

# Exhibitions

Open Submission  
6 December - 15 February 2026

The dlr Open showcases artists connected to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. This varied and exciting exhibition will feature work by emerging and established artists who have studied in, are originally from, or are living or working in the County. The work will be selected by an invited curator and the artists are selected through an open submission process. The application process will be announced in May so don't miss your chance to see your work hanging on the walls of the dlr Municipal Gallery.



IMAGE: Opening of exhibitions by Mary Burke and Róisín White, 2024. Photo Peter Varga, Coalesce.

# Gallery Learning Programme

Our Learning Programme offers visitors of all ages the opportunity to explore the themes, artists, materials, and techniques highlighted in the Gallery. It includes artist talks, workshops, tours, and unique events. Some programmes require booking.

Sign up for our e-bulletin and visit our website to find out about our upcoming Learning Programme!

## Here are some ways to enjoy the Gallery

### Group Gallery Tours

Join us for a tour of the exhibitions. These tours are led by artists and are free, informal, and open to groups. If your school, active retirement, or social group are interested in a tour of one of our exhibitions, please contact us for booking.

### Gallery Tours for Brain Health

Enjoy a seated, informal tour of our exhibitions, including a cup of tea and a chance to chat and meet new people. These tours are designed for anyone who is interested in promoting their brain health, anyone who notices changes in their memory and anyone living with dementia. Artists trained to support people living with dementia will facilitate these sessions to ensure an inclusive experience.

### Project Room

Make sure you visit the Project Room beside the Gallery. There are art materials on hand to bring out the artist in you. Ideal for a rainy day with the kids!



IMAGE: Open Art Studio for Adults, photo Kim Jenkinson.

### Open Art Studio for Adults

Meet fellow creatives on the last Friday of every month from 11am to 1pm in the Project Room. Bring your art project if you like, an artist will be on hand to help you as much or as little as you would like. Materials and space are free. No booking is required.

### Access

If you have access requirements for your attendance at the Gallery or require any further information or assistance for your visit, please contact us by Email [arts@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:arts@dlrcoco.ie) Telephone 01 236 2759

### Gallery opening hours:

Monday-Thursday: 10am-8pm  
Friday and Saturday: 10am-5pm  
Sunday: 12noon-4pm

On Bank Holiday weekends, the Gallery is closed from Saturday to Monday inclusive.

### Getting to the Gallery

dlr Lexlcon, Haigh Terrace, Moran Park, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, A96 H283.

The Gallery is located on the third floor of dlr Lexlcon and may be accessed from either Level 1 (Moran Park) or Level 3 (Haigh Terrace). There is a lift from Level 1 to Level 3. The building is approximately 5 minutes' walk from Dún Laoghaire Dart Station and bus stops. There is bike parking directly outside dlr Lexlcon at Moran Park and beside the pond at Haigh Terrace. There is a public carpark at dlr Lexlcon, accessible via Queen's Road; the opening hours are 7am-11pm. This has EV charging points.

For regular updates about exhibitions, events and opportunities, sign up for our fortnightly e-bulletin.

[www.dlrcoco.ie/arts](http://www.dlrcoco.ie/arts)  
[arts@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:arts@dlrcoco.ie)  
(01) 236 2759



# Gallery Programme 2025

dlr Lexlcon, Dún Laoghaire  
Exhibitions, events, workshops, talks, tours and more



# Welcome to the Gallery, dlr Lexlcon

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County’s Municipal Gallery is located on Level 3 of dlr Lexlcon in Dún Laoghaire. Managed by the Council’s Arts Office, our Gallery showcases a vibrant mix of artworks.

We collaborate with a diverse group of artists and creatives, from established to emerging talents, as well as curators, partner organisations, and arts education specialists. We bring you a dynamic and inspiring selection of exhibitions. Our Gallery Learning Programme offers a range of events and has lots of ways to explore art materials and hear from exhibiting artists.

Thank you for visiting and we hope you enjoy the 2025 programme of exhibitions.



