

Scene of the Myth

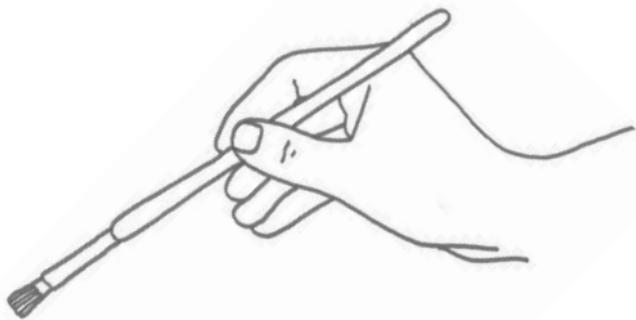
Sarah Pierce

b.1968

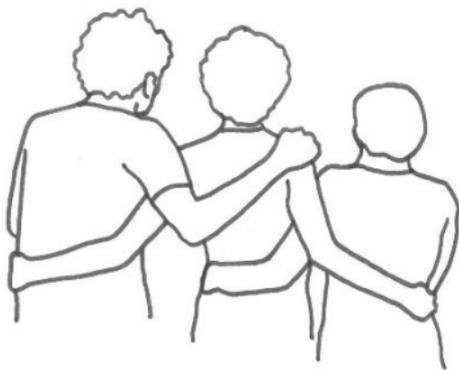
USA-Ireland

5 October – 11 January 2025

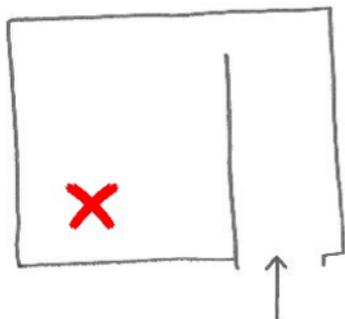
Sarah is an artist.



Sarah is interested in the idea of coming together.



No title is a piece of work in Barker-Mill Gallery.



It looks at Dementia and its link to art-making.



No title helps us think about our own experiences with Dementia, rather than making us think of the medical illness.

No title is very personal to Sarah.

Her niece filmed it, and it shows her parents looking at themes of

Home

Habits

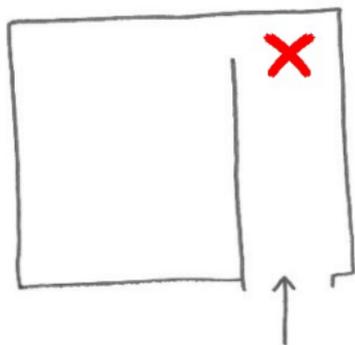
Loss

Family

Memory

It is named after Willem de Koonings paintings *c. 1987-1997* that he made after he found out he had Dementia.

The Square is a piece of work in Barker-Mill Gallery.

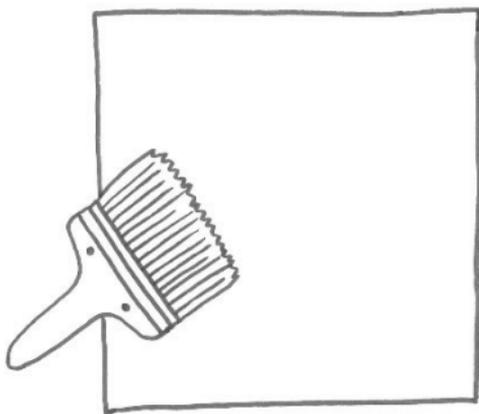


This is a square painted on the wall by JHG staff.

Why?

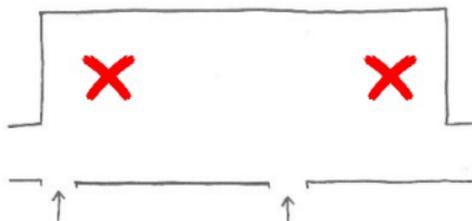
The group act of painting a square on a wall starts the idea of a *play without a script*.

Each time *The Square* is re-painted, the script is being re-written with no set character, plot or story.



