

A collection of abstract, colorful shapes including a green vertical bar with three light green squares, a red vertical bar, a yellow vertical bar with a white oval, an orange vertical bar with a green circle, a pink horizontal bar, a blue square, a purple vertical bar with three circles, and a cyan vertical bar.

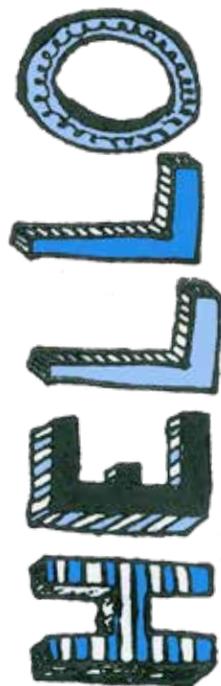
**A YOUNG  
PERSON'S  
GUIDE TO  
THE  
EXHIBITION**

A collection of abstract, colorful shapes including a yellow house-like shape, a blue shape with a white eye, a green shape with a square, a pink shape with a white square and a white triangle, a green vertical bar, a red shape with a white circle, and a yellow triangle on a green base.

**A YOUNG  
PERSON'S  
GUIDE TO  
THE  
EXHIBITION**



*Kate Nolan, Kilbroney Integrated Primary School, from the series LACUNA*



This exhibition guide has been made to help you find your way around the exhibition and discover new photography.

A lot of the images (most of them!) have been made by adults, for other adults. Some of the photographs are about complicated, challenging, difficult, but very interesting subjects.

Some of the photographs in the exhibition are of normal, everyday things. Some of the photographs are very beautiful, and some are maybe nothing like those you have seen before, especially not in an art gallery.

Photographers and artists often think about different themes and ideas while they are making photographs. Lots of photographs create photographs in their studio. Some photographs watch and wait for the perfect scene to arrive in front of their camera, the "decisive moment" when they click the shutter.

This guide will help you understand some of those ideas and explore the many photographs on display.

# THEMES

The main exhibition is called "Images Are All We Have". It is organised around a few different themes. We thought it would be helpful to explain a few of them, and it might help you find them as you walk around:

## **Portrait Photographs**

Portraits are images of people, usually including their faces.

## **The Anthropocene**

The Anthropocene is the geological age that we live in (other geological ages include the Mesozoic era or the Jurassic age). The Anthropocene is the period in which humans have had the most impact on our planet, such as technology, climate, or agriculture.

## **Architecture**

This is the design of buildings, some of the artists have made photographs that look at the details within architecture, how buildings have changed, or what they look like in the bigger landscape.

## **Conceptual Photography**

A concept is an idea! Some conceptual photography requires you to use your imagination to connect the image in front of you, to the idea that the photographer had when they made the photograph.

## **Landscape & Rural**

These are photographs that represent our natural scenery, and the way of life outside of our cities.

## **The Domestic**

Domestic means things or ideas that are about home, or things that happen at home.

## **Flâneur**

Flâneur is a French word, and it means a person who walks slowly around a town looking at the world. It usually means someone who observes daily life, without looking for any one thing. A flâneur will take pictures of things they see on their walks.

## **Space and Urbanism**

This idea in photography is about how we think about our place in a man-made environment, and how we use it, pass through it, or interact with it.

## Identity & Gender

These will be images where the artists who we are, and what makes us different. Some photographs look at what it means to be male or female, and people who don't fit into either category.

## LGBTIQ+

This stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, and Queer. The '+' is there to include all the terms that haven't been mentioned (e.g. pansexual). Photographers making work about this theme have looked at what it means to be LGBTIA+, and how

they experience the world. Lots of this work is about celebrating what it means to be LGBTIA+.

## Political Art

This is photography that looks at our cultural moments, it might be about a political figure or movement and their impact on our daily lives, or it might be about campaign movements or resistance groups. It could be about the treatment of people or minority groups, or even animals. These topics can be local, national, or international.

# LOOK

Take a moment to look at the photograph. What can we find in this image?

Are there any types of photographs that you have never seen before?

Can you find a photograph that reminds you of childhood, or from when you were younger?

Are any of the photographs unexpected? Why?

What do you think the theme of these photographs are?  
What do you think the photographers want to tell us through their images?

Are there any photographs that remind you of your own life experiences? Which ones?

How do these photographs make you feel?  
Do different pictures make you feel different things?

Some photographers have displayed their images using materials other than paper, can you find them?

Do any of the photographs leave you with lingering questions? Why do you think that might be?

Have a look at the list of themes, do any of the photographs remind you of those explanations?

Do you have a favourite photograph? What about the image makes it your favourite?



Frank Abrussese, Live Load, Controlled Burn



Brian Magee, Anna's Notes

# ANNA'S NOTES

A photography project by  
Brian Magee

Anna's Notes is a project that Brian made around the time that Anna was 7 years old. At the time Anna was writing notes to her mum and slipping them under the living room door to tell her mum how she was feeling, often things that made her feel sad or scared.

