



Water and Flow

Feltmakers Ireland's Group Exhibition
From the 2nd to the 26th of April 2026
Phoenix Park Visitor Centre
Dublin, IRELAND

Jacqueline Atkinson

Batar Fearthainne - a battering or sudden downpour of rain

Wet felted using Merino wool and some viscose embellishment.

THEME: The wet winter of 2025/2026 was the inspiration for Jacqueline's interpretation of the theme 'water and flow' when the battering pounding and sudden downpours of rain often made craters in her land. Hence the Irish title 'Batar Fearthainne' which she thinks adequately captures the sentiment she was hoping to portray.

BIO: Jacqueline lives on a small holding in Redcross Co. Wicklow with her small flock of sheep. Keen to promote the beauty of the incredible undervalued wool, she began by washing, carding, and experimenting with different fleeces. Through learning the techniques of felting and eco printing from friends and online sources, this developed into making bags, shawls, scarves, and hats. She enjoys the physical and tactile experience of working with wool which keeps her connected to and inspired by her sheep and the beautiful Wicklow landscape around her. As well as wool from her own sheep, she uses other animal and plant-based fibre to provide colour and texture. Brought up in a family where she learnt traditional crafts from her mother Ena, including embroidery and lacemaking, she is excited to continue exploring how to incorporate these elements into her feltmaking.

@thegleanncronfelter

gleanncronfelter.weebly.com

€170



Jacqueline Atkinson

Annika Berglund

Reflections

Wet felted merino, hand dyed Blue faced Leicester locks, silk, viscose and linen thread.

THEME: This year's theme brought back happy memories of just sitting and watching the light dancing on water on a beautiful summer's day and the warmth and joy to be found in such moments.

Lately, I have been playing around with a more painterly method compared to my usual working style and this theme gave me an opportunity to try to infuse a felted piece with the same sense of serenity and light.

BIO: Annika Berglund, a graduate of the National College of Art and Design, has been showing work in solo and group exhibitions nationally and abroad since 1996, winning several awards including the Crafts Council's price for Best Craft in the Garden 2008 and the NUI Art and Design Prize 2010.

She moved from ceramics, glass and bronze to felt in 2020 due to a concern over excessive energy consumption in her art practice. One of her earliest felt pieces, depicting the Covid virus, was acquired by the National Museum of Ireland.

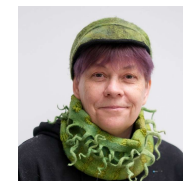
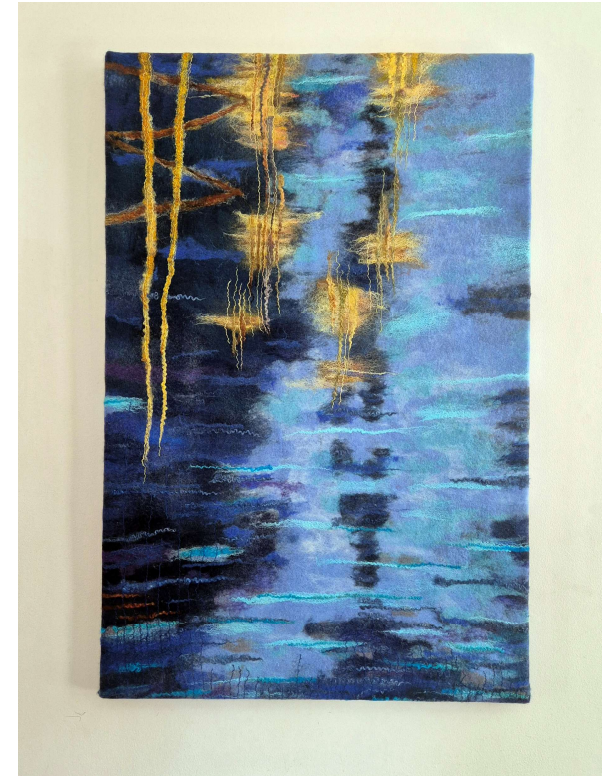
Three solo shows in Ireland and Sweden, and many group shows later, Annika is an active member of the guild of Feltmakers Ireland and a main contributor to the guild's research project around Irish wool and the resulting book: *'Exploring Irish wool for Feltmaking'*. She is currently exploring jewellery-making.

Annika Berglund is represented by the Olivier Cornet Gallery in Dublin.

annikaberglund.com

[@annikaberglund.art](https://www.instagram.com/annikaberglund.art)

€550



Annika Berglund

Christine Bond

Source of the Liffey

Wet felted native Irish Zwartbles fibre and needle felted Merino wool.

THEME: Bogs in Ireland are a major sink for rain water. I was lucky to take part in a symposium in the blanket bog by Sally Gap in Wicklow a number of years ago. The bog ponds there are considered the source of the River Liffey. They feed the small streams that form the river.

BIO: I am a photographer and an artist, and a novice felter.

€160



Christine Bond

Karen Bowden

Going Nowhere Fast

Two pieces of felt were created for the finished piece.

The first began with hand-dyed Merino roving. Layers of fibre were gently arranged before wet felting. Once partially felted, fish shapes were cut out, their edges refined through further agitation to ensure strength while retaining an organic, fluid quality.

The second piece built on this foundation, combining Merino roving with a small amount of Angelina fibres to introduce a delicate shimmer reminiscent of light on water. The previously created fish shapes were incorporated into the layout, suggesting movement and direction within the composition. Fibres were arranged with attention to flow, then wet felted and shaped to fit around a lampshade frame. The final form transforms the piece into a functional object.

THEME: “Going Nowhere Fast” offers a playful take on water and flow, depicting a lone fish stubbornly swimming against the current. While others glide effortlessly in one direction, this figure resists, suggesting determination or futility. The humour lies in this small act of defiance, echoing familiar moments of misplaced effort in everyday life.

BIO: As the founder of Fabulous Fibres, I have developed a vibrant platform for exploring textile art through teaching and making. My work as a fibre artist combines technical skill with a sensitivity to texture, colour, and form, often drawing on themes of nature and movement. Alongside creating my own pieces, I am a passionate educator, sharing knowledge and inspiring others to engage with feltmaking and fibre arts in expressive and innovative ways.

fabulousfibres.com

@fabulous_fibres

NFS



Karen Bowden

Heather Byrne

Assaranca

Wet and needle felted using a mixture of Irish and Merino wool and alpaca wool.

THEME: This piece explores the quiet persistence of water as it shapes and nourishes the landscape. The cascading waterfall becomes a focal point of movement, drawing the eye downward through the composition, echoing the natural rhythm.

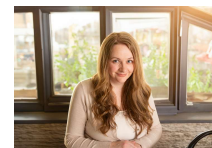
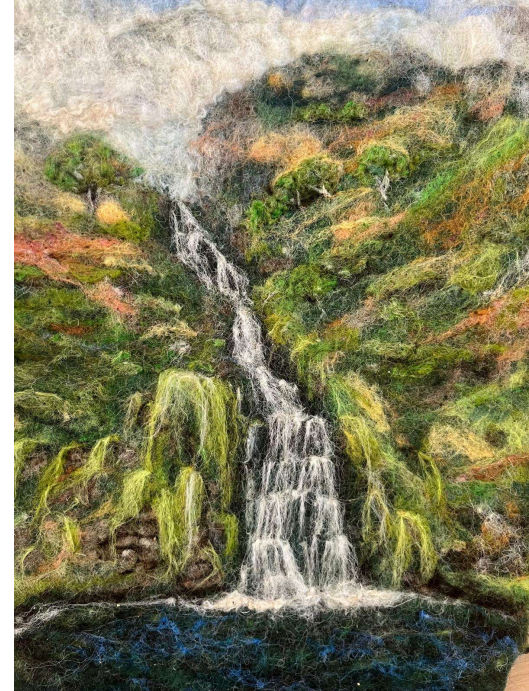
Using wool allows the scene to remain fluid and organic, fibres blend and shift much like water itself, resisting rigid form. The process mirrors the theme, as layers are gradually built, guided rather than forced. This work reflects not only the physical flow of water through the land, but also a more meditative sense of time, change, and continuity found in nature.

BIO: Heather Byrne is a Kilkenny-based artist specialising in needle and wet felting. Working with locally sourced wool, she creates textured landscapes inspired by Irish nature, heritage, and place.

She is a member of Feltmakers Ireland, the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, and the Kilkenny Craft Working Group

@anucrafts.ie

€420



Heather Byrne

Lorna Cady

Phoenix

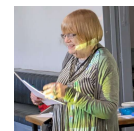
Various colours of Merino wool, wet felted to make phoenix and letters to make, cut to shape.

Needle felted onto backing. Frame marbled to look like a rainbow.

THEME: When I learned the theme of this year's exhibition is 'Water and Flow', and that it is to be in Phoenix Park, phoenix = fionnusice = bright water, this fitted in with the theme. I marbled the frame to look like the little rainbows and to look like sparkling, flowing river water.

BIO: I have been in Feltmakers Ireland for about five years, mainly on the committee as secretary, I enjoy the Sunday sessions and workshops. This is the first time I have exhibited anything.

€80



Lorna Cady

Theresa Carroll

Waterfall at the Clare Glens

My piece was created using the wet felting method, it was then needle felted when dry to add detail and texture where needed. I used Merino wool together with silk fibres for wet felting, and Bheda wool for needle felting.

THEME: On first hearing the theme of the exhibition was 'Water and Flow', the first thought to enter my mind was waterfall. I didn't really want to do a waterfall, so I decided to mind map as advised. However, I kept going back to waterfall and an image that has stuck in my mind for many years of a particular waterfall in the Clare Glens. I decided to give in, and the result is my entry for this year's exhibition.

BIO: I live in the countryside of Kilkenny surrounded by fields and wildlife. I began felting about twenty-five years ago, having dabbled in many other forms of creativity. I began by doing workshops in basic felting where I learned how to make lots of items including wearables. However, after discovering felt picture making, I was hooked, and the wonderful varieties and colour of wool roving became my palette.

@wisps_and_wands

€ 275



Theresa Carroll

Sandra Chase

Water and Floods

Wool, threads, wet felting, needle felting and stitching.

Needle felted background onto batting then wet felted. Details then needle felted and stitched. Showing the coloured sky the previous evenings and the water gushing.

THEME: Water did flow but with power never seen before on Nutgrove Avenue. From a local park the water gushed through the railing causing trauma to the local longstanding residents.

BIO: Sandra is a Dublin-born artist. Using sustainable materials, a love of textiles and creative spaces are her happy place. In this piece, the trauma experienced by her community is told, as when out and about this devastation is being spoken of constantly.

NFS



Sandra Chase

Dr Niki Collier

Fofusaka Creature - Basin

Magical blend of reclaimed felt sculptures, wire, local breed wool, silk fibres, and fabrics.

THEME: Original shapes discovered and often created through installation performances as a portrait of the muses that inspire them.

This special one even embodies some of the misfortunate projects of several of the muses. Fofusaka Creature - Basin have serious opinion of themselves- after all they are here to do Good- Safe Water. A close look puts them just where they really are at - a fake utility thingy that produces nothing but extra scum in the world. Using the colours of 'Wicked', my work interprets the basin and its bugs.

