

Nick Miller Vessels: Nature Morte

RHA Foyer : 16th January to 28th April 2015

Between painting people and landscape, I bring elements of the natural world into the studio to try and hold them in paint in arrangements that resonate: a *Still-Life* in other words. I prefer the french term *Nature Morte*, which brings to mind the reality of the cycle of life, nature and death that underlies the genre. I returned to painting flowers in 2011 because I had begun using them in a collaborative creative project at North West Hospice. As is traditional in visiting the sick, I bring flowers, using them as a subject for watercolours in a temporary studio on the ward. If appropriate, I engage with patients through the work, sometimes leading to portraits, interiors and sometimes just to flower paintings.

By early 2013, this practice in the Hospice had generated a new energy in my own studio for a new series of *Nature Morte* paintings. The process had become embedded, and the paintings became ways for me to make remote connection with my own mother, who was terminally ill over a long period: a way of attending her, even if not physically. They are titled by what is in them, but *The Vessels* are equal subject: vases, bottles and pots she collected in her life.



Artichokes. 2014. Oil on Linen. 112 x 96 cm. Nick Miller. Courtesy of the artist / Rubicon Gallery

More info: www.nickmiller.ie

**Royal Hibernian Academy,
Gallagher Gallery, 15 Ely Place, Dublin 2**

+353 1 6612558
info@rhagallery.ie
www.rhagallery.ie

Opening Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 11am to 5pm, Wednesday 11am to 8pm, Sunday 12pm to 5pm