

WINTER SUN

29 November – 4 January 2014

PRIVATE VIEW: Thursday 28 November, 6:00 – 8:30 pm

Ann Dowker

Derek Hyatt

John Kiki

Nick Miller

November sees the opening of Art Space Gallery's *Winter Sun* exhibition. Being the final exhibition of the year it has become traditional to use the event as a showcase for the work of artists who will feature in the following year's programme. This year Ann Dowker, Derek Hyatt and John Kiki offer a foretaste of 2014 alongside guest artist Nick Miller.

Ann Dowker, *After the Floods Again*, 2012

Ann Dowker continues with her exploration of the land and the people around Luxor in Egypt's Nile valley. Not the large events, not the grandeur, but the day to day. Living in a small village on the west bank of the river for long periods of the year has brought her into close contact with the landscape and the cycle of the seasons which she draws and paints with a conviction that can only be achieved by knowing what it feels like to be in there.

Derek Hyatt, *Walking Through Snow*, 1993

Derek Hyatt's subject is the same one that attracted Turner and Girtin northward; the ancient and awe-inspiring crags and desolate moorland visions of his native Yorkshire. But Hyatt's need is to get at the mysterious heart of this ancient and awe-inspiring terrain and he weaves into his observations of the land signs and symbols inspired by his deep and profound understanding of the history, mythology, archaeology and the 'spirit' of the place.

John Kiki, *Winter Sun II*, 2013

In contrast **John Kiki's** bright figurative paintings are the product of imagined events and re-inventions of historic and mythic stories. Not unlike the cellular structure of enameled Byzantine icons which belong to the cultural tradition of his Greek background his canvases are populated with circus performers, dancers, horse riders and built up in a free flowing application of paint with a passion that conveys absolute immediacy.

Nick Miller, *Steel Yard, Truck and Birds*, 2013

Nick Miller paints County Sligo in the north west of Ireland where he lives. He calls his landscapes 'truckscapes' because for the most part they are painted from inside a specially modified truck that serves as his studio on wheels. Restricted to locations that are accessible to his vehicle Miller's world is not Arcadia but a rustic, even uncouth world that balances the demands of a studio based process with the spontaneity of working *plein air*.

The artists chosen for this show are all deeply analytical about their work and demonstrate a natural inclination to explore new avenues of visual language. Together they represent a group of artists expressing their painterly sensitivity and glorying in the possibilities offered by the exploration of their own particular way of working.