



Penning the Marts

MEGS MORELY PENNING THE MARTS

Launch : Sunday 16th November 2008 at 12 – 2pm

X-PO Kilnaboy, Co Clare. (2 miles North of Corofin)

Opening times: Mon-Thurs 2-5pm. Friday 10.30 – 12.30 (X-PO coffee mornings)

Penning the Marts is a DVD work made by **Megs Morley** for the Claremorris Open Exhibition in 2005 and was awarded First prize by Andrea Schlieker, curator of the Serpentine Gallery, London. This contemporary art exhibition takes place annually in Claremorris in County Mayo. For the video Morley sought contact with people who wanted to share their memories of the 'marts', the weekly cattle market in Claremorris that closed down in 2003. As a result of the changing agricultural policies, for a lot of farmers it is not feasible anymore to keep cattle. Farmers and inhabitants of Claremorris tell Morley about the social function of the former marts and about the changes in agriculture.

In order to get people involved Morley introduced herself to the local radio station Midwest Radio. In the ensuing live interview she asked interested farmers to contact her to be interviewed. From then on a series of interviews followed which Morley edited. *"Although the farmers were not directly involved with the editing of the video, I did try to represent feelings and opinions expressed to me by farmers themselves."*

Local photographer, **Peter Rees's Last Mart in Kilnaboy**, seen at X-PO in June, will also be shown in conjunction with this exhibition.

Megs Morley (Ireland, 1979) studied sculpture and combined media in Limerick, Ireland. Her work combines elements of performance, video and installation and draws upon the issues raised in the history of film and photography. She has exhibited in various national

group shows and often collaborates with **Peter Morgan** and **Tom Flanagan**. Morley was awarded two travel and mobility bursaries in 2005 and is currently an assistant administrator of **Artspace Studios** in Galway and a member of the live art project **Enso**.

The opening will also see the first **X-PO Christmas Cards** go on sale featuring **Peter Rees'** Kilnaboy Church and the old Schoolhouse and **Deirdre O'Mahony's** site-specific drawing of **Mattie Rynne** in the former Post Office.

All funds going to maintaining the X-PO as a space for social and cultural exchange and an archive of local knowledge

Info at xpo.community@gmail.com

X-PO COMMUNITY PROJECT Kilnaboy
<http://x-pokilnaboy.blogspot.com/>

