

WILLIAM MCKEOWN

b. 1962 Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland

d. 2011, Edinburgh, Scotland

EDUCATION

1993–94	University of Ulster, Belfast, Northern Ireland (MA Fine Art)
1986–87	Glasgow School of Art, Scotland, (MA Design)
1981–84	Central St Martin's School of Art & Design, London, UK
1980–81	University College London, UK

CURRENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

2026	Songs to the Siren, The Model, Sligo, Ireland (GROUP, 24 January – 12 April 2026)
2025	And that moment the bird sings very close / To the music of what happens, The Mac, Belfast (Solo, 9 October 2025 – 4 January 2026)
	The Shape of Things, Workplace, London, UK (Group, 28 November – 17 January 2026)

SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2023	An Open Room, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
2022	William McKeown, Château La Coste, Aix-en-Provence, France; curated by Jonathan Anderson
2021	William McKeown, Casey Kaplan, New York
2016	The Dayroom, 2004–2010, Dallas Museum of Art, TX, USA
	Chance Encounters II, two-person exhibition with John Ward, LOEWE Design District Store, Miami, FL, USA; ; presented by Jonathan Anderson
2015	Cloud Cuckoo Land, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
2013	St Carthage Hall, Lismore Castle Arts, Ireland; curated by Eamonn Maxwell
2012	William McKeown, Inverleith House, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, UK; curated by Paul Nesbitt
	A Room, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
2011	The Waiting Room, The Golden Bough, Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Michael Dempsey
2010	Five Working Days, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
	A Certain Distance, Endless Light, two-person exhibition with works by Félix González-Torres, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima), UK; curated by Gavin Delahunt
	Pool, two-person exhibition with Dorothy Cross, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
2009	Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Enrique Juncosa
2006	Hope Paintings, Hope Drawings and Open Drawings, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin
2004	The Bright World, Golden Thread Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
	The Room at the Horizon, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland
	Cloud Cuckoo Land, The Paradise (16), Gallery 2, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
	Cloud Cuckoo Land, Sleeper, Edinburgh, UK
2002	The Sky Begins at Our Feet, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
	Forever Paintings, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

2001 In an open room, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
1998 Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
1996 Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 All flowers in time bend towards the sun, The Coach House, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Paul Hallahan & Lee Welch
Pictures of You, curated by Miles Thurlow, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin
Coalescence: Happenstance, Shimmer Shimmer, Rotterdam, The Netherlands curated by Paul O'Neill
Take Hold, Centre for Contemporary Art Derry, Derry, Northern Ireland

2024 Take A Breath, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Place des Vosges, Paris, France
like the light at the beginning of the world, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2023 Other Worlds, Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny, Ireland; curated by Daniel Nelis

2021 The Narrow Gate of the Here-and-Now, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin
New Perspectives: Acquisitions 2011-2020, National Gallery of Ireland
Ghosts from the Recent Past, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Ireland; co-curated by Rachael Gilbourne, Janice Hough and Claire Walsh; steered by Annie Fletcher

2019 The Extended Mind, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland; curated by Miranda Anderson, Tessa Giblin and James Clegg
Shadowplay, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2016 We are the Center for Curatorial Studies, Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, NY, USA; curated by Paul O'Neill
Passages in Modern Art: 1946–1996, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX, USA

2015 The Untold Want, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Patrick Murphy
New Art New Nature, Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland
Into The Field, The Model, Sligo, Ireland; curated by Marie-Louise Blarney
30 for 30, Tallahassee City Hall Gallery, Florida, USA

2014 Re-framing the Domestic in Irish Art, Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda, Ireland; curated by Aoife Ruane, Amanda Coogan and Jane Humphries

2013 Changing States: Contemporary Irish Art & Francis Bacon's Studio, BOZAR Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels, Belgium; curated by Michael Dempsey, Christina Kennedy, Barbara Dawson and Margarita Cappock

2012 Into the Light: The Arts Council – 60 Years Supporting the Arts, The Model, Sligo, Ireland; curated by Emer McGarry
Time Out of Mind, IMMA @ NCH, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Christina Kennedy, assisted by Brian Cass

2011 De l'émergence du Phénix, Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, France; curated by Caroline Hancock
Twenty, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Interlude, Gallery 1, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

2010 Surface & Reality, Kilkenny Arts Festival, curated by Oliver Dowling, Kilkenny, Ireland; curated by Oliver Dowling
Collecting the New, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland

2009 Traces: IMMA Limited Editions, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland

2008 Order. Desire. Light. An Exhibition of Contemporary Drawings, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Enrique Juncosa
10,000 to 50: Contemporary Art from Members of Business to Arts, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS CONTD.

