

GORRY GALLERY



The Carnival of Venice
Paul Kelly

The Gorry Gallery

requests the pleasure of your company
at the Private View
of an exhibition and book launch

The Carnival of Venice

by

Paul Kelly

on **Sunday 2nd December, 2012**

Wine 3 o'clock

GORRY GALLERY

The Carnival of Venice

by

Paul Kelly



2. TOWARDS THE PIAZZA FROM SALUTE



2nd — 14th December, 2012



Paul Kelly first exhibited with the Gorry Gallery some 20 years ago in the spring of 1992, and the show was an unprecedented success.

From a market-gardening family in Rush, County Dublin, Paul Kelly's early paintings were inspired by the local Fingal countryside, with its flat farming land and coastline; its small harbours and fishing vessels. This environment heightened his spiritual vision and – like the 17th century Dutch painters before him – he crafted expansive landscapes with great sensitivity.

In later exhibitions, he expanded both the range and scale of his work, introducing figures and animals increasingly. His portrayals of rural domestic life, threshing and horse fairs, thatching scenes and steam rallies, were enthusiastically received.

Although it was never Paul's intention to paint 'commercial' work, there developed an almost insatiable appetite for these pictures, and this unsettled him, regardless of how rewarding it had become. He lost his artistic drive and stopped painting.

What saved him at this time was Lambay Island, a daily sight off the coast near his home. Margaret and Patrick Kelly (no relation) resided on the island, and they invited him to rusticate there, in the hope that the solitude would revive his spirits. It certainly did. On Lambay, Paul discovered the perfect idyll he needed in which to paint. The result, his ground-breaking exhibition: 'Lambay – Portrait of an Island' in 2004.

In the following years, he travelled to Morocco, Prague and Budapest to paint, exhibiting the resulting work with the Gorry Gallery. Later, he changed direction again with a tour of Brittany, following in the footsteps of the many Irish and international artists who had set up a painting colony there in the late 19th century. Paul was particularly taken by the Breton Pardons - religious processions in traditional costumes - something which would sow the seeds of his later Venetian work, the subject of this book. His brush portrayed Breton culture and history, featuring Concarneau, Pont Aven, Bénodet, Quimper, Quimperlé and Raz, and this body of work was exhibited with us in 2010.

Artists are constantly searching for new subjects to paint that truly motivate and inspire. In Paul Kelly's case it was his first painting trip to Venice, when he stayed in the studio of Ken Howard, R.A. The magic of Venice, where time has stood still, mesmerised him in the same way as it has drawn legions of painters over the centuries; from Canaletto to Guardi, from Bonington to Turner and Sargent.

On one such visit, Paul encountered 'Carnevale di Venezia' (the Venice Carnival), and it engrossed, enthralled and inspired him, with its timeless festivities and extravagant costumes with masks, feathers and fans.

The collection of work in this exhibition and the accompanying book which we are proud to host, are Paul Kelly's 21st century interpretation of this spectacular event. I hope that the lavish illustrations will transport the spirit of the viewer to the 'Carnavale' to share in the artist's intimate vision.

James Gorry



46. TWO DANDIES



49. QUIET AFTERNOON, RIO di SAN BARNABA



6. STREET MUSICIANS



53. BRIDGE OF SIGHS



10. THE WATCHERS



31. OPULENT PAIR



34. MASTER OF CEREMONIES



17. CAUGHT UP IN THE BUSTLE

Catalogue

Measurements are in centimetres. Height precedes width. All paintings are signed.

GALLERY I

1. **'Gondola Ride'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 18
Illustrated below



GONDOLA RIDE

2. **'Towards the Piazza from Salute'**
Oil on canvas 22 x 33
Illustrated title page
3. **'Street Performance'**
Oil on canvas 33 x 22
4. **'Greeting in St. Marks Square'**
Oil on canvas 40 x 40
5. **'Meeting before the Parade'**
Oil on canvas 40 x 40
6. **'Street Musicians'**
Oil on canvas 33 x 24
Illustrated page 7
7. **'Moored Gondolas, view towards San Giorgio Maggiore'**
Oil on canvas 22 x 33
8. **'Waiting Gondola'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 18
9. **'Carnival Display'**
Oil on canvas 46 x 33
10. **'The Watchers'**
Oil on canvas 38 x 46
Illustrated page 9
11. **'Bellissima Ragazza'**
Oil on canvas 46 x 33
12. **'Stepping Out'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 18
13. **'Beauty leading the Ceremony'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 18
14. **'Waiting Gondoliers, Campo Santa Maria Maddalena'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 30
15. **'A Noble Lady'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 18
16. **'Casanova'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 18
17. **'Caught up in the Bustle'**
Oil on canvas 46 x 38
Illustrated page 11
18. **'Grand Canal from the Accademia Bridge'**
Oil on canvas 22 x 33
19. **'Carnival Cats'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 24
20. **'In Her Finery'**
Oil on canvas 46 x 33
21. **'Three Marionette's'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 24
22. **'The Chaperone'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 24
Illustrated front cover

