



Mairéad O hEocha — Whisper Concrete

Mairéad O hEocha transforms the mundane into something almost epic with this impressive show of paintings from the last five years. The wheelie bins, gable ends and garden ornaments of roadside locations are envisioned as landscapes in near-heroic mode. Rubbish bags rest by a side door in *Old House and Curved Road*, Ferns, Co Wexford; and Wendy houses sit forlorn but innocent on the pavement outside *Halls Playhouses*, Monamolin, Co Wexford. This is the rural suburbia that Irish motorway construction has left eerily empty. Balancing strong brush strokes with a nuanced use of muted greys and olive greens, as in *House with Miniature Round Tower*, Co Carlow, left, O hEocha produces small-scale works that are marked by an intelligent restraint and yet have an exhilarating, zeitgeist feel.

Cristin Leach

*Butler Gallery, Kilkenny, today-Sat
10am-1pm and 2pm-5.30pm*