

# OPEN e v+ a 2007

## A Sense of Place

CURATOR: KLAUS OTTMANN

March 29 - June 24, 2007

City-wide venues

Limerick, Ireland

OPEN e v+ a 2007 will be opened by Jaki Irvine, artist and member of the Arts Council, at 8.00 pm, Thursday 29th March at Limerick City Gallery of Art

"Where are we at all? and whenabouts in the name of space?"

—James Joyce, *Finnegans Wake*

OPEN e v+ a 2007, Ireland's pre-eminent annual exhibition of contemporary art, opens to the public on March 29th. Selected by New York-based independent curator Klaus Ottmann, the exhibition will present 32 artists from Ireland, Continental Europe, and the United States in traditional and nontraditional sites throughout Limerick that were chosen by the curator, which includes the Limerick City Gallery of Art, Belltable Art Centre, City Hall, the Hunt Museum, King John's Castle, and St. Mary's Cathedral, among others.

For art to be experienced or observed, it has to be emplaced — put in place, however temporarily. An national exhibition with an international character such as e v+ a, which is rooted deeply in one place, one history, and one culture, yet embraces the right to diversity within its borders, must inevitably focus on the dialectic of emplacement and displacement. The Irish poet Seamus Heaney speaks of the "two often contradictory demands" under which Irish poets labor: "To be faithful to the collective historical experience and to be true to the recognitions of the emerging self." According to Heaney, the two ways in which a place is known — one is the lived and illiterate; the other, learned and literate — co-exist "in a conscious and unconscious tension" in the artistic sensibility. For two months, the city of Limerick will be the limit and the condition of all the art and related events, where the artistic sensibilities of those at home and those displaced will co-exist in a conscious and unconscious tension.

Contact person for press or further information;

Paul O'Reilly; e v+ a administrator,

Tel : 353 (0)61 318240 or 353 (0) 87 9477042

Email : [info@eva.ie](mailto:info@eva.ie)

Web site [www.eva.ie](http://www.eva.ie)