

Sam's art to draw fans down under

By **JENNIFER O'CONNOR**

A MID-West based artist is to represent Ireland at the third International Drawing Biennale in Melbourne, Australia this December.

Samuel Walsh has three drawings in the exhibition that will tour Australia until mid-2006.

A noted draughtsman, Mr Walsh is closely associated with the beginnings of the EVA exhibition in the city and with Quadrant, the annual exhibition for young artists he developed with the Belltable Arts Centre that takes place every December.

He is the founder of the National Collection of Contemporary Drawing that hangs in the Limerick City Gallery of Art.

At present he is the Professor of Drawing at the Pont-Aven School of Contemporary Art in Brittany, France where he will work until mid-December.

Mr Walsh attended Limerick School of Art and



Artist Sam Walsh

Design and Mary Immaculate College and worked as lecturer teaching drawing at the Limerick School of Art and Design from 1987 to 1997.

Originally from London, Mr Walsh lived in the city between 1968 and 1990 but now lives in county Clare.

He has had a number of

commissions exhibited in Limerick including at Limerick City Gallery of Art, the University of Limerick, Limerick County Council, RTE Limerick and the Plassey Campus Centre.

He is also a number of international collections including Budapest Museum of Fine Arts, the

Moderna Galerija Rijeka in Croatia, Musée de Pont-Aven, Brittany, The Economist, London and the Pont-Aven School of Contemporary Art, Brittany.

The artist, who only last year won the first prize of the International Association of Art at Europe's Fifth International

Biennale of Drawing in the Czech Republic, has had his work widely recognised among art critics around the world.

His current exhibition has drawn artists from countries such as Lithuania, Russia, Australia, Finland, and the USA to take part in the six month exhibition.

LEADER BRIEFS

Lacking evidence

MORE than one-quarter of all criminal files sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions are rejected due to insufficient evidence, according to the DPP's annual report for last year. The report says 60 per cent of files forwarded by investigating gardai led to a prosecution in 2004.

Jerseys needed

LIMERICK-based charity Soweto Connection are appealing to anyone with old sports jerseys to donate them to sports clubs in South Africa. To donate, call 087 8225087.

Easyjet profits

BUDGET airline EasyJet has reported a nine per cent rise in annual earnings. It is thought the introduction of new routes, cost cuts and rising demand helped offset higher fuel costs.

Jazz Gig

LIMERICK Jazz Society are hosting their concert on behalf of Limerick Rape Crisis Centre this Wednesday. The gig, in Dolan's Upstairs begins at 8pm, and tickets cost €20.