

Highlanes Gallery

A Guide for Children

Landmarks & Lifeforms – Frieda Meaney & Danny Osborne

This exhibition is about the earth and life and how they change over time.

Two artists made art for this exhibition. Frieda Meaney and Danny Osborne both live on the Beara Peninsula in West Cork. They both love to travel to other countries and enjoy getting outdoors to go walking, swimming and exploring. They make art about the land and sea and the creatures that live there, or used to live there.



Can you see the large bones on the wall in gallery?

These are real bones from a fin whale that Danny found on a beach. He thought about how the whale may have ended up stranded there and what it may have seen on its journey.

Can you imagine what it would be like to be a whale swimming at sea looking at the land?

Danny went out on a crab fishing boat for 6 days to try and see what the whale might have seen and made lots of drawings like you can see here. He engraved these drawings onto the bones. As well as making art at sea, Danny has also made art on volcanoes. He collects hot lava from an erupting volcano and puts it into a mould. When it cools and hardens it stays in the shape of the mould. This is called casting. Danny is the first person in the world to have done this.

What things has he made from the lava?

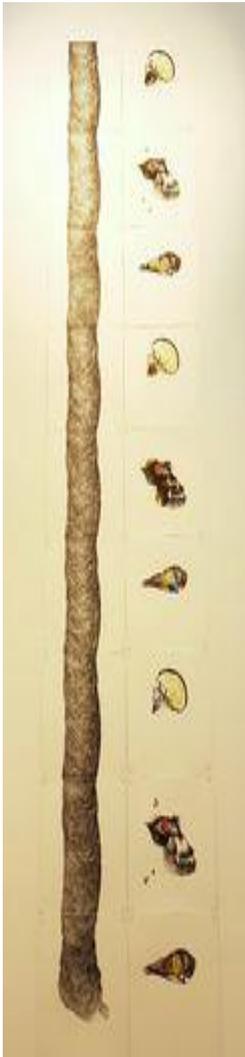
The video shows you more about how these sculptures were made. He has made hats in Guatemala that are traditional hats from that country, and the other pieces were made in Hawaii, like the stomach and the bottles.

Does the Hawaiian lava look different to the Guatemalan lava?

Millions of years ago the whole world was covered in lava. When it cooled and hardened it made rock and land. Eventually after millions more years, plants and animals grew on the land. The tall prints in the gallery were made by both



artists and show lava flowing and the skull bones of some of the animals that evolved on the land.



There are human skulls, gorilla skulls and turkey skulls. Can you tell which is which?

In the gallery, Frieda Meaney has imagined a world filled with plants, animals and sounds. Some of the animals we can see here are extinct, and some are still living today. Some swim in the sea and some fly in the air. Some of the plants are like sculptures standing on the floor; others are dried and placed in the pictures.

Can you name some of the different creatures you can see?

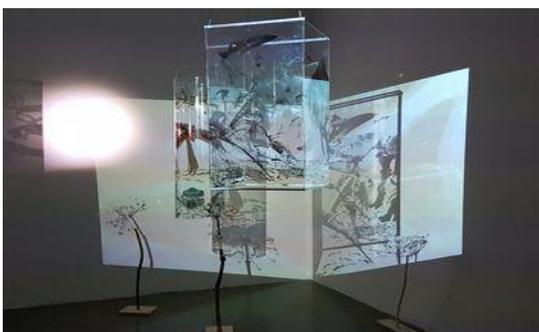
Some of the paintings have strange names. *Pangaeian Dream* is named after a time when all the land in the world was one big island, before it broke up into different pieces about 175 million years ago. This time was called the Pangaea. The earth is always changing but it takes a very long time.

Evolution is what we call when animals change and adapt over thousands of years. This idea was explained by Charles Darwin who said: "It is not the strongest of the species that survive, or the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change." Evolution happens slowly but some animals change during their lifetime.

Can you find the snake that has shed its skin? What does a caterpillar change into?

Can you find any of them in the exhibition?

In the exhibition you'll find more creatures in a room filled with the sounds of birds in the jungle and fish in an aquarium. The world inside here is moving and changing all the time. The birds in the jungle are living in the wild, but the fish in their aquarium are not. They are endangered species of fish and one day may be extinct like the dinosaurs.



Now for more things to do, take a look in the Discovery Box