

Lismore Castle Arts

KUNSTKAMMER

Aurél, Monster Chetwynd, Dorothy Cross, Urs Fischer, Marie Foley,
John Gerrard, Graham Gingles, John Kindness, Sarah Lucas,
Jonathan Lyndon Chase, Alice Maher, Ed Miliano, Patrick O'Reilly,
Peter Pearson, Edward Rollitt, Conrad Shawcross,
Sasha Sykes, Joseph Walsh

Curated by Robert O'Byrne

22 MARCH - 26 OCTOBER 2025
PREVIEW SATURDAY 22 MARCH

In 2025 Lismore Castle Arts will celebrate 20 years by presenting an exhibition dedicated to the theme of *Kunstkammer*, curated by historian & writer, Robert O'Byrne.

Kunstkammer is a form of museum in which strange or rare objects are exhibited together, also known as a *Cabinet of Curiosities*. Once widespread throughout Europe, these private museums were renowned for featuring a broad range of objects, including *Arteficialia* (products of man) and *Naturalia* (products of nature) together with scientific instruments, clocks and automaton.

Priceless works of art were shown alongside strange curiosities, antiquities next to the latest inventions. They were united in their diversity, and their beauty. *Kunstkammer* at Lismore Castle is both a re-creation and a reinvention of the genre. Through a series of rooms, each one different in size and form, historical objects from private and public collections will share space with works by leading Irish and international contemporary artists.

The exhibition creates new encounters with the familiar and uncanny, inviting timely conversations about display, collections, and contemporary practice as future artefacts. Drawing on themes of display the work invites audiences to engage with contemporary art in an accessible way, referring to one of the original ambitions of the *Cabinet of Curiosity* to foster learning through encounter.

Robert O'Byrne is one of Ireland's best known writers and lecturers specialising in the fine and decorative arts. A former Vice-President of the Irish Georgian Society, he is the author of more than a dozen books, a former columnist for *Apollo* magazine, and a contributor to both *The Burlington Magazine* and the *Irish Arts Review*. Robert has curated many exhibitions, including Ireland's *Fashion Radicals* for The Little Museum in Dublin, and *In Harmony with Nature: The Irish Country House Garden* for the Irish Georgian Society, both of which drew record attendances. For the past twelve years, he has written an award-winning blog *The Irish Aesthete*.

The exhibition will be accompanied by an extensive programme of events, talks, screenings, and a far-reaching learning programme. A catalogue will be published in Summer 2025 to accompany the exhibition.

Exhibition Checklist



Aurél

Lismore, 2025

Lego bricks

Dimensions: 27 x 45 x 78 cm

Henry, 2025

Lego bricks

Dimensions: 27 x 60 x 90 cm

Courtesy the Artist



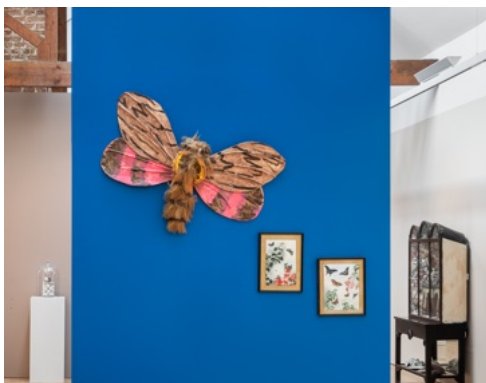
Monster Chetwynd

Garden Tiger Moth, *Arctia caja*, 2023

Latex, fabric, paint, cardboard

Dimensions: 18 x 116 x 93 cm

Courtesy the Artist and Sadie Coles HQ, London



Monster Chetwynd

Nut tree tussock, *Colocasia coryli*, 2023

Latex, fabric, paint, cardboard

Dimensions: 28 x 186 x 85 cm

Courtesy the Artist and Sadie Coles HQ, London



Dorothy Cross
Red Baby, 2021
Damascus rose
Dimensions: 40 x 40 x 10 cm

Courtesy Carl Gustaf Ehrnrooth



Dorothy Cross
Red Rest, 2021
Damascus rose
Dimensions: 43 x 52 x 12 cm

Courtesy the collection of Kathy Gilfillan and Paul McGuinness



Urs Fischer
Mood Swing, 2019
Cast wax, oil paint, spray paint
Dimensions: 19.7 x 28.6 x 14 cm

