

# MOYNA FLANNIGAN

Moyna Flannigan's new paintings and collages draw upon imagery from art history, mythology, and popular culture to explore modern society and, in particular, the representation of women in art. The figures she portrays are an amalgam of memories, experiences, and ideas; the identity or essence of her characters remaining just out of reach, ever suspended, existing in a world of ambiguity. The peculiar atmosphere unique to her work arises from an astute sense of irony — a humane humour delicately tinged by a darker sensibility.

Her most recent series of paintings began as collages made with an element of chance - the artist cutting up drawings and reusing abstract parts to create a new order from the original components. The transition from collage to paintings involved Flannigan making her own distemper paint which consists of ground pigment and warmed rabbit-skin glue, prompting an exploration into her materials and paint, itself, as matter.

Born in Scotland in 1963, Flannigan studied at Edinburgh College of Art before receiving her Masters at Yale University School of Art in 1987. She went on to lecture in painting at Glasgow School of Art for ten years, then becoming a Teaching Fellow at Edinburgh College of Art. Throughout her career, Flannigan has worked with galleries across Europe and the United States. Her earlier work includes a highly acclaimed collection of portrait miniatures, that were first exhibited at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in 2004. Recent exhibitions include presentations at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art (2018) and *GENERATION: 25 years of Contemporary Art in Scotland* (2014).

## Biography

1963 Born in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, UK  
1985 BA, Edinburgh College of Art, UK  
1987 Master of Fine Art, Yale University School of Art, USA

Lives and works in Edinburgh

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

2019 *Moyna Flannigan, A-M-G5*, Glasgow, UK

2015 *earth sky body*, Gimpel Fils, London, UK  
*white heart beating*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2014 *Stare*, part of *GENERATION: 25 years of Contemporary Art in Scotland*, Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, UK

2013 *The Body Stretches to the Edge*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2010 *New Work by Moyna Flannigan, What You See Is Where You're At: Part 3*, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK

2009 *Trouble Loves Me*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, USA

2008 *Sphinx*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, USA

- 2007 *Moyna Flannigan: A footprint in the hall*, Mount Stuart Visual Arts Programme, Mount Stuart, Isle of Bute, UK
- 2006 *well, Well*, doggerfisher, Edinburgh, UK  
*Poke*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2005 *A Pie in the Kisser*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, USA
- 2004 *Once upon our time: Portrait Miniatures by Moyna Flannigan*, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2003 *Knucklehead*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, USA
- 2002 *I'm a stranger here myself*, doggerfisher, Edinburgh, UK  
*I think about it almost all the time*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, USA
- 2001 *I could be happy with you*, Gallery Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2000 Gallery Albrecht, Munich, Germany
- 1998 Lotta Hammer Gallery, London
- 1997 The British School at Rome
- 1996 CCA, Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2018 *NOW: Monster Chetwynd, Henry Coombes, Moyna Flannigan, Betye Saar, Wael Shawky*, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK
- 2017 *Paper Trail: Drawings | Watercolours | Prints*, City Art Centre, Edinburgh, UK  
*INK: Public Archive - Five Decades of Printmaking at The Glasgow Print Studio*, Glasgow, UK
- 2016 *That Which Remains*, Mount Stuart, Isle of Bute, UK  
*now now*, West Barns Arts, Dunbar, UK  
*Drawing on Drawing*, Andrew Grant Gallery, Edinburgh College of Art, University of Edinburgh, UK
- 2013 The Miniature Museum, Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, Netherlands  
*Collectors' Choice*, RSA, Edinburgh, UK  
*Dressed To Kill*, City Art Centre, Edinburgh, UK
- 2012 *Teasers, Selected Works from the Pizzuti Collection by Women Artists*, Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, Ohio, USA  
*Pincushion, a Polarcap Exhibition*, John Gray Centre, Haddington, UK  
*Twisted Sister*, Dodge Gallery, New York, USA  
*A Parliament of Lines*, City Art Centre, Edinburgh, UK  
*To Have a Voice*, Mackintosh Gallery, The Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow, UK
- 2011 *VANHUIT HIER – OUT OF HERE: The Collectors Show*, Van Abbe Museum, Eindhoven, Netherlands  
*Melting Point*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2010 *Playboy Redux: Contemporary Artists Interpret the Iconic Playboy Bunny*, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, USA

