

"A Story about the History of Dún Laoghaire" The Private Collection of Eileen Champion Poole

an Art Exhibition by Sabina Mac Mahon

at the Concourse Space, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire

Following an open call made by dlr Arts in 2012 visual artist Sabina Mac Mahon was selected as the recipient of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's inaugural Concourse Award, an exhibition award designed to provide the general public with an opportunity to engage with contemporary visual arts practice in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown while also supporting the work of a local artist.

Since graduating from the National College of Art & Design, Dublin in 2008 Sabina Mac Mahon has shown her work extensively in group and solo exhibitions both in Ireland and abroad. She lives and works in Killiney, Co. Dublin and is interested in museum practice, history, documentation, storytelling and collecting. Her work involves the creation of fictitious artefacts, primary sources and museum environments and the invention of imaginary historical events and people.

Following a year spent developing this new body of work for the Concourse Award Exhibition she is delighted to present 'A Story about the History of Dún Laoghaire: The Private Collection of Eileen Champion Poole' in association with the Eileen Champion Poole Trust.

A pioneering but sadly now largely forgotten antiquarian, amateur archaeologist, etymologist, ethnographer, local historian, novelist, watercolourist and photographer, Eileen Champion Poole grew up in Kilbogget House in Cabinteely and at the age of seven told her parents that she wanted to run a museum. For her 10th birthday her father made her a present of an old shed on his estate (which now forms part of Kilbogget Park) in which she opened her first museum. By the age of 12 she was employing a part-time assistant and had amassed a collection of over 700 items relating to the history of the greater Dún Laoghaire area.

'A Story about the History of Dún Laoghaire' is the first exhibition of artefacts from Eileen Champion Poole's personal collection since her death in 1974. Visitors to the exhibition are invited to engage with her expansive legacy and re-examine her contribution to our understanding of the history of Dún Laoghaire through a range of personal and historical artefacts, some of which have not been shown in public since the museum on the grounds of Kilbogget House closed in the mid-1930s.

From the remains of a Vegetable Lamb believed to have grazed in the rock-strewn pastures of Glenageary to an ancient piece of brack and a team of archaeological seagulls trained to investigate a submerged village in Killiney Bay, the exhibition provides a fascinating insight into the life and times of Eileen Champion Poole and the place that both she and Sabina Mac Mahon call home.

Opening reception: Thursday 23rd May 2013, 6.30-8.30pm

Exhibition continues from 24th May to 7th June 2013.

Opening Hours: 10am-5pm Monday to Friday. Late opening Thursdays until 9pm.
Please note that the exhibition will be *CLOSED* on Bank Holiday Monday, 3rd June 2013.

24th May - 7th June 2013

Admission Free!

FREE SPECIAL EVENTS!! ALL WELCOME!

- Guided tours of the exhibition, 1pm, Fridays 24th May, 31st May, 7th June.
- Historical walking tour of Dún Laoghaire with local historian Rob Goodbody, 1pm, Wednesday 5th June.
- Artist talk with Sabina Mac Mahon, 7pm, Thursday 6th June.

For more information ⇨ <http://www.eileen-champion-poole.info>
or contact Sabina Mac Mahon by emailing:
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