

Before the dark gets stronger than the light

An exhibition of new works by Eamon Colman

Saturday 06 November 2010
3–5pm, Rua Red

Exhibition to be opened by poet, **Paula Meehan**
Continues until 04 December 2010

Alternative Entertainments invites you to *Before the dark gets stronger than the light*, an exhibition of new works by Eamon Colman at Rua Red, South Dublin Arts Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24. Last stop on the Red Luas line.

The exhibition will be officially opened by poet, Paula Meehan on Saturday 06 November from 3–5pm and will continue until 04 December 2010.

There will be an Artists Talk on Saturday 13 November at 2pm in the gallery.

Alternative Entertainments

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In Winter white the Willy

Wagtail dipped and sang

1422 x 1422mm
acrylic and oil on 410g
Somerset paper, archivally
mounted on panel
2010





**Dawn nets set to capture
the lofty endeavour of the
human spirit**

1422 x 1422mm
acrylic and oil on 410g
Somerset paper, archivally
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Before the dark gets stronger than the light is a new body of paintings by Eamon Colman. Rendered in acrylic and oil paint on Somerset paper, these large-scale paintings portray abstracted, experienced landscapes.

Influenced by the writings of German Philosopher Immanuel Kant, Colman explores the questions that surround the 'depictions of landscape' – the real or the actual. Questions about mood, does the mood of the artist affect how the landscape is addressed? Does the landscape have a mood? Deemed as 'unmistakably a colourist' by Aidan Dunne, for Colman the introduction of colour as an indicator of mood allows the viewer to interpret this for themselves. The artist is not the end controller but part of the visual debate.

The title alludes to the transitory/ephemeral nature between the physical and the conceptual landscape as interpreted by Colman. The nature of his experiences are then articulated through his personal lexicon of mark making and use of colour. Colman depicts both the wide and the minutiae within his abstracted landscapes, for example the painting *In Winter white the Willy Wagtail dipped and sang* (see overleaf) visually hints at an image of a swirling pool/bird flight beside a crevice.

Biographical Notes

Eamon Colman was born in 1957 in Dublin. He is one of Ireland's foremost abstract painters and a member of Aosdána. Since 1980 Eamon has had 30 solo exhibitions in Ireland and abroad including a mid term retrospective at The RHA Gallagher Gallery 1997, Palais Des Congres, Lorient, France 1998, Vermont Studio Centre, USA 2002, Galeri Caernarfon Cyf, Wales 2007, The Cecille R Hunt Museum, Webster University St. Louis, USA 2008.

He has won many awards including a one year travel award by The Calcutta Artists Union in 1989, he was the first Irish artist to win a Full Fellowship to The Vermont Studio Center 2002, is a Fellow of The Ballinglen Arts Foundation and was awarded a CCAT Interreg Major Award to tour an extensive exhibition in Wales in 2005.

He won first prize in painting in EV+A 1989 and in Eigse 2001. Colman was Chairman of the Artists' Association of Ireland 1993–1995 and President of the European Council of Artists' 1995–2000. He is represented in all the main Public Collections in Ireland and in Private Collections internationally including the Gordon Lambert Collection at IMMA, KPMG, Deutsche Bank, AIB, Bank of Ireland, Citibank, OPW, Smurfit Ireland Grp., Fyffes Ireland, American Express.

A full feature on Colman's work is in *The Irish Arts Review* – Spring 2007. A Gandon Edition – *Eamon Colman Artists Profile no 25* was published in 2006 and in 2010 he is profiled in Robert O'Byrnes' *Dictionary of Living Irish Artists*, Plurabelle Publishing.

Colman is represented by Hillsboro Fine Art, Dublin

www.hillsborofineart.com

To view more visit

www.eamoncolman.com

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