



FIONA Bourke, Young EV+A artist in residence, with students from Ard Scoil Mhuire in Limerick.

Visual art biggest display in country

By **DYMPHNA BRACKEN**

CITY firms have rallied round in support of the biggest unselected exhibition of contemporary art in the country which

will open in the city on March 12.

This year's Exhibition of Visual Art (EV+A) which will also feature for the first time the work of internationally-renowned artists from all over Europe, the US and Canada, will cost £200,00 to

stage.

The Arts Council, Shannon Development and the Corporation, recognising the importance of such an event, have pledged £42,500.

The sponsorship in kind from Walsh Western, who have agreed to transport and store all the works, amounts

of a very generous £40,000 at least.

A new Limerick trading company, Irlasto PLC, which does extensive business in Russia, has promised £10,000, as has John Sisk & Son Ltd, who are providing invaluable assistance with building materials and facilities.

Duggans Glass have pledged £3,000 worth of sponsorship in kind and Don Reddan is covering all insurance costs.

Speaking at press conference, this week, to announce details of the exhibition Mayor O'Sullivan said the event would discount the myth that everything goes to Dublin.

"EV+A is here to challenge that concept," she stressed.

The exhibition in its 18 year, she said, will bring modern art onto the streets of the city.

"It will challenge a lot of things and that can be a good thing," she said.

"Limerick has matured in so many ways in the past few years and is very much the right place to have this challenge," she claimed.

Hugh Murray, chairman of EV+A said that EV+A hopes to become a significant event in the calendar of contemporary art activities in the world.

Open EV+A retains its enigmatic and intriguing character under the selection and curation of the eminent Jan Hoet.

Young EV+A continues the intimate interaction between artists and young students through structured workshops culminating in an exhibition at the Belltable.

Invited EV+A with its 16 works from foreign artists located throughout the city, happens for the first time this year.

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