



Dark wood is back in vogue for interior furniture, so keep an eye out for suitable pieces for your home at markets, fairs and online auctions



Free-standing furniture adds character and interest to a room

Ruth Noble Don't overdo it with the fitted furniture, pick some standalone pieces that fit in with your own style and taste and which will also allow for added storage and display

Fitted furniture offers practical, planned out storage and display throughout the home in living rooms, play-rooms, bedrooms and kitchens. However, be conscious when planning spaces in your house not to fill every alcove and wall with fitted furniture. Free-standing pieces such as sideboards, cabinets, chests and armoirs add character, substance, interest and functionality to a room. My advice is to choose one-off pieces of furniture for rooms in your house that fit in with your own style and taste, but which will also allow for added storage and display. These pieces, whether old or new, should be good quality, versatile and stylish, in keeping with the particular look and aesthetic of your home. More often than not, it's the myriad wine glasses and surplus kitchen condiments that clients must require additional storage for. So, rather than fitting more kitchen cabinets and shelves within the space, why not add a decorative wall-hung cabinet in the kitchen or a generous sideboard in a dining area? This is a good opportunity to incorporate different materials such as steel, timber, brass, stone or glass materials into the design of your home. Free-standing pieces offer the benefit of added storage and practicality. If you are planning out a study or office space with fitted shelves and cabinets, consider adding a free-standing desk, which will allow flexibility to change the orientation of your workstation within the space.



Freestanding pieces can be incorporated into the layout of your home, while glass-fronted display cabinets can be free-standing or hung from walls



Free-standing pieces can offer additional storage as well as style to a room



Standalone decorative console tables can be effective as statement pieces in entrance hallways, as well as adding useful display surfaces

the ideal position and location for a chest of drawers in a corridor or hallway, or a free-standing wardrobe in a guest bedroom. These pieces offer additional storage as well as style to the house, while also supporting sustainability. Although a more traditional concept, I especially love a kitchen dresser, it can be well placed in any style of kitchen and is perfect for storing placemats, linens and cutlery. It's also an ideal way to display colourful ceramics, adding an eclectic and decorative style to the space. Interior designer Ruth Noble specifies and supplies all furniture, fabric, wallpaper, rugs and lighting within projects. For more details, inspiration or to view her online store, see: ruthnobleinteriors.com or follow on Instagram: @ruthnobleinteriors



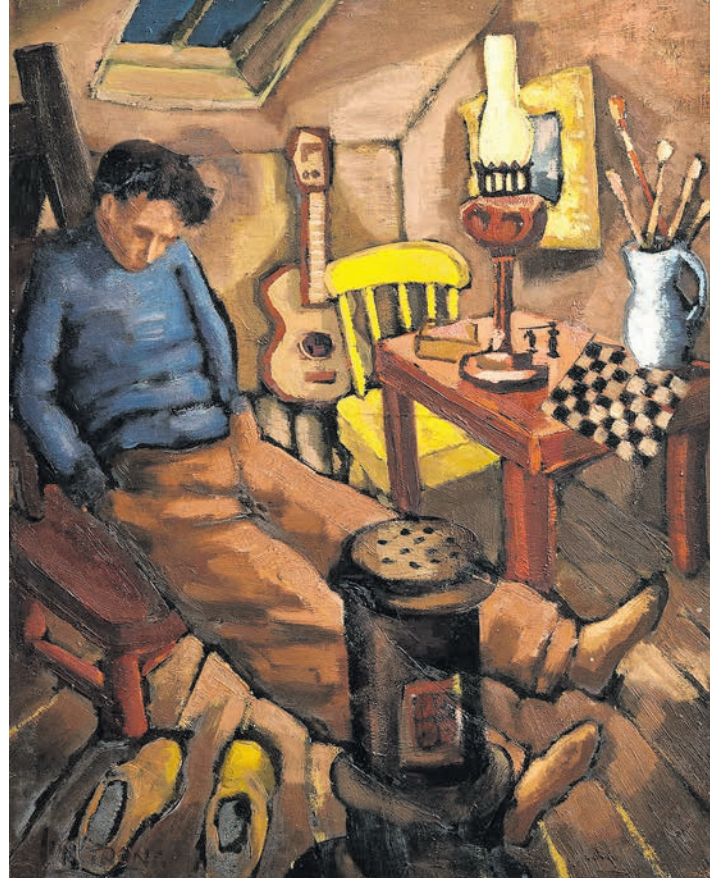
Composition by Evie Hone (€10,000-€15,000)



The Island Marlay Park by Evie Hone (€3,000-€5,000)



Collage 1986 by Tony O'Malley (€1,500-€2,500)



Attic Interior by Arthur Armstrong (€2,000-€3,000)

Evie Hone provides the abstract highlights at Morgan O'Driscoll's sale

Seasoned and novice collectors alike will find plenty to choose from in the forthcoming online sale which includes works by Tony O'Malley and Felim Egan