2007 Wild Honey, Burren College of Art Gallery, Clare, Ireland; curated by Michael Dempsey

2006 A Dream of Discipline (and other works), three-person exhibition with Dorothy Cross and Kathy Prendergast, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland; curated by John Hutchinson

2005 The Nature of Things, Northern Ireland Pavilion, 51st Venice Biennale; curated by Hugh Mulholland

Rooms for Waiting In, Galway Arts Centre, Galway, Ireland; curated by Michael Dempsey

Four Now, GLUCKSMAN, Cork, Ireland; curated by Sarah Glennie

2004 Coalesce, With All Due Intent, The Model, Sligo, Ireland; curated by Paul O'Neill

Thinking of Ideas, The Golden Thread Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland

No-one Else Can Make Me Feel Colours That You Bring, Temple Bar Gallery, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Vaari Claffey and Isabel Nolan

In Time of Shaking, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland; selected by Professor Cián Benson (UCD)

2003 Colour Chart, curated by Hugh Mulholland, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland

New Works on Paper, Fenderesky Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland

Line/Form/Colour, No.0&1 John Dillon Street, Dublin, Ireland

Permaculture, curated by Grant Wilson, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland; curated by Grant Wilson

New Additions 2003, The National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland, Bourn Vincent Gallery, University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland

2002 The Holiday Show, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland; curated by William McKeown

Works on Paper, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

Mirror, Belltable Arts Centre, Limerick, Ireland; curated by Michael Canning

Works on Paper, Fenton Gallery, Cork, Ireland

2000 The Sea & The Sky, curated by Patrick T. Murphy and Richard Torchia, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland; Beaver College Art Gallery, Glenside, Philadelphia, USA; curated by Patrick T. Murphy and Richard Torchia

A Measured Quietude, David Winton Bell Gallery, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA; Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland; The Drawing Center, New York, NY, USA (1999); Berkeley Art Museum, University of California, USA (1999)

1999 Group Show, Fenderesky Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland

1998 Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

1997 East International, Norwich Gallery, Norwich School of Art & Design, Norwich, UK; selected by Tacita Dean and Nicholas Logsdail

Residue, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

IMMA/Glen Dimplex Artists Award Exhibition 1997, the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland

1995 Group Show, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

1994 Belfast Young Contemporaries, One Oxford Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland

Hit & Run, Catalyst Arts, Wilmot House, Belfast, Northern Ireland

MA Fine Art Exhibition, Orpheus Building, Belfast, Northern Ireland; 99 Gallery, Glasgow, UK; Guinness Hop Store, Dublin, Ireland

AWARDS

2008 Elected a member of Aosdána

2002 Arts Council of Northern Ireland Award

2001 Sirius Project, Roches Point, Co Cork

COLLECTIONS

Dallas Museum of Art
The Hugh Lane Gallery
Irish Museum of Modern Art
The Ulster Museum
Arts Council of England
Arts Council of Ireland
National Gallery of Ireland
Château La Coste

FILM

2016 Idir Neamh agus Talamh: Saothar William McKeown, short film directed by Pat Collins (Harvest Films) based on the work of William McKeown

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2025 Crafted World – Jonathan Anderson’s LOEWE

2023 In an Open Room, monograph published by Kerlin Gallery; texts by John Hutchinson, Declan Long, Caoimhín Mac Giolla Léith, William McKeown and Isabel Nolan

Yvonne Scott, Landscape and Environment in Contemporary Irish Art, Churchill House Press, Ireland

2015 The Untold Want, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin; texts by Patrick T. Murphy and Caroline Hancock

2011 Creative Ireland: The Visual Arts (Contemporary Visual Arts in Ireland 2000-2011), edited by Noel Kelly & Seán Kissane, pp. 118–119

2010 Traces of Light, mima, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art; texts selected by members of the public and staff at mima
Issue 5, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast

2009 Traces: IMMA Limited Editions, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; texts by Christina Kennedy and Seamus McCormack

