

1.

Which piece of art makes you happy?

All art makes me happy. I have so many that I could mention but just this one piece titled Hellelil and Hildebrand, The Meeting on the Turret Stairs by Frederic William Burton (1816–1900) at the National Gallery of Ireland.

2.

Can you be catholic, Irish and happy?

Yes, of course you can.

I think that the Irish people have a wonderful sense of humour. Personally I love it.

3.

Are modern times too serious?

I try my best to focus on what is most important to me now. I enrich my life with family, work, my dogs and my natural surroundings.

4.

Are the richest the happiest?

I like to imagine that you either have to work very hard or it would give you great freedom to explore our beautiful planet. Personally I would use my time in trying to save these things for the next generation.

5.

What is contemporary?

Everything that is happening now.

Genieve

Figgis

interview by

PDR

6.

What is happiness?

Everyone has their own idea of happiness and it is an individual choice. That is what is important.

7.

Does art make us happier?

Yes it does. Film, theatre, painting, photography, music etc... I'm most happy when I'm totally emerged in these activities. I'm very grateful to the talented people who entertain us and make us happier human beings on this earth.

8.

How do you pursue happiness?

I paint and that's what I do everyday but all of the above give me great pleasure, my family and my dogs too.

9.

Can negativity trigger creativity?

Yes sometimes, but so can happiness and all of our emotions. We all should express them in Art.

10.

If you could organise an imaginary dinner party including guests from the past and the present, who would you invite to the table?.

Vincent Price, Kenneth Williams, Marie Antoinette, Edgar Allen Poe, Jean Cocteau, Kenny Everett, Picasso, Dali, Mary Shelley, Claude Debussy, Napoleon Bonaparte, Jane Austen, Oscar Wilde, Peter Cushing, Elizabeth the 1st, Frances Ford Coppola, and Phil Lynott. I'd say it could be a very entertaining evening. Interesting conversation with a few laughs. I love people and that is why I paint them. I'm sure this list could go on forever. Everyone's invited!





