

## **Kennys Bookshop & Art Gallery**

Exhibitions Schedule | Summer 2026



**Kennys' has its foundation in books, established as a bookshop in Galway in 1940 - however, we have also exhibited visual art from the very beginning.**

The Kenny Gallery was formally established as the first commercial art gallery in the West of Ireland over 50 years ago, and we host solo and group exhibitions each year, and we actively promote emerging talent. Over the years we have showcased the work of emerging Irish artists, many of whom have become household names - the works of Jack Yeats, Paul Henry, Sean Keating, George Campbell, Louis le Brocquy, Andy Warhol, Salvador Dalí, Sidney Nolan and many others have hung on the walls of Kennys.

*Cover image: Ailbhe Courtney, Neon, Acrylic on Canvas, 50x50cm, which will appear in the Summer Show, from 29 May*

## **Various Artists – Summer Show | 29 May – 7 July 2026**

One of the gallery's major annual group exhibitions, the Summer Show brings together a diverse selection of work by artists from Ireland and abroad, including painting, sculpture and graphics. Participating artists include Mario Sughì (aka nerosunero), Lola Donoghue, Leah Beggs and Éadaín Madigan, together with Josephine Geaney and Ailbhe Courtney, who will be showing with the gallery for the first time.

The exhibition opens on Friday, 29 May and continues until 7 July 2026 at the Kenny Gallery, Liosbán, Galway.

---

## **Gertrude Degenhardt – Ómós | 13 July – 18 August 2026**

Presented in association with the Galway International Arts Festival, this exhibition celebrates the life and work of German artist Gertrude Degenhardt, who maintained a long and close relationship with Galway and the West of Ireland over several decades. Her distinctive graphic work combines precision of line with theatrical imagination and often draws on themes of music, performance and storytelling.

Presented in the year following her death in November 2025, the exhibition offers an opportunity to encounter the work of an artist whose imagery occupies a distinctive place in the cultural life of the region.

---

## **Jerry Marjoram (1936–2024) – From the Artist's Studio | 21 August – 22 September 2026**

The Kenny Gallery will present a posthumous exhibition of the final paintings of Irish landscape painter Jerry Marjoram. Born in Dublin's Liberties in 1936, Marjoram developed a lifelong commitment to landscape painting, with the West of Ireland, particularly Connemara, becoming central to his work.

His paintings reflect decades of close observation of bog, river and coastal landscapes.

This exhibition brings together a selection of works that stand as a testament to an artist whose paintings continue to resonate with those who know and love the Irish landscape.



*Mario Sughì (aka nerosunero), Julia and Her Friends (2023) #1913A, work on paper mounted on dibond, 34.35x50cm*

## **Various Artists**

*Summer Show*

**29 May – 7 July 2026 | The Kenny Gallery, Galway**

One of our major annual group exhibitions, the **Summer Show** will feature a vibrant and diverse selection of work by artists from Ireland, the UK, Germany and the US. With an exciting mix of styles and media — including painting, sculpture, graphics and more — there is something to appeal to every taste.

Among the artists invited to exhibit are **Mario Sughì (aka nerosunero)**, **Lola Donoghue**, **Leah Beggs** and **Éadaín Madigan**, together with **Josephine Geaney** and **Ailbhe Courtney**, who will be showing with the gallery for the first time.

All works will be available for sale, with a wide range of prices to suit every budget, offering excellent opportunities for both established collectors and those acquiring their first piece.

The exhibition opens on **Friday, 29 May** at the **Kenny Gallery**, Liosbán, Galway City continues until 7 July. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Éadaín Madigan, *Enchanted Forest*, oil, 40x80cm



*Gertrude Degenhardt, Farewell to Connacht, gouache and ink on paper, 20x14in*



## **Gertrude Degenhardt**

*Ómós*

**13 July - 18 August 2026 | The Kenny Gallery, Galway**

**The Galway International Arts Festival will present an exhibition of work by the German artist Gertrude Degenhardt (1940–2025) at the Kenny Gallery in July 2026.**

Born in New York to German parents and raised in Berlin, Degenhardt came of age in the difficult years following the Second World War. She trained in applied graphics in Mainz and began her career in the 1960s as a freelance artist and illustrator, working closely with writers and musicians associated with the German Liedermacher tradition. Over the following decades she developed an international reputation as a printmaker, draughtswoman and visual storyteller, illustrating literary and musical texts by figures including François Villon, Bertolt Brecht and Liam O'Flaherty. Her work was recognised with numerous awards, including the Order of Merit of Rhineland-Palatinate.

Degenhardt first came to Ireland in the late 1970s while researching illustrations for a German-language edition of O'Flaherty's short stories set on the Aran Islands. That visit marked the beginning of a long relationship with Galway and the West of Ireland. In time she and her husband Martin established a second home near Spittal, and for almost fifty years she lived and worked between Germany and Ireland, drawing deeply on the landscapes, people and cultural life of both places.

Her work is distinguished by a highly individual graphic language, combining precision of line with theatrical imagination and a keen sense of observation. Music is a recurring presence throughout her practice, particularly Irish traditional music, where movement, rhythm and gesture become central visual motifs. Her figures, often musicians, wanderers, performers or solitary travellers, inhabit a world that is at once humorous, unsettling and deeply humane. A sense of exaggeration, satire and the grotesque frequently underpins her imagery, placing her work within a broader European tradition of graphic storytelling.