- 2009 *Moyna Flannigan/Julie Roberts*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*What you see is where you're at: Part 1*, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK  
*Strike A Pose*, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK  
*Moyna Flannigan, Isabel Nolan, Hanneline Visnes*, doggerfisher, Edinburgh, UK  
*The Fool*, Northern Gallery of Contemporary Art, Sunderland, UK  
 Summer Exhibition 2009, (Invited Artist), Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 2008 *Maternity: Images of Motherhood*, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh  
*Out of Shape: Stylistic Distortions of the Human Form in Art from the Logan Collection*, The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, USA
- 2006 *Welcome Home*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, USA
- 2004 *Moyna Flannigan, Gerben Mulder, Albrecht Schnider, Andrei Roiter*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*The Birthday Party*, Collective Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*The Drawing Project*, Vamiali's Gallery, Athens, Greece  
*Solar Lunar*, doggerfisher, Edinburgh, UK
- 2003 *Rendered*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, USA  
*The Company We Keep*, Inman Gallery, Houston, Texas, USA  
*Moyna Flannigan, Gerben Mulder, Elke Krystufek, Ronald Versloot*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*Love Over Gold: Works from the Collection of the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art*, Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, UK
- 2002 *New*, Green On Red Gallery, Dublin, Ireland  
*New: Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary British Art*, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK
- 2001 *Beuys to Hirst: Art Works at the Deutsche Bank*, Dean Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Here and Now: Scottish Art 1990-2001*, DCA, Dundee, UK  
*Open Country: Contemporary Scottish Artists*, Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts de Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2000 *Annäherung an das Portrait: Moyna Flannigan, Konrad Klapheck & Monica Castillo*, Galerie Albrecht, Munich, Germany  
*Moyna Flannigan & Chantal Joffe*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands

### Selected Collections

Museum Arnhem, Netherlands  
 Aberdeen Art Gallery  
 Aberdeen Asset Management, UK  
 Arts Council of England  
 City Art Centre, Edinburgh  
 City Art Collection, Munich  
 Clifford Chance LLP, London  
 Deutsche Bank, London  
 Flemings Bank, London  
 HBOS, Edinburgh  
 The McManus, Dundee Art Gallery and Museum  
 Progressive Corporation, USA  
 Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art  
 Scottish National Portrait Gallery

Saatchi Collection, London  
UBS Art Collection, London

### Selected Awards

- 2013 Quality Production Award, Creative Scotland
- 2006 Hope Scott Trust Award
- 2005 Creative Scotland Award, National Lottery, Scottish Arts Council
- 2004 Artists Award, Scottish Arts Council
- 1999 Finalist, The NatWest Art Prize
- 1997 The Scottish Arts Council Scholar, The British School at Rome
- 1994 Artists Award, Scottish Arts Council
- 1990 Artist in Residence, Aberdeen Art Gallery
- 1985/6 Yale University Scholarship
- 1994 Ellen Battell Stoeckel Fellowship, Yale University School of Music & Art

