CRITIC'S GUIDE - 24 NOV 2016

Critic's Guide: Dublin

A round-up of the best shows in the city, ahead of the second edition of Dublin Gallery Weekend

BY GEMMA TIPTON



Damien Flood, Pear and Shadow, 2016, oil on canvas, 1.5 x 2 m. Courtesv: the artist and Green on Red. Dublin

Damien Flood, 'A Root that Turns as the Sun Turns'

Green on Red Gallery

19 October - 27 November

Damien Flood's enigmatic paintings tantalize and beguile. Like a forensic investigation of a Hieronymus Bosch, in which the earthly and unearthly delights have been atomised, Flood's fragments of disembodied shapes and forms, hover and cluster on perfectly balanced canvases. There are recognizable elements: leaves, the edge of a jug, faces or masks, a match that smokes from its unlit end. But there are also less easily identifiable shapes that, begging for resolution, invite satisfying speculation. The artist places us on the edge of stories with multiple meanings. He is brave with colour too, in Family (all works 2016), glowing green, sharp red and vibrant blue emerge from a pale yellow-green foggy ground, which might or might not bear figures. $\,$ Shadow and Pear is a reversed black-primed canvas in which the shadow is disconnected from the pear, separated across an inscrutably symbolic field. In this, Flood's fourth solo show with Green on Red, he has pared back his canvases, to make works that invite your questions to linger. They are all the more satisfying for their open-endedness.



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