

'I make a work to discover what it is'



Purp, 2023, High Fired Ceramic, 26H x 20W x 19D cm

January 2023

**Taste Contemporary**  
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## Deirdre McLoughlin Ireland b. 1949

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Irish artist Deirdre McLoughlin is a graduate from Trinity College Dublin from where, in 2021, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate.

‘Her art is her ‘great adventure’, in which she humbly allows the material to take her with it, not unlike a fabulous tale she beautifully recalls of those early Irish monks who sailed without oars on the Atlantic Ocean, entrusting themselves to the winds.’ Public Orator Professor Anna Chahoud

Moving to Amsterdam in the early 1970’s she was inspired by the sculptures of Rosemary Andrews to work with clay. Finding form in this medium she would eventually come to the realisation that the shapes she was making were a language of expression and were what was generally termed art. Up until then and it took some years, she had been unable to answer the on-going question from those around her - ‘why do you not make something useful’.

The realisation brought her to work in Kyoto, which she considers to be her main study period in the field of ceramics. She set up studio and worked alongside the artists of the Sodeisha Group. The sculptures of Yasuo Hayashi in their sublime geometry and the early works of Susumu Arioka with their impossible balances have had a lasting influence on her. After her first solo exhibition in Kyoto, she travelled throughout China visiting Liling, Jingdezhen, Xian and Bezeklik.

The archetypal form, the ovoid, remains central in Deirdre McLoughlin’s work. Imbued with an intense physicality and dedication to perfection of form and surface, her sculptures are layered with meaning, charged with movement, a feeling of power, a sense of purity. Her making process is slow and demanding; initially coil built, her pieces undergo a protracted process of polishing and multiple firings. This can last for days into weeks. ‘I know a work has come to an end when an inner logic reveals itself. The work in an instance feels right.’ Deirdre McLoughlin lives and works in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

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### Selected Public Collections

National Museum of Ireland  
Ulster Museum, Belfast  
Irish State Art Collection  
Trinity College Dublin  
Arts Council of Ireland  
Hunt Museum, Limerick  
AIB Bank, Ireland  
Limerick City Gallery of Art  
National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland

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Icheon World Ceramic Center, Korea  
Mark Rothko Art Centre, Daugapils, Latvia  
Museum het Princessehof, Netherlands  
Frank Steyaert Museum, Belgium  
Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Germany  
Lotte Reimers - Stiftung, Diedesheim, Germany  
St. Patrick's Seminary, Carlow  
Farmleigh House, Dublin

#### Selected Exhibitions | Solo

2022	MCLOUGHLIN Modern Shapes, Antwerp, BE
2018	Deirdre McLoughlin Recent Work Clara Scremini Galley Paris, FR
2013	Sculpter Le Vide, Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, FR
2012	Shaping the Void, National Craft Gallery & Wandsford Quay Gallery, Cork, IE
2008	Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, IE
2003	Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, IE
1999	Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, IE
1997	Galerie Amphora with Sonja Landweer, Oosterbeek, NL
1996	Galerie Maas, Rotterdam, NL
1994	Recent Work, Green on Red Gallery, Dublin, IE
1993	Recent Work, Ulster Museum Belfast, UK & Limerick City Gallery of Art, IE
1992	Galerie Maas, Rotterdam, NL
1990	Galerie Ram, Arnhem, NL
1984	Ceramic Sculpture Gallery Beni, Kyoto, JP

#### Selected Exhibitions | Group & Two Person

2023	Matters of the Heart [two-person exhibition with Helena Gorey], Taste Contemporary, Geneva, CH
2022	MODERN MASTERS, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, DE Life Rhythm, Alan Davie and Deirdre McLoughlin, Fen Ditton Gallery, Cambridge, UK Symposium & Exhibition, International Ceramics Studio, Kesceket, HU SÚNYATÁ, four artists, Fermleigh Gallery, Dublin, IE
2021	Pioneering Women Oxford Ceramics Gallery, UK Marian Bijlenga & Deirdre McLoughlin, Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL
2020	Frank Steyaert Collection Keramis, Centre de La Ceramique, La Louviere, BE Royal Hibernian Academy 190th Annual Exhibition, Dublin, Ireland also 2010 2008, IE Double Estate, Pearse Museum, Dublin, IE Zomersalon, Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL Land/Marks Farmleigh Gallery, Dublin, IE Showing Rob Regeer & Deirdre McLoughlin Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL

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- 2018 L'abstraction: L'expression Essentielle Le Don Du Fel Gallery, FR  
LOEWE Craft Prize, Design Museum, London, UK  
Contained/Contenu, presented by Taste Contemporary, Musée Ariana, Geneva, CH
- 2017 About Clay, Pearls of European Ceramic Art, Fiskars Village, FI  
Shadow of Sodeisha, National Museum of Ireland, IE  
5th KITSAs, International Triennial of Silicate Arts, Kecskemet, HU  
TOUCHSTONE, Farmleigh House, Dublin, Ireland
- 2017 - 2010 Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL
- 2016 - 2007 15a Galerie & Beeldentuin, Lochem, NL
- 2016 Sitka Centre for Art and Ecology, Otis, Oregon, USA  
Irish Contemporary Ceramics Collection, Hunt Museum, Limerick, IE
- 2015 CON - TIN - YOO - UM, TEN SCULPTORS, OBA Amsterdam, IE  
Keramik Europas-13 European Parliament Strasbourg, France & Stadtmuseum, DE
- 2014 Keramik Europas, WESTERWALDPREIS Ceramics of Europe, Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Hohn-Grenzhausen [also 2004, 2009] DE  
Life Lines, Galerie Franzis Engels, Amsterdam, NL  
EUROPE & BEYOND, Coach House Gallery, Dublin Castle, IE  
Royal Ulster Academy of Arts; invited artist, Belfast, UK
- 2013 JANUS, Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, IE  
Future Beauty? National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, IE  
LANDescape, Mark Rothko Art Center, Daugavpils, LV
- 2009 From Traditional Expression to Modern Context, ISU, Terre Haute, USA  
Eenvoud, Museum Nagele, NL
- 2008 VII International Ceramics Congress, Afyonkarahisar, TR
- 2007 4th Cebiko Icheon World Ceramic Center, Icheon, KR
- 2006, 05, 00 Royal Hibernian Academy Annual Exhibition, Dublin, IE
- 2006 European Ceramic Context 2006, Bornholm, DK  
East West Ceramics Collaboration IV, Oahu, Hawaii, USA
- 2005 Ruth Duckworth Homage; Abstract Expression in Ceramics, Garth Clark Gallery, NYC, USA  
Irish Ceramics of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, National Museum of Ireland, IE  
SIAR 50, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, IE

