



## All human life is here

**KILKENNY ARTS FESTIVAL**  
Various venues, Kilkenny  
Until Aug 14 [kilkenny.ie](http://kilkenny.ie)

Over the next couple of weeks there are more exhibitions in Kilkenny and the surrounding environs than you could shake a stick at, including a whole subsidiary festival at Thomastown.

This year's main strand is curated by the Rubicon

Gallery's Josephine Kelleher. Her line-up includes a show by New York-based artist Ann Craven, who makes large-scale painting installations based on the obsessive repetition-with-variation of well-tried motifs, including cats, flowers, deer and the moon.

If you saw Nick Miller at work painting John Waters in the recently screened TV documentary, you may like to

catch more of his meditations on the theme of the reclining nude in painting, as he works on another – male – subject (above) in his studio (showing at The Heritage Council). Maria McKinney and Liam O'Callaghan are two of Ireland's best sculptural installations artists, sure to be worth seeing, at Rothe House and Kilkenny Castle, respectively.

Also featured are Jacco Olivier's extraordinary painted animations, Michael Thomas Murphy's multi-material constructs and, in St Mary's Hall, David Beattie.

**AIDAN DUNNE**

**CAN'T SEE THAT?  
CATCH THIS**

**Gwen O'Dowd** Hamilton  
Gallery, Sligo Until Aug 27  
071-9143686