

# CÚRAM

DANIEL CHESTER - CHERRY DOWLING - AMY McGOVERN - STEPHEN RENNICKS

Four artists based in the environs of County Sligo have artistic encounters within the realm of health care for older people. They are invited to make work responding to that experience. Two of them work with groups in rural health centres, two of them with individuals. All have been touched by echoes of the past within their encounters. Carrying those echoes into the present through visual narrative is the gift of this exhibition. There is a sense of discovery common to each, something of the treasure trove amidst the vestiges...

## DANIEL

Oil on aluminium, wildness on the rampage in a garden untended, heightened awareness of the vigour of summer growth, light falling through foliage, a sense of time zones and moving on, lush greens in foliage and the bright palette of summer, naked pallor of a garden in winter, pale air, a snow-heavy sky, desolation of bare trees gazing into a blizzard's white constellations...

## CHERRY

Handmade artefacts and digital artforms infused with the sense of another era, fine line drawings and a pencilled colour portrait.... the subject as a little girl, a teenager, a grown woman and a proud octogenarian, nostalgic items representing the life of a little girl - a wooden knitting dolly with its continual inward-turning snake of wool, the pearly sheen of a tiny silk hand-stitched christening cap,...

## AMY

Interiors of abandoned houses re-imagined, icons revived to re-adorn walls, a lustrous red and gold Child of Prague painted onto layers of peeling wallpaper, line-drawn saints brushing shoulders with panels of the familiar 'beauty board' – once common disguise for damp and crooked walls, Françoise Millet's 'The Gleaners' - identified as an image found hanging in many rural homes, its agrarian essence universally transferable...

## STEPHEN

A landscape colonised by houses crumbling slowly before weather and the passage of time, defunct farm machinery, sleeping narrow-gauge railway tracks that once connected villages, towns and provinces, rusting petrol pumps, remote untravelled mountain roads, postcards narrating the day's news and weather, the detritus of human endeavour and hard labour that lies amid bracken, brambles, ivy and tall grasses...

*Text by Maura Gilligan, Writer and Community Arts Facilitator.*

Cúram is an exhibition by artists Daniel Chester, Cherry Dowling, Amy McGovern and Stephen Rennicks as part of the Arts + Health Programme 2019 delivered by Sligo County Council Arts Service. Curated by Catherine Fanning.

Funded by Sligo County Council, HSE West and the Arts Council of Ireland.



Exhibition runs 9<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the Hyde Bridge Gallery, Sligo