

BIRR THEATRE & ARTS CENTRE

OPEN SUBMISSION EXHIBITION



Common Ground 2022

Dark / Light

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre are calling for submissions for the 15th Annual Common Ground – an exhibition of work by artists living in the Midlands to be held from December 2022 – January 2023.

This year the theme for **Common Ground** (*referring to a group of artists coming together to exhibit*) will be **“Dark / Light”** (all mediums considered)

The exhibition will be curated by a guest selector and it is intended that the resulting exhibition will showcase the exceptional talent and diversity of Visual Artists in the Midlands today.

We would like to encourage you to make a submission. This process is not intended to place any artist over another, but to offer a professionally selected exhibition opportunity for all artists in the area.

This year's Common Ground is inspired by the theme **Dark / Light**. Artists are encouraged to submit artwork that encapsulates the theme.

The contrast of DARK and LIGHT is a powerful way to bring attention to your focal point. The viewer's eye will follow this contrast, helping to draw their eye into your art. The use of extreme contrasts of light and dark in figurative compositions heightens their dramatic effect. The contrast between Dark and Light is dramatic, with numerous degrees of tones ranging from the darkest of darks to brightest of light and everything in between. **Dark / Light** can refer to artwork visually, but can also be reflected in the work's content: Is art a method to confront darkness in one's mind, or is it a way to bring light in?

This exhibition allows artists the opportunity to interpret the theme DARK / LIGHT in their own unique way, resulting in creative harmony that nourishes the mind, body, and spirit. Work submitted may touch on either dark or light themes, or a combination of both.

This selected show is open to all media including painting, drawing, print, photography, sculpture etc, though pieces must depict representations of **“Dark / Light”** in any way shape or form.

With this in mind we ask artists to submit a max of 2 pieces for consideration.

Any work that is determined not to meet the spirit of the exhibit will not be accepted.

€10 ENTRY FEE PER ARTIST

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre
Oxmantown Hall, Birr, Co. Offaly
Box Office (057) 9122911
Email: info@birrtheatre.com
www.birrtheatre.com



Registered Chy No: 20026677
Venue Manager: Emma Nee Haslam
Directors Birr Stage Guild CLG: Hazel Greene (Chair), Marcella Corcoran-Kennedy, Maureen de Forge, George Manzor, Mary Kennedy, Enda O'Connor, John McArdle, Paul Smith

**CONDITIONS OF ENTRY FOR BIRR THEATRE AND ARTS CENTRE'S
ANNUAL COMMON GROUND EXHIBITION ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

- Media: **All media considered.**
- Please deliver **two** (max.) items of work to Birr Theatre & Arts Centre on **Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd November between 1pm and 5pm.**
It is advised to submit two pieces to give the guest selector scope to include as many artists as possible.
- Pieces that have been exhibited in Birr town previously will not be selected.
- Please submit original work only. No copied works will be accepted!
- NOTE: Any work that is determined not to meet the spirit/theme of the exhibit will not be accepted.
- Artists must be living in the Midlands region or have immediate Midland connections.
- All work must be professionally presented ready for exhibit. It is not necessary that works on canvas are framed, but the canvas must be approx. 1 inch deep and not bowed or warped in any way. Thinner canvases will need to be framed. Works not presented appropriately will not be considered.
- **Work that is not ready to hang (i.e. picture hooks etc in place with cord) will not be included.**
- Artist must insure that their work is dry before submission. Wet work will not be accepted.
- Sizes – sizes of work may vary, however artists are reminded to consider the size of the exhibition space at Birr Theatre & Arts Centre. Artists are welcome to visit the space in advance or contact the Theatre who will e-mail details of the exhibition space.
- All items delivered must be clearly marked with **name, contact phone number, title, medium and price.**
- A completed Submission Form must be submitted from each artist. Forms are attached below. Work will not be accepted without a completed Submission Form.
- All artists must submit a short biography with their submission.
- The guest selectors decision is final.
- It is likely that no more than 50 pieces will be selected for exhibit, and due to the lack of storage facilities prompt collection of unselected works is expected on **Thursday 24th November** between 1pm – 5pm.
- Artists will be notified if their works have been selected /unselected by email or phone.
- Birr Theatre & Arts Centre will handle any sales and a 15% commission charge will apply to all sales.
- Works will only be insured while they are in the building and up to the date artists have been asked to collect them promptly.
- The exhibition will be officially opened on Sunday 4 December, 2pm and will run until the end of January 2023.

For further information please contact:

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre / phone: 057 9122911 / email: info@birrtheatre.com

Common Ground 2022

Dark / Light

Submission Form ~ Two pieces max to be submitted +
€10 ENTRY FEE PER ARTIST

*Pieces **must** be accompanied by a completed Submission Form.*

Name	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
No of works	
Title 1	
Title 2	

Short Biography

✂-----

Entry 1	Artist Name	
	Title of Artwork	
	Medium	
	Price	(incl 15% commission) €

Please label clearly and attach on back of each work.

✂-----

Entry 2	Artist Name	
	Title of Artwork	
	Medium	
	Price	(incl 15% commission) €

Please label clearly and attach on back of each work.

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre
Oxmantown Hall, Birr, Co. Offaly
Box Office (057) 9122911
Email: info@birrtheatre.com
www.birrtheatre.com



Registered Chy No: 20026677

Venue Manager: Emma Nee Haslam

Directors Birr Stage Guild CLG: Hazel Greene (Chair), Marcella Corcoran-Kennedy, Maureen de Forge, George Manzor, Mary Kennedy, Enda O'Connor, John McArdle, Paul Smith