith House, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, UK;
curated by Paul Nesbitt

A Room, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2011 The Waiting Room, The Golden Bough, Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane,
Dublin, Ireland; curated by Michael Dempsey

2010 Five Working Days, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
A Certain Distance, Endless Light, two-person exhibition with works by Félix
González-Torres, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima), UK; curated by
Gavin Delahunty

Pool, two-person exhibition with Dorothy Cross, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2009 Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Enrique Juncosa

2006 Hope Paintings, Hope Drawings and Open Drawings, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin

2004 The Bright World, Golden Thread Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland

SOLO EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

- The Room at the Horizon, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland
Cloud Cuckoo Land, The Paradise (16), Gallery 2, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Cloud Cuckoo Land, Sleeper, Edinburgh, UK
2002 The Sky Begins at Our Feet, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
Forever Paintings, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
2001 In an open room, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
1998 Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
1996 Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 All flowers in time bend towards the sun, The Coach House, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Paul Hallahan & Lee Welch
2024 Take A Breath, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Place des Vosges, Paris, France
like the light at the beginning of the world, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
2023 Other Worlds, Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny, Ireland; curated by Daniel Nelis
2021 The Narrow Gate of the Here-and-Now, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin
New Perspectives: Acquisitions 2011-2020, National Gallery of Ireland
Ghosts from the Recent Past, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Ireland; co-curated by Rachael Gilbourne, Janice Hough and Claire Walsh; steered by Annie Fletcher
2019 The Extended Mind, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland; curated by Miranda Anderson, Tessa Giblin and James Clegg
Shadowplay, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
2016 We are the Center for Curatorial Studies, Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, NY, USA; curated by Paul O'Neill
Passages in Modern Art: 1946–1996, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX, USA
2015 The Untold Want, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Patrick Murphy
New Art New Nature, Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland
Into The Field, The Model, Sligo, Ireland; curated by Marie-Louise Blarney
30 for 30, Tallahassee City Hall Gallery, Florida, USA
2014 Re-framing the Domestic in Irish Art, Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda, Ireland; curated by Aoife Ruane, Amanda Coogan and Jane Humphries
2013 Changing States: Contemporary Irish Art & Francis Bacon's Studio, BOZAR Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels, Belgium; curated by Michael Dempsey, Christina Kennedy, Barbara Dawson and Margarita Cappock

GROUP EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

- 2012 Into the Light: The Arts Council – 60 Years Supporting the Arts, The Model, Sligo, Ireland; curated by Emer McGarry
Time Out of Mind, IMMA @ NCH, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Christina Kennedy, assisted by Brian Cass
- 2011 De l'emergence du Phénix, Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, France; curated by Caroline Hancock
Twenty, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Interlude, Gallery 1, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2010 Surface & Reality, Kilkenny Arts Festival, curated by Oliver Dowling, Kilkenny, Ireland; curated by Oliver Dowling
Collecting the New, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
- 2009 Traces: IMMA Limited Editions, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
- 2008 Order. Desire. Light. An Exhibition of Contemporary Drawings, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Enrique Juncosa
10,000 to 50: Contemporary Art from Members of Business to Arts, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
- 2007 Wild Honey, Burren College of Art Gallery, Clare, Ireland; curated by Michael Dempsey
- 2006 A Dream of Discipline (and other works), three-person exhibition with Dorothy Cross and Kathy Prendergast, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland; curated by John Hutchinson
- 2005 The Nature of Things, Northern Ireland Pavilion, 51st Venice Biennale; curated by Hugh Mulholland
Rooms for Waiting In, Galway Arts Centre, Galway, Ireland; curated by Michael Dempsey
Four Now, GLUCKSMAN, Cork, Ireland; curated by Sarah Glennie
- 2004 Coalesce, With All Due Intent, The Model, Sligo, Ireland; curated by Paul O'Neill
Thinking of Ideas, The Golden Thread Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
No-one Else Can Make Me Feel Colours That You Bring, Temple Bar Gallery, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Vaari Claffey and Isabel Nolan
In Time of Shaking, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland; selected by Professor Cián Benson (UCD)
- 2003 Colour Chart, curated by Hugh Mulholland, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland; curated by Hugh Mulholland
New Works on Paper, Fenderesky Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
Line/Form/Colour, No.0&1 John Dillon Street, Dublin, Ireland
Permaculture, curated by Grant Wilson, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Grant Wilson
New Additions 2003, The National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland, Bourn Vincent Gallery, University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland

