



Making a space

ART REVIEW

Better Is Something You Build

★★★★☆

Its title making a playful dig at two-dimensional art, Better Is Something You Build is an exhibition of sculptures by five multimedia artists who are inspired by both their chosen materials and the space they're exhibiting in.

You can walk around the artworks, crouch before them, loom over them, even pick one up – Ulrich Vogl's Stars is a plastic slide viewer bearing a miniature image of a microphone delicately pin-pricked on to aluminium foil. Its light-sensitive facets are revealed according to how and

where you hold the slide viewer. The German artist uses the same motif again in LimeLight: on the floor, three tilted mirrored discs cast low-level reflections on to a small wall illustration of a microphone. It's simply stunning.

Gereon Krebber, too, explores spatial expectations with two witty rashes of adhesive red dots – used by galleries when an artwork is sold – one of which seems to splatter across the window.

Also challenging the boundaries of space is Irish artist Eamon O'Kane, whose looped animation is projected on to a small wooden structure. It depicts a woodland building being 'coloured in' and, in turn, 'coloured out' – an articulate exploration into the

physical and psychological effects of architecture on nature.

Providing a warped soundtrack is Bristol-based artist Graham Hudson's proscenium arch of cardboard boxes threaded by electric wires. At each end is a light bulb resting on a record player, whose LP spins and subsequently caterwauls.

And if you don't laugh, you'll cry at the achingly bittersweet Hansi-Nummer (Ring-Clown, pictured) by Berliner Karin Brunnermeier – a clown doll crushed by a Hula-Hoop. *Lucy White*

Until Mar 1, Kevin Kavanagh Gallery, 66 Great Strand Street D1, Tue to Fri 10.30am to 5.30pm, Sat 11am to 5pm, free. Tel: (01) 874 0064. www.kevinkavanaghgallery.ie

GIG

Matt Schofield

Following in the tradition of British blues men such as Eric Clapton and Jeff Beck is guitarist Matt Schofield. Proudly wearing his debt to such esteemed masters of the genre as Muddy Waters, Jimmy Vaughan and BB King, the 30-year-old Manchester native walks a skilful line between hero worship and virtuosic innovation.

Marrying authentic blues licks with funky, jazzy rhythms and rock guitar syncopations, Schofield delivers dazzling interpretations of standards such as Albert Collins's Lights Are



On But Nobody's Home and other readings so powerful the prestigious American Blues Revue describes him as 'the entire package'. Released in 2007, his latest LP, Ear To The Ground, is one of only two albums by living British blues artists to garner a four-star rating in the influential Penguin Book Of Blues Recordings. Not that Schofield is in this game simply for the nostalgia. Breaking with blues convention, he performs with an organ trio, a format usually associated not with the blues but with post-war jazz bands. Considering the absence of a really vibrant blues scene in Dublin, Schofield's return to these shores is truly a cause for celebration. *Eamon de Paor*

Tonight, The Button Factory, Curved Street D2, 8pm, €17 to €30. Tel: (01) 670 9202. www.mattschofield.com

THEATRE REVIEW

Bad Sunday

★★★★☆

It's the Sabbath and Dad (John Delaney) has hired a Ford Zephyr to take his dysfunctional family for a day trip to Howth. There's loudmouth Mum (Caroline Power), cowardly Son (Ian Lloyd Anderson), car-crazy Daughter (Liz Fitzgibbon) and devout Catholic Gran (Lisa Bissett), who's as tiny as a dashboard Jesus and utilised to slapstick effect.

Swapping Sunday Mass for a journey into the heart of darkness,

the battered motor serves as confessional for all who sit in it: Mum's kleptomania, Dad's exhibitionist job, Daughter's free love, Son's pyromania and Gran's dark deed are all revealed en route.

Laughs at the expense of Dublin's Northsiders come thick and fast in Mark Wale's rowdy script, which quickly descends into black comedy.

There's some awkward manoeuvring around the 'car bonnet' because of the tiny stage but despite this and an ill-advised Serge Gainsbourg moment, Bad Sunday is very good thanks to

lively physical performances and impeccable comic timing. *Lucy White*

Until Sat, Bewley's Cafe Theatre, 78/79 Grafton Street D2, 12.50pm, €15 incl light lunch. Tel: 086 878 4001. www.bewleyscafeatre.com



BOOKING NOW

The Marriage Of Figaro & Ariadne Auf Naxos

Opera Ireland unveils its spring season with two shows co-produced with European opera houses. In cahoots with Germany's Theater Lübeck is Mozart's The Marriage Of Figaro (March 29, 31, April 2, 3, 5 and 6, pictured), which recounts Count Almaviva's comeuppance for meddling around in other people's affairs. It's accompanied by Strauss's Ariadne Auf Naxos (March 30, April 1 and 4), which makes its Irish premier with Bratislava's Opera SND and Prague's Opera ND. It, too, stays faithful to its origins – a reworking of the Greek myth of Ariadne and Bacchus set in Vienna in 1912. Last year's Turandot soprano Mari Moriya returns to Opera Ireland and is joined by Irish soprano Victoria Massey. Tickets go on sale on Monday.



Mar 29 to Apr 6, The Gaiety Theatre, South King Street D2, 8pm, €10 to €120. Tel: 1890 673 727. www.operaireland.com

THE HOTTEST TICKETS IN TOWN

We have pairs of tickets to see

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO/ARIADNE AUF NAXOS

Mar 31/Apr 1 at The Gaiety, 8pm

For a chance to win, e-mail your answer to the simple question below to life@metroireland.ie by noon today with your opera preference in the subject line. With the answer, please include your name and a number where you can be contacted between 1pm and 3pm. Entrants must be over 18.

Which artist created the famous painting Bacchus And Ariadne?

A. Banksy B. Titian

The winners of yesterday's tickets to see Jamie Lidell are: **Sinéad Starrs, Gregory Moreau and Sonja Blessing**



Tour Guide Training 2008

Are you fluent in French, German, Italian or Spanish, with an interest in Irish culture?

If so, this exciting new foundation programme will be of interest to you!

Fáilte Ireland, National Tourism Development Authority with the Irish Tour Operators Association (ITOA) is delighted to sponsor a new part-time Tour Guide programme which will begin in March 2008. The programme will be supported by e-learning and delivered through four contact learning events to be held at weekends or evenings. On successful completion of the programme you could be working in Ireland as a guide this Summer!

For details contact:

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