Philip Carton
Fine Arts

Morgan O'Driscoll brings a lively and colourful selection of Irish art to the market in its forthcoming timed online sale, which closes on Tuesday, March 7. With some 260 lots, there is plenty of choice for seasoned and novice collectors alike. My sale highlights include two works by Evie Hone starting with lot 7: Composition. The

gouache on board is not dated, but is most possibly from the late 1920s/early 30s, reflects her zeal for abstractionism and is strongly influenced by her studies under Andre Lhote and Albert Gleizes in Paris. Contemporary critics were harsh of her practice. Following a 1924 exhibition with fellow artist Mainie Jellett, the Studio commented: "None of the works bore a title, and the vast majority of them were as far removed from any effort at representation as they could possibly be... no better and no worse than the production of the average uninspired art student in her teens". Thankfully in 1926, she was corrected such criticism (€10,000-€15,000). Another work by Hone,

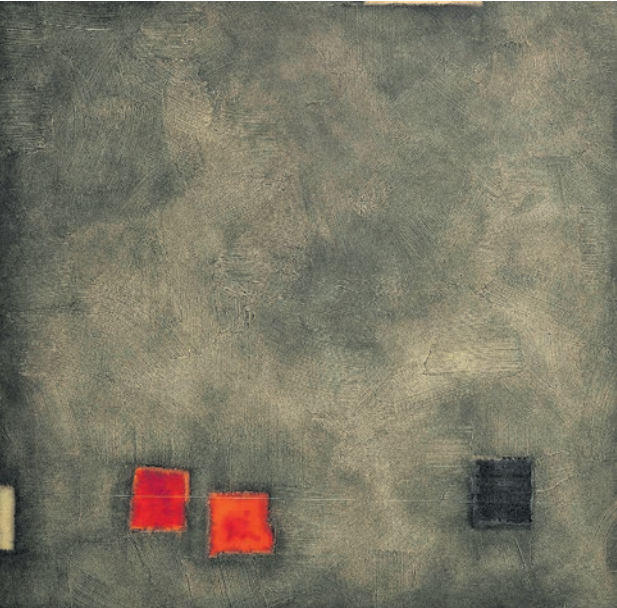
lot 44: The Island, Marlay Park, is a well-considered and balanced scene in oil and gouache, with heavy outlines defining the composition (€3,000-€5,000). Marlay Park in Rathfarnham was a favoured location for the artist and a work titled Snow at Marlay is in the collection of the National Gallery. Lot 9: Collage (1986) by the much loved Tony O'Malley, is a smashing textured work on paper, intimate in scale, but captures the magic and spiritual essence of his practice with Hillsboro Fine Art provenance (€1,500-€2,500). The sale includes three works by Felim Egan, my pick being lot 16, Land Cross (2000). In 1999, Rudi Fuchs, then director of the Stedelijk



Connemara Coast by Barbara Warren (€1,200-€1,800)

scription on the reverse dating it to 1904 (€8,000-€12,000). From the Belfast Boys there are three works by the Co

Antrim-born Arthur Armstrong, including lot 64: Attic Interior. The painting was first exhibited in 1950 at the Grafton Gallery, Dublin, and depicts a figure seated in an attic (€2,000-€3,000). There are two great examples of Belfast-born George F. Campbell, including lot 92: The Bullfight, dated to the early part of the 1950s. The Spanish coastal town of Malaga became a second home for the artist and works such as this dynamic scene provided rich material. The painting comes with an excellent exhibition history having been included in an important Campbell Retrospective at the Droichead Arts Centre and is reproduced in Karen Reihill's George Camp-



Land Cross by Felim Egan (€3,000-€5,000)

Meet the curator: Eamonn Maxwell

Eamonn Maxwell has worked as a curator and adviser in the visual arts for more than 20 years. He has curated numerous exhibitions across the world, including the Irish Pavilion at the Venice Biennale in 2011. From 2009-2016 he was director of Lanes Castle Arts, where he programmed significant exhibitions by leading international and Irish artists. He established the Emerging Artists programme during his tenure as university curator, University of the Arts London, and he continues to mentor artists. Latterly, he has worked as collection adviser to the Arts Council of Ireland and Goldsmiths College London, among others. Two current exhibitions curated by Maxwell include At the Gates of Silent Memory by Clare Langan, which opened on February 18 at the Luan Gallery, Athlone; and Convergences, a solo exhibition by Serena Caulfield at Ballina Arts Centre, which opened on March 4.



Eamonn Maxwell: 'I often take my motorbike out for a ride to Wexford for a stroll along the beach'

inspirational and reminds me of my word for 2023... "Travel".
A place that means a lot to me
The seaside. I grew up in Whitehead, a small seaside town in Co. Antrim. When I get the chance, I go to the nearest coastline to get a blast of sea air. When the weather permits, I will often take my motorbike out for a ride to Wexford for a stroll along the beach.
My favourite piece of music when I need inspiration
To be honest, I play music all the time - when I'm working, reading, driving, in the shower. I can't abide the sound of silence. Being an old goth, I often reach for classic albums by Fields of the Nephilim, the Cure or Nick Cave, but I also have a voracious appetite for new music. Basically, as long as there is music playing I will be inspired.
I have a collection of...
Vinyl. I have several hundred records on vinyl dating from early Led Zeppelin and David Bowie right up to Pillow Queens and Emma Ruth Rundle.
An object I would never part with
My dad's 1955 BSA A10 motorcycle. My dad died many years ago, but left behind a shed full of classic British motorcycles in pieces. After his death, my brother and I spent over a decade cataloguing and selling what we could to fund the