Courtesy the Artist and Sadie Coles HQ, London



Urs Fischer
Shadow Self, 2019
Wax, oil paint
Dimensions: 10.2 x 24 x 16.5 cm

Courtesy the Artist and Sadie Coles HQ, London



Marie Foley
The song that sang the world before the spoken word existed, 2015
Glass, porcelain, limestone, copper
Dimensions: 30 x 17 cm

Courtesy the Artist



Marie Foley
A Boolean operation, 2015
Glass, porcelain, stainless steel
Dimensions: 50 x 28 cm

Courtesy the Artist



John Gerrard
Flag (Danube), 2017
Digital simulation, monitor, artist's frame
Dimensions: 50.2 x 50.2 x 18.1 cm

Courtesy the Artist and Pace Gallery



Graham Gingles
A Curious Box of Curiosity for Mr O
Mixed media
Dimensions: 65 x 41 x 14 cm

Courtesy the Artist



Graham Gingles
I have always been frightened of the white face clown
Mixed media wall sculpture with moving pieces
Dimensions: 50 x 50 x 25 cm

Courtesy the Artist



John Kindness
Odysseus and Nausicaa II, 2011
Acrylic on linen hospital apron
Dimensions: 120 x 130 cm

Courtesy the Artist



John Kindness
 Circe, 2012
 Acrylic on antique cotton drawers
 Dimensions: 60 x 65 cm

Courtesy the Artist



John Kindness
 Scylla and Charybdis, 2012
 Cast resin with oil scumble
 Dimensions: 2 elements, each 36 x 44 cm

Courtesy the Artist



Sarah Lucas
 Loungers #1, 2011
 Tights, fluff, plastic bucket (orange), plastic
 lounger
 Dimensions: 186 x 62.5 x 55.5 cm

Courtesy the Artist and Sadie Coles HQ, London



Sarah Lucas Loungers #5, 2011
Tights, fluff, plastic bucket, plastic lounge
Dimensions: 157 x 62.5 x 115.5 cm

Courtesy the Artist and Sadie Coles HQ, London



Jonathan Lyndon Chase
personalities in bedroom (3), 2022
Acrylic paint, marker, watercolour & necklace on
poly foam pillowcase
Dimensions: 43 x 30 x 16 cm each

Courtesy the Artist and Sadie Coles HQ, London



Alice Maher
Fruit, 2003
Glazed lambda print, frame
Dimensions: 61 x 61 cm
Photograph by Kate Horgan

Courtesy the Artist



Alice Maher
The Four Directions, 2005
Snail shell, glue, polystyrene
Dimensions: 25 x 25 x 25 cm

Courtesy the Artist



Ed Miliano
Dawn Chorus Fartha, 2022
Acrylic and mixed media on plywood panels
Dimensions: 700 x 300 cm

Courtesy Joseph Walsh Studio



Patrick O'Reilly
Fruit Bowl (3), 2024
Bronze with Murano glass
Dimensions: each 30 x 30 cm

Courtesy the Artist



Peter Pearson
Dublin Fragments
Mixed media
Dimensions: variable

Courtesy the Artist



Edward Rollitt
To Dwell in Dust, 2024
Built cabinet, found and made objects
Dimensions: 115 x 152 x 210 cm

Courtesy the Artist



Conrad Shawcross
Measurement and Control for the Infinite, 2002
Ply, oak, leather, glass
Dimensions: 30 x 130 x 30 cm

Private collection



Sasha Sykes
 Belonging, 2025
 Lismore Gardens flora, acrylic, resin, steel
 Dimensions: 50 x 30 x 35 cm

