

# Matt's Gallery

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## Press release

### **Willie Doherty *Loose Ends***

5–30 July 2017, Wednesday–Sunday 12–6pm

**Private view: Sunday 2 July 3–6pm**

**Willie Doherty** was born in Derry, Northern Ireland in 1959. He lives in County Donegal and continues to work in Derry.

Since the early 1990s, he has had numerous international solo exhibitions, including at CAM-Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian in Lisbon, Stadtische Galerie in Lenbachhaus und Kunstbau, Munich and Hamburger Kunstverein, Hamburg; Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas; The Speed Art Museum, Louisville, Kentucky; Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh; Laboratorio Arte Alameda, Mexico City; The Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; The Renaissance Society, Chicago, Illinois.

In 2007 he represented Northern Ireland at the 52nd Venice Biennale.

His work has been presented in prestigious international group exhibitions, including DOCUMENTA 13, Kassel, Germany, 2012; Manifesta 8, Murcia, Spain, 2010; 51st Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy, 2005; 8th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey, 2003; 25th Sao Paulo Biennial, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2002; and Carnegie International, Pittsburgh, PA, 1999.

He was shortlisted for the Turner Prize twice, in 1994 and 2003, and was awarded a DAAD residency, Berlin, 1999.

**Willie Doherty** is represented by Alexander and Bonin, New York; Galeria Moisés Pérez de Albéniz, Pamplona; Kerlin Gallery, Dublin; Matt's Gallery London and Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zurich.

#### **Selected bibliography**

**2013** *UNSEEN*, ex.cat. (essays by Robin Klassnik, Jean Fisher, Colm Tóibín and Susan McKay), London: Matt's Gallery; Derry: Nerve Centre

**2011** *Traces*, ex.cat. (essay by Suzanne Weaver), Louisville: Speed Museum. *Willie Doherty: Disturbance*, ex.cat. Dublin: Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane Galeria Moises Perez de Albeniz. Willie

Matt's Gallery presents *Loose Ends*, a recent two-screen video installation by Willie Doherty. Shot in locations in Donegal and Dublin the footage depicts two places connected through events leading up to the 1916 Easter Rising and its conclusion. Exploring how people, events and sites associated with the 1916 Easter Rising are remembered and imagined today, Doherty's asks if a residual response to these events continues to be played out and how the voices and actions of one generation resonate in the unconscious of another.

Gola Island is the largest of Donegal's small offshore islands, covering about one square mile. Two fishermen from Gola, Charles Duggan and Patrick McGinley were crewmembers of the yacht Asgard, which on the 26 July 1914 docked at Howth, County Dublin and offloaded a consignment of guns and ammunition that would subsequently be used in the Easter Rising of 1916.

The final days and hours of the Rising unfolded in and around the Moore Street area of Dublin. Escaping from the GPO after it caught fire following a bombardment by British artillery, volunteers made their way to Moore Street and tunnelled through the terrace, making number 16 their final headquarters. After realising they could not escape without causing further civilian deaths, Pádraig Pearse issued the order to surrender from 16 Moore Street.

Filmed in 2016, Doherty uses his camera to examine the material evidence of how these places look 100 years after those events. A slow, extended zoom brings the viewer closer to the surface of existing architectural structures and the surrounding urban and rural contexts while a voiceover explores the fraught relationship between fiction and reality.

*Loose Ends* is commissioned by Arts Council of Ireland as part of the Open Call National Project Award and co-commissioned by The Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny; Nerve Centre, Derry; Kerlin Gallery, Dublin; and Matt's Gallery, London.

#### **A Large Print version of this document is available on request**

For further information or visual material please contact Hanna Laura Kaljo: [info@mattsgallery.org](mailto:info@mattsgallery.org)

Tube: Borough (Northern), London Bridge (Jubilee, Northern, & overground); Buses: 1, 42, 47, 78, 188, 343, 381, C10

Director: Robin Klassnik

Doherty, ex.cat. Pamplona: Ona Industria Grafica **2009** Wylie, Charles. *Willie Doherty: Requisite Distance*, ex.cat. New Haven: Yale University Press. *Willie Doherty: Buried*, ex.cat. (essays by Fiona Bradley and Willie Doherty), Edinburgh: The Fruitmarket Gallery **2007** *Ghost Story: Willie Doherty*. (essays by Daniel Jewesbury and Declan Long), Belfast: TheArts Council of Northern Ireland, the British Council, and the Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure. *Willie Doherty: Anthology of time-based works*, ex.cat. with essays by Yilmaz Dziewior, Francis McKee and Matthias Mühling. Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz



**A print edition is also available:**

**Willie Doherty, *Loose Ends VII*, 2016**  
**Pigment print on 250gsm Epson Premium Semi Gloss Photo Paper**  
**Edition of 25 (plus 5 artist's proofs)**  
**£375 + VAT unframed**

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