
Dessiree Flynn - Biography

Born in Tuam Co. Galway in 1955, Dessiree Flynn qualified as a solicitor in 1977 and practiced law until 1996. She received a BA hon. degree in photography from DIT school of photography in 2001. She has exhibited at a number of shows including Boyle Arts Festival and Eigse Arts festival in Carlow.

Try to consider these questions about *Carlow Sugar Factory*

1. Is this a painting, or if not, what is it?
2. Why do you think there is no frame on this? Would it look better with a frame, and if so, why?
3. This is a very individualistic method of image presentation. Analyse carefully the formal elements of this piece and consider their effects.
4. This image is of the Carlow Sugar factory, that's made clear by its title, but why is such a subject worthy of photographing?
5. Painting and photography have been competing for the last hundred years. Their relationship has led to some of the most interesting developments in painting's recent past. Digital cameras have added a fresh voice to the debate. Does this add fuel to the claim that painting is dead?
6. Without manipulation, a photograph is a direct record of real objects, places and people. What types of subjects are worthy of photography? When does a photograph stop being a record and start being Art?

On the reverse of this sheet is a short one-page exercise to assist you while looking at the painting. It comprises of five questions. Feel free to fill it out and take it home with you or you can simply use the questions in your mind as prompts to look at the painting more thoroughly. (If you do fill it out, please tell a member of staff so we can replace it for the next visitor)

1. Answer the first question, "Like/Dislike", with just one of these two words.
2. The next one is "Description", here describe all the physical details you can about the painting such as the name of the artist; the title; medium; dimensions as well as how the paint is applied and so on.
3. For the next one "Imagery", note down what the painting is of. For example Barrie Cooke's *Two Lough Key Islands* might include, "an island in mist, sort of abstracted, out in the lake but sort of floating in the painting" or Blaise Drummond's *Wreck of Hope* might include "a passenger aeroplane flying through a circular gap in stormy clouds in the centre of the painting. The plane is very small for the size of the painting" Describe as much as you can, everything you notice such as the choice of colours, the position of things in the painting and so on.
4. In the next one "Interpretation". Try to figure out what the artist was trying to communicate, what they meant by putting these things on the canvas, why are they there, what does the choice of colours signify, how does one bit relate to another, what was the artist feeling? Think about this for a couple of minutes before you come to your conclusions.
5. Finally you come to "Like/Dislike" again, but this time rather than just one word, give a sentence or two about your answer.