GALLERY II

23. **'Umbrellas on the Piazzetta'**

Oil on canvas 27 x 22

24. **'Interior Courtyard, Doge's Palace'**

Oil on canvas 27 x 22

Illustrated below



INTERIOR COURTYARD, DOGE'S PALACE

25. **'Salute detail, Winged Angels'**

Oil on wood 30 x 25

26. **'Trident Couple'**

Oil on canvas 46 x 38

27. **'The Mirror'**

Oil on canvas 46 x 38

28. **'The Jester'**

Oil on canvas 30 x 30

29. **'Behind the Fish Market'**

Oil on canvas 33 x 41

30. **'Venice Canal'**

Oil on canvas 30 x 40

31. **'Opulent Pair'**

Oil on canvas 30 x 30

Illustrated page 9

32. **'Reflected Gaze'**

Oil on canvas 30 x 30

33. **'End of the Day'**

Oil on canvas 30 x 24

34. **'Master of Ceremonies'**

Oil on canvas 30 x 24

Illustrated page 10

35. **'Venetian Shop Window'**

Oil on canvas 30 x 24

36. **'The Pose'**

Oil on canvas 30 x 24

37. **'Laughing Couple'**

Oil on canvas 33 x 22

Downstairs Galleries

38. **'Silk Ladies'**

Oil on canvas 24 x 18

39. **'Elegant Costumes in White'**

Oil on canvas 19 x 24

40. **'The Embrace'**

Oil on canvas 33 x 22

41. **'Woman in Green Hat'**

Oil on canvas 24 x 18

42. **'Hidden Faces'**

Oil on canvas 19 x 24

43. **'Busy Canal Scene'**

Oil on canvas 24 x 18

44. **'Welcome to 'Carnavale di Venezia''**

Oil on canvas 30 x 40

45. **'Masqueraders'**

Oil on canvas 33 x 24

46. **'Two Dandies'**

Oil on canvas 33 x 22

Illustrated page 5

47. **'Dandy Cavalier'**

Oil on canvas 24 x 18

48. **'Towards Santa Maria Della Salute'**

Oil on canvas 33 x 22

49. **'Quiet Afternoon, Rio di San Barnaba'**

Oil on canvas 40 x 30

Illustrated page 6

50. **'Gathered for 'Flight of the Angel''**

Oil on canvas 30 x 24

51. **'The Family'**
Oil on canvas 40 x 30
Illustrated below



THE FAMILY

52. **'After the Celebrations'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 24
53. **'Bridge of Sighs'**
Oil on wood 40 x 30
Illustrated page 8
54. **'Mooring Poles, Grand Canal'**
Oil on canvas 33 x 22
55. **'Young Venetian Couple'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 18
56. **'Sitting on Steps, Piazza San Marco'**
Oil on canvas 46 x 33
57. **'Bird Cages'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 24
58. **'Towards Rialto Bridge'**
Oil on canvas 25 x 35
59. **'Winter Scene, Ca Dario'**
Oil on canvas 33 x 41
60. **'Late Evening, Santi Giovanni e Paolo'**
Oil on canvas 25 x 35
61. **'The Last Dance'**
Oil on canvas 18 x 24
62. **'Carnival Dance'**
Oil on canvas 18 x 24
63. **'Cloister Walkway'**
Oil on canvas 33 x 22
64. **'Little Venetian'**
Oil on canvas 40 x 40
65. **'Ceiling detail, Basilica di San Giovanni e Paolo'**
Oil on wood 35 x 25
66. **'Leisurely Stroll'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 30
67. **'Small Courtyard'**
Oil on canvas 33 x 24
68. **'Venetian Masks'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 24
69. **'Regal Gentlemen'**
Oil on canvas 40 x 30
70. **'Canal reflections'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 30
71. **'Meeting in Venice'**
Oil on canvas 40 x 30
72. **'Procession'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 24
73. **'Side Canal'**
Oil on canvas 24 x 18
74. **'Gathering for the Procession'**
Oil on canvas 22 x 33
75. **'Sunlight and Shadows, Side Canal'**
Oil on wood 30.5 x 40.7
76. **'San Pietro di Castello'**
Oil on canvas 22 x 33
77. **'Ladies in Waiting, Green and Blue'**
Oil on canvas 30 x 24
78. **'The Conversation'**
Oil on canvas 40 x 40
79. **'Marble Figures'**
Oil on wood 25 x 30
80. **'Altar detail, Carved Angels'**
Oil on wood 30 x 25
81. **'Horses of St. Mark'**
Oil on wood 25 x 30

Notes

GORRY GALLERY, 20 MOLESWORTH STREET, DUBLIN 2. TELEPHONE and FAX 6795319

The Gallery is open Monday – Friday 11.30 a.m. – 5.30 p.m.

Saturday (during Exhibition only) 11.30 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.

www.gorrygallery.ie

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