Each Fofusaka Creature is a deeply personal story of forgiveness and the magic of creating love and truth when faced with humans of darkness. These particular creatures are informed by that darkness which challenges us. Reality is no longer an option. Accountability is an insult. Being human is an excuse for lack of integrity or dignity. Mediocrities trying to drag us into the abyss of darkness. What is coming is light and strength, so the small, contorted creature is just a silly shape that evokes the opposite to what it portrays - it is joyful and original.

Fofusaka Creatures are Niki's response to people's insecurities and her personal confrontation of darkness. And she often sees to stir the change that we need in the world with them.

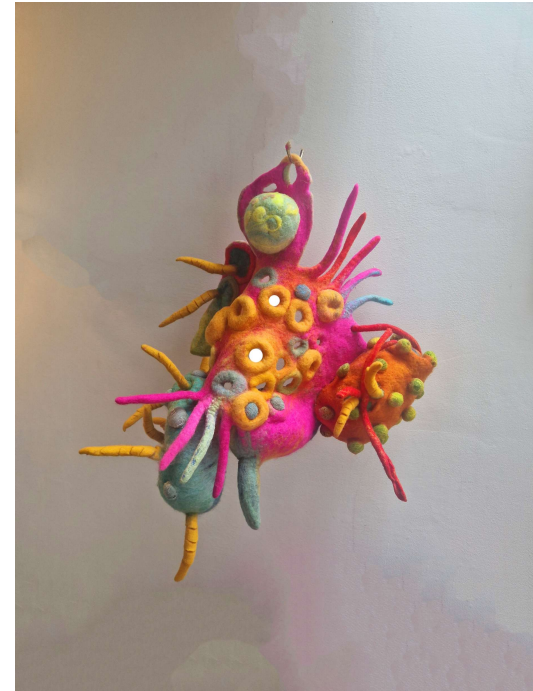
BIO: Dr. Niki Collier is a fibre and people-curious multidisciplinary artist. Her work is showcased in solo and curated shows around the world, featured in peer publications and press. Her stories in wool are acquired by states, stakeholders, and are warming up collectors' galleries across the globe. Niki Collier is artist in residence with Richmond Barracks and has collaborated with museums and artists from diverse backgrounds and at various stages of their career.

Most recent adventures - OPW commission, solo show in the National Ethnography Museum Sofia, work in Abattoir, Be Craft, Mons, Belgium, and an EU commission on UNESCO intangible cultural phenomenon.

nikicollier.com

@nikicollierfelt

€1000



Dr Niki Collier

Patricia Conroy

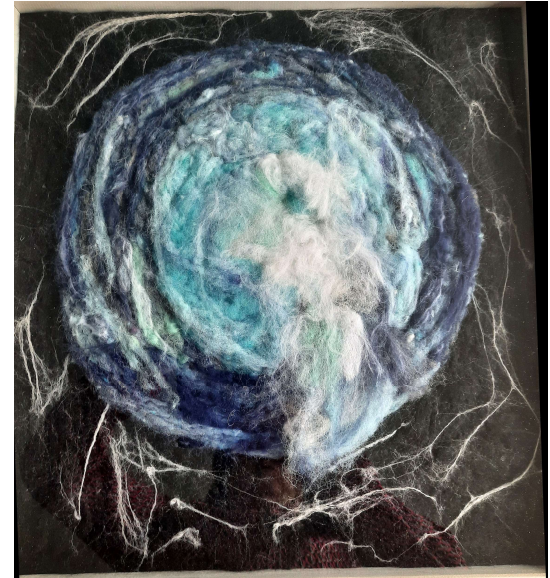
Water of Life

Wet felted background with needle felted circle. Irish wool used with some white Merino.

THEME: The circle represents the circle of life and the importance of water. From the waters of birth to death, we rely on water.

BIO: I am retired and live in Galway. Currently I am doing Art and Design studies in adult education programme. I have been enjoying felting as a hobby for 20 years.

€200



Patricia Conroy

Sandra Coote

The Edge of Day

Edge of Day is created using only the needle felting technique and the wool from our own flock of sheep with small highlights in silk. When I imagine a piece, I first create a felt background and then dye the fibres to match the colours that create the piece. This process allows me to share the beauty of Irish wool fibre and to create a piece that demonstrates the level of sustainability that can be associated with producing art from the materials that surround us

THEME: The Edge of Day captures the movement of water at a moment of transition, where light meets the shifting sea. The layering of fibres creates a sense of flow reflecting the energy of the waves and an inner emotional tide. The piece explores change, stillness and movement, holding the quiet space between night and day

BIO: Sandra Coote is a fibre artist with a teaching studio located on the family farm in Co Cavan. She is an advocate for the use of Irish wool sourcing her materials from the sheep that graze the land surrounding her studio and from local farmers. This fibre is washed and dyed by hand on the farm to create art that is both sustainable and traceable.

craftsofireland.ie

facebook.com/craftsofireland

@craftsofireland

€295



Sandra Coote

Margaret Corroon

Finding Nemo

Wet felting, needle felting, ceramics, plaster, sand, soapstone, painted glue, aero board, papier mache and plaster. I carved the soapstone, modelled and fired the boat wreck, created a paste with plaster glue and sand, covered the aero board with papier mache, wet felted the coral reef, and needle felted areas onto it.

THEME: Margaret is influenced by the beauty under the sea and the effects of aging and corrosion. She combined this by creating a Barrier Reef with a boat wreckage. Movement was added to this by creating a small flow of water coming out of the boat. She also loves the film "Finding Nemo" so decided to hide Nemo in this picture for you to find,

BIO: A Dublin based artist originally from Mullingar. After a late start in her art career, she graduated in Textile, Heritage and Craft Revivals from Liberty College. This year she progressed onto "Professional Arts & Crafts". Her interest is in how age and decay changes objects over time. Margaret recreates this look in 3D wall hangings and sculptures combining various materials like felting, ceramics and textiles.

@margaretcorroon

€285



Margaret Corroon

Linda Costello

Holy Well

I used wool from my own sheep and wool from an Irish company, AppleOak FibreWorks. I wet felted the base and needle felted the design.

THEME: I was inspired by a holy well in the village. I also read an article about a lady who is taking record of all the holy wells in Ireland. There are over 3000 holy wells in Ireland. To me water and flow also represents peace and calm. The holy wells were in Ireland even in pagan times. The holy wells have an important role in Irish culture and tradition. People collect water from the wells which is also known as holy water. This water is used for healing, prayer and comfort. Many take solace in the belief of the curative power of these wells. I used some water from a holy well when creating the piece.

BIO: My name is Linda Costello. I'm a sheep farmer located in Co. Galway. I enjoy using the wool from our sheep in a creative way. I wash, card, spin and dye our wool. I'm inspired by nature and Irish culture when creating art. Wool is lovely to work with and I'm happy to make use of our wool.

@GalwayLambs

€150



Linda Costello

Loli Cox

Beneath the Quiet Tide

Primarily Irish bred Roscommon, Merino and sari silk embellishments.

Wet felting, needle felting and Nuno felting methods were employed

THEME: This piece was inspired by the calm, rhythmic world that exists beneath the surface of the sea, where movement is constant yet gentle. I wanted to capture the quiet flow of underwater life — a place where currents guide everything and creatures drift rather than rush.

The image of a jellyfish moving effortlessly through water became the starting point for the work, symbolising grace, stillness and natural flow.

Using wet and needle felting allowed the fibres to blend and move organically, much like water itself.

Layers of wool were built up to suggest depth, while textured yarns and fibres echo sea plants, coral and the intricate growth found on the ocean floor. The cascading threads represent seaweed and marine life swaying with the tide.

Rather than depicting a specific place, the piece reflects an imagined underwater garden — a quiet ecosystem shaped by water's steady movement, where everything exists in balance beneath the quiet tide"

BIO: Dr. Maria Cox, nicknamed Loli, began her felting journey in January 2024 when she joined the Feltmakers Ireland Guild. She has been attending monthly meetings and events ever since and sits as a Feltmakers Ireland committee member.

Loli attends several needle and wet felting workshops throughout the year, and employs both approaches. Loli has taught several workshops, demonstrated the art of felting in several venues, and sold several pieces.

Professional work: Dr. Maria Cox has dedicated nearly four decades to the field of Special Education, retiring in 2023 as a New York State teacher and a faculty member at Columbia University Teachers College. Her work has been pivotal in developing educational strategies for students with diverse needs.

She and her husband relocated to Dublin from New York in July 2023.

@loli.maker

€175



Loli Cox

Deirdre Crofts

Sea Wanderer

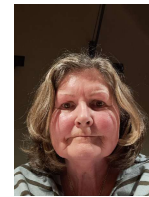
Wet felting, Dry Felting and resists

THEME: Sea Wanderer is ancient Irish lore about the Sea nymph "Muruch", a beautiful enchanted figure

BIO: Semi retired art teacher who loves feltmaking, sculptural ceramics and making mechanical automatons.

@crofts.deirdre

€300



Deirdre Crofts

Hilary Delaney

Waters Journey

Cream Merino wool wet felted over a resist, over which layers of blue were applied. Black wool added during the wet felting process added depth to the piece. The fish were needle felted, as was the white wool to give the impression of flow. The tops of the vessels were needle felted in a silk Merino mix and then wet felted.

THEME: The bowls began as a stream of ideas flowing over a rough surface like the felting process, the agitation of wool and water with soap to create fabric.

The stream erodes the earth's surface with its energy, likened to the arms of the artists rolling the felt reshaping the surface. The second vessel changes to a river with its needle felted fibres creating more depth and movement to the piece. Finally, the river flows the sea in the final bowl, complete with a mermaid watching over the tide.

BIO: With a deep-rooted love for the natural landscape, I work as a horticulturist in a holistic way with people, focusing on the intersection of human wellbeing and nature. I am drawn to the vivid colours and raw textures of the land.

A life-long passion for art eventually led to felting, a medium that reflects my connection to the outdoors.

NFS



Hilary Delaney

Adrienne Dempsey

In Water and In Flow

Wet felting and needle felting with Merino wool, wool locks, viscose fibres, and hand stitch.

THEME: I wrote the poem 'In Water and In Flow' and brought it into a tactile form through a felted textile piece, using soft, flowing textures to capture the movement of water and preserve the serene feeling of the original experience.

In Water and In Flow
Together we walked to the water's edge,
Where the river whispered low.
The world grew quiet in that gentle place,
And time began to slow.
A heron stood in silver light,
So still it seemed a stone—
Yet life moved softly through the reeds,
In currents all its own.
Your camera waited, patient too,
Lens fixed on wing and sky,
For that one breath when silence breaks
And stillness learns to fly.
The water moved without a sound,
A mirror of the sky.
Teaching us its quiet truth:
To drift, to pause, to care.
And when the heron finally rose,
Its wings cut through the blue,
We followed not with hurried steps—
But with the river's view.
For everything along the shore
Knew what we came to know:
The beauty held in simple things—
In water... and in flow.

BIO: Adrienne Dempsey is a Dublin-based artist working across mixed media, including drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, and textiles. A trained textile fibre artist, she draws inspiration from nature and the landscape. Influenced by her work with Feltmakers Ireland, she explores felting techniques to create unique fibre-based artworks and actively engages in community arts projects that connect and inspire local audiences.

@adrienne.dempsey.54

€150



Adrienne Dempsey

Hélène Dooley

Raindrops

Wet and Needle Felting, free motion machine embroidery.

