

News Release

Artist feels the love for Strangford

Strangford, 26 March 2010 - Local artist, Bronagh Lawson, is set to inject a dose of culture into the village as she launches her new exhibition "I love Strangford" on Saturday 3rd April at the Wild Strawberry gallery in Strangford.

The exhibition will showcase paintings and prints that reflect the talent of locally raised artist Bronagh Lawson who has been inspired by the unique beauty of the lough all her life. She feels that the location of the exhibition is paramount to the underlying message of her work:

"We are all products of our environment; luckily for me my family have deep connections with Portaferry and Strangford; the beauty of the Lough and the freshness of the air all contributed to my early socialisation. When working in very deprived areas of Belfast, I often pondered on how your environment affects your outlook, what the effect of the hidden and more obvious structures around us like the media we consume have on us; this exhibition brings together some works produced while discovering a visual language to express these inner observations."

Bronagh's work is situated in the long tradition of landscape painting, yet she pushes it into our own times and beyond. Not totally realistic, not totally abstract, she produces an emotional reading of the energy of the landscape, an internal rendering of the outside world. Each stroke mark is a sign directed straight from the inner workings of the artist mind, a primal interweaving of nature and nurture.

"I love Strangford" will be exhibiting at the Wild Strawberry gallery in Strangford, Co. Down, from 3rd April until 1st May 2010. Groups are welcome. Bronagh Lawson will attend the Opening on Saturday 3rd April and also deliver an artist talk on Wednesday 7th April at 2 pm in the gallery.

Notes to editors

Bronagh was brought up in Portaferry and Strangford; she has a 1st class degree from Winchester School of Art and post-graduate experience from Parsons School of Art in New York City, USA. Currently Artist in Residence at City East in Belfast, on the Peace Line between the Short Strand and the Newtownards Road, for the last 14 years she has been using her creativity for a wider social purpose, and has returned to practice her art as a way of outwardly expressing the inner observations she experienced while working in the most deprived area in Europe., Bronagh's work was selected for the RUA annual exhibition 2009 and her work is held in a number of collections including Ulster Museum, UTV collection, Office of Public works, Down Health Trust and Belfast Health Trust. She has also been the Chair of the Belfast Print Workshop since September 2008.

Bronagh will be attending the opening on Saturday 3rd April 2010 between 11am and 5pm.

The Wild Strawberry gallery is co-located with the Strawberry Fair shop on Kildare Street in the heart of the Strangford village, renowned for its outstanding natural beauty.

For more information please contact Gallery Owner/Manager Sian Maxwell at 028 4488 1854 or mobile 0754 2070 182, or email strawberryfair@btconnect.com