2008 William McKeown, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; essays by Enrique Juncosa, Declan Long, Corinna Lotz and Chris Arthur
Order, Desire, Light: An Exhibition of Contemporary Drawings, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin

2006 A Dream of Discipline (and other works), Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin
Subjective Affinities..., Alabama Chrome, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin; essay by Declan Long

2005 The Nature of Things, text by Michele Robecchi, Venice Biennale

2003 New Additions 2003 – The National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland, University of Limerick; text by Samuel Walsh

2002 The Sky Begins at Our Feet, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast; text by Isabel Nolan
The Holiday Show, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin; text by William McKeown

2001 In an open room, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin; text by John Hutchinson
Mirror, Belltable Arts Centre, Limerick; text by Michael Canning

2000 The Sea and The Sky, Beaver College Art Gallery, Pennsylvania and Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin; texts by Susan Stewart, Patrick T. Murphy and Richard Torchia

1999 A Measured Quietude, The Drawing Centre, New York/Berkeley Arts Museum; text by Caoimhín Mac Giolla Léith

1997 East International, Norwich Gallery, Norwich School of Art and Design; text by Lynda Morris
The Glenn Dimplex Artists Award 1997, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin
Residue, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin; text by John Hutchinson

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2025 Gemma Tipton, '2025 in art: 10 shows to look out for over the next 12 months', *The Irish Times*, 5 January

2024 Eve Hill-Agnus, 'Paris With the Effect of Rain', *Artforum*, 31 October
Devorah Lauter, 'Paris Art Week Is Packed With Satellite Fairs for Every Taste', *Art News*, 18 October
Adnan Qiblawi & Verity Babbs, 'Art Fairs Are Blooming All Over Paris. Here Is Your Go-To Guide to What's On This Week', *Artnet News*, 14 October
'Fall 2024 exhibition, Place des Vosges', *eflux Agenda*, 11 October

2023 Alice Carroll, 'Life in living colour', *Trinity News*, 23 October
John Graham, 'William McKeown, An Open Room', *Paper Visual Art*, 27 September
Artforum, 'Must See', 12 September
Philip Carton, 'Events Calendar', *Business Post*, 9 September
Niall MacMonagle, 'William McKeown's "open art" is a breath of fresh summer's art at the Kerlin', *The Sunday Independent*, 4 September
Tony Clayton Lea, 'The Guide: Visual Art', *The Irish Times – The Ticket*, 26 August

2022 Matthieu Jacquet, 'Le créateur Jonathan Anderson commissaire d'une exposition dans un somptueux domaine de Provence', *Numero*, 29 March

2021 Bryan Martin, 'William McKeown', *The Brooklyn Rail*, December 2021 – January 2022 Issue

2016 Christina Clemente et al, 'Designer Debuts to Snag This Month in Miami', *Ocean Drive*, 12 December
Rae White, 'Here's How the Fashion World Did Art Basel Miami Beach', *Fashionista*, 7 December
Ashley Parker, 'Chance Encounters II Exhibition Opens at LOEWE Miami Design District During Art Basel Miami Beach 2016', *International Business Times*, 4 December
High Net Worth, 'The Loewe Foundation Presents the Works of John Ward & William McKeown in Art Basel 2016', 2 December
Luxury Daily, 'Miami Art Week draws luxury participants courting creative crowd', 2 December
Alix Browne, 'Jonathan Anderson and Loewe: Past, Present, Future', *W Magazine*, 1 December
Wallpaper*, 'Chance encounters: Loewe brings painting and pottery together in Miami', 1 December
Whitewall, 'Chance Encounters II Opening at Loewe in the Design District', 1 December
Gary Pini, 'What's Happening Wednesday at Art Basel Miami Beach 2016', *Paper Mag*, 30 November
Nick Remsen, 'Jonathan Anderson and Loewe Take Miami by Storm', *VOGUE*, 30 November
WWD, 'Art Basel: So Are We Here to Party or What?', 30 November
Emily Manning, 'i-D's ultimate guide to Art Basel Miami Beach 2016', *i-D*, 29 November
Bethan Ryder, 'Design Miami preview', *The Telegraph*, 27 November
Miami Herald, 'In 2016, a new design for Design Miami', 11 November
Cristín Leach, 'There is proof of life after death for Irish artists', *The Sunday Times*, 3 July
Nolan Jimbo, 'Day Break', *Dallas Museum of Art Uncrated*, 29 June
Eileen Kinsella, 'New Dealers Invest in Dallas as Art Fair Week Quickly Approaches', *Artnet News*, 11 April

