



OURSELVES ALONE

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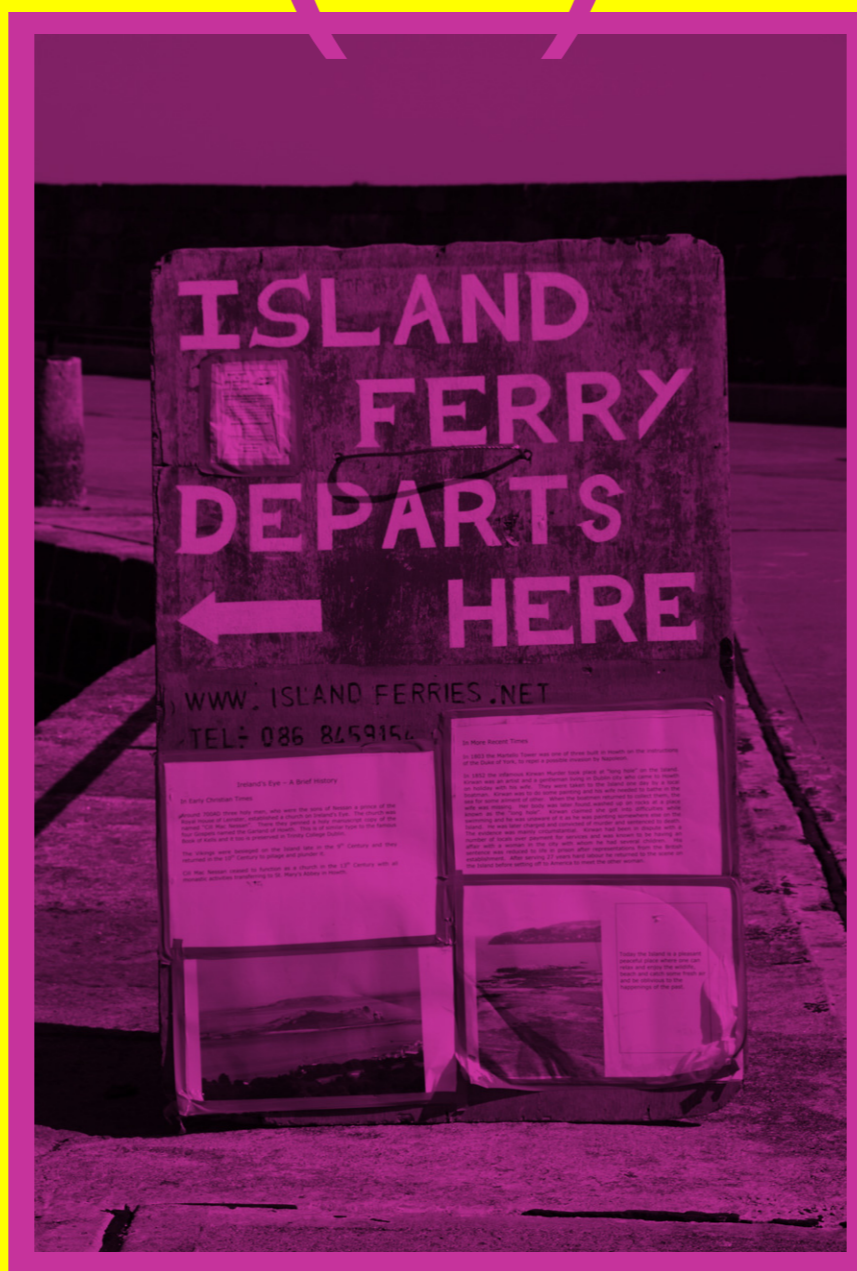
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THE PRE-HISTORY OF THE CRISIS

(2)



THE PREHISTORY OF THE CRISIS (2)
SUSANNE BOSCH, ANTHONY HAUGHEY
DANIEL JEWESBURY AND SINÉAD MCCANN
CURATED BY TESSA GIBLIN,
WITH MONICA NUNEZ

PROJECT ARTS CENTRE
OPENS JULY 2, THURSDAY AT 6PM
EXHIBITION CLOSES ON AUGUST 15, 2009
39 EAST ESSEX ST, TEMPLE BAR, DUBLIN 2,
IRELAND. +353 (0)1 881 9613
GALLERY@PROJECTARTSCENTRE.IE
WWW.PROJECTARTSCENTRE.IE
GALLERY OPEN MON – SAT, 11AM – 8PM

BELFAST EXPOSED PHOTOGRAPHY
OPENS JULY 1, WEDNESDAY AT 7PM
EXHIBITION CLOSES ON AUGUST 7, 2009
23 DONEGALL STREET, BELFAST BT1 2FF,
NORTHERN IRELAND. +44 28 9023 0965
INFO@BELFASTEXPOSED.ORG
WWW.BELFASTEXPOSED.ORG
GALLERY OPEN TUE – SUN, 11AM – 4PM

IMAGE: AISHLING MULLER, TAKEN WHILE
ON LOCATION WITH DANIEL JEWESBURY

AS THE STONES SHIFT BENEATH OUR FEET, WHERE WILL DISCONTENT ARISE? HAS POST-BOOM IRELAND ALREADY BEGUN TO WITNESS AN UPSURGE IN NATIONALISM AS UNEMPLOYMENT RISES RAPIDLY IN 2009?

