

Press Release

Quick On The Draw!

Fingal Arts Office Presents National Drawing Day, Saturday 28th May 12noon to 5pm at Newbridge House, Donabate, Co. Dublin

Fingal County Council's Arts Office are delighted to present a series of events to celebrate National Drawing Day on the grounds of the beautiful Newbridge House, Donabate on Saturday 28th May 2011.

Drawing Day is a National Initiative which promotes the practice of drawing at various cultural institutions throughout Ireland. Fingal Arts Office's programme of events for Drawing Day is now in its third year. We see it as a wonderful opportunity to engage with our historic houses and parks, we have previously used Farmleigh, and Malahide Castle and this year we are bringing an even bigger programme to Newbridge House. The aim of Drawing Day is to encourage people to pick up a pencil and unleash their creative potential. Our programme has always offered a number of approaches to drawing so that we are sure there is something for everyone to enjoy. All our events are free with materials provided.

This year we have invited acclaimed painter and RHA member James Hanley to guide participants through the principles of composition and observation using the female nude as the subject, while Oisín Byrne will guide you through the historic Newbridge House encouraging you to capture the essence of the rooms and their objects using simple drawing techniques. Artist Paul McKinley is one of Ireland's leading contemporary landscape painters will deliver a workshop on ways to depict landscape using traditional techniques using ink. For those interested in illustration, fashion design and sewing we have invited UK duo Zara Wood and Amy Phipps. Spend the morning with Zara creating your very own character – pick up useful tips for sourcing inspiration, fully utilising your sketchbook and “getting into” the creative process. The afternoon will be working

with both Amy and Zara translating your character through hand embroidery onto fabric. Take home a sketch book full of ideas and an embroidery hoop ready to hang on the wall framing your very own creation. Zara Wood is a successful illustrator, recently designing her own fashion line for Topshop.

Successful children's author Niamh Sharkey, famous for the Hugglewug series promises a fun workshop featuring huggleugs, wildthings and friendly monsters. Laura Fitzgerald will be asking the participants to draw from memory and will help them translate their thoughts into a take home 3D model while Niall de Buitlear will be using mechanical toys to help everyone make their mark. We are delighted to welcome back Graphic Studio Dublin who will offer us an insight into traditional printing techniques and everyone will have their very own limited edition to take home.

There will be lots to see and do so come along a, you might even surprise yourself.

All events are free but must be booked. For Information and Booking Information Please Contact: Caroline Cowley, Public Arts Co-ordinator, 01 870 8449, E: caroline.cowley@fingalcoco.ie, or Julie Clarke, Youth & Education Officer, 01 8905960, E: Julie.clarke@fingalcoco.ie. Details of all events will be available from our website www.fingalarts.ie

Information on and directions to Newbridge House is available at www.newbridgehouseandfarm.com

ENDS 13/05/11