#### Selected Art Fairs

- 2022 COLLECTIBLE, Modern Shapes, Antwerp, BE
- 2018 Artgenève [represented by Taste Contemporary], Geneva, CH
- 2017 VUE, Royal Hibernian Academy [represented by the Peppercanister Gallery] [also 2016, 2015, 2011] IE
- 2016 ART.FAIR Keulen, represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, DE
- 2015 ART BREDA represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, NL  
artKARLSRUHE represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, DE

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2014	RAW ART FAIR, Rotterdam, represented by Galerie Franzis Engels NL kunstRAI Amsterdam represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, NL
2012	COLLECT London represented by National Craft Gallery, Ireland, UK
2011	ART & Antiques Fair-Hertogenbosch represented by Bruijstens Modern Art, NL
2010	Affordable Art Fair Amsterdam represented by Galerie Franzis Engels, NL
1986	OB'ART Paris represented by David Rose Project, FR

### Selected Awards

2021	Doctor honoris Causa, Honorary Doctorate, Trinity College, Dublin
2019	Diploma of Honour Korean International Ceramic Biennale
2018	Shortlisted for the LOEWE Craft Prize
2015	Elected Member of the International Academy of Ceramics
2014	First Prize Vessel; Ceramics of Europe – Keramik Europa Westerwaldpreis 13
2011	Stamp issued by An Post to celebrate Year of Craft Ireland
2007	Diploma of Honour 4th World Ceramic Biennale Korea
2004	First Prize Vessel; Ceramics of Europe – Keramik Europa Westerwaldpreis 11
2000	Alexander Foundation Grant Geneva
1991	Self Portrait commissioned by the National Self Portrait Collection of Ireland Recent Work travelling exhibition funded by the Ulster Museum Belfast, Northern Ireland Shaping the Void travelling exhibition funded by the National Craft Gallery Kilkenny, Ireland Travel awards from Culture Ireland

### Bibliography

2021	Game, Amanda, PIONEERING WOMEN, Oxford Ceramics Gallery catalogue, UK Ting Ju Shao, Deirdre McLoughlin, Taipei Art magazine, TW
2020	Osborne + Tyrrell, Deirdre McLoughlin, Sonnets and Dirty Dishes
2019	Sisyphusam, STILL WALKING, Wallpaper, CN Murphy, Roisín, Objects of Desire, Irish Independent, IE Culley, Derek, Deirdre McLoughlin, Art ad Museum, UK
2018	LOEWE Foundation, Craft Price 2018, Catalogue Essay Viva, Antonio Deirdre McLoughlin, Ceramica y Ceramistas no. 148
2017	Grenham, Sophie, Line & Detail, Irish Times, [17 June], IE
2015	Flegg, Eleanor, Gathering Shape, Ceramic Review, [July/August], UK Masa, A Soul Stirring Art Show, China Art Ceramic, [June],CN Van Hoften, Teja, Over Trage Wegen en Volle Leegten, Klei, [June Nr.3] NL
2013	Girard, Gaetane, Deirdre Mcloughlin, La Revue de la Ceramique et du Verre, [No. 189] FR
2012	Dunne, Aidan, Touching the Void, Irish Times, [18 January], IE

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	Pim, Henry, Body and Soul, Ceramics Ireland, [issue 29], IE
2011	Murphy, Patrick J, Maker of Shapes, Catalogue essay Shaping the Void, [November] IE
2010	McLoughlin, Deirdre, Neue Keramik/New Ceramics, [5/2010] DE
2008	Van der Meulen, Yna, Ooggetuigen van het Leven, Klei, [January/February] NL
2007	Pim, Henry, Dynamisierte Materie, Keramik Magazin Europa, [Juni/Juli] DE Augustijn, Piet, Deirdre McLoughlin, Keramiek, [Juni] NL
2006	O'Kelly, Hilary, The National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland, 246-247, vol. 2, University of Limerick Press, IE
	During, Nesrin, Deirdre McLoughlin, Ceramics Monthly, [March] USA
2005	Steyaert, Frank, Amlash Modern Design van 3000 Klei, [November] NL
2004	McLoughlin, Deirdre, McLoughlin, Neue Keramik, [September/October] DE
2001	Blandino, Betty, The Figure in Fired Clay, London: A & C Black, UK
1995	Robinson & McLoughlin, Swimming in the Pool, Ceramic Review, [issue 151] UK
1994	Dunne, Aidan, A Sculptor of Top Rank, Review, The Sunday Tribune, [3 March] IE
1998	McCrum, Sean, Ceramics as Sculpture, Irish Arts Review Yearbook 1988, IE

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