Michael Collins's last supper cutlery among items to savour at upcoming March auctions

Two upcoming auctions offer everything from chandeliers, mid-century design to militaria and collectibles. Starting with Waterford city-based BJ Keighery's, which on Monday, March 6, brings 567 lots of antiques, mid-century design, jewellery and decorative items under the hammer. The sale includes no fewer than 15 magnificent crystal chandeliers including a trio of 12-branch Waterford Crystal limited edition chandeliers. Lots 322, 323 and 324 are each estimated at €8,000-€12,000. Lot 250 is a handsome brass bound mahogany secretaire campaign desk standing on bunfeet (€1,000-€1,500). The sale also includes a wide selection of mid-century pieces including four Cassina Göteborg 501 white leather dining chairs (€1,800-€2,200). Lot 16 is a pair of vintage bentwood easy chairs on cantilevered supports with leather seats (€300-€500).

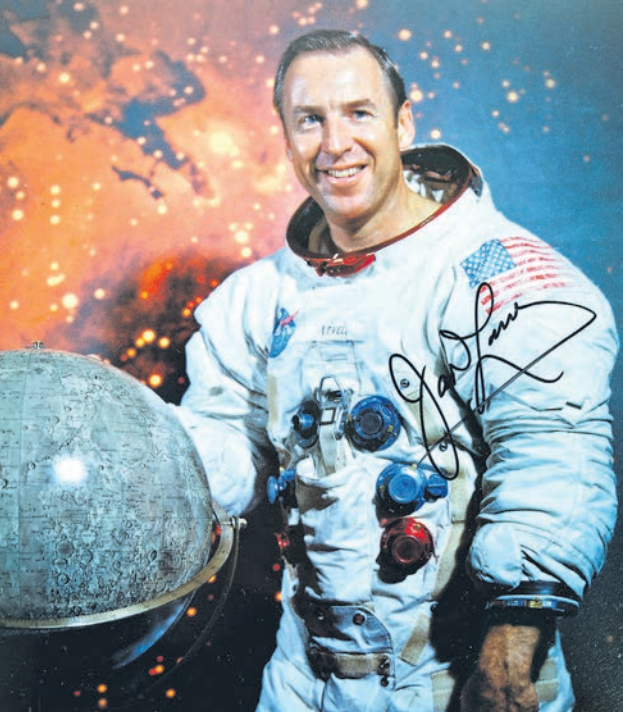


Cutlery used by Michael Collins (€1,500-€2,000)

Mullen's first Collector's cabinet of 2023
Mullen's of Laurel Park, Bray is holding its first Collector's Cabinet auction of the year on Saturday, March 11. Expertly curated and catalogued by Stuart Purcell, finds from Irish history, sporting and space memorabilia are to be had. Notable treasures and curios include a knife, fork and spoon, stitched to a silk shamrock and framed with a photograph of Michael Collins. The cutlery was used by Collins when he dined, for the last time, in west Cork, at the Eldon Hotel in Skibbereen. He died in an ambush at Béal na mBláth later that day. The cutlery was later presented to Collins's sweetheart Kitty Kiernan as a memento. She gave it to her sister Maud who married Gearóid O'Sullivan, the Irish volunteer who raised the flag over the GPO during the Easter Rising. A letter of provenance, offered with the lot, traces the ownership up to 2013 when it was purchased at auction by the



A Waterford Crystal limited edition chandelier (€8,000-€12,000); right: one of four Cassina Göteborg 501 white leather dining chairs (€1,800-€2,200)



James Lovell, one of a collection of 41 signed photographs of Apollo astronauts (€1,000-€1,500)



A brass bound mahogany secretaire campaign desk (€1,000-€1,500)

Events calendar



Big Blue by Sophia Campbell at Oliver Sears Gallery until April 5, olivarsearsgallery.com

March 6: Important Irish Art Auction at Whyte's, Dublin; see: whytes.ie
Ending March 7: Irish Art Online Auction at Morgan O'Driscoll; see: morganodriscoll.com
March 7: Antique furniture and jewellery auction at Matthews Auctioneers, Kells, Co. Meath; see: matthewsauctioneers.com
March 8: Spring Fine Interiors at Hegarty Auction Rooms, Bandon, Co. Cork; see: hegartyantiques.com
Opening March 9: John Short, new works in 2nd and 3rd at Solomon Fine Art, Dublin; see: solomonfineart.ie
Opening March 9: Philip Moss, Haiku Paintings and Other Works at the Molesworth Gallery, Dublin; see: molesworthgallery.com

MORGAN O'DRISCOLL
IRISH ART ONLINE AUCTION



BIDDING ENDS TUESDAY 7TH MARCH
Between 6.30pm & 9.45pm
View catalogue and bid at www.morganodriscoll.com

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