

# CROSS

Born in Dublin, Claire Carpenter studied printmaking in NCAD, completing a Masters in Chelsea School of Art. She has shown in the RHA Annual Exhibition since 2002. In 2006 she exhibited in AIRMAIL, organised by the painter Richard Gorman RHA, at the Yanagisawa Gallery in Tokyo, which also included the artists Nathalie du Pasquier, Chung Eun Mo, Patrick M Fitzgerald, Ronnie Hughes and Willie McKeown.

There is a shifting blend of fantasy and recollection in Claire Carpenters predominately small scale tempera on gesso paintings. Using passages of loose rhythmical brushwork Carpenter conjures up a dream-like and intimate atmosphere and then weaves it together with intricate narrative details. This complex relationship between the remembered and real, abstracted and representational creates an uneasy balance and tension within the frame, as if each brush stroke hides a dark secret. Meticulously rendered depictions of animals, human figures, shells and landscape details seem to loosely refer to the artists own memories and ask questions about how we see, how we know and how we remember.