

# Monument

## An exhibition by Eamon Colman

Press release

at **sternstudio**

Mayergasse 7/2 1020 Wien / Austria

Opening: **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011** 7:00-10:00 pm

[www.sternstudio.at](http://www.sternstudio.at) (open by appointment)

**Monument** is a new body of paintings by Eamon Colman. Rendered in acrylic and oil paint on un-stretched linen this series of 24 paintings conflate forgotten histories with a contemporary sense of belonging through these imaginings of experienced and conceptual local landscapes.

Entailed in the process of making this series, a probing of the rural identity alongside issues of belief both religious and political were excavated adopting an ethnographical approach. Colman, by focusing on the locale of where he lives in rural Ireland, and of Ireland as the most westerly island in Europe thus forms a foundation from which to navigate the larger world.

He, as a cultural geographer recognizes the global “uneven geographical developments” as outlined by David Harvey that remain poignant in Ireland’s recent Celtic Tiger history.

The particularity of the locale is embedded in cultural beliefs and thus reflected in Monument. A characterization of something physical, a shrine that is fluid, a space and subjective place for navigating potentiality of the local narratives of identity, history, politics and economy together emphasizing a unique and particular standpoint.

**Eamon Colman** was born in 1957 in Dublin. He is one of Ireland’s foremost abstract painters and a member of Aosdana since 2007 in recognition of his great contribution to culture in Ireland. Since 1980 Eamon has had 30 solo exhibitions in Ireland and abroad including a mid term retrospective at The R.H.A. Gallagher Gallery 1997, The Cecille R. Hunt Museum, Webster University St. Louis, USA 2008. He has won many awards including a one year travel award by The Calcutta Artists Union in 1989 and was the first Irish artist to win a Full Fellowship to The Vermont Studio Center 2002, a Fellow of The Ballinglen Arts Foundation and was awarded a CCAT Interreg Major Award to tour an extensive exhibition in Wales in 2005. He won first prize in painting in EV+A 1989 and in Eigse 2001. Colman was Chairman of the Artists’ Association of Ireland 1993 – 1995 and President of the European Council of Artists’ 1995 – 2000. He is represented in all the main Public Collections in Ireland and in Private Collections internationally including the Gordon Lambert Collection at IMMA, KPMG, Deutsche Bank, AIB, Bank of Ireland, Citibank, OPW, Smurfit Ireland Grp., Fyffes Ireland, American Express. A full feature on Colman’s work is in The Irish Arts review – Spring 2007. A Gandon Edition - Eamon Colman Artists Profile no 25 was published in 2006 and in 2010 he is profiled in Robert O’Byrnes’s Dictionary of Living Irish Artists, Plurabelle Publishing.

He is represented by Hillsboro Fine Art, Dublin - [www.hillsborofineart.com](http://www.hillsborofineart.com)

To view more: [www.eamoncolman.com](http://www.eamoncolman.com) - Contact for images of any

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