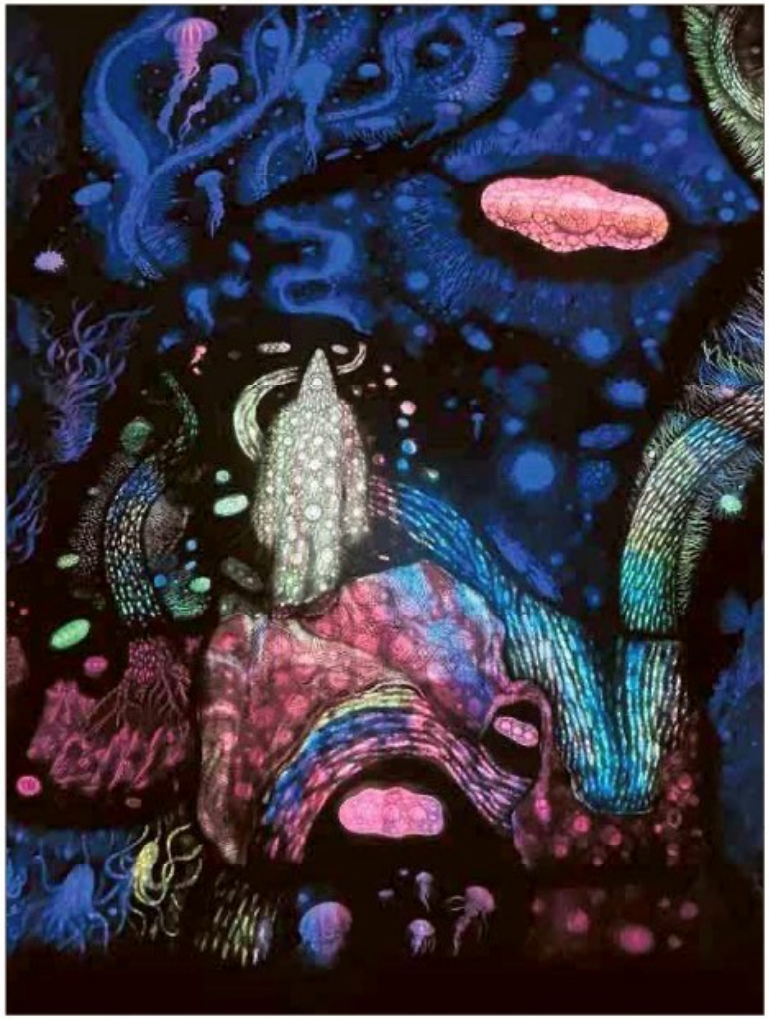
Joan Clancy Gallery Special Anniversary Exhibition a success

THERE was a big crowd at the opening of Ceiliúradh 25 in splendid sunshine and warm sea breezes at Joan Clancy Gallery in Mweelalhorna, An Rinn on Wednesday, July 8th.

The exhibition, opened by Emma Penruddock, Director, I Am Of Ireland, featured an exceptional collection of work by twenty-nine artists, highlighting the depth and diversity of the gallery's artistic community over the past quarter-century.

Located in the upstairs gallery space in An Rinn, a scenic Irish-speaking Gaeltacht area overlooking Dungarvan Bay, the exhibition offers visitors a unique opportunity to experience contemporary Irish art in one of the most distinctive gallery settings in the country where you can discover and purchase outstanding works in painting and stained glass.

The exhibition features work by artists Catherine Barron, Blawnin Clancy, Orla Clancy, Rayleen Clancy, John Cullinan, Ivan Daly, Ann Dunphy, Catherine Foley, Mary Foley, Miriam Foley MacLeod, Deirdre Frost, Katarzyna Gajewska, Rosemary Gaynor, Ciara Gormley, Kieran Heffernan, Sinead Hehir, Andrea Jameson, Bernadette Kiely, Damaris Lysaght, John McCarthy, Leah Murphy, Sinead Ní Chionaola, Goodee O'Brien, Beatrice O'Connell, Eilis O'Toole, Annie Shaw, Anne Whelan, Sheila Wood and Gillian Wright, reflecting the gallery's long-standing commitment to supporting both established and emerging artistic voices.



RAYLEEN CLANCY © The Gruagach's Lair (Stained glass panel, illuminated LED light, framed 70x70cm).

Exhibiting artist Kieran Heffernan also spoke at the opening and praised Joan Clancy for her vision and determination in establishing an art gallery in a rural location where the footfall would not be as plentiful as on a city street. He also said how proud Joan's late husband Tom Clancy would be to see their daughters Blawnin, Rayleen and Rosie flourishing in their chosen professions and of the opportunities that Joan has given to emerging and established artists.

Catherine Foley also an exhibiting artist, is a regular contributor to Sunday Miscellany and was busy at the opening, chatting with guests for a Molsceal video for TG4 with her sister RoseAnn behind the camera. It was a family affair for the Foleys, as Miriam too had a painting in the show.

Joan thanked Emma and Kieran for their kind words and all the guests and exhibitors for being present. She expressed her profound appreciation of the work by the artists who have exhibited with her over the years and the help and assistance given to her by her daughters Blawnin, Rayleen and Rosie, her grandsons Louis and Oscar O'Carroll for parking duties, also Clare Busher O'Sullivan, Visit Waterford, Keith Murphy, Waterford City & Co Council, An Coiste Fáilte, Fáilte Ireland, Dungarvan Leader, Dungarvan Observer, WLR, CRY and Peter Power, Power & Co Fine Wines for sponsoring the wine.

The gallery, which sits on a clifftop between Coláiste na Rinne and Cunnigar Beach, continues to attract art lovers drawn not only to its exhibitions but also to its sweeping 280-degree views across Dungarvan Bay and the surrounding Comeragh and Knockmealdown Mountains.

Discover a new view of art and a new view of Ireland at this extraordinary gallery overlooking the sea. For further information see http://www.joanclancygallery.com/ Ceiliúradh 25 runs until July 22nd, daily 11.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m., and also by appointment. Eircode X35 YE83.

ANNIE SHAW © Awaiting (Acrylic on canvas 34x46cm framed).

DEIRDRE FROST © Helvick Summer, 2026 (Oil & acrylic on panel 32x32cm).