Fibres: merino and viscose. Threads: viscose

THEME- “Raindrops” explores the quiet resilience and movement found in nature’s smallest gestures. This piece captures raindrops resting on leaves—moments suspended between falling and evaporation. I am drawn to how water exists in constant transition, never fixed, always becoming. The droplets cling delicately to the leaf’s surface, shaped by gravity yet held in balance, reflecting the surrounding world in miniature distortions.

For me, water symbolizes emotional currents—grief, renewal, clarity, and release. Its flow mirrors our own inner landscapes: sometimes gentle, sometimes overwhelming, yet always transformative. The leaves act as both support and witness, receiving what falls without resistance. In observing raindrops, I found a meditation on surrender and presence.

Through texture, light, and subtle reflection, this work invites viewers to slow down and notice impermanence. Flow is not only motion; it is also pause. In stillness, water gathers strength before continuing its journey.

BIO - From an early age, textiles have shaped my life. I vividly remember sewing my first fitted sleeve on my mother’s machine as a small child of 6, and I remain deeply grateful to her for nurturing my love of textiles. I have always been a maker, though my journey into felting began 15 years ago. I work across flat and structured forms, embracing experimentation and continually pushing the boundaries of textile practice. My work has been exhibited locally and internationally.

I am a member of two international textile collectives, Felting and Fiber Studio and (un)Perfect 10, and I serve as Course Coordinator for the International Feltmakers Association, where I am part of the Education Team and lead a group of mentors supporting students. Teaching—whether in finance, research, literacy, technology, or feltmaking—has always been my happiest place. I see every class as a shared, creative exchange.

@feltzen

€200



Hélène Dooley

Alison Duffy

The Gold Within

Charollais Wool and silk fibres, Mallard feathers, embellishments- including rose quartz crystal, beaded bracelet, embroidery remnants, twine, and salvaged materials.

THEME: "I present to you 'The Gold Within'. Through this sculpted doll I embody the flow of life likening it to a river, fluid effortless and ever changing.

This piece expresses the importance of letting go to allow the gold within to shine forth. Embracing the moment in the present each precise piercing of the needle is a deliberate act of stillness listening and presence, Intuitively moulding and shaping something raw primal and uniquely beautiful like holding a mirror up to a human Being not Doing,

In harmony with the universe, revealing the natural beauty of life, the deep love connection and responsibility we all have to one another to grow, burning the fires that clear spaces for new growth to burst forth.

BIO: Alison Duffy is an artist from the beautiful County of Wicklow. Primarily an artist working with oil, acrylic, and watercolors, she is also a passionate needle felter, inspired by her Irish heritage.

The discovery of needle felting deepened her connection to her Irish roots, evoking memories of a magical childhood and a profound love for her family and herself. Growing up in South County Dublin, Alison was nurtured by her mother's creativity, who lovingly crafted leprechauns and dolls from leftover materials. Her love for crafting truly blossomed in 2022, when she attended a crochet workshop, which opened the door to the enchanting world of needle and wet felting. Alison enjoys experimenting with a variety of fibres and materials and takes pride in being a member of Feltmakers Ireland. Her creative journey is a special part of her life, reflecting both her heritage and her artistic expression.

@alisonduffy_eustace

NFS



Alison Duffy

Marie Dunne

Up Stream

Merino wool, silk fibers, silk and threads

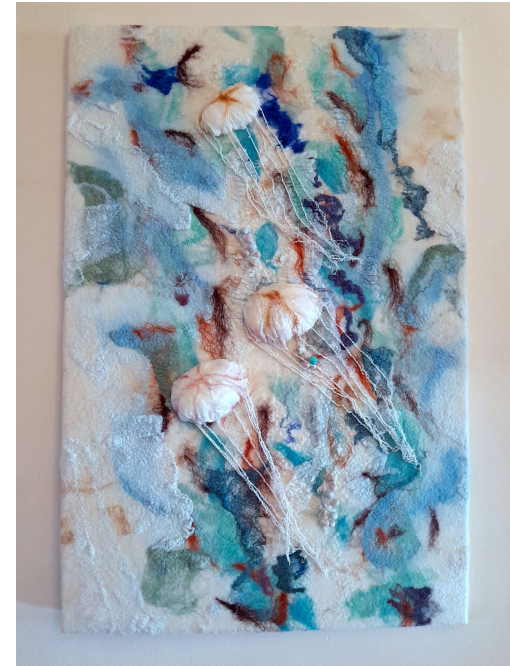
Wet felted with some shibori, appliqué and stitch

THEME: A memory of watching Jelly fish in Kilarity Harbour as they floated with the currents.

BIO: Marie's creative practice includes sculpture, felting textiles and stitch - both hand and free motion embroidery. The driving force in her work is form and colour. Being a mixed media artist allows Marie to experiment with a variety of materials and be open to exploring new processes.

element15.ie/artist-focus-marie-dunne

€280



Marie Dunne

Jennifer English

Reflections

Wet and needle felted wool fibres.

THEME: My work is about the reflections that water takes in the environment. The movement from light to dark flows cohesively. The ripples depict movement flowing on the surface also capturing the reflections of the sky. The colours of gradients of blue are a symbol of calmness and hidden depths.

BIO: Jennifer has had her work exhibited in Surveyor 22, 23 and 24, exhibitions in the Solstice Gallery Navan, and the graduate show 2023 NCAD glass and ceramics. After graduation, I was working on upskilling in glass engraving at home, then selling work with Navan Craft Collective, then got into felting, as I was always interested in wool and textiles, and had been a knitter for years.

€150



Jennifer English

Lucia Errity

Cosán na habhann (Path of the river)

Wool felt base, Merino wool, and curls. Needle felting

THEME: My artwork entitled *Cosán na habhann*, Path of the river, inspired by the theme 'Water and Flow' transforms the movement of a river into a tactile landscape of rhythm and layered wools. Fibres of varying blues and white weave together in gentle currents, their textures rising and dipping like ripples across the surface. Sheer materials overlap with denser fibers, creating a sense of depth and motion, as if the river is continuously shifting beneath the viewer's gaze. The winding path of the water, echo the quiet persistence of a river carving its way through time and space. The piece invites not just observation but imagination—one can almost feel the softness of the current and the steady pull of its flow through the intricate language of textile.

BIO: Lucia Errity began her creative journey in 1995, initially working with acrylics. In 2020, she expanded her artistic practice to include painting with wool, introducing a distinctive tactile and sculptural dimension to her work. This innovative approach allows her to merge traditional painting with textile techniques, creating richly layered surfaces that invite both visual and physical engagement.

Her vibrant, expressive style reflects the energy and spirit of contemporary Irish art, with evocative interpretations of Ireland's landscapes. Drawing inspiration from the shifting moods of nature, Lucia captures the interplay of light, movement, and atmosphere, translating these elements into dynamic compositions.

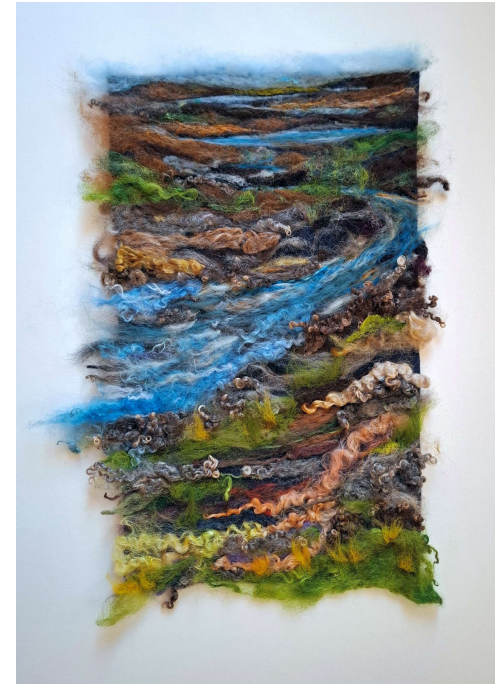
At the heart of her practice is a desire to celebrate the beauty of nature while forging a meaningful emotional connection with the viewer. The result is a body of work that is visually striking, immersive and deeply resonant, encouraging moments of reflection, connection, and appreciation.

luciaerrityart.ie

facebook.com/lucia.errity

@luciaerrityart

€1950



Lucia Errity

Ramona Farrelly

Go With The Flow

Primarily wet felted wool on muslin cloth with needle felted parts and stitching in cotton floss and thread. Edged with hand corded raffia.

THEME - I have always had an affinity with water, but particularly with the sea. I travelled to Nazare in Portugal to catch some of the beautiful big waves there. I have always been in awe of people who could surf. For me it's a metaphor for going with the flow of life.

BIO - Ramona Farrelly is an artist based in Co Wicklow. She works in several different media, but enjoys felting both wet and dry 2D and 3D pieces.

www.amillionmiles.net

@ramonafarrelly

€200



Ramona Farrelly

Breda Fay

Inspired by Tennyson

Silk and Merino fibre wet felted with embellishments of sari silk ribbon and a variety of thread, wool and fibre. White and blue perle cotton threads, woven behind slashes made during the fulling process.

THEME - This piece of work is based on the 1832 poem "The Lady of Shalott" by Alfred Tennyson, illustrating the "stream that runneth ever". Situated on an island in the middle of the stream, was a tower where the Lady of Shalott lived. Cursed to never look outside except through a mirror she spent all her time happily weaving a "charmed web". Then one day, in her mirror, she saw a handsome knight and decided she could no longer live that life of shadows. She ran to the window and watched the knight ride down to Camelot. Once she left her loom, "out flew the web and floated wild" and the lady died.

BIO - I love playing with fibre, fabric and textiles. I love to do small pieces of work maybe inspired by poetry or a memory. I particularly enjoy the mind-mapping process when working on a given theme and am often surprised where this prep work takes me. I also love knitting and crocheting (for babies) and my newest passion is a return to my primary school days of embroidery, which I plan to include in future felt works.

€150



Breda Fay

Deirdre Fay

Teardrops Held in the Petals of the Heart

Merino wool, viscose and silk. Hand blown glass "tear drops". Hand stitching.

THEME: Teardrops are the heart's expression releasing as water especially in times of joy, grief, distress. When held in the petals of the heart our tears can flow safely connecting one heart with another heart aiding the world to be a more gracious place.

BIO: Deirdre Fay, trained as a psychotherapist, uses wool felting to externalise and bridge the inner and outer worlds. Deirdre has found Incorporating textile arts to be a healing way to express the felt sensory inner world, allowing others outside to apprehend the felt experience without the immediate use of words.

www.dfay.com

@dfaycreate

€100



Deirdre Fay

Joanne Foley

The Ewe

Galway Sheep wool 65%

Merino wool 35%

Wet and needle felting

THEME: This felted portrait of a native Galway sheep is created from the animal's own wool, blended with Merino fibres. Through wet felting and needle felting, the fibres are guided with water, friction and movement, allowing the material to flow and bind naturally and organically — sometimes seeming to follow its own plan as much as mine.

The process mirrors the rhythms of the landscape and Atlantic weather that shape both the sheep and its wool. By working with the sheep's own fleece, the piece holds a direct physical connection to the animal and its environment, allowing the material itself to tell part of the story while also honouring the sheep.

