

Amanda Coogan

Yellow, an ArtFilm (in collaboration with Paddy Cahill)

2012

Single-channel HD video

240 minutes

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Amanda Coogan is one of the most exciting contemporary visual artists practicing from Dublin, Ireland. Coogan is to the forefront of the current wave of durational performance artists practicing in the visual art. Her extraordinary work is challenging, provocative and always visually stimulating. Coogan's powerful live performances are fundamental to her video and photographic work. Her expertise lies in her ability to condense an idea to its very essence and communicate it through her body. She has exhibited and performed her work widely. Her work is quoted by Robert Wilson in his current production of *'The Life and Death of Marina Abramovic'*. 'Coogan, whose work usually entails ritual, endurance and cultural iconography, is the leading practitioner of performance in the country' wrote *The Irish Times*. The film, *Yellow*, is a vital exploration of durational, endurance based live performance. Premised on a solo live performance commissioned by Artists Space, New York, Coogan employed five other women to perform the work alongside her and collaborated with film-maker Paddy Cahill. The resulting film is an outstandingly beautiful contemplation on embodied female energy. A non-narrative film it follows each performance through the ebb and flow of action, concentration, crisis, and determination. 'Six women dressed in yellow come, one by one and night after night, to wash and re-wash the long garment they are wearing. The act of repeatedly submerging and scrubbing the cloth becomes an act of cleansing and rebirth, their raw knuckles scraping, increasingly violently, against the fabric. The grunts and groans of their efforts become haunting cries echoing throughout the chamber. Their bodies twist and contort, becoming harbingers of an almost talismanic energy; an energy that can be felt like breath on your face, an energy that collectively becomes a triumph of the spirit.' – The Jameson Dublin International Film Festival on *Yellow*. Shot over the 24-hour of a live exhibition, *Yellow* composites six single takes of each live performance. Unfolding over four hours, this film follows the durational nature of the original performances. Six extraordinary performances filmed in a series of epic takes is a film unlike any other.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Kevin Kavanagh is one of the Ireland's leading galleries showing Irish and international contemporary art. In 2008 the gallery moved to a 135m² space on Chancery Lane designed by architect Philip Crowe of MCO Projects. It represents both established and emerging artists from Ireland and abroad. The gallery's annual programme consists of 8/9 solo and 1 curated group show as well as special events, screenings, performances, artists talks and participation at international art fairs.

Kevin Kavanagh

Chancery Lane

Dublin 8

IRELAND

Contact:

Kevin Kavanagh / Director

T: +353 863962248

E: info@kevinkavanaghgallery.ie

W: www.kevinkavanaghgallery.ie