

Art collection is snapped up

ART lovers snapped up practically an entire collection of new paintings by one of Limerick's best-known artists just minutes after the exhibition opened to the public.

Jack Donovan, a former Head of Limerick School of Art and Design, unveiled his new exhibition of work at Limerick Printmakers gallery at the weekend.

Members of the public keen to acquire works by the well-known

Donovan.

The artist said the Limerick exhibition marked the first time that a complete new collection of his work had been purchased in its entirety.

"To be honest, if I had sold eight or 10 paintings I would have been more than happy. I think most artists would be happy if they sold half of their work at an exhibition," said Mr Donovan.

Director of Limerick

sonably priced and somewhat smaller in size than his other work," she said.

Jack Donovan uses strong colours and draws on clearly recognisable characters such as clowns, sailors, prostitutes and clerics in his new exhibition of paintings.

As a former long-term Head of LCAD, he played a key role in the development and training of other successful painters including John

Shinnors, Brian MacMahon and Henry Morgan.

Jack Donovan's substantial body of work built up over the past four decades was displayed in a major retrospective in the Limerick City Gallery of Art in 2004.

The exhibition of new works by Jack Donovan continues at Limerick Printmakers, Robert Street, Limerick until May 4, next.



The colourful works of artist Jack Donovan were snapped up by art lovers following a recent exhibition. Jack is pictured here at his studio in Crecora.

artist had formed a queue ahead of the exhibition and five minutes after it opened 20 of the 21 paintings had been sold.

The only remaining painting in the exhibition was sold the following day.

Most of the paintings sold were in the 2,000 to 4,000 euro price range and were considered by art experts as very reasonably priced for work by Jack

Printmakers, Melissa O'Brien, said the gallery was "honoured" to host an exhibition by Mr Donovan who is now regarded as one of the most influential painters in Irish contemporary art.

"Most of the people who bought were locals and it's fantastic to see that level of support for an artist like Jack Donovan in his home town. This collection of paintings was very rea-

Pepper-spray attack on a delivery man

A MIDDLE aged man was left traumatised on Monday after he was attacked in broad-daylight and robbed of 7,000 euro worth of goods.

Three teenagers wearing hoodies approached the man at around 10.30am on Monday morning as he was working in the Janesboro area of the city.

According to gardai the youths sprayed a pepper spray into the injured party's eyes before stealing his van which contained coins and around 7,000 euro worth of cigarettes.

The victim's van was found burnt out an hour later in the O'Malley Park area of Southill.

The man, who is in his late 50's was not seriously injured but his eyes were burning for some time after the youths sprayed him according to gardai.

"Fortunately he was not seriously injured but he was extremely traumatised after the ordeal," said an investigating garda.

Two youths were arrested later in the

afternoon in connection with the incident but were later released without charge.

Gardai have appealed to anybody who was in the O'Donoghue Avenue area of Janesboro at around the time in question and who

may have witnessed the incident to contact Roxboro garda station on 212432.

Meanwhile, in a separate investigation gardai say they are following a "definite line of enquiry" after a man in his 20's was stabbed on Sunday afternoon at

a house on the south-side of Limerick city.

The victim was stabbed in the chest at his home in Ballinacurra Weston and brought to the Mid Western Regional Hospital where his injuries were described as "not life threatening".

Easter Commemoration

THE annual Sinn Féin Easter commemoration, which this year marks the 90th anniversary of 1916 rising, will be held in Limerick on Easter Sunday, April 16.

Those wishing to attend should assemble outside the Munster Fair Tavern, Mulgrave Street at 12.30pm. The parade will proceed from there to the Republican Plot,

Mount St Laurence Cemetery. Cllr Pat Treanor, Mayor of County Monaghan, will be the main speaker at the event.

Following the main commemoration, there will be a brief wreath-laying ceremony at the grave of Sean Glynn, an IRA volunteer who died in Arbour Hill Prison in 1936 and whose 60th anniversary occurs later this year.

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