As the fibres shift and migrate during felting, they form natural flows of texture and tone that echo the surrounding landscape of Galway, where rain, rivers and sea winds continually shape the land. It reflects the ebb and flow of growth, change, and renewal in the land, the sheep, and the wool itself.

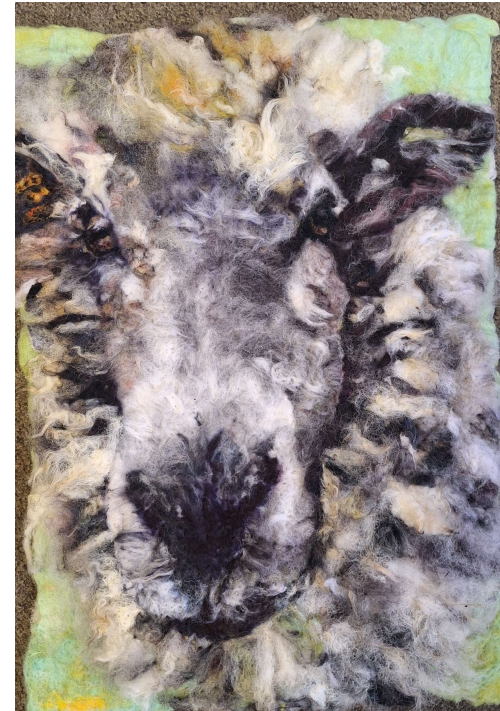
Like water shaping the land, the gentle movement of fibre becomes a quiet record of connection, time and place.

BIO: I am a felt artist with a background in ceramics, though textiles have always been my first love. I discovered felting when a visiting artist came to my workplace, and I was instantly captivated. Over the years, my work has grown to focus on portraits of animals, pets, and people. I often incorporate a piece of the subject's hair or fur, longing for it to carry a trace of their essence. As a lifelong lover of animals and the environment, I make a point of using local Irish wool whenever possible, connecting my art to the land, the animals, and the life around me

www.facebook.com/joannefoleyfeltartist

@joannefoleyfeltartist

€ 6000



Joanne Foley

Yamila Fournier

Look Closer

Wet felting and needle felting using 100% Irish wool.

THEME: After 16 years inland, I moved to coastal Dublin, where the smell of the sea and the pull of the tides reminded me of the rhythm that had been a part of me since the day I was born, since before I was born.

The shore is filled with exciting opposites: gritty sand and wave-smoothed rocks, welcoming water and unknowable depths, chaos of crashing waves reshaping the shore daily and the reliable regularity of the tides. In the face of the vastness of the water, I look to the tiniest bits, portable microscope in hand.

This piece is a depiction of the rough interlocking calcium shapes made by *Membranipora membranacea* deposited on the slick frond of *Palmaria palmata*, dulse. The shapes seem regular to the naked eye, but with a microscope begin to reveal their idiosyncratic nature - just like us.

BIO: Yamila Fournier moved to Dublin from upstate New York in 2025. She has taken a break from her decades of work in ecology, landscape architecture, and planning to dive into academia, studying the intersection of human attachment to nature, decolonisation, and rewilding and looking to art as a connective tissue between the three.

facebook.com/yamila.fournier

@yamila_in_the_garden

€220



Yamila Fournier

Jane Fox

Sea View 1

Wet felted using wool, silk and other inclusions with dyed Wensleydale curls.

THEME- I love experimenting with feltmaking and found that I had a stash of dyed Wensleydale curls. I decided that they looked very much like octopuses, so I am now working on a series of underwater scenes featuring the curls.

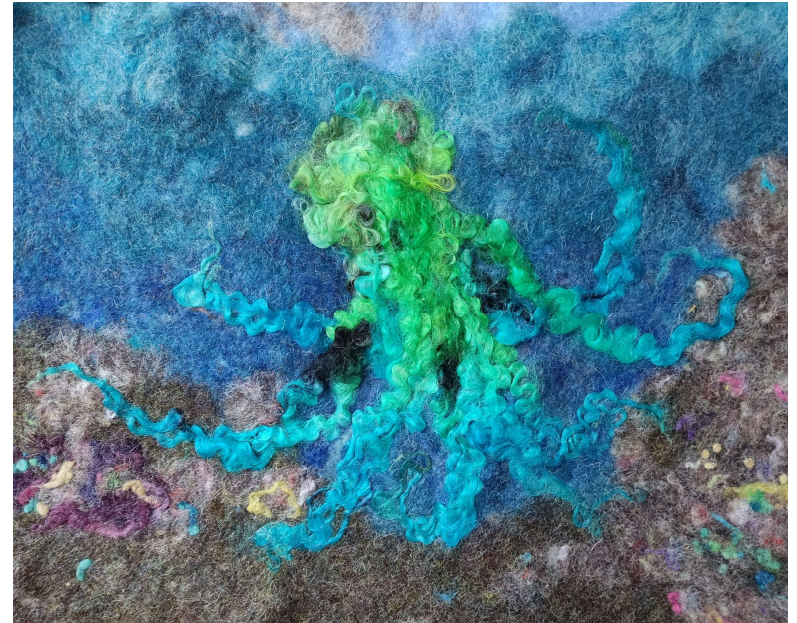
BIO - I am a Belfast-based feltmaker and I enjoy creating original and individual pieces for exhibitions or just for fun. I have always had an interest in textiles, after my grandmother taught her some basic embroidery stitches and crochet. My work has appeared in Felt Matters magazine and British Fibre Arts magazine.

I am passionate about using materials that are as sustainable as possible and, wherever possible, I use Irish wool and recycled materials. It is also very important to me to use biodegradable materials. My work is influenced by emotion and a reaction to my environment. I like to create items that appear simple but use complicated textures to draw the viewer in for a closer look.

[facebook.com/WhiteFoxNI](https://www.facebook.com/WhiteFoxNI)

@whitefox_felts

€150



Jane Fox

Juliane Gorman

Soon

Schwarzkopf wool from Co Kildare, habotai and silk gauze fabric and fibre, embroidery floss, on a canvas. Nunofelted, cyanotype printed, and hand stitched.

THEME: Inspired by the interconnected hydrologic cycle of clouds, bodies of water, and rain, *Soon* reflects the shifting atmosphere of Ireland. Referencing the song “*Soon, It’s Gonna Rain*” from the musical *The Fantasticks*, the work evokes the familiar rhythm of Irish weather: rain is always coming, yet sunshine is never far behind.

BIO: Juliane Gorman was born in New York City and now lives in Dublin, Ireland. Since 2012, she has been known for her fantastical hats, which can be found in private collections worldwide. Currently, she is currently exploring new directions in her textile art combining local Irish wool with cyanotype printing and foraged seaweed.

felthappiness.com

@felthappiness

€300



Juliane Gorman

Hedi (Hedwig) Gotthalseder

Tangled Tides

I wet felted the background using Merino wool. On to this background I needle felted the different sea creatures using Maori wool. I hand stitched various fishing debris which I collected from my local sea shore in Connemara.

THEME: Layers of wet and needle felted wool mimic the movement of ocean currents while fragments of netting debris interrupt the natural flow. My work reflects the quiet struggle of marine life entangled in human debris, where the rhythm of the sea collides with the carelessness of industrial fishing.

BIO: I am Hedi Gotthalseder, originally from Austria, but since 2004 I'm based in the Galway Gaeltacht of South Connemara. I have been felting since 2020.

My work is very much influenced by everything that surrounds me...the sea, the fauna, the rugged landscapes, and the ever-changing light in the west of Ireland.

@aislingi_feltart

€200



Hedi (Hedwig) Gotthalseder

Siobhán Healy Ryan

The Vortex

Margilan rarified silk, Merino wool, mulberry silk, Cushendale threads.

THEME: The Vortex... a whirling, swirling mass of fluid seen in both the macro and the micro. It exists in the vast and in the smallest moment, in the simple, everyday ritual of washing away, a cleansing within the powerful spiralling flow of water.

BIO: Siobhán Healy Ryan is a textile artist and an art educator of many years' experience.

She is a graduate of NCAD, majoring in textile print and education. She has worked in fine art print, stained glass and textile felting.

She has exhibited nationally, and Internationally (online).

She sees her work as 'painting with fibres' while exploring colour and the tactile qualities of the medium.

@siobhan_healy_ryan

€320



Siobhán Healy Ryan

Anne Heavey

Danu the River Goddess

A mixture of Merino wool top with different colored Corriedale carded wool fleece. Along with using hand-dyed mohair locks, silk hankies, and hand-dyed silk. The structure of the doll is made of pipe cleaners.

THEME: The Tuatha de Danann were a tribe of people who lived in Ireland around 1700 BC. Danu was the Mother Goddess they worshiped. The Tuatha's name literally translates to "Tribe of the Goddess Danu".

As Mother of the Gods she had many gifts to her name; she was goddess of rivers, wisdom and fertility. Her name solidifies the connection between women, water and wisdom. According to folklore, Sinann and Boand, who are highly regarded members of the Tuatha, sought out Danu at her well of imbas (enlightenment) for her wisdom they feel is owed to them. Both offered no sacrifice in return so the goddess drowned them for their insolence. In a way, she gave them the greatest gift of all, immortality. Sinann became the River Shannon and Boand the Boyne River.

BIO: Anne Heavey Textile Crafter: Growing up in Ireland I was introduced to knitting, crocheting, sewing and embroidery. Knitting became my craft of choice, making gifts for family and friends. Over the years, I have broadened my knowledge and skills as a crafter. I took courses in quilting, sewing, and felting. I enjoy working with fibre and delved further into the art of spinning and dyeing. In 2016, I joined the Long Island Spinning Group (LISSG - in New York). Through spinning, I explored the art of natural plant dyeing. I constantly incorporate my dyed fibres into my felting, weaving, knitting, and crochet projects.

As a member of LISSG, I demonstrate spinning at public events, such as the Huntington Historical Society, Spring and Fall Festivals (2017 - 2025) , and the Hallockville Museum Farm, Fleece and Fibre Fair (2017-2024). I have presented and demonstrated fibre information through weaving, spinning, and dyeing at the Kildare Medieval Festival (2017 - 2018). I have taught Wet and Needle felting workshops (2019 - 2026).

@ainenanknits

NFS



Anne Heavey

Ursula Heiting-Wiese

In Water's Embrace

Wet felted base: Merino wool, silk, Tencel and hemp fibres

Dry felted figure: Core of raw wool, fully enclosed in white Merino wool

THEME: Formed mostly from soft Merino wool in shifting shades of blue, this piece evokes the quiet pulse of water and the gentle pull of the tide. A white figure lies upon the surface as if carried by a calm current, held in suspension between movement and rest. The fibres gather into soft waves and subtle gradients, recalling the colours and rhythms of the Atlantic along the Irish coast. The work draws on the luminous blues found where light meets water in Ireland. In this floating moment, the figure appears weightless, embraced by a sea that is both shelter and vastness. Loose, drifting fibres create gentle wave-like lines, suggesting the rhythm of flow and tide.

BIO: My name is Ursula. Originally from Germany, I now live and work in Donegal, where the shifting coastal light and the raw openness of the Atlantic have become central to my artistic inspiration — the rhythms of tide, weather and horizon flowing quietly into my work.

Last year, I completed the three-year “Fit in Felt” training at the Felting School Oberrot/Germany, a comprehensive programme combining technical felting skills with artistic design principles.

