

CERAMICS

Ireland



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FRAGMENTS OF DEATH AND NATURE

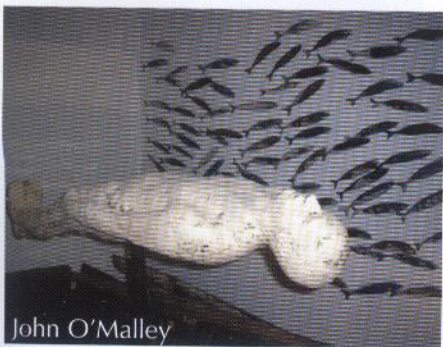
The NCAD



Bozena Chandogova

an exploration of the emotional nature of drowning. The figures are captured in a moment in time where death is inescapable and the water is just about to take them forever. Whether by accident or design John O'Malley's installation which was located next door to Walsh's work took

Five ceramics graduates were featured in the NCAD degree show this year and as we have come to expect standards were high. If you haven't marked your local Art colleges' annual degree show in your calendar as an annual trip you really are missing out. It is a great opportunity to see the best and brightest in all their



John O'Malley

respective disciplines exhibit the culmination of four years work. Work from emerging artists in fashion, textiles, fine art, print,

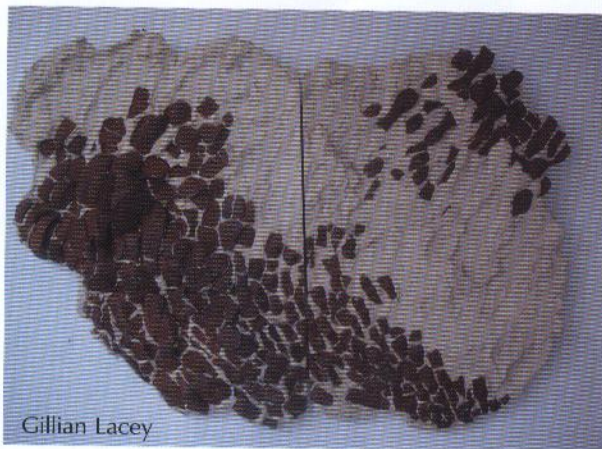
glass, metal, sculpture and of course ceramics can be seen and indeed purchased in the College setting.

Now call me biased but Ceramics in NCAD is always one to watch. If you don't believe me the red stickers speak for themselves, with many of the sales coming from public bodies. This year featured the work of Gillian Lacey, Denise Skelton, Jane Walsh, John O'Malley and M.A. graduate Bozena Chandogova.

Lacey's work entitled "Fragments" is concerned with the idea of trying to protect what is ours yet our failure to do this successfully. Her wall pieces which consisted of broken fragments, seeks to highlight our inability to contain our possessions and reminds us that in an instant we could lose everything. Skelton's untitled work consisted of abstract forms which were derived from nature. Her forms made great use of colour which she hoped would bring a sensual impact for the viewer.

Jane Walsh's work on the other hand derived all its colour from crystal glass and was figurative in nature. She is concerned in these pieces with

the idea of drowning even further. He very successfully evoked through film, sound, light and of course ceramics the haunting story of a drowning tragedy in the west of Ireland. A life size cast figure lay poised above the remains of the actual boat involved in the incident and dozens of raku fired fish clung to the walls while music and wailing completed the scene. I found O'Malley's installation to be very powerful indeed.



Gillian Lacey

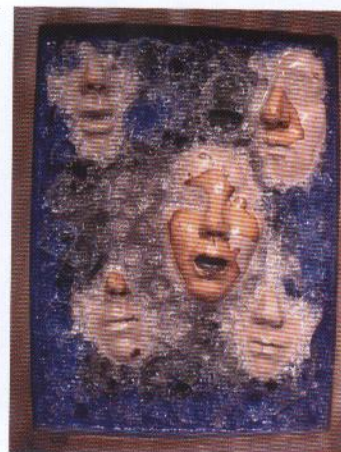
Finally, the work of Bozena Chandogova was dynamic in both its execution and design. Her pieces seemed to hover between functional and non-functional forms. Indeed, her striking use of colour combined with her eye-catching forms, gave the viewer a chance to see seemingly ordinary vessels such as vases and bowls in a new light.

Yes - the best and the brightest...

Article and photos by
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Denise Skelton



Jane Walsh