The movements, noises and actions that go into re-painting the square create the script, this idea is inspired by Bertolt Brecht's *Lehrstücke* (learning play).

Lost Illusions in Gallery 2 is about art students.



The videos that you see are of a workshop with art students where they move around a gallery space reacting to the artwork through chants and gestures.

The sculptures are from an unofficial group of artwork left behind at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity in Alberta, Canada.

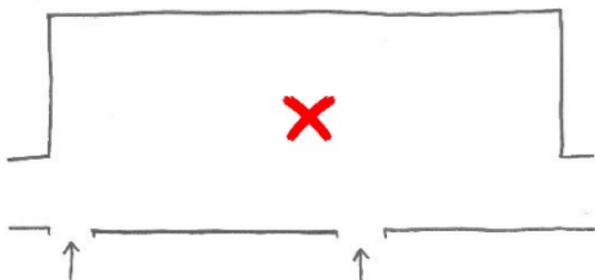
Mark Lewis is an artist. One of his artworks was vandalised by students in 1989.

The letters are copies of text that Mark Lewis wrote where he criticises the vandalism as a form of censorship.



This makes us think about the role of the student as well as the role of the artist. How can the act of vandalism or activism can be seen from different viewpoints?

Campus is made through Sarah's interest in university campuses. It is in Gallery 2.



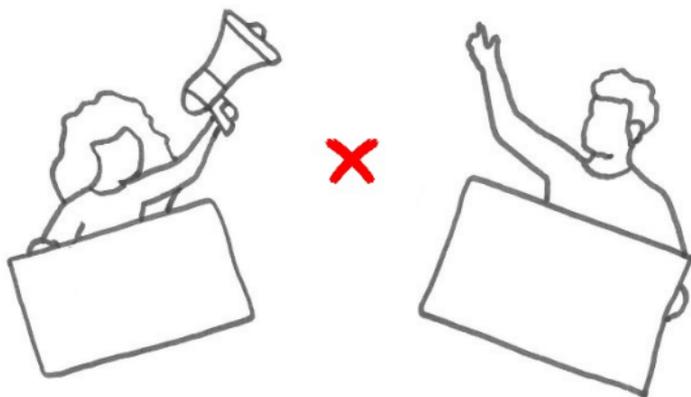
Campus is inspired by things that happened at University of Pittsburgh.



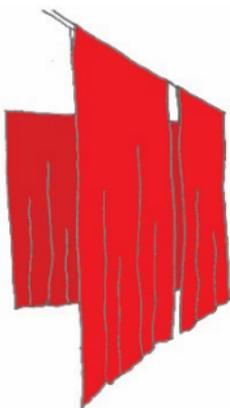
Particularly between 1959-1969 when the Civil Rights movement in the US merged with the Vietnam War protests.

The anti-war movement led by primarily white students overshadowed the Civil Rights movement, led by primarily black students who wanted to change the university system.

This created a split between the two movements.



The five sheets of red fabric act as a stage for a performance that is inspired by these events.

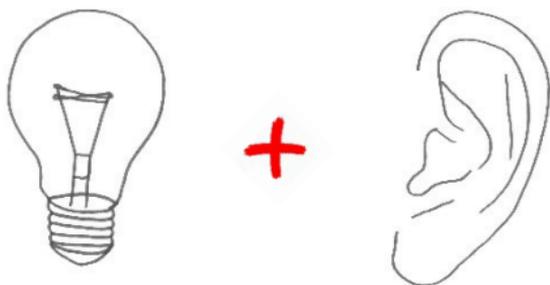


The performance is about the clash of movements as well as the instructions for an art-class.



What does this mean?

It's a bringing together of Sarah's interest in learning, and how universities respond to students.