I prefer to use wet-felting techniques for my work. Felting is for me a slow and meditative process of transformation: loose fibres gradually becoming something with weight, structure and direction. Every fibre carries a story — and through my work, that story becomes visible.

€120



Ursula Heiting-Wiese

Mairéad Hogan

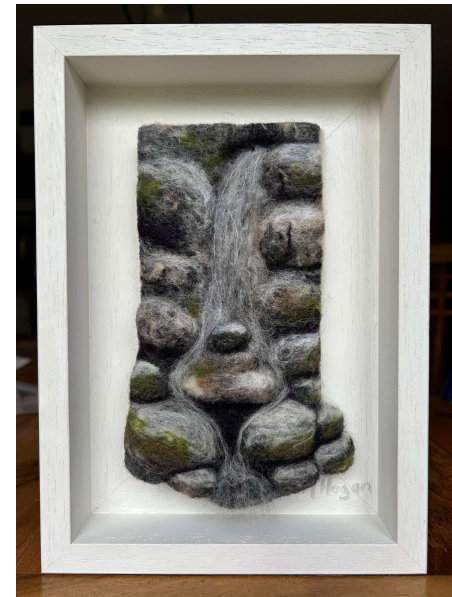
Cogar na gCloch (Whisper of the Stones)

Needle felted wool and silk work

THEME: Inspired by the landscapes of Galway, this piece reflects the quiet movement of water as it threads its way through the rocks on its downward path. Layers of felted fibre echo the shifting rhythms of a waterfall, capturing a moment within its continual flow. It reflects the quiet presence of water moving through the landscape around us.

BIO: Mairéad Hogan is a Galway-based artist working with needle-felted wool. Drawing inspiration from the natural environments of the west of Ireland, her work explores texture, movement and the relationship between water and landscape. Through layered fibre and subtle tonal shifts, she creates textured pieces that reflect the quiet rhythms and patterns found in the western landscape.

€220



Mairéad Hogan

Corina Hogan

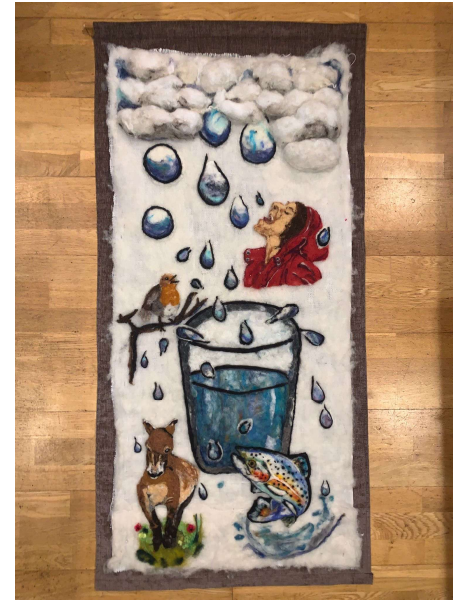
Nature's Glass

Some small amounts of wet felting and primarily needle felting using all-natural Irish Wool.

THEME: My interpretation is based on the realisation that all Humans, Animal Kingdom and Plants require water to survive and flourish. A basic need for all and so important.

BIO: My love of creativity comes from all that surrounds me. People. Animals and Nature inspire me every day as everything and everyone are so interesting and have a story to tell. We are all on a journey in this life regardless of what physical form we are. Living is wonderful and I love to capture that sentiment through my art.

€800



Corina Hogan

Marie Hopkins

Florence and Uisce (Water)

The house surface and flood water is wet felted Romney roving.

The roof and window sills use Romney fibres needle-felted into place.

I used Corriedale browns, greens and black needle felting to colour the flood water and stain the house. Florence, Uisce, the sand bags, the boat and its contents use core wool and Corriedale colours from Leiko Felt. I used upholstery foam, wire, 2mm acrylic, rubber rings, balsa wood, wool and threads.

THEME: Florence and Uisce fighting the flood is a nod to the devastating floods experienced by many communities in Ireland earlier in the year.

The name on the house is Cladán. Cladán translates into English as 1. loose stone wall 2. dike (against flooding)

BIO: My name is Marie Hopkins, I'm a Kildare based artist.

I love the freedom and versatility that wool fibre offers in creating two-dimensional fibre art. I have a background in architectural modelmaking, so my preference is often for sculpting 3D solid forms, using both wet and needle felting.

I work on community and heritage projects in Kildare County and have designed a series of laser cut souvenirs of Kildare town's architectural heritage.

@_maries_creations_

NFS



Marie Hopkins

Katarina Hruskova

Swept by the waves

Felted cushion from 100% Irish wool on a handmade wooden stool

THEME: Water is life - life is water and sometimes we get swept by it. Swept by the waves, Swept off our feet.

BIO: Katarina Hruskova is a shepherdess based in the west of Ireland. A farmer, avid crafter and entrepreneur. She is the founder of Woolstore Ireland, a business that aims to make Irish wool readily available worldwide. Woolstore is a unique values driven wool processing business located on a working farm.

Katarina processes 100% Irish wool, including rare native breeds with full traceability from fleece to finished product.

Her vision is to develop Ireland's most authentic innovative wool scouring plant.

woolstore.ie

[facebook.com/woolstoreireland](https://www.facebook.com/woolstoreireland)

@woolstoreireland

NFS (Available for commissions)



Katarina Hruskova

Viktor Hurtovyi

Ocean Voice

Natural wool Romney Roving from Eriu, Ireland. Viscose fibres

Felting with needles and wet felting

THEME: The ocean, the sea, the waterfalls of Ireland help me to search for new forms and themes for my works.

BIO: I started working with wool in 2013. I tried to combine different materials and techniques in my works. These are natural wool, plain fibres, wood, metal structures and electrical materials. I really enjoy working with natural wool and using different techniques to work with it. From September 03, 2016 to February 24, 2017, the exhibition, "Soul of Felt" was held in Germany, the Netherlands and Italy.

I have been a guild member since 2024 and my work was part of the 2025 exhibition, "Symbols of Ireland". I participated in the creation "Flax Flower Project Unveils Felt Installation at Titanic Museum, Belfast, 2025.

€100



Viktor Hurtovyi

Irina Lampadova

Felted scarf

Merino Wool, Silk Fabric, Rayon fibre. Wet felting

THEME- Rings on water

The small is capable of starting something big. Like a single drop meeting the surface of water and everything begins to live: thoughts, feelings and movement. Water carries movements and beauty. Water knows a secret well: to move is to live, and to flow is already to be beautiful.

BIO- My name is Irina. I have lived in Ireland since 2000. I am a nurse by profession. Felting is my passion and hobby. I discovered felting for myself in 2015 and since then I have been enjoying the magical craft of felting, a process where little natural fibres joined together into an inseparable fabric.

€90



Irina Lampadova

Fiona Leech

Quiet reflections

Merino fibre, Galway carded fibre, and embroidery thread

THEME: My piece is inspired by the surface of ponds where something causes ripples and allows quiet contemplation. The occasional contrasting dot introduces a point of interruption, a leaf or a falling object, a moment of change reminding us that stillness is never absolute. I hope my piece encourages the viewer to pause and consider how movement, memory, and reflection ripple through natural landscapes and inner experience.

BIO: I am a Dublin-based textile artist working through the medium of felting and hand stitching. My work has a distinctive, abstract style using colour and stitch as a narrative.

Born in 1966, a former theatre set and costume designer, I worked in that field till 2010. After my third child I switched to working with wool, my childhood passion. I learnt the craft of felting and never looked back.

This is my 8th time to exhibit with Feltmakers Ireland and feel very privileged to belong to such a vibrant guild.

I've exhibited 4 times at "Sculpture in Context" in the National Botanical Gardens.

Last year, I had 3 pieces at the National Design & Craft Gallery in Kilkenny, at the DCCI's joint exhibition "Common Threads".

Exhibited at the Dublin Fibre Festival at IMMA last October.

I do commissions and occasionally do the odd market.

facebook/feltathome

@feltathome

€180



Fiona Leech

Tamzen Lundy

Convergence

Wet felted wool with integrated Donegal tweed, silk hankies, silk fibres and hand embroidered silk cocoons.

THEME - Created using traditional wet felting techniques, this abstract textile work integrates Donegal tweeds into layers of wool and silk, enriched with hand-embroidered silk cocoons.

Inspired by the meeting place of land and sea, *The Convergence* evokes the rhythmic flow of water against the shoreline — a threshold where elements collide and merge. This liminal space, poised between solidity and movement, suggests a point of quiet transformation: a place where boundaries dissolve and something magical may occur.

BIO - Tamzen is a textile professional of 25+years' experience and a recipient of the "Emerging Maker Award" from Craft NI in 2023.

Born in Belfast in the 1970's, she now works from her home in Maynooth, Co. Kildare, surrounded by fibre, up to her elbows in soap lather, dancing to the radio, chatting with the three kids and whooshing the cat off the table!

Tamzen has created a felted product range, designed to make you smile, laugh, think, and inspire your inner child and to offer wool products as an alternative to plastic mass production. This is available to purchase through www.tamzenlundydesigns.ie and across Ireland with selected independent retailers including The National Gallery of Ireland shop in Dublin.

tamzenlundydesigns.ie

facebook.com/tamzenlundytextiles

@tamzenlundydesigns

€495



Tamzen Lundy

Maggie McCartney

Little Oysters, Little Oysters

Needle Felting with Merino wool, Shetland wool, acrylic felting wool, Angelina threads and polyester netting.

THEME: Inspired by “Little Oysters, Little Oysters”, a poem by Lewis Carroll in “Alice in Wonderland”, a childhood favourite. The work is a depiction of the little oysters under water....before they meet their fate....

“The Walrus and the Carpenter

Or, the story of the curious oysters

"The sun was shining on the sea,

Shining with all his might:

He did his very best to make

The billows smooth and bright —

And this was odd, because it was

The middle of the night.

.....

O Oysters,' said the Carpenter,

You've had a pleasant run!

Shall we be trotting home again?"

But answer came there none —

And this was scarcely odd, because

They'd eaten every one."

BIO Maggie McCartney is a Textile Artist from Dublin. She truly believes that you should play and experiment in art and enjoy the process. Her work is created using different textile techniques in a colourful and tactile way.

@maggie_mac_visual_artist

€295



Maggie McCartney

Maria McGarry

OCEAN: Giant Kelp Forests

Fine Merino and various coarser wool. Various embellishments including silk, viscose, cotton, yarns and threads

Wet and needle felting, free motion and hand embroidery

THEME: This piece was inspired by the book and film, 'Ocean: Earth's last wilderness' 2025, narrated by David Attenborough. This work focuses on the importance of the giant kelp ocean forests, which grow up to 50 metres in height, absorbing carbon dioxide comparable to the Amazonian rainforests. Industrial fish trawlers have turned a lot of the ocean floor into lifeless desert, depleting fish stocks and ocean fauna and flora. If there was a will to set aside 25% of the oceans to regenerate, within 5 years the kelp forests would grow again providing a rich habitat for marine life replenishing delicate fish stocks, but more importantly absorbing enough carbon dioxide to halt or maybe even reverse global warming and climate change. A delicate balance and a small window of opportunity!

BIO: Maria McGarry is a feltmaker and textile artist inspired by the natural world and especially documentaries narrated by David Attenborough.

