

DAIRINE VANSTON 1903-1988

The subject of my research is the contribution made by the artist Dairine Vanston to Irish Modernism. Although she received critical acclaim in her day and was considered to be the most avant-garde of her generation, she is little known today.

Vanston regularly contributed to mainstream exhibitions in Dublin, such as the Irish Exhibition of Living Art, for over forty years. I intend to catalogue and re-assess her work.



Self portrait, c.1931



A dying Animal, c.1943

The literature on Vanston is very sparse. Very little in-depth, critical assessment has been carried out on her work to date.

There are many areas that require further research such as possible stylistic influences on her work by artists she is sometimes compared to, such as Gauguin and Picasso. Researching Vanston's work will be challenging as very few of her works are hanging in public galleries.

My research might take me to Costa Rica where she lived and was highly regarded. She was in fact described as a legend in a recent publication on Costa Rican art.

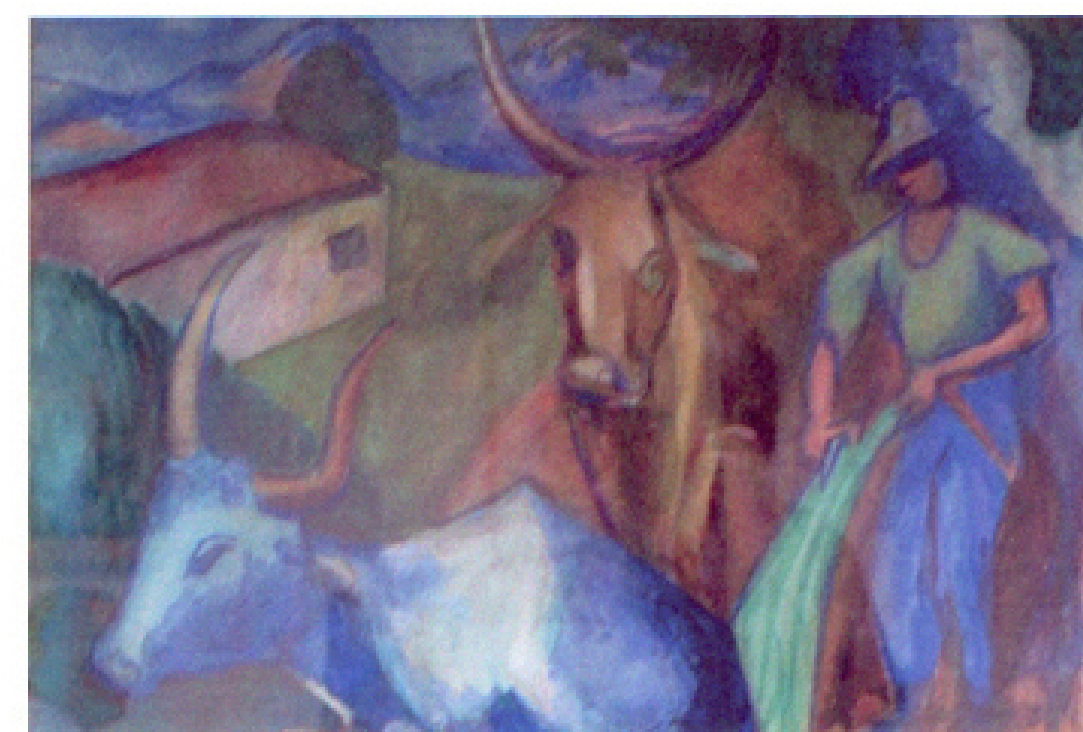
In Ireland, she was honoured by being elected to Aosdana.



Self Portrait, 1948-1986

My research will involve interviewing art critics, gallery owners and her contemporaries. As she was associated with the White Stag group, it will be necessary to research the correspondence and papers relating to Basil Rakoczi, Kenneth Hall and others connected to the White Stag group.

In order to view the privately owned collections of Vanston's work, I intend contacting the owners through various auctioneers and galleries.



On the Land, Costa Rica, No Date

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