

Limerick artists in the frame as their work makes major money in Sotheby's

By ANNE SHERIDAN

WORK by two county Limerick artists went under the hammer at Sotheby's Irish art sale in London this Tuesday and fetched well above the asking prices.

Diana Copperwhite, a native of Patrickswell, had one piece in the sale of modern and contemporary Irish art. Titled 'Radio Waves', the oil on canvas piece had a minimum asking price of £5,000 at the New Bond Street salesroom, but went for £13,100.

Rathkeale artist Donald Teskey's acrylic on paper, titled 'Coastal Landscape' was inspired by the coastline in north Co Mayo. The piece had a minimum asking price of £20,000 but fetched £24,500, making it one of the most sought-after pieces in the sale and more expensive than one of Louis le Brocqy watercolours of the Spanish poet and dramatist, Federico Garcia Lorca.

Ms Copperwhite's recent work has been inspired by an ongoing interest in the legacy of the late modernist designer and architect, Eileen Gray. She has interwoven elements of Gray's furniture design with references to the contemporary culture.

Artist and art teacher Roger McCarthy, Gallery 75, said, "She has really come to the fore in recent times. This year's [AIB] award really launched her in the public eye."

Ms Copperwhite is the daughter of Pat Copperwhite, also an acclaimed painter, and is the sister of Shirley Copperwhite, a highly successful graphic designer.



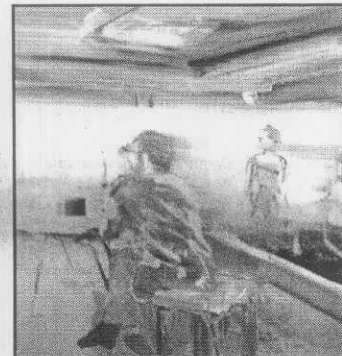
She studied at the Limerick School of Art and Design, the National College of Art & Design and the Winchester School of Art, and has exhibited at the Kevin Kavanagh Gallery and the Rubicon Gallery in Dublin, the Panorama Gallery, Barcelona, and the Limerick City Gallery of Art.

A fellow graduate of Limerick School of Art & Design, Mr Teskey was awarded a fellowship at the Ballinglen Foundation in Ballycastle in the mid-1990s, which went on to inspire

his work. Last year he was elected as artist-in-residence at the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation in Connecticut.

Other artists in the sale included Gerard Dillon, Basil Blackshaw and Robert Ballagh, in 84 lots of paintings. Mr Blackshaw's piece, titled 'Joe Bell's council house', fetched £72,500, while the most expensive item in the sale was Sean Scully's oil on canvas, 'Westray', which sold for £192,500.

The Irish Sale has been an annual fixture in Sotheby's since 1995 and a stand alone sale of modern and contemporary Irish art was introduced to the schedule last October. This inaugural sale was a resounding suc-



Left: Coastal Landscape by Donald Teskey
Top: Radio Waves by Diane Copperwhite
Above: Diane Copperwhite

cess, exceeding all expectations by realising almost £900,000 or €1.4 million. This year's sales surpassed last year's figure, with a total of £1,002,550.

• Ceramic • Porcelain
• Natural Stone • Marble

1/2 OFF RRP
price
sale
Must end Sunday

Includes ALL Continental wall & floor tiles, PLUS selected ranges of Porcelain & Natural Stone.

Excludes borders, decors, quarry tiles and paviors.

The Fairgreen



**BURREN
LEADERSHIP
FORUM**

presents **LEADERSHIP
FOR MANAGERS**

A 3½ day inspirational programme that will help busy managers lead and manage more effectively.

25 - 28 November
Ballyvaugnan, Co. Clare

For brochure and booking phone 087 2905322
E-Mail eath@burrenleadershipforum.ie
www.burrenleadershipforum.ie

**LIVING THE ART OF THE
LAW OF ATTRACTION
AS DEPICTED IN
"THE SECRET"**

**ALLOWING AMAZING GOOD TO HAPPEN
IN YOUR LIFE**

Join me on Saturday, 17th November, 2007
for a life changing workshop - for
improved health, abundance and happiness

At: KIMELIK LEADERSHIP FORUM
3rd Nov, 2007
Page 20