@maria_mcgarry_textile_art_

€220



Maria McGarry

Karen McSweeney

Sea Pottery - Washed Up Treasure

Felted wool, white thread, and sea pottery

THEME: As a nautical artist I was inspired to use pieces of sea pottery, which were washed up on the Burrow Beach Dublin. The design is a nod to the willow pattern on the pottery.

BIO: I am known as an artist for my nautical-inspired work. I have exhibited and sold in galleries and at auction, mainly in Dublin and West Cork. My public art has included work for the likes of Red Bull Grand Prix Racing, Grant Thornton and the likes. Although my work ranges from paint to textile, the theme always remains ...my love of the sea.

@karenmcsweeneyart

€450



Karen McSweeney

Claire Merry

Falling Water

Merino wool, wet and needle felted with hand embroidery

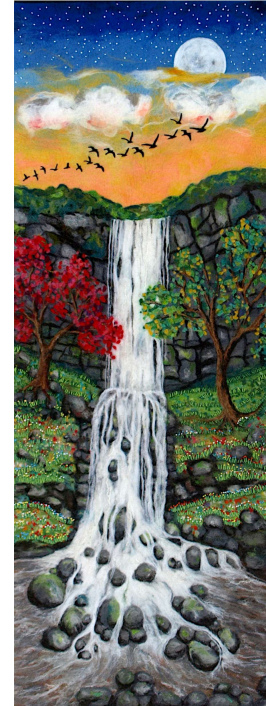
THEME Water falls are mesmerising and breathtaking. The falling water contrasts with the surrounding lush vegetation providing both a visual and aural experience, which brings solace to the mind and soul.

My piece tries to capture the moment of walking into a glade and seeing the water fall for the first time.

BIO I am multi-discipline artist, having worked in various media including ceramics, painting, jewellery and textiles. I discovered feltmaking in 2008, and this has been my primary media since. I have exhibited in many exhibitions, including Feltmakers, RDS, Design and Craft Council, both in Ireland and internationally.

www.merryland.ie

NFS



Claire Merry

Marika Miklosi-Manning

An Fheoir, the Nore

This piece of work was made using wet felting and needle felting techniques, free motion embroidery as well as hand embroidery. Materials: Merino wool, Wensleydale locks, mohair fibres, flax fibres and a variety of silk fibres.

THEME: We live not far from the River Nore, only a short walk away from the banks, where a small stone beach leads to a narrow part of the river. The water flows with the seasons, surrounded by trees, branches, and leaves which reflect in the water, rounded rocks and worn stones tempt you to cross over to the other side. The time of day and weather changes the colours of this still quite untouched countryside, adding light and reflections. It is a beautiful place of inspiration.

BIO: Marika Miklosi-Manning is a German felt maker and visual artist, based in Co Kilkenny Ireland. She explores materials that are associated with forms of domestic production. She is registered with the DCCI and teaches in schools as a creative practitioner under the National Arts in Education program.

finefibrestudio.com

@marika_manning

€325



Marika Miklosi-Manning

Audrey Murray

Bacán Bán - White Water Lily

A mixture of Irish and Merino wools, with the addition of silk to represent the upper petals. This picture was produced using both wet and needle felting techniques.

THEME: White Water lilies are special native aquatic plants with exotic looking flowers. They are found in slow moving, unpolluted water courses and ponds.

Living by the Atlantic, my imagery of water is normally filled with the energy of high waves, but I decided to take my inspiration from a calmer body of water, represented by this white water lily.

The roots of this flower grow in the mud, but out of this mud emerges a unique and beautiful flower. It reminds us that it is possible to return to a state of beauty and calm in today's turbulent and uncertain world.

BIO: Audrey lives on the island of Inishbofin in Co. Galway, a vibrant hub of talented individuals. She has developed her creativity using wool, a material deeply rooted in the rural landscape. Utilising traditional wet and needle felting techniques, she captures the essence of the natural world with a contemporary twist. Due to work commitments, she has become a weekend creator, leaving behind the multitasking of weekdays, for a welcome creative break. She actively participates in the local group, Island Creatives, Inishbofin, which aims to provide support, and opportunities for collaboration, among the crafters of Inishbofin.

audreymurray.art

@audrey.murray.art

€325



Audrey Murray

Lidiia Necheporenko

Winter Waters vest

The vest is made using wet felting technique. Natural Irish wool roving Romney from Ériu (60%), Merino wool, viscose fibres, natural silk fibres, fragments of natural silk fabric, fragments of sari silk, and BFL fleece.

THEME - The winter ocean waters and the streams of Ireland inspired me to create the "Winter Waters" vest.

BIO- I saw a beautiful bag on the Internet in 2010. I became interested in technology and began to study this technology on the Internet. I made bags using the nuno-felting technique. The combination of wool and fabric fascinates me the most. On February 16, 2013 my bags were presented at the "Fire Art Biennale", Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. Then I became interested in creating clothes. I made jackets, tunics, sweatshirts, and coats using the nuno-felting technique. I took part in exhibitions in Ukraine and Poland.

I have been living in Cork, Ireland since March 2022. I continue to pursue my favorite hobby - felting. I became a member of Feltmakers Ireland and took part in the "Symbols of Ireland" exhibition in March 2025 and in the DCCI Kilkenny "Common Threads" exhibition in 2025, where two of my works were sold. It was a wonderful experience and friendly communication.

NFS



Lidiia Necheporenko

Caitriona Nolan

Did you notice she was crying?

Wet and dry felted technique. Base made by wet felting ecru Cushendale wool.

Image made with Merino, silk and Merino wool."

THEME: I remembered an image from a pop art piece I saw by Roy Lichtenstein of a lady crying. On researching the images, I found Lichtenstein had 'adapted' the image from comic artist John Romita Sr. Romita created romance comics.

The tear flows down her face, everyone can identify with this felt piece.

BIO: Nolan is from Dublin, Ireland. She lives and works in Co. Offaly. Recent exhibitions include the Offaly Artists Exhibition at Esker Arts Centre (2025), Opposites Attract with Feltmakers Ireland at the Phoenix Park Visitors Centre, Dublin (2024), and Unseen Universe at Birr Arts Centre (2023). She has also exhibited at Creativecorner Tullamore, the Luan Gallery Art Fair, and the Offaly Artists Show. In 2023, her work The Earth is Burning was shortlisted for the Climate and Health exhibition at the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland.

@caitrionanolan1

NFS



Caitriona Nolan

Patricia Englishby O'Connor

The Living Fall

The Living Fall is a needle felted, three-dimensional landscape worked in a mix of fibres including Irish an English wool, sheep's locks, and silk. The waterfall and surrounding vegetation are built up through needle felting, layering fibres to create depth, texture and movement.

The pool is constructed from core wool built up in layers to create depth, with the needle felted surface worked on top. The piece sits in a wooden display bowl which frames the landscape naturally.

Natural and decorative materials are incorporated throughout - driftwood, real stones, and imitation moss anchor and detail the ecosystem at the base of the fall. The reverse of the piece is needle felted in texture wool to represent soil and moss, completing the work in the round.

THEME: The Living Fall began with water - not as subject, but as participant. In feltmaking, water is never passive; it softens, binds, and transforms raw fibre into something unified and enduring. This piece explores that same energy in landscape form.

A waterfall cascades over driftwood into a swirling pool below, where stone, moss, and flower speak to the ecosystem that water sustains. Every element - the flow, the froth, the settling deep - reflects water's due nature: constant movement, and the still life it makes possible."

BIO: Patricia Englishby O'Connor is an Irish fibre artist and maker, working from the Boyne Valley under her handmade brand, The Crafty Pebblers. Her practice spans needle felting, wet felting, knitting and weaving if it involves wool, Pat works with it.

Growing up with a mother who was a wool spinner and fibre artist, fibre was simply part of everyday life for Pat. She absorbed it naturally, then took it further herself - pursuing courses and classes, designing her own original work, and developing a practice that is entirely her own. She has inherited her mother's spinning wheel, drum carder and weaving loom, and continues to explore these as her journey grows. For Pat, the value has always been in the making.

She is a member of Feltmakers Ireland and Meath Made, and believes handmade pieces carry lasting value - in their materials, their making, and the stories they hold.

www.thecraftypebblers.ie

@the.crafty.pebblers

€ 240



Patricia Englishby O'Connor

Eithne O’Dea

Nora and Noah

Initial sketches to decide on the design and layout of the image.

Wet felting onto canvas fabric using merino wool fibre for the main body of work. Pre-felts and cords were also made. Details were added using needle felting.

THEME: The theme of Water and Flow seemed very appropriate for the wet, dark start of 2026. We experienced more than 60 consecutive days of rain, along with flooding that it created!

A tale that I loved as a child, The Ark and the animals, two by two, resurfaced in my mind. ‘Nora and Noah’ illustrates the extremes of our early spring in a whimsical way.

BIO: Eithne O’Dea is a self-taught artist, excited by the possibilities that colour, texture, and techniques in felting have to offer. Her work is both two- and three-dimensional in form.

Since childhood, creating art has always been a part of Eithne's life. Her love of the natural world, along with her career in horticulture are influences on Eithne’s work. Inspiration comes from ordinary, everyday things, love of the natural world, as well as the occasional flight of fancy!

@eithneodea

€350



Eithne O’Dea

Miriam O'Donoghue

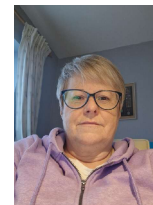
The Merrow's Flow

Needle felted and wet felted using merino, raw and spun wool.

THEME - The Merrow's Flow captures the quiet rhythm of water in motion. In this needle-felted scene, the merrow rests within the cascading waterfall, embodying the spirit of water's constant movement and transformation. A merrow is a Celtic mythical water creature similar to a mermaid. As I grew up away from the coast, they were often described as happy water fairies that guarded flowing water such as rivers, streams, and waterfalls. The soft fibres echo the textures of rushing currents and drifting mist, while the merrow herself appears both part of the waterfall and carried by the stream. The waterfall symbolizes continuity: water falling, pooling, and moving onward, just as life and nature flow without pause. The piece reflects harmony between myth and landscape, suggesting that the merrow is a guardian of the current—an embodiment of water's grace, persistence, and ever-changing flow.

BIO - I have been needle felting for about two years, although my connection with wool goes back much further through many wool-based crafts. Working with fibre has always felt natural to me, but needle and wet felting have opened a new way to explore texture, colour and storytelling. Since beginning felting, I have started to see landscapes differently—paying closer attention to shifting colours, light, and the movement of water through the land. Nature is a constant inspiration in my work. Through wool, I try to capture small moments of magic within the natural world, blending traditional fibre craft with imagination.

NFS



Miriam O'Donoghue

Elaine Peden

Sacred space

Fine merino wool fiber, printed silk , sari silk threads, hand-dyed cotton thread, plant material, and reclaimed glass beads.

Nuno wet felt technique and hand stitch

THEME: Coming from Mayo, a summer spent in the Bog turning turf, drinking tea and eating ham sandwiches was the norm 'all hands on deck'. Looking back, the bog was my identity, my place of belonging, my oasis. Wetlands are the most biologically diverse of all ecosystems, a vital part of the fresh water cycle. Wetlands are both providers and users of water. They are like natural sponges, peatland acting as carbon sinks. The bogland holds onto things including memories and our history. Contemporary society may not value "he Bog" and its soggy harsh lands, but for me it remains an oasis of beauty unlike any other landscape.