### Publications

- 2015 Cahill, James. Contemporary round up: Gimpel Fils, London. *The Burlington Magazine*, December 2015, p869
- 2015 Khan, Tabish. Top 5 Art Exhibitions to see in London this week: Moyna Flannigan at Gimpel Fils. *FAD Magazine*, November 9, 2015.
- 2014 Barratt, Martha. *GENERATION Scotland*. *The Burlington Magazine*, September 2014 p. 619-620.
- 2007 Crichton Stuart, Anthony. Moyna Flannigan: An Intervention at Mount Stuart, Mount Stuart Visual Arts Programme, Isle of Bute\*
- Black, Catriona. "Sex, death and wood in a stately home", *Sunday Herald*, Seven Days, June 17
- Mansfield, Susan. "Portraits and the artist", *The Scotsman*, Review in-depth, May 11
- Gale, Iain. "Turning up the heat on cold Masters", *Scotland on Sunday*, May 20
- 2006 Dannatt, Adrian. *Moyna Flannigan Paintings 1998-2006*. Edinburgh. Doggerfisher\*
- O'Reilly, Sally. "Edinburgh Round-Up". *Art Monthly*, October: 40-41
- Mulholland, Neil. "Edinburgh News". *Contemporary*, September: 21
- Clark, Robert. "Moyna Flannigan, Edinburgh." *The Guardian*, August 19: 36
- Mansfield, Susan. "Rave Reviews of Bygone Youth." *The Scotsman*, August 29
- 2005 Monaghan, Helen. "New York, Moyna Flannigan, Sara Meltzer Gallery 7 Apr – 14 May", *MAP*, Issue 2/Summer 2005
- Johnson, "Moyna Flannigan: A Pie in the Kisser", *New York Times*, May 6
- Scott Bill, "Picture in Focus", *Scottish Art News*, Issue 4 Autumn 20
- 2004 Lapham, Lewis. "Moyna Flannigan", *Harper's Magazine*, November, p23
- Renton, Jennie. "Figurative Figments Imaginary Lives in Miniature", *Scottish Book Collector*, Summer 2004
- Black, Catriona. "Perfectly Formed", *Sunday Herald*, 13 June, p10
- Lack, Jessica. "Portrait Miniatures", *The Guardian*, Guide, May 15-21
- Jeffrey, Moira. "Return of the small faces", *The Herald*, May 1
- Mansfield, Susan. "Small can still be beautiful", *The Scotsman*, May 11, p16
- McGlone, Jackie. "Through the keyhole are some disturbing secrets", *The Sunday Times* May 9
- Boyce, Martin. "Moyna Flannigan" *Scotland on Sunday*, Critics' Choice, May 9
- Cripps, Charlotte. "Small faces make a comeback", *The Independent*, May 6

- Flockhart, Susan. "Moving Pictures", Sunday Herald, May 2, p6  
 Hedges, Ruth. "Peering at the little people", The List, 29 Apr-13 May, p91  
 Hartley, Keith. *Once upon our time: Portrait Miniatures by Moyna Flannigan*, The National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh\*
- 2003  
 Herbert, Martin. "Moyna Flannigan", *Freize Art Fair Yearbook 2003*, London\*  
 Chambers, Christopher. "Moyna Flannigan," FlashArt, July-September, p. 67  
 Klaasmeyer, Kelly. *Body Art*, Houston Press, July 24, 2003
- 2002  
 Mulholland, Neil. *Moyna Flannigan*, FlashArt, November-December  
 Gale, Iain. "Strangers to convention who are all dressed up with nowhere to go," Scotland on Sunday, September 1  
 Sweet, Lucy. "Secret Lives of Odd Faces," The Sunday Times, Edinburgh Festival, August  
 Monaghan, Helen. "Stranger and Fiction," The List Festival Guide, August 8  
 Monaghan, Helen. "Moyna Flannigan: I'm a Stranger Here Myself," The List Festival Guide, August 22
- 2001  
 Devine, Rachel. "New: Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary Art," The Sunday Times, June 30  
 Tufnell, Rob and Katrina M. Brown, *Here and Now: Scottish Art 1990-2001*, DCA, Dundee\*  
 Nicod, Caroline, et. al. *Open Country - Scotland: Contemporary Scottish Artists*, Musee cantonal des Beaux-Arts de Lausanne, Switzerland\*
- 1999  
 Hartley, Keith. *Locale*, City Art Centre, Edinburgh\*
- 1997  
 Marlow, Tim. *The NatWest Art Prize 1999*, Lothbury Gallery, London\*
- 1996  
 Mania, Patrizia. *Fine Art Scholars 1997*, British Art School at Rome\*  
 Kingston, Angela. *Moyna Flannigan*, Centre for Contemporary Art, Glasgow

Catalogue\*