2015 Zoë Jellicoe, *Dublin Inquirer*, 21 October
Robert Clark, *The Guardian Guide*, 16 October
Zara Hedderman, *Le Cool Dublin*, 15 October
John Graham, *Enclave Review*, Issue 13, Autumn, p. 1
Sarah Kelleher, *Enclave Review*, Issue 13, Autumn, pp. 1–2

2013 Cristín Leach Hughes, *The Sunday Times*, 12 May
Aidan Dunne, *The Irish Times*, 10 May

2012 Patricia Andrew, 'Interesting Inverleith and beautiful botanics', *Cassone*, July
Luke Clancy, *Art Review*, May, pp. 128–129
Robert Clark, *The Guardian Guide*, 24 March, p. 37

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2012 Cristín Leach Hughes, The Sunday Times, 18 March, p. 13
Aidan Dunne, The Irish Times: The Ticket, 2 March, p. 24

2011 Irish Arts Review, Vol.28, Issue 3, Autumn, p. 28
Irish Arts Review, Vol. 28, Issue 1, Spring, p. 30

2010 Elizabeth Fitzherbert, 'Latest Additions to IMMA's Permanent Collection Provoke Thought', The Wall Street Journal, 28 May
Mark Sheerin, Culture24, 8 April
Becky Hunter, White Hot Magazine of Contemporary Art, April
Kate Butler, The Sunday Times, 7 March
Robert Clark, The Guardian, 6 March
Joanne Welford, 'Tripping the light fantastic at mima', Evening Gazette, 5 March
e-flux, 3 March
Network per l'Arte Contemporanea, Undo.net, March
Media Net News, February
Evening Gazette, 'What's On', 26 February
Architecture Now, 'Pool', 23 February

2009 Four Seasons Magazine, Issue Four, pp.94

2008 Eimear McKeith, 'Just William', The Sunday Tribune, 16 November
Emily Mark Fitzgerald, 'Horizons of Light', Irish Arts Review, Autumn, pp. 80-83

2006 'Hope paintings, hope drawings & open drawings', Totally Dublin, January
Catherine Leen, The Sunday Times, Culture Magazine, February

2005 Francesca Bonetta, Northern Ireland at the 51st Venice Biennale, Circa, Winter

2004 Cristín Leach Hughes, The Sunday Times, 4 January

2003 Aidan Dunne, The Irish Times, 14 November
Cristín Leach Hughes, The Sunday Times, 15 May

2002 Aidan Dunne, 'The intangible business of going on holiday', The Irish Times, 26 August
'Sky's the Limit', The Irish Times, 17 August
Catherine Daly, 'The Holiday Show', The Sunday Times, 15 August
'The Sky Begins at our Feet', The Irish Times, 1 August

2001 Sarah Durcan, Circa, Summer No96
Catherine Daly, The Sunday Times, 8 April
Niamh Collins, TNT, 25 April
Cristín Leach, ACE-RTÉ internet site, 26 April
Medh Ruane, The Sunday Times, 29 April
Sara Keating, In Dublin, p. 64

2000 Mark Ewart, The Irish Times, 17 May
Aidan Dunne, 'When the sky's not the limit', The Irish Times, 8 August

1998 Melanie Morris, d'side, September
Angela Murray, The Tribune Magazine, 20 September
Aidan Dunne, 'Land, Sea, Sky, Paint', The Irish Times, 16 September
Medb Ruane, The Sunday Times, 29 September
The Sunday Tribune, 29 September
Tim Hilton, Independent on Sunday, 27 July

1997 Louise East, The Irish Times, 22 May
The Irish Times, 31 May
Aidan Dunne, The Tribune Magazine 25 May
Medb Ruane, The Sunday Times, 25 May

1996 Brian Fallon, The Irish Times, 26 September

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1996 Aidan Dunne, The Sunday Tribune, 8 December
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Aidan Dunne, The Sunday Tribune, 29 September
Medb Ruane, The Sunday Times, 29 September