This performance will be happening on

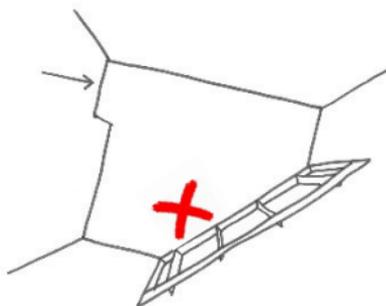
Friday 4 October at 7pm

Saturday 9 November at 2pm

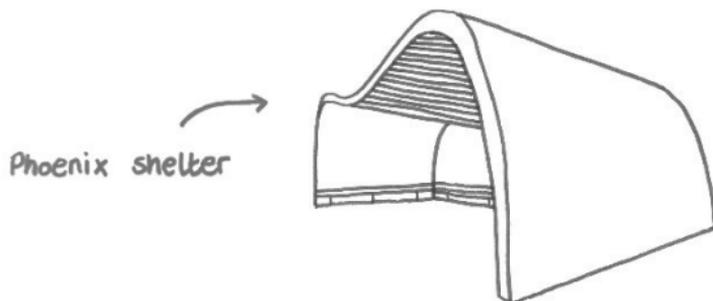
Saturday 7 December at 2pm

all in Gallery 2.

Shelter Bread and Freedom in Gallery 3 is a representation of a concrete shelter in Phoenix Park, Dublin.



The banners and frame, when together are the same size as the interior of the structure and show us themes of community, study & care.

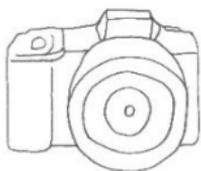


The image on the front window is of a forest school in 1904. The people in the picture are German migrants in Dublin.

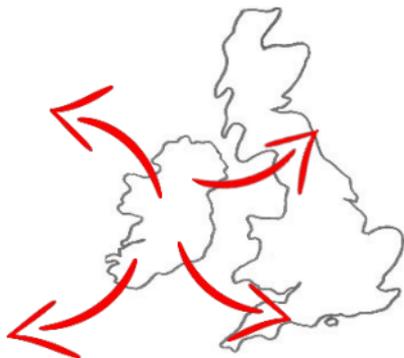


As part of this piece of work, migrants to Southampton will be invited to read short texts in their home language with an audience made up of local people.

Pathos of Distance in Gallery 3 are digital copies of original photos created between 1813 and 1912.



These pictures come from countries around the world, and show people from outside of Ireland. Linked with 100 years of historic Irish migration.



Key words:

Dementia – The overall term for reduced abilities such as memory loss or everyday activities.

Willem de Kooning – Dutch-American abstract expressionist artist born in 1904.

Censorship – The removal of something made so people can not see it anymore.

Bertolt Brecht's *Lehrstücke* – An experimental form of theatre.

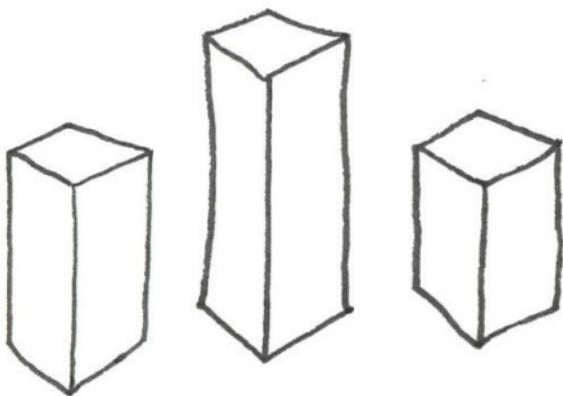
Civil Rights movement – A protest against racial segregation between 1954-1968 in the US.

Vietnam War – A war between North and South Vietnam between 1955-1975 with US supporting South Vietnam.

Migration – The movement of people from one country or place to another.

Vandalism – Deliberate destruction or damage of something.

Have you noticed that the sculptures in *Lost Illusions* are displayed at lots of different heights?



Sarah is asking us to look at the artwork in different ways.

Follow the prompts to think about how you see Sarah's work...

Think about how you move in this space.

Look at an artwork from an angle no one else has seen it



Or

Sit on the floor



How does this change how you see the artwork?

Find the brightest and darkest parts of the gallery.



How do you feel in each space?



Does this change how you see the artwork in the room?