



Richard Proffitt – Wild Cries of Ha-Ha

The title of Richard Proffitt's show is the name of one of the eight charnel grounds associated with Tibetan Buddhism. These are places of transformation, where the living and the dead communicate, and are populated by shamans, roaming spirits and corpses. Proffitt's intention is to recreate this ambience, for our edification. At a time of the year when we're bloated with excess, it's timely to be reminded of the vanity of earthly wishes. His weird assemblages and cryptic objets trouvés are designed to transport us to a spiritual realm where we are liberated from this pragmatic world.

He employs totemic icons, fetishes, copies of ancient rock drawings, medicine wheels, puppet heads, snake vertebrae, feathers, assorted skulls and masonic insignia to help us on our way. These artefacts, assembled from other times and other cultures, all point to the same end. The eerie voice of the tragic Karen Carpenter reminds us that "it's merely an illusion". This is an exhibition in which to immerse yourself, rather than sit back and judge. Turn off your mind, relax and float downstream.

John P O'Sullivan

*Kevin Kavanagh Gallery, Dublin, Tue-Fri
10.30am-5.30pm, Sat 11am-5pm, 01 4759 514*