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- 2002 The Holiday Show, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland; curated by William McKeown
Works on Paper, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Mirror, Beltable Arts Centre, Limerick, Ireland; curated by Michael Canning
Works on Paper, Fenton Gallery, Cork, Ireland
- 2000 The Sea & The Sky, curated by Patrick T. Murphy and Richard Torchia, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland; Beaver College Art Gallery, Glenside, Philadelphia, USA; curated by Patrick T. Murphy and Richard Torchia
A Measured Quietude, David Winton Bell Gallery, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA; Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland; The Drawing Center, New York, NY, USA (1999); Berkeley Art Museum, University of California, USA (1999)
- 1999 Group Show, Fenderesky Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 1998 Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 1997 East International, Norwich Gallery, Norwich School of Art & Design, Norwich, UK; selected by Tacita Dean and Nicholas Logsdail
Residue, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
IMMA/Glen Dimplex Artists Award Exhibition 1997, the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
- 1995 Group Show, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 1994 Belfast Young Contemporaries, One Oxford Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland
Hit & Run, Catalyst Arts, Wilmot House, Belfast, Northern Ireland
MA Fine Art Exhibition, Orpheus Building, Belfast, Northern Ireland; 99 Gallery, Glasgow, UK; Guinness Hop Store, Dublin, Ireland

AWARDS

- 2008 Elected a member of Aosdána
- 2002 Arts Council of Northern Ireland Award
- 2001 Sirius Project, Roches Point, Co Cork

COLLECTIONS

Dallas Museum of Art
The Hugh Lane Gallery
Irish Museum of Modern Art
The Ulster Museum
Arts Council of England
Arts Council of Ireland
National Gallery of Ireland
Château La Coste

FILM

2016 Idir Neamh agus Talamh: Saothar William McKeown, short film directed by Pat Collins (Harvest Films) based on the work of William McKeown

PUBLICATIONS

2025 Crafted World – Jonathan Anderson's LOEWE

2023 In an Open Room, monograph published by Kerlin Gallery; texts by John Hutchinson, Declan Long, Caoimhín Mac Giolla Léith, William McKeown and Isabel Nolan
Yvonne Scott, Landscape and Environment in Contemporary Irish Art, Churchill House Press, Ireland

2015 The Untold Want, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin; texts by Patrick T. Murphy and Caroline Hancock

2011 Creative Ireland: The Visual Arts (Contemporary Visual Arts in Ireland 2000-2011), edited by Noel Kelly & Seán Kissane, pp. 118–119

2010 Traces of Light, mima, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art; texts selected by members of the public and staff at mima
Issue 5, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast

2009 Traces: IMMA Limited Editions, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; texts by Christina Kennedy and Seamus McCormack

2008 William McKeown, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; essays by Enrique Juncosa, Declan Long, Corinna Lotz and Chris Arthur
Order, Desire, Light: An Exhibition of Contemporary Drawings, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin

2006 A Dream of Discipline (and other works), Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin
Subjective Affinities..., Alabama Chrome, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin; essay by Declan Long

PUBLICATIONS CONTD.

