

ALEANA EGAN

The Sensitive Plant

19 APRIL - 1 JUNE 2013

RECEPTION, THURSDAY 18 APRIL, 6 – 8 pm

We are pleased to announce Aleana Egan's first exhibition at Kerlin Gallery.

Aleana Egan's art defines unique, subjective spaces between fictional worlds and physical realities. Her spare, linear sculptures and studied arrangements of low-key objects are composed of recognizably ordinary and notably practical materials. Slender steel structures are coupled with folded fabrics. Rolls of roofing felt support small, thickly painted cardboard trays. Plastic tape, polyester filler, metal hinges and industrial rivets hold the disparate unadorned components of her sculptures together. Hard and soft, heavy and light are judiciously contrasted; there is at all times an uncommon, careful attention to the varying textural and spatial presence of common things, idiosyncratically configured. But while Egan's sculptures urge us to register the distinct actuality of utilitarian materials, their specific, enigmatic forms have in each case more immaterial sources. Crucially, the 'real things' of Egan's art most often evolve as responses to the 'unreal things' of literary narrative. Reading is fundamental to Egan's artistic process, but literary allusion is never obviously present in a realized work. Rather, encounters with literature are moments of initiation. Her work thrives on occasions when scenes, objects, characters or even atmospheres from stories become isolated in memory and slowly transformed by thought and sensation. Through her concentrated, intuitive efforts to translate such fictional residues into something immediate, permanent and present in our world, newly remarkable shapes and spaces, new situations of seeing and sensing, become possible.

Aleana Egan was born in Dublin in 1979 and lives between Dublin and Berlin. Recent solo exhibitions include The Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (2012); The Drawing Room, London (2011), Mole Vanvitelliana, Ancona (2010), Temple Bar Gallery,

Dublin and Art Basel Statements (2009) and Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland (2008). Recent group exhibitions include The Drawing Room, London (2013), LWL Landesmuseum Münster, Germany and Sculpture Center, New York (2010), 5th Berlin Biennale, Berlin and Kunsthalle zu Kiel (2008).

On the occasion of the opening of the exhibitions I knOw yoU at IMMA @ NCH, Earlsfort Terrace and Aleana Egan- The Sensitive Plant at the Kerlin Gallery, we are delighted to invite you to an after-party from 8.30 pm 'til late, at Tavern on the Green, Lower Leeson St, Dublin 2.

Live performances will feature by Timothy Furey, Caroline McCarthy and Nigel Farelly, followed by Jim Horgan of Plugd Records, Cork, and DJ and dance 'til late.

ALL WELCOME!

For further information and visual material, please contact Kirsteen Cairns: kirsteen@kerlin.ie