

An Abundance of Talent at the BCFE Creative Graduate Show

Once again, **City of Dublin FET College Southwest Campus Ballyfermot's Higher National Diploma (HND)** graduates in Illustration, Animation and Graphic Design showed themselves to be a very talented bunch indeed, putting on another high calibre graduate show.

This year's live exhibition of graduate work took place at The Bank on Thomas St on 14 and 15 May. When I arrived on the Thursday morning, **Orla Daly**, the college's Industry Liaison Officer said she was delighted with this year's venue because of its direct access to a busy street. They were getting plenty of random visitors to complement the invited industry guests who are a key target audience for this annual showcase.

It is fascinating to see the dramatically different interpretations of the same brief. One, which particularly caught my attention, was to design a poster for Neil Bartlett's stage adaptation of *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. From the subtly understated to the positively ghoulish, all of them managed to capture the essence of Wilde's Gothic aestheticism



Marina Mocanu Aoife Fitzgerald Tom Fallover



Justine Bohan Kartyka Pivato Jordan Lennon

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Some of the graduates were on hand to talk about their work. Those I had the opportunity to chat with were highly articulate. All of them are planning to continue to degree level, though some are going to diversify into other creative fields from that in which they have just graduated. Nerves aside, they were all relishing the opportunity to show their work but were also pleased to have the opportunity to see what their fellow students were doing on other courses, as during the year, their schedules are so hectic they rarely get the chance to do so.



I'd already recognised Trinity's Geology Building before **Aoife Glavey** (Animation) began telling me about her animation interior. Her first time exhibiting her work, Aoife says it is great to have the opportunity to talk to leading figures from the animation industry such as Boulder Media and Brown Bag Films.



Caoimhe O'Reilly (Graphic Design) had already carved out a successful career as a set designer and art director when she decided to return to college to study graphic design. She explained that as an art director she had been obsessed with how everything worked frame by frame and wanted to be able to translate and capture this in stills. Looking through her portfolio I spotted the feather flyers which Caoimhe had created as part of an [Erasmus trip to Malta](#), about which we had an article last September.

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When I told **Heather Phelan** (Illustration) that her Botanic Gardens inspired postage stamps brought to mind the work of Georgia O' Keeffe, she was pleased. The American painter is one of Heather's favourite artists..



Heather and Ciarra



When **Ciara Coleman** set about creating a campaign for a favourite product, she used the opportunity to express her commitment to equality diversity and inclusion in the face of what she thinks is a backlash against EDI policies.

