

## PRESS RELEASE

**Elizabeth Magill**

**Headland**

The New Art Gallery Walsall

**17 October 2018 – 20 January 2019**

**Preview: Tuesday 16 October, 6-8pm**

**The New  
Art Gallery  
Walsall**

**Major solo exhibition by artist Elizabeth Magill at The New Art Gallery Walsall**



**Elizabeth Magill**, *Divide*, 2016-17, oil and film on canvas, 22.5x31.5cm.  
Photography by Hugo Glendinning.

Elizabeth Magill is one of her generation's leading painters and this exhibition will present a body of new work and introduce her developing practice to a new and established audience.

Magill came to the attention of the art world in the early 90s with a major exhibition at the Arnolfini, Bristol, followed by prestigious group shows at Serpentine Gallery, London, Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin and the 1990 British Art Show. Magill has been the recipient of many significant awards and prizes over her 35 year career.

"A kind of concentrated ambiguity regarding the natural world... characterises Magill's paintings. Throughout her career Magill has been drawn to the language of painting using nature and landscape. She draws from them a gorgeous and engrossing multiplicity of visual and sensory 'description", Declan Long, Art critic and lecturer, 2014

Magill's work is redolent of her sense of place - the Glens of Antrim, Northern Ireland - which have preoccupied and informed her relationship with a sense of place and her visual response to it. Her approach to painting and image making is always experimental, allowing for previous attempts to give way to newer ones to form an unfolding openness.

Magill explains that "although my work refers to landscape it is more like an exterior view, an attempt to create a setting or space to place things a kind of deposit of thoughts and observations within the framework of a personal and painting practice"

As the late John Berger wrote in his last publication *Landscape*, 'Sometimes a landscape seems less a setting for the life of its inhabitants than a curtain behind which their struggles, achievements and accidents take place landmarks are no longer only geographical but also biographical and personal'.

### **Note to Editors**

Elizabeth Magill was born in Canada in 1959. She grew up in Northern Ireland but now lives and works in London. She began exhibiting in the mid 1980s. Her first major exhibition was at Arnolfini, Bristol in 1990 and in the same year, she was included in the British Art Show. Previous solo exhibitions include Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, Dublin City Gallery, Hugh Lane, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, Baltic, Gateshead, Milton Keynes Gallery and the Glynn Vivian Gallery, Swansea. She is represented in many public and private collections worldwide including the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin, the National Collection of Contemporary Drawing, Limerick City Art Gallery, Ulster Museum, Southampton City Art Gallery, the British Council and the National Gallery of Australia.

<http://elizabethmagill.com>

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### **Note to Editors:**

For further information and to obtain press images, arrange a photocall

and interviews, please contact Chris Wilkinson on 01922 654416

[chris.wilkinson@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:chris.wilkinson@walsall.gov.uk)

Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm, Sunday 12noon – 4pm.

Closed Mondays and Bank Holidays. Free admission.

The New Art Gallery Walsall is funded by revenue support from Walsall Council and the Arts Council England. For more information visit

[thenewartgallerywalsall.org.uk](http://thenewartgallerywalsall.org.uk)



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