Brian was curious about Anna's note writing, and made photographs that accompany the notes, to help us (and him) understand Anna a bit better.

The notes helped Anna communicate how she was feeling, do you ever write notes like Anna's? If you could write a note to Anna, who is now much older, what would you say?

You can write your note in this booklet, or you can write it on paper and add it to the display. This exhibition is designed in a slightly different way, what do you notice?

# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

There is a lot to see in this exhibition, it is the biggest survey show of photography in Ireland EVER! So, you might want to visit a few times to take it all in. There are lots of different styles and approaches to making photographs on show here, maybe they will inspire you to try photography for the first time or think about it in a new way. Do let us know if that happens!

Do you have any other thoughts about the exhibition? There are lots of ways you can give us feedback, like the notebooks dotted around the gallery. Thanks for visiting!

**Notes to Anna**

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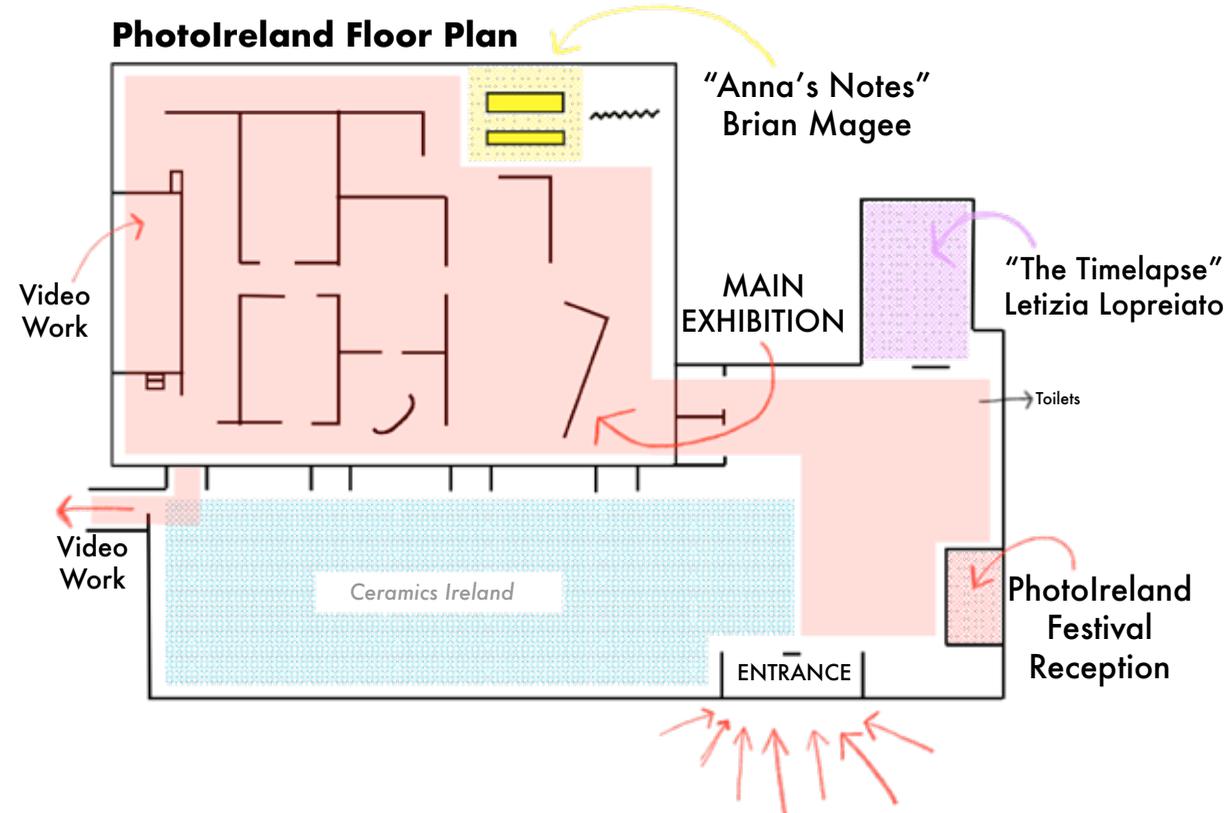
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This exhibition guide was made in consultation with a group of young people, who are alumni of The Ark's Children's Council. Over the past few months, we have met up and looked at photographs and discussed what exactly is going on with contemporary photography in Ireland.

The aim of the project was to consider how we can make photography more accessible to other young people. We talked about different themes, looked at different styles, and considered ethics around different types of ways of making photographic work. We talked about the language used to describe photography, and how very often then language is too difficult for a lot of people, but when talked about in more accessible ways, we can engage and reach a much wider audience.

We designed this guide to the exhibition so that we can help other young people, and their families, learn a little bit more about photography, maybe this will help them look at the photographs in a new way. We don't think that hard subjects should just be left for the grown-ups!

The participants in Photo Club were:

Thomas, Kaelan, Aoileann, Manus, Rua, Ke Qiao, Zoë, Meabh, Emeraude, and Hugo.

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PHOTOIRELAND



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