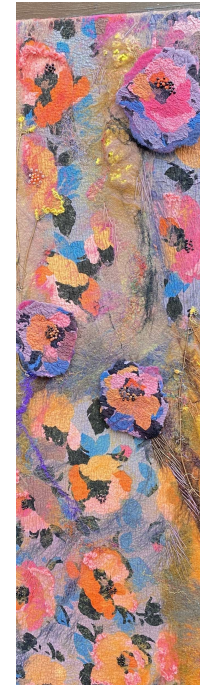
BIO: Elaine is a mixed-media artist. Harnessing wool fibre, this most domestic of materials, incorporating bio-degradable material into her work, layering thoughts to communicate her story, Elaine sees beauty in the ordinary, piecing materials together, spontaneous mark making embracing uncertain outcomes.

She is influenced by Narrative medicine: the art of storytelling through fibre.

Elaine is a member of Feltmakers Ireland and element15.

@elainepeden

€300



Elaine Peden

Gabrielle Quigley Henry

Water Morphs

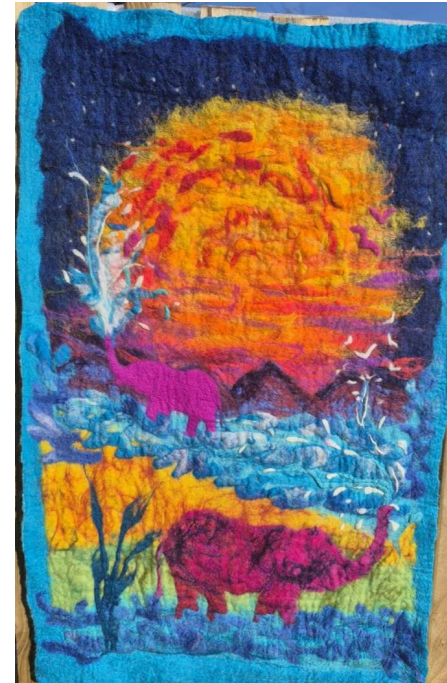
Wet and Needle Felting using wool batting and roving.

THEME: I celebrate water in my work depicting its playfulness and its creative powers. I've called my piece "Water Morphs" where the little elephant is busy transforming water and fibre into a wonderland with a "picture within a picture"

"The little elephant soaks up water from the shimmering pool, weaving strands of fiber into swirling shapes that reflect its playful imagination."

BIO: Now retired, I have the joy of spending time felting, a craft that has captured my imagination and creativity for a few years now. Immersed mainly in the tactile world of wool fibre, I find wet felting especially enthralling, as it allows me to blend vibrant colours and textures, while needle felting brings intricate detail to my evolving designs. Though I still consider myself a novice, each project helps me grow in skill and confidence. My current passion revolves around creating abstract motifs, drawing inspiration from the mysterious and timeless stone carvings of the Neolithic and early Bronze Age, which seem to echo through my work and spark new creative possibilities.

NFS



Gabrielle Quigley Henry

Elizabeth Redding

Gone Fishing

Background is wet felted using Maori wool. Sky and river wet felted Maori wool and then needle felted to the background. The rest is needle felted using Maori and Irish Galway wool from Cushendale mills. It is mounted on a canvas.

THEME: A river's gentle flow gives peace and tranquillity. A fisherman can sit and relax, listening to the water rippling by while waiting for a bite.

BIO: My name is Elizabeth Redding. I live on a dairy farm in Westmeath with my husband, two adult children, four dogs and three cats. I have been interested in all kinds of crafts from a very young age, having started knitting and sewing in National School. A few years ago, I took up felting and became addicted. I do both Needle and wet felting, often combining the two in a project.

€100



Elizabeth Redding

Belinda Reid

Stolen Land/Stolen Lives

Wet felting and needle felting techniques

THEME: Inspired by the horror of the current war in Gaza, this piece reflects the intimate devastation of loss and displacement. A single tear traces the woman's cheek, embodying heartbreak and grief. As the tear falls, it moves toward a fissure carved into her face—a powerful symbol of a fractured world shaped by violence and destruction.

The tear's downward flow evokes water: salty with sorrow, yet inherently healing. It becomes an act of cleansing, suggesting the possibility of restoration amid ruin.

Water here is both witness and remedy, carrying pain while offering renewal.

Constructed from wool felt and silk, the materials echo the work's emotional duality—felt providing density, warmth, and rawness, while silk introduces fragility and fluidity. Together, they mirror the tension between suffering and resilience, grief and hope, within a world torn apart by war."

BIO: I'm a felt artist creating art, wearables and three-dimensional pieces using wool and natural fibres such as silk. My work is rooted in traditional felting techniques while exploring contemporary forms, texture, and movement. I'm drawn to the tactile nature of fibre and the way felt can be both strong and fluid, functional and sculptural.

Alongside my studio practice, I offer workshops where I teach felting and fibre art skills to beginners and experienced makers alike. I love sharing what I've learned and creating a welcoming space where people can slow down, work with their hands, and discover the creative possibilities of wool and other fibres.

Whether I'm making art or teaching, my practice is guided by a passion for craftsmanship, connection, and the joy of creating something unique by hand.

@chasing_dreams_feltart_

chasingdreamsfeltart.com

€300



Belinda Reid

Sandra Reynolds

ReefRhythm

Needle felting and embroidery with recycled bead embellishment. Mounted on Foxford Woollen Blanket. 100% Irish Wool from Wicklow and curly locks from Farm Achla in Donegal.

THEME: The theme of 'Water and Flow' really resonates with me. I've been lucky enough to always live near the sea and enjoy my daily beach walks there.

My work for this particular piece with wool reflects the shapes and colours of marine life both above and below Water.

BIO: I have worked with textiles in many disciplines for years with a particular love for wool in its various forms.

I particularly enjoy combining needle felting with embroidery and mixed media.

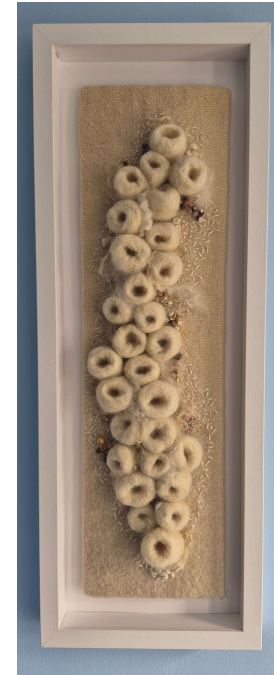
The theme for this exhibition lends itself perfectly to my current work.

Experimenting with three-dimensional needle felted forms has opened many new ideas for me inspired by colour and shape in Nature.

[facebook.com/sandysosew](https://www.facebook.com/sandysosew)

@sandysosew

€150



Sandra Reynolds

Neasa Ryan

Muddy Waters

Wet Felting incorporating some Nuno Felting and Shibori technique using Merino wool, Merino and silk mix, hand-dyed silk fabric, viscose, various yarn and fibre embellishments

THEME: Muddy Waters developed from a feeling I get when walking the old country lanes near my home after the rain, when the air is heavy and the scent of the wet soil with its mineral aroma feels both ancient and pure. The ground softens revealing long uneven grooves filled with murky water and velvety brown tones. Just as the rain loosens the earth and pebbles around it changing the familiar ground into something unsteady, it reminds me that life can be confusing and 'muddy' blurring the edges of our own life paths. My aim for this piece is to reflect nature's messiness with murky hues and tones, but also to evoke a sense of calm and light of life.

BIO: Self-taught, part-time felter/fibre artist. Felting is my 'happy place'. I generally lean towards 3D pictures/wall hangings with a lot of texture created by different techniques etc. I also make homewares: eg lampshades, vessels etc. Because of the versatile nature of wool, I also make some wearables: eg delicate feminine shawls using silk, wool, and fibres.

@Wild_Wools.ie

NFS (Commissions accepted)



Neasa Ryan

Karena Ryan

The Breathing Tide

Irish wool, including Galway wool, and wool selvedge form the foundation of this piece. Wet felting and needle felting techniques are used to create a semi-structured base, allowing the material to hold form while remaining soft and responsive. Loose wool locks are integrated to create flowing tendrils, introducing movement and a sense of natural rhythm. Hand stitching and beading are applied throughout, adding layers of texture, detail, and subtle weight. The work reflects the ebb and flow of water, the surge and the release, echoing a breathing rhythm. The combination of structured felt and unbound fibre suggests a material that is both held and in motion, constantly shifting and alive.

THEME: The Breathing Tide explores water not only as a physical force, but as something deeply embedded within the body and memory. We begin life held in fluid, sustained by it, and remain intrinsically connected to water throughout our lives. The rhythmic ebb and flow of the tide mirrors the act of breathing, the surge and release, an ongoing cycle of tension and calm.

This piece reflects that relationship through material and form. Structured felt suggests containment, while flowing wool locks move beyond it, evoking the moment water pushes, spills, and finds its own path. The work draws on the restorative qualities of water, its ability to soothe, to ground, and to offer solace.

There is also an underlying awareness of water as a powerful and changing force within the landscape. Through this piece, I consider both its gentleness and its strength, and the quiet, unbreakable connection between the human body and the natural world.

BIO: Karena Ryan is an award-winning textile artist based in County Galway, working with Irish wool and natural fibres to create tactile, story-led artworks. Her practice is rooted in heritage, landscape, and material connection, drawing inspiration from Irish boglands, rural traditions, and personal histories.

Through hand felting, embroidery, and stitching, she explores themes of memory, place, and belonging, often incorporating repurposed and locally sourced materials. Her work highlights the value of Irish wool as a sustainable, natural fibre while reconnecting it to contemporary art and interiors.

Karena holds an MSc in Agricultural Innovation from the University of Galway, where her research focused on storytelling, branding, and the repositioning of Irish wool in sustainable design. She exhibits nationally and internationally and is committed to supporting local farmers, materials, and craft traditions through her practice.

karenaryanartist.com

[facebook.com/karena2017](https://www.facebook.com/karena2017)

@karenaryantextiles

€440



Karena Ryan

Margaret Ryan Collins

UISCE (Water)

100% Irish Wool: 50% Galway Wool Co Kilkenny and 50% Romney Wool Co Wicklow

Wet and Needle Felting. The work is presented in diptych format.

THEME: Water has long connected people across the Emerald Isle, from Ireland's Neolithic beginnings, through the Celtic era, and into the present day.

This piece brings together three elements of water and its symbolism in Irish culture, drawn from three distinct periods in Irish history: the Neolithic period, the Celtic period, and the Ogham period. The work is presented in a diptych format, referencing Ireland's long tradition of Christian devotional artworks.

The triskele (left) is an ancient pre-Christian symbol representing motion, cycles, and the interconnectedness of sea, land, and sky.

The Celtic five fold knot (right) represents harmony and balance between the four classical elements: earth, air, water, and fire.

Viewed linearly as two connected parts, the Ogham word for "Uisce" (water) binds the symbols together, suggesting how water flows through cultures and across significant periods of Irish history.

Inspired by the contrasting colours found in marine life, the flowing blues of Irish wool evoke the depth and movement of the sea, while lighter tones recall the sky above. Together they reflect the cyclical nature of water, sea to sky and back again, a timeless rhythm that has shaped life on this island.

