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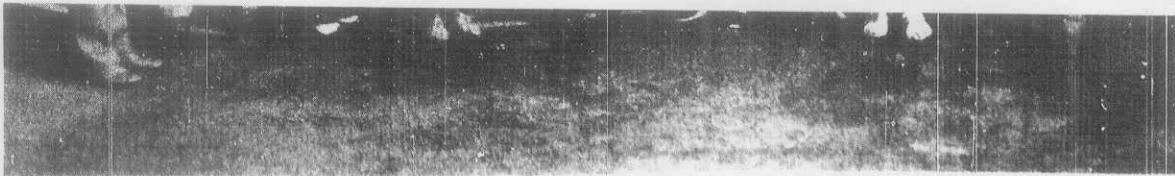
to Newcastle ocal Desmond was Dr. John

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gs were well evening meet- e commencing r.

JE the second summer work- e from Tuesday August. orkshop from Friday 28th of the courses e-Man Band". , not only music musical instru- all perform on /hen organised ave been ex- as well as very Please call and require further limited number - please book hildren who are ig part in these

gallery of the is a wonderful amics by artists Donegal, from k, from Tipper- and Limerick. rick artists are obhan O'Malley They are all for price from £3.50



The Irish inter-Church group, first ever to go to Moscow, standing outside the New Greenhills Hotel, on the Ennis Road on Thursday, shortly before their departure for their flight from Shannon. They had overnights at the Limerick Hotel, so that their final briefing on Wednesday night would be as close to the airport as possible.

Art will bring party leaders together

By PADDY MORONEY

THIS Friday evening, the leaders of three political parties will meet in Limerick . . . and not say a word. They will be guests at the opening of the Riverrun Gallery: Alan Dukes, Desmond O'Malley and Jim Kemmy.

About 300 to 500 are expected to the city's newest gallery and restaurant, located on Honan's Quay and overlooking the Curraghour Falls. Mayor Tim Leddin will be there.

The directors are Brid Dukes, formerly administrator of the



Gerry and Brid Dukes in their studio at Honan's Quay.



Mark Leavy at work.

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limerick art is week joined rmer students lleges through-

Belltable, and her husband, Gerry.

And already the restaurant, open unofficially, has been an outstanding success.

"One of the reasons why we are optimistic about the future is that the statistics show that Limerick people buy more works of art per capita than any other city in Ireland", said Gerry Dukes. "We hope to benefit by that".

Already several works have been sold from the current exhibition, and the gallery is booked up for several months ahead. There will be a different exhibition every month, and Brid is besieged with applications for shows.

"Our aim is to show the very best Irish contemporary art", she said. "However, we also intend to bring in one or two top international exhibitions as well".

But the Riverrun Gallery has more than just a restaurant; there is also a poster shop for anything from picture framing to selling old Lawrence pictures of Limerick at the turn of the century. Running that is Chris Doswell, who is one of the best picture framers in the Mid-West.

Abbey

Riverrun is the culmination of several year's dreaming and, more recently, six months' hard work and planning, with the help of award-winning architect and friend, Sean O Laoire.

Brid Dukes herself is a member

of the Arts Council. After her appointment as administrator of the Belltable, she successfully developed it from its theatrical base to a full arts centre. She has a great deal of experience in the arts, including several years with the Abbey Theatre, RTE and Siamsa.

She also found time to write children's plays and has a book published. She and husband Gerry have three children.

Gerry, a lecturer in English Literature at Mary Immaculate College, is one of the country's leading experts on Beckett and Joyce.

His successful one-man Beckett Show for actor Barry McGovern, "I'll go on", was written for the 1985 Dublin Theatre Festival, and has now played in London, the Edinburgh Festival, Paris, Brussels and recently in Jerusalem.

He lectures on art history and has written for many art exhibition catalogues and has broadcast and reviewed on the arts.

Gerry's project title — Riverrun — encompasses the Dukes interests in many ways. It is the first word in James Joyce's "Finnegan's Wake". It is a threefold name which lends itself ideally to the three parts of the Riverrun complex — art gallery, restaurant and poster shop.

The inaugural exhibition with works by new and established artists reflects the taste and attitude of this husband-and-wife team who, between them, have amassed a lot of experience and

knowledge about selling and publicising visual art.

As administrator of the Belltable Arts Centre, Brid Dukes sold more paintings than many commercial galleries, including Dublin.

Brid and Gerry also intend to act as agents and to sell Irish art abroad. Over the past five years, they have both attended all the major shows in France and England and have made good contacts.

Now they are ready to launch a proper campaign to sell their clients' work by taking space at all the leading international art exhibitions and help export Irish art.

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