- 2005 The Nature of Things, text by Michele Robecchi, Venice Biennale
- 2003 New Additions 2003 – The National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland, University of Limerick; text by Samuel Walsh
- 2002 The Sky Begins at Our Feet, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast; text by Isabel Nolan
The Holiday Show, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin; text by William McKeown
- 2001 In an open room, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin; text by John Hutchinson
Mirror, Belltable Arts Centre, Limerick; text by Michael Canning
- 2000 The Sea and The Sky, Beaver College Art Gallery, Pennsylvania and Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin; texts by Susan Stewart, Patrick T. Murphy and Richard Torchia
- 1999 A Measured Quietude, The Drawing Centre, New York/Berkeley Arts Museum; text by Caoimhín Mac Giolla Léith
- 1997 East International, Norwich Gallery, Norwich School of Art and Design; text by Lynda Morris
The Glenn Dimplex Artists Award 1997, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin
Residue, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin; text by John Hutchinson

SELECTED PRESS

- 2025 Gemma Tipton, '2025 in art: 10 shows to look out for over the next 12 months', The Irish Times, 5 January
- 2024 Eve Hill-Agnus, 'Paris With the Effect of Rain', Artforum, 31 October
Devorah Lauter, 'Paris Art Week Is Packed With Satellite Fairs for Every Taste', Art News, 18 October
Adnan Qiblawi & Verity Babbs, 'Art Fairs Are Blooming All Over Paris. Here Is Your Go-To Guide to What's On This Week', Artnet News, 14 October
'Fall 2024 exhibition, Place des Vosges', eflux Agenda, 11 October
- 2023 Alice Carroll, 'Life in living colour', Trinity News, 23 October
John Graham, 'William McKeown, An Open Room', Paper Visual Art, 27 September
Artforum, 'Must See', 12 September
Philip Carton, 'Events Calendar', Business Post, 9 September
Niall MacMonagle, 'William McKeown's "open art" is a breath of fresh summer's art at the Kerlin', The Sunday Independent, 4 September
Tony Clayton Lea, 'The Guide: Visual Art', The Irish Times – The Ticket, 26 August
- 2022 Matthieu Jacquet, 'Le créateur Jonathan Anderson commissaire d'une exposition dans un somptueux domaine de Provence', Numero, 29 March

SELECTED PRESS CONTD.

- 2021 Bryan Martin, 'William McKeown', The Brooklyn Rail, December 2021 – January 2022 Issue
- 2016 Christina Clemente et al, 'Designer Debuts to Snag This Month in Miami', Ocean Drive, 12 December
- Rae White, 'Here's How the Fashion World Did Art Basel Miami Beach', Fashionista, 7 December
- Ashley Parker, 'Chance Encounters II Exhibition Opens at LOEWE Miami Design District During Art Basel Miami Beach 2016', International Business Times, 4 December
- High Net Worth, 'The Loewe Foundation Presents the Works of John Ward & William McKeown in Art Basel 2016', 2 December
- Luxury Daily, 'Miami Art Week draws luxury participants courting creative crowd', 2 December
- Alix Browne, 'Jonathan Anderson and Loewe: Past, Present, Future', W Magazine, 1 December
- Wallpaper*, 'Chance encounters: Loewe brings painting and pottery together in Miami', 1 December
- Whitewall, 'Chance Encounters II Opening at Loewe in the Design District', 1 December
- Gary Pini, 'What's Happening Wednesday at Art Basel Miami Beach 2016', Paper Mag, 30 November
- Nick Remsen, 'Jonathan Anderson and Loewe Take Miami by Storm', VOGUE, 30 November
- WWD, 'Art Basel: So Are We Here to Party or What?', 30 November
- Emily Manning, 'i-D's ultimate guide to Art Basel Miami Beach 2016', i-D, 29 November
- Bethan Ryder, 'Design Miami preview', The Telegraph, 27 November
- Miami Herald, 'In 2016, a new design for Design Miami', 11 November
- Cristín Leach, 'There is proof of life after death for Irish artists', The Sunday Times, 3 July
- Nolan Jimbo, 'Day Break', Dallas Museum of Art Uncrated, 29 June
- Eileen Kinsella, 'New Dealers Invest in Dallas as Art Fair Week Quickly Approaches', artnet News, 11 April
- 2015 Zoë Jellicoe, Dublin Inquirer, 21 October
- Robert Clark, The Guardian Guide, 16 October
- Zara Hedderman, Le Cool Dublin, 15 October
- John Graham, Enclave Review, Issue 13, Autumn, p. 1
- Sarah Kelleher, Enclave Review, Issue 13, Autumn, pp. 1–2