IMAGE:  
Workshop for children.  
Photo Mark Stedman

## Exhibitions

**Martina O'Brien**  
brittle record

14 February – 2 April

Bringing together new video installations, printmaking, animation and archival material, this exhibition draws on O'Brien's time spent on marine expedition residencies in Oslofjord, Norway and the Arctic Ocean. It was developed in part through engagement with marine geochemistry, marine biology and marine ecology experts. The work also pays close attention to coastal and underwater environments in Dún Laoghaire and the Irish Sea.

brittle record responds to marine life forms and buried underwater histories in a time of environmental breakdown.

O'Brien was awarded a dlr Visual Art Commission; this is funded by the Arts Council of Ireland and supported by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

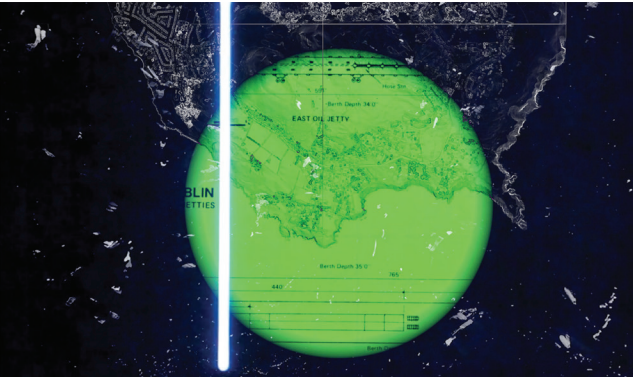


IMAGE: Circumstances of Loss, 2025, Martina O'Brien

COVER IMAGE:  
Wild and Untethered, Karen Ebbs

**Vanessa Donoso López**  
A rock can hurt you,  
a rock can help you open a nut.

12 April – 22 June

Over recent years across Ireland and Spain, Vanessa Donoso López has shaped her latest installation—a gathering of works deeply rooted in the land, its people and their shared cultural heritage. This collection, comprising over 1,000 pieces, includes archaeological artifacts and a series of marbled shapes that echo the intricate patterns found on petrified objects and rocks.

Migrant journeys often oscillate between physical dislocation and virtual connection, the creation and experience of physical objects offers an anchor to the real world. Like a rock that can wound or serve, the migrant's relationship with the land is one of duality—offering grounding and uncertainty, refuge and resistance.



IMAGE: Vanessa Donoso López, archeological finds. 2022/2023  
stucco marmo, plaster, pigments, wood.

**Maeve McCarthy RHA**  
Returning

5 July – 3 September

Maeve McCarthy's exhibition Returning explores themes of place, memory, and belonging, drawing from her childhood in the borough. Her maternal grandparents moved to Sandycove from Dublin inner city in the 1930s, deepening McCarthy's generational connection to the landscape. Now living back in the inner city, McCarthy reflects on how memory and place shape identity. Through large scale oil paintings, charcoal drawings, smaller works, and a film projection, she reimagines the built landscape, gardens, shortcuts, and wild spaces, inviting viewers to consider their own ties to place.

McCarthy was awarded a dlr Visual Art Commission funded by the Arts Council of Ireland and supported by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.



IMAGE: Looking Across, oil on panel, Maeve McCarthy RHA

**Karen Ebbs**  
The Audacity of Hope  
An Outer Reflection of an Inner Reality

12 September – 9 November

In this installation of large-scale colourful oil paintings, sculptures and plexiglass mirrors, Karen Ebbs explores ideas relating to reflection, perception and reality. Using mirrors, the boundaries between exhibit and individual collapse. Visitors are confronted with their own reflections as they become interwoven with the artworks. They will become the observers and the actors, the object and the subject. Through this interaction visitors become part of an ever-changing installation which is continuously altered by their presence. This idea challenges the notion of separation and how we perceive ourselves, offering visitors the opportunity to “pause”.



IMAGE: The Immersive Act of Being, oil on birchwood, Karen Ebbs