Courtesy the Artist



Joseph Walsh
 Gestures Cabinet (2), 2024
 Ash, burr ash, white oil finish, aluminium bronze
 hinges
 Dimensions: each 215 x 120 x 80 cm

Courtesy Joseph Walsh Studio



Imperato, Ferrante, Historia naturale (Venice,
 1672)
 Aldrovandi, Ulisse, Monstrorum historia (Bologna,
 1642)

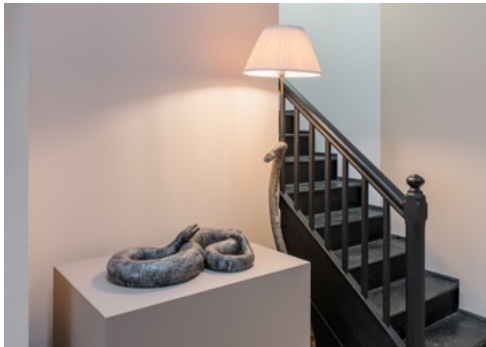
By permission of the Governors and Guardians of
 Marsh's Library



Ralph Adron
Unique Pair of Armchairs, 1990s
Unique Mantel Clock, 1996

Ralph Adron & Max Clendinning
Unique Pair of Pier Mirrors, 1977

Courtesy Andrews Art Advisory Ltd.



Cavendish Serpent

Lismore Castle collection

Lamp with Taxidermy Snake

Private collection



Duke's Landing Cabinet

Lismore Castle collection



'The Prize Fight' by William Hart & Sons Taxidermy,
c. 1900

Private collection



Lady Edith Blake's Watercolour Paintings

Private Irish collection



Antique Chinese Teak Chair

Private Irish collection



17th Century Italian Painted Cabinet

Private collection



18th Century Shell Cabinet, by repute worked by Mrs Mary Delaney

Private Irish collection



Pair of Gilt Rococo Mirrors

Private Irish collection



Drawing Room Display

Private Irish collection



Ironwork Gate

Courtesy Bushy Park Ironworks



18th Century Irish Walnut & Marquetry Cabinet

Courtesy Rory Rogers Ltd.



Monumental Apricot Orange-Ground Embroidered Silk 'Hundred Birds' Hanging, c.1890

Private Irish collection

NOTES TO EDITORS

For further information, or to request images, please contact Sam Talbot sam@sam-talbot.com and Isabel Davies isabel@sam-talbot.com

To download images, visit our [Dropbox](#).

About Lismore Castle Arts

Lismore Castle Arts, a not-for-profit initiative, was founded in 2005 and is committed to the presentation and promotion of contemporary visual art in Ireland. It hosts exhibitions of international significance alongside a series of smaller exhibitions, projects and events as well as a comprehensive learning programme. Since opening, the gallery has presented the work of many leading international artists including Matthew Barney, Gerard Byrne, Dorothy Cross, Nancy Holt, Josephsohn, Richard Long, Eva Rothschild, Danh Vo and Ai Weiwei.

In 2011 a second project space, St Carthage Hall, located in the town of Lismore opened. This gallery, in a former church, has presented a varied programme of exhibitions including works by Camille Henrot, Martin Healy, Niamh O'Malley, Roman Signer, Superflex and Corban Walker. A third space - The Mill, opened in 2022 on the outskirts of Lismore town, bringing back into use a historically significant building, and allowing an opportunity to present more physically challenging artworks. In 2022 the space hosted *Cascade* by Virginia Overton.

Lismore Castle Arts is situated in the historic gardens of Lismore Castle, which includes permanent works by Roger Hiorns, Eilís O'Connell and Franz West. Lismore Castle Arts has a deeply embedded community engagement programme, with learning projects such as Artifice, and projects such as A Space for Lismore, which foster long term projects between artists and communities.

Lismore Castle Arts' exhibition programme is kindly funded by the Arts Council, Waterford City & County Council Arts Grant.