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- 2013 Cristín Leach Hughes, The Sunday Times, 12 May
Aidan Dunne, The Irish Times, 10 May
- 2012 Patricia Andrew, 'Interesting Inverleith and beautiful botanics', Cassone, July
Luke Clancy, Art Review, May, pp. 128-129
Robert Clark, The Guardian Guide, 24 March, p. 37
Cristín Leach Hughes, The Sunday Times, 18 March, p. 13
Aidan Dunne, The Irish Times: The Ticket, 2 March, p. 24
- 2011 Irish Arts Review, Vol.28, Issue 3, Autumn, p. 28
Irish Arts Review, Vol. 28, Issue 1, Spring, p. 30
- 2010 Elizabeth Fitzherbert, 'Latest Additions to IMMA's Permanent Collection Provoke Thought', The Wall Street Journal, 28 May
Mark Sheerin, Culture24, 8 April
Becky Hunter, White Hot Magazine of Contemporary Art, April
Kate Butler, The Sunday Times, 7 March
Robert Clark, The Guardian, 6 March
Joanne Welford, 'Tripping the light fantastic at mima', Evening Gazette, 5 March
e-flux, 3 March
Network per l'Arte Contemporanea, Undo.net, March
Media Net News, February
Evening Gazette, 'What's On', 26 February
Architecture Now, 'Pool', 23 February
- 2009 Four Seasons Magazine, Issue Four, pp.94
- 2008 Eimear McKeith, 'Just William', The Sunday Tribune, 16 November
Emily Mark Fitzgerald, 'Horizons of Light', Irish Arts Review, Autumn, pp. 80-83
- 2006 'Hope paintings, hope drawings & open drawings', Totally Dublin, January
Catherine Leen, The Sunday Times, Culture Magazine, February
- 2005 Francesca Bonetta, Northern Ireland at the 51st Venice Biennale, Circa, Winter
- 2004 Cristín Leach Hughes, The Sunday Times, 4 January
- 2003 Aidan Dunne, The Irish Times, 14 November
Cristín Leach Hughes, The Sunday Times, 15 May
- 2002 Aidan Dunne, 'The intangible business of going on holiday', The Irish Times, 26 August
'Sky's the Limit', The Irish Times, 17 August
Catherine Daly, 'The Holiday Show', The Sunday Times, 15 August
'The Sky Begins at our Feet', The Irish Times, 1 August
- 2001 Sarah Durcan, Circa, Summer No96
Catherine Daly, The Sunday Times, 8 April
Niamh Collins, TNT, 25 April
Cristín Leach, ACE-RTÉ internet site, 26 April
Medh Ruane, The Sunday Times, 29 April

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- 2000 Sara Keating, In Dublin, p. 64
Mark Ewart, The Irish Times, 17 May
Aidan Dunne, 'When the sky's not the limit', The Irish Times, 8 August
- 1998 Melanie Morris, d'side, September
Angela Murray, The Tribune Magazine, 20 September
Aidan Dunne, 'Land, Sea, Sky, Paint', The Irish Times, 16 September
Medb Ruane, The Sunday Times, 29 September
The Sunday Tribune, 29 September
Tim Hilton, Independent on Sunday, 27 July
- 1997 Louise East, The Irish Times, 22 May
The Irish Times, 31 May
Aidan Dunne, The Tribune Magazine 25 May
Medb Ruane, The Sunday Times, 25 May
- 1996 Brian Fallon, The Irish Times, 26 September
Aidan Dunne, The Sunday Tribune, 8 December
Medb Ruane, The Sunday Times, 8 December
Aidan Dunne, The Sunday Tribune, 29 September
Medb Ruane, The Sunday Times, 29 September