



AIB announces winner of 'The AIB Prize' for 2006
3rd May 2006

At a reception in the RHA Gallagher Gallery, Dublin, today, AIB's Group Chief Executive, Eugene Sheehy, announced that **Linda Quinlan** is the winner of this year's **AIB Prize ' An Annual Award for Artists of Promise.**

Quinlan, born in Cork in 1977, was nominated by the Crawford Municipal Art Gallery, Cork. She graduated from the Crawford College of Art and Design, Cork in 1999 with first class honours degree in fine arts. The artist creates stunning installations, temporary sculptures assembled directly on site. Deliberately fragile and ephemeral, the work reflects a sense of mortality and the world we live in. Linda Quinlan wins a prize of €20,000 to assist in the publication of a catalogue and to facilitate the production of new work for an exhibition in the Crawford Municipal Art Gallery, Cork, in 2007. The three runners-up, who each received an award of €1,500, and the galleries who nominated them are:

Austin McQuinn Butler Gallery, Kilkenny

Eamon O'Kane Draíocht, Dublin

Sean Lynch Limerick City Gallery of Art

Eugene Sheehy said, "Over the past twenty five years it has given AIB enormous satisfaction to be able to support artists by purchasing their work for the bank's art collection. However, six years ago we decided to take this commitment one step further with *the AIB Prize*, helping to launch the careers of important Irish artists of the future who are at the beginning of their creative lives".

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