

MEDIA RELEASE

LAUNCH OF ABBEYLEIX ART EXHIBITION IN AID OF MALAWI

Exhibition is being run by Camross woman Josephine Phelan who has raised €10,000 for Malawi since 2014.

An Art Exhibition, entitled “In Search of Joy” will be launched at Abbeyleix Library on Thursday 7 September with proceedings kicking off at 5pm. There are 250 items in the collection and the exhibition is being run by Camross woman Josephine Phelan. All proceeds raised will go to develop further education opportunities at the Lusekelo School of Computing in Mzuzu, Malawi. Since her retirement from teaching in 2013, Josephine has raised €10,000 for this school. The money raised has been used to help refurbish the school and also buy computers, photocopiers and textbooks.

The exhibition is a colourful collection of acrylic and oil paintings which celebrate the beauty of God’s creation. These paintings are the work of artist Susan Green and some of her photography work will also be on display. Many of the paintings and photographs have also been incorporated in the design of a range of custom-made greeting cards.

Refreshments will be provided on the night. The launch runs from 5-7pm.

For more information, visit the exhibition website on www.insearchofjoy.weebly.com.

To arrange media interviews, please contact Josephine Phelan on 087 952 6412 or Mary Phelan on mphelan@farmersjournal.ie or 086 040 3693.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

About the collection

The exhibition is comprised of several different collections, each with a different theme;

“Mattheson’s List”

This collection of 23 paintings was inspired by the composer Johann Mattheson, who wrote that everything, such as emotions and feelings, could be portrayed in music. The artist takes this a step further by bringing to life, on the canvas, particularly strong emotions, such as Despair, Humility, Vengeance, Tranquility, Fear, Horror and Lust.

The Heifetz Collection

This collection is inspired by Jascha Heifetz, said by some to be the greatest violinist of all time. One of these paintings “St. Peterburg” represents Heifetz, aged 9, with his father, entering St. Petersburg to attend the St. Petersburg Conservatory.

Floating Gardens

These paintings are inspired by Monty Don's TV series and book "Around the world in 80 Gardens". These paintings show the artist's love of colour.

Mount Melleray Collection

This collection has been inspired by the beautiful scenes at Mount Melleray Abbey in Co Waterford which is situated on the slopes of the Knockmealdown Mountains and is home to a community of Cistercian monks. The ponds, power house, guest house, summer house and the windows of Mount Melleray Abbey are all depicted in these paintings. Many of the photos on display in the exhibition were taken on the grounds of Mount Melleray Abbey.

Mysteries of the Rosary

The Mysteries of the Rosary group of paintings portray the artist's interpretation of the Joyful Mysteries, the Sorrowful Mysteries, the Glorious Mysteries and the Mysteries of Light.

Cosmic Butterflies

"Cosmic Butterflies" is a collection which places one of the most fragile of God's creations, the butterfly, against the backdrop of the biggest and most profound reality we can imagine – the cosmos.

About the artist

Susan Green studied music at the Royal Academy in London and is now the resident musician in Mount Melleray Abbey, Co Waterford where she has lived and worked for the last 26 years. Susan took up painting and photography to express her joy in life.

Admission free

Admission to the exhibition is free and refreshments will be provided by Nicola Sutton.

The cause

The artist, Susan Green has very kindly donated her paintings and photos and funds raised from the sale of her works will go towards two projects. The first project is the afore-mentioned missionary work of Bishop John Ryan (SPS, Kiltegan) in Mzuzu, Malawi. Josephine Phelan works with Bishop John Ryan in continually developing the Lusekelo School of Computing in Mzuzu. This school provides education in Information and Communication Technology, at a nominal fee, to vulnerable young people in Northern Malawi.

The second project is the work of the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of The Holy Rosary in South America. Sr Anne Coleman is a member of this order and will be at the exhibition launch. She has spent many years educating street children in Brazil.

Paintings range in price from €30-€150 while photographs range in price from €10-€30. There will also be a range of greeting cards, featuring Susan's paintings and photographs, available for sale on the night.