

PRESS RELEASE – Drawing In Camera

Students Art Exhibition at Farmleigh

An exhibition of work by students from Coláiste Pobail Setanta Dublin 15, at the Cowshed Theatre Space at Farmleigh was officially launched by Mayor of Fingal Councillor Gerry Maguire on Thursday 20th October, and is open to members of the public on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 12 noon to 4pm until Sunday 6th November 2011.

The school applied to take part in the 2010 / 2011 Artist In Residence programme run by Fingal Arts Office, and artist Cólín Rush was invited to work with the then second year class and their teacher, Charlene Brazil. The programme supports teachers and students engaging with visual arts education in schools, and its aim is to provide schools with the opportunity to engage in intensive collaboration with a professional artist, the focus of which may be a particular project.

At the launch, the Mayor of Fingal said “Having access to artists is a fantastic opportunity for second level students to enhance their understanding of contemporary art practices and an important element of the programme. It is evident that the process was not only an education in visual practices, but also in peer relations, patience, research, critical reflection and exploration.”

The title for the exhibition, **Drawing in Camera** comes directly from the projects overarching theme, the mechanics of drawing. The process employed was vast in range and led the participants down some unfamiliar paths. Cólín Rush commented, ‘the discipline the students showed continually impressed me. During the whole experience every student showed a willingness to engage that was courageous given that there were no guarantees of success.’

ENDS 24/10/11

Notes to Editors

About the Artist: Cólín Rush is an Irish Artist who works in visual mediums including painting, photography and video. He has lived and worked in Dublin since graduating with a BA in Fine Art paint from NCAD in 1999. In 2009 he completed an MA in digital media and broadened his practice to include video work. He has exhibited in group and solo shows both home and abroad, and has been awarded The Arts Council of Ireland's Travel Award among others.

About the Project: Cólín and the students built a transparent easel to literally trace the objects in front of them and made a camera obscura to fix images onto disposable plates that could be drawn upon. The students engaged in some very advanced drawing processes, training techniques and disciplines that are usually the reserve of third level institutions. Cólín engaged the students in blind drawing, continuous line drawing, collage and assemblage. They drew in three dimensions with wire sculptures and used computer software to render photo collages. They worked on 10 second drawings and drew with foot long pieces of bamboo to experiment with drawing techniques.