PROJECT ARTS CENTRE AND BELFAST EXPOSED HAVE INVITED FOUR ARTISTS WITH A COMMON INTEREST IN THE COMPLEXITIES OF MULTI-CULTURAL LIVING TO MAKE NEW WORK FOR **THE PREHISTORY OF THE CRISIS (2)**. THIS EXHIBITION BRINGS SUSANNE BOSCH, ANTHONY HAUGHEY, DANIEL JEWESBURY AND SINÉAD MCCANN TOGETHER AT A TIME IN HISTORY WHEN ECONOMIC RECESSION UNDERSCORES EVERY CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC EVENT TAKING PLACE IN IRELAND, NORTH AND SOUTH. THIS SITUATION IS NOT JUST SYMPTOMATIC OF THE RECESSION THAT HAS HIT MANY GLOBALISED ECONOMIES SINCE 2008. IRELAND'S RECESSION BRINGS WITH IT ONE OF THE MOST PRONOUNCED CHANGES IN FORTUNE, AND SIGNIFICANTLY, IRELAND'S FIRST MAJOR DROP IN PRODUCTIVITY SINCE THE BOOM DAYS - THE SWAN-SONG OF THE CELTIC TIGER. FOR NORTHERN IRELAND THE CREDIT SQUEEZE, COMPOUNDED BY CUTS IN PUBLIC SPENDING, THREATEN THE UNFINISHED WORK OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REGENERATION PROMISED BY THE PEACE PROCESS.

MANY MIGRANT WORKERS HAVE LEFT IRELAND IN RECENT MONTHS AND WITH IMMINENT CHANGES TO THE ELIGIBILITY FOR NEW WORK PERMITS COMING INTO EFFECT ACROSS BOTH JURISDICTIONS, MANY MORE NON-EEA CITIZENS WILL BE DENIED THE RIGHT TO WORK, FORCING THEM TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. **THE PREHISTORY OF THE CRISIS (2)** SITUATES ITSELF IN A MOMENT WHEN THE IDEA OF CRISIS IS TWOFOLD: WHILE THE TERM IS STRONGLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC RECESSION, THE CULTURAL CRISIS WHICH MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT EMERGE IS BOUND TO BE CHARACTERISED BY A RELATIONSHIP TO 'THE OTHER'.

THE PREHISTORY OF THE CRISIS (2) WILL BE PRESENTED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN **PROJECT ARTS CENTRE IN DUBLIN** AND **BELFAST EXPOSED IN BELFAST**, SPLIT OVER THE UK AND THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND, YET UNITED BY THE ISLAND OF IRELAND. THE ART WORKS IN EACH EXHIBITION ARE RELATED, BUT NOT IDENTICAL, AND WE HOPE TO BUILD A WEB OF DISCOURSE BETWEEN THESE TWO EXHIBITIONS WHICH CAN HELP TO OPEN A PUBLIC DISCUSSION ABOUT MIGRATION AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS INDIVIDUALS OR MINORITY GROUPS. THE ARTISTS DON'T PROPOSE SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS, INSTEAD THEY WILL ATTEMPT

TO CAST THE DISCUSSION IN NEW LIGHT – ABSTRACTING AND PERFORMING NOTIONS OF POWER PLAY AND DISEMPOWERMENT, SUGGESTING WHAT THE FUTURE MAY HOLD. THEY WILL GIVE A VOICE TO OTHERWISE MUTED PERSPECTIVES, AND PROVIDE A WINDOW INTO SCENARIOS AND ACTIVITIES, ALLOWING SPECTATORS TO DESIGN THEIR OWN RESPONSE TO THE EXHIBITION.

You are welcome to join us for two openings:
Project Arts Centre opens July 2, Thursday at 6pm, until August 15, 2009
Belfast Exposed Photography opens July 1, Wednesday at 7pm, until August 7, 2009

This exhibition was preceded by *The Prehistory of the Crisis (1)* at Project Arts Centre in 2008, which brought together four European artworks and artists, Patrick Bernier & Olive Martin (FR), Jeanne Faust & Jörn Zehe (DE), Aernout Mik (NL), Andrijana Stojkovic (RS). Each of the artworks drew attention to the shifting attitudes towards immigrants (often within the contexts of various guest worker schemes), and the resulting clashes, conflicts or crises that have played a major role in defining ideas of culture within countries such as the Netherlands, Germany and France.