BIO: Margaret Ryan Collins is a Kildare-based felter passionate about Irish wool, wool crafts and sustainable textiles.

Irish wool is a fantastic sustainable raw material with a low energy footprint, luxurious qualities, natural antimicrobial properties, rich oils that aid water resistance, as well as insulating, moisture wicking and sound absorbing qualities, to name just some of its attributes. Due to these many attributes, promoting and believing in Irish wool is not difficult, but is essential in helping it achieve its full potential.

Its wonderful versatility in fashion, home textiles and industry makes Irish wool a raw material that should be fully appreciated and valued.

€150



Margaret Ryan Collins

Eva Salamon

Flow and fishes

Needle felting and Merino wool.

THEME: My little boy wanted a black kitten for a very long time. After we decided and collected a rescue, he named her 'Flow' because she looked a lot like the main character in the animated film "Flow". In the film, the animals are struggling with the difficulties caused by a flood, and the kitten, as the leader of the 'team', also hunts for food: she jumps into the water and catches fishes: thus overcoming his fear of water.

The story is very inspiring, as it talks about courage and the cooperation of different species for the sake of a higher goal.

BIO My name is Eva Salamon and I have been living in Ireland for more than 10 years. I am a self-taught artist and I am the creator behind "FeltedVision". I like to make fantasy characters, using wool, wire, or recycled materials, like fabrics, or wood, sticks, etc.

feltedvision.sumupstore.com

@feltedvision

€110



Eva Salamon

Elizabeth Savage

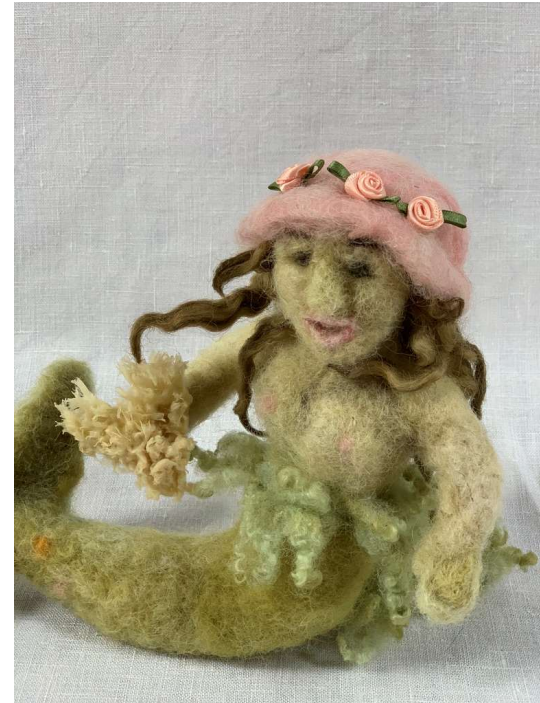
New Hat

Needle felted from knobby bits unsuitable for spinning. The different colours are from natural dyes from nature such as Bog Myrtle and Hibiscus. The sponge in her hand is just that.

THEME: Each piece flows from somewhere in the subconscious, meaning its final shape is never predetermined but floats to the surface as it is made. This mermaid probably emerges from the lovely watery green dye from spring willow. It's a plant I associate with long afternoons wading along a willow-lined stream. Her seaweed hair comes from the long wavy locks of Wensleydale sheep.

BIO: I'm an organic farmer living on the Mizen Peninsula in West Cork. As huge bags of shorn fleece were left unclaimed, unwanted and wasted, I began to spin some, needle-felt some and used the rest as compost. Long evenings during our short days offer a time to spin, dye and needle felt. Each piece takes days to complete after which they need time to rest waiting for a fresh eye.

€40



Elizabeth Savage

Cara Shank

Biddy Early

Wet felted base with needle felt and embroidery.

THEME: This piece is inspired by Biddy Early, known as the Bean Feasa (wise woman) of Clare.

An herbalist and folk healer, she worked within local knowledge traditions at a time when poverty, eviction, and social control shaped everyday life.

Her practice was forthright. She challenged powerful interests, including harsh landlords and members of the clergy, and decided resolutely whom she would help, guided by values of mutual aid and inherited wisdom.

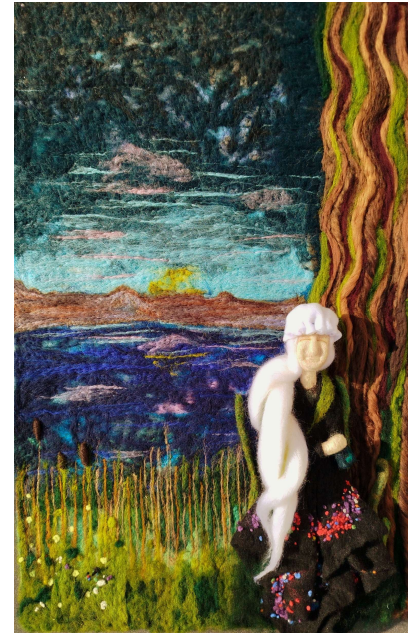
Living close to wetlands and wells, she gathered plants, moss, and bark in the early hours each day, which she then used to treat both people and animals, some of whom traveled great distances for her skills.

Never without her blue bottle, she embraced forms of knowing that resisted simple explanation, drawing on what many regarded as magical insight.

Her landscape was not a backdrop, but part of the healing practice itself.

BIO: I am a visual mixed media artist, currently focused on drawing, painting, and textiles. Trained as an anthropologist, my work centers on informal systems, embodied knowledge, and community-based practices. I am particularly drawn to resistance, radical ecology, landscape, and to the ways these threads intertwine.

€700



Cara Shank

Eglė Silenaite-Enyed

The Below

Wool, wet felting, needle felting, stitching, and embellishment

THEME- The flow in my art symbolises not only the flow of water but also the flow of time. Little pebbles with ancient symbols are sunken below. The flow of water is hiding the secrets of the past. Those times are gone, the time flows...

In shifting tides of wool and blue,

Where light surrenders every hue.

Drowned secrets dance in silken weed,

To the rhythm of a deep-sea creed.

An ancient echo in silent flow,

Within the hush of The Below.

BIO - Originally from Lithuania and now based in Ireland, Eglė discovered the transformative power of wool just one year ago. In that short time, she has moved from the precision of needle felting pictures to the fluid, experimental challenge of wet felting.

Driven by a deep fascination with the myths of her adopted home, she weaves ancient Irish symbols into the shifting blues of The Below. Her work is a tactile exploration of "silent flow," in which the secrets of the past lie quietly while the present flows like water.

@felt_happens

€400



Eglė Silenaite-Enyed

Emily Thompson

Ebb and Flow

Needle Felted Irish Wool with Embroidery

THEME: Ebb and Flow explores the quiet movement of water as it travels through the green hills, reflecting the natural rhythm that exists within both landscape and life. The waterfall, gently carved into the wool through layers of texture and colour, represents the constant motion of change.

Water, in this piece, becomes a symbol of emotional and natural cycles. Just as the land is shaped by flowing streams and rainfall over time, our experiences also move in phases of release, renewal, and growth.

The process of needle felting mirrors this theme of flow. Layer by layer, the wool fibres are guided into place, slowly forming the movement of the landscape in a way that feels organic and evolving. The soft textures invite the viewer to pause and reflect on the calming presence of water in nature.

Ebb and Flow is an invitation to notice the rhythms around us—the shifting seasons, the movement of water, and the natural balance between stillness and change.

BIO: Emily Thompson is a needle felting artist, whose aim is to create unique artworks which connect people to the beauty of the world around them. Using locally sourced Irish wool, which is washed and dyed, Emily meticulously layers the dyed wool to create images of the beautiful Irish landscape. She uses a needle felting tool, and the required technique, which consists of matting the woolen fibers together by slowly and repetitively pushing the fibers back and forth using the sharp barbed needle tool. Following this, she uses both her sewing machine, and simple needle and thread to add further texture and detail to her works. She considers her dyed wool her 'palette' and felting needles her 'paintbrush'.

emilyathompsonartist.ie

@emilyathompson_artist

€750



Emily Thompson

Astrid Tomrop-Hofmann

Mermaid`s Treasure

Wet felting, free motion embroidery

Materials: Merino batt, Merino tops, organza, chiffon, pongee silk, Merino pre-felt, cotton batting, mulberry paper, hemp cord, and cotton yarn,

THEME - As a child, I spent my holidays at the seaside and collected "flotsam". I imagined that the Mermaid had brought her treasures to me. I am impressed by the play of the light and sound reflected by the movement of the waves.

Through the power and repetition of their rhythm, "Gifts" from the sea are washed ashore. The inspiration for my work comes from nature as a whole and its diversity. Lights, movements, smells and sounds play a major role in the development and implementation of my ideas!

BIO - Astrid, originally from Germany, has been living in Ireland for four decades. She has been working as a freelance artist under the name bombyxMori wearable art. In 2015, Astrid completed a three-year certificate in felting, "Fit in Filz" in Oberrot, Germany. She received further education under well-known textile artists in Ireland & Germany. She is a member of Feltmakers Ireland, International textile group "(Un)perfect 10, International Feltmakers Association and Design Crafts Council of Ireland.

bombyxmoriwearableart.com

facebook.com/BombyxMoriArt

@bombyxmoriwearableart

€440



Astrid Tomrop-Hofmann

Joanne Turner

Waterfall

Wet-felted from Merino wool and nuno felted hand-dyed paj silk with mohair yarn decorative fibres

THEME- I have taken my main inspiration from waterfalls. The organically rippled and dimpled form and texture of hand-dyed nuno felted silk represents flowing water tumbling and weaving through a mountain until it emerges freely at the end of its journey. And this free-flowing form is echoed in the curvaceous border that is reminiscent of watery life forms such as sea slugs and seaweed.

BIO- My name is Joanne Turner, and I am the West Cork based feltmaker behind my small craft business Olann Originals.

I mainly spend my time crafting items for sale locally, so it is a gift to myself to take time out to do something completely creative and let my imagination flow.

olannoriginals.ie

[@olannoriginals](https://www.instagram.com/olannoriginals)

€150



Joanne Turner

Feltmakers Ireland would like to thank you for exploring our exhibition catalogue, celebrating the work of 67 incredible artists who work in wool and use felting techniques to express themselves. We hope their creativity and vision have inspired you.

A special thank you to knitwear designer Conor O'Brien for graciously agreeing to launch this year's exhibition.

We are also deeply grateful to the Phoenix Park Visitors Centre staff and the OPW for hosting us in their beautiful gallery, as well as to the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland (DCCI) for their generous support.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes to our long-time guild members, Annika Berglund, Breda Fay and Fiona Leech, for serving as drop-off points for the artwork. Immense appreciation to Adrienne Dempsey for creating all the placards, with additional thanks to Annika and Fiona for installing the exhibition.

Lastly, to our families and friends—thank you for your unwavering support as we immerse ourselves in the world of felting.

The Committee of Feltmakers Ireland

Deirdre Carroll, Lorna Cady, Sam Fagan, Loli Cox, Juliane Gorman, Adrienne Dempsey, Elizabeth Redding, , Belinda Reid, Irina Lampadova, Helena Mc Guinness, Karen Bowden, Christine Bond, and Mary ORourke.

We look forward to welcoming you to our future exhibitions!

For more information, visit - <https://feltmakersireland.com>