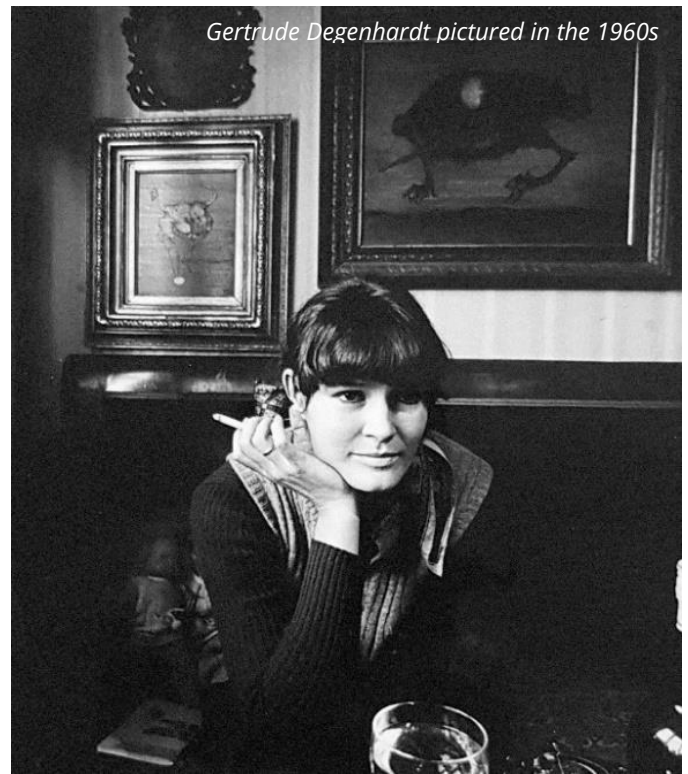
Across the decades she developed several major cycles that explored these themes in different ways. The *Rondo* series revealed an early mastery of movement and character through line. The *Vagabondage* works, developed from the 1990s onwards, introduced a more expressive and often darker register, frequently centred on female figures whose presence is defiant, theatrical and self-possessed. In the *Farewell to Connacht* cycle, her engagement with the West of Ireland became more reflective and elegiac. Among her most widely recognised bodies of work is the *Women in Music* series, a sustained exploration of performance, identity and strength through the figure of the musician.

Degenhardt exhibited widely throughout Germany and Europe, while maintaining a particularly close association with Galway, where she showed work regularly over several decades. Her exhibitions became a familiar part of the city's cultural life, and her imagery, shaped equally by European graphic traditions and by the social rhythms of the West of Ireland, occupies a distinctive place within the visual record of the region.

Presented in the year following her death in November 2025, this exhibition offers an opportunity to encounter the work of an artist whose imagination moved between satire and lyricism, observation and invention, and whose long engagement with Ireland formed one of the defining threads of her career.

Presented in the year following her death in November 2025, this exhibition offers an opportunity to encounter the work of an artist whose imagination moved between satire and lyricism, observation and invention, and whose long engagement with Ireland formed one of the defining threads of her career.

**Details of the official opening are to be announced. Admission is free, and all are welcome.**



Gertrude Degenhardt pictured in the 1960s



Gertrude Degenhardt, *Von Tanten die Trinken und Tanzen (XXVIII)*, aquatint etching, 6x6in, 33.40



*Jerry Marjoram, Galway Hookers, Acrylic on Canvas Board, 12x18in*

**Jerry Marjoram, 1936–2024**

*From the Artist's Studio*

**21 August – 22 September 2026 | The Kenny Gallery, Galway**

**The Kenny Gallery has the honour to present a posthumous exhibition of the final paintings of Jerry Marjoram, opening on 21 August at our Galway city gallery.**

Born in Dublin's Liberties in 1936, Marjoram developed his love of painting under the guidance of Maurice McGonigal and Seán Keating at the College of Art. From those early years grew a lifelong commitment to landscape painting, and a body of work that found its way into homes and collections throughout Ireland and beyond.

Over time, the West of Ireland, and particularly Connemara, became central to his practice. Its boglands, rivers, mountains and coastal waters offered an enduring source of inspiration. He returned to these places again and again, observing patiently and painting steadily, building a visual record of the landscape that is both familiar and deeply personal.

This exhibition marks a return of Jerry's work to the gallery following his death in 2024. It brings together a wide selection of paintings that reflect the breadth of his vision, from the quiet stillness of bog and river to the movement of sea and sky. Together, they stand as a testament to a painter who remained faithful to his subject and to the simple discipline of looking closely at the world around him, then reimagining it in paint.

We are proud to share this collection once more and to celebrate the life and work of an artist whose paintings continue to resonate with those who know and love the Irish landscape.

The exhibition opens on **Friday, 21 August** and continues until 22 September 2026. Admission is free, and all are welcome.



*Jerry Marjoram at the Kenny Gallery, 2013*



*Jerry Marjoram, Forest River, Acrylic on Canvas, 20x30in*

*Coming up at Kennys, Autumn 2026:*

25 September – 27 October | **Croí**

Group show, works in paint, glass, textiles and ceramics

by Vivienne Bogan, Kathrynna Cushieri, Nicola Henley and Jane Seymour

30 October, through January 2027 | **Winter Show**

Various Artists

*search art, view exhibitions, sign up:*



[thekennygallery.ie](http://thekennygallery.ie)

**Kennys Bookshop & Art Gallery**

Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road,

Galway, H91 N5P8, Ireland

art@kennys.ie | +353 (0)91 709 350

thekennygallery.ie



**Gallery hours:**  
**Mon to Sat, 9:00-17:00**  
**Free Admission**