

GALLERY PANGOLIN

'lightly touching the earth back'

Eilis O'Connell

7th March - 18th April 2020

Ireland's pre-eminent sculptor Eilis O'Connell, studied at Crawford School of Art, Cork and Massachusetts College of Art, Boston. She is a Royal Hibernian Academician, has won awards from the British School at Rome and the Royal Society of Arts and undertaken residencies in both France and Spain.

Many of her works are large scale public commissions and include 'Ovo', a large hand carved sculpture in bright white Carrara marble made for Avolon, 1 Ballsbridge, Dublin in 2019. 'Atoms & Apples' a sculpture commission in 2013 for Trinity College, Dublin. Other public commissions can be seen in London, Cardiff, Newcastle, Bristol, Wolverhampton, Southampton, Milton Keynes, Belfast, Dundalk, Mallow and Cork.

O'Connell's inspirations are drawn from a wide range of sources natural or man-made, including archaeology, architecture, plants and things she collects while travelling or hill walking by the sea near her home. **'lightly touching the earth back'** showcases O'Connell's beautiful maquettes and her poetic use of materials, including bronze, stainless steel, silver, resin and found objects.

In 2019 O'Connell began working in Pietrasanta, creating new work in Marble. *Ridge* (illustrated below) along with four other previously unseen works will be included in the exhibition.



Edged Camarna
Bronze



Sublime Geometry
Sterling Silver



Ridge
Iranian Travertine

'When I work on small-scale maquettes I am always thinking big. I can get ideas out of my system quicker this way. Small models are left lying around the studio for ages where I see them all the time, in different light conditions, from different angles, and I am constantly accessing them.'

Eilis O'Connell

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'lightly touching the earth back'

Ellis O'Connell

To accompany the exhibition Gallery Pangolin is producing an illustrated catalogue, with brilliant photography by Steve Russell Studios and beautiful text by Sara Baume.

They come in families

the artist says, but it might be that a bronze gives birth to a watercolour, that a palm-sized carving is sister to a monumental twist of steel. Their relationships may be understood solely by the artist, or not even by the artist, for she works primarily by sight and touch – by divination – rounding up objects and fabrics, weaning them off the ready-made world.

Sara Baume

Sara Baume is the author of two novels, *Spill Simmer Falter Wither*, which won the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize, and *A Line Made by Walking*, which was shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize. Her non-fiction debut, *handiwork*, will be published in 2020. She lives in West Cork.

Gallery Pangolin and Pangolin Editions, one of the leading foundries in Europe, have had a long history of working with O'Connell. Over the past 30 years they have shared the same passion for craftsmanship and inventive use of materials to create some of her well known monumental works.



Wrens Nest
Clear cast resin and nest

O'Connell exhibits widely both in Britain and abroad and her work is held in public and private collections throughout the world.

Gallery Pangolin is exclusively specialised in sculpture and related works. Over the past thirty years the gallery has established a reputation for works of quality and excellence by Modern and contemporary artists.

Further information can be found on the gallery website:

www.gallery-pangolin.com

For further information, a copy of the exhibition catalogue or high resolution images please contact Sally James or Cath Ingram on **01453 889765**

The Gallery is open Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm and Saturday 10am to 1pm