## People to watch in 2016: Arts

There's a nod to visual art, the stage, and even a robot-themed 3D printing company in Gemma Tipton's selection of people to watch in the arts this year

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## Genieve Figgis Artist

Just over two years ago, Gorey School of Art and NCAD graduate Genieve Figgis was showing at Elaine Grainger's Talbot Gallery, notable for its

strong emerging artist programme. Then everything changed: "Richard Prince discovered my work on Twitter and introduced me to Harper Levine at Harper's Books, and Bill Powers at Half Gallery [both in New York] and that's when things really took off."

Her paintings hint at past eras, and yet are disconcertingly distorted. "I love the immediacy of acrylic and its contemporary feel," she says, while still "maintaining the look of an oil painting as my work is mostly informed by history . . . I had to figure out how to obtain the right balance".

Currently working on an animated short film, she also has an exhibition opening in Los Angeles over Oscar weekend. "I enjoy experimenting with alternative venues so people don't only see the paintings in a traditional white box." Figgis lives in Ireland, with a studio on the Wicklow coast. "I love it here," she says simply. And the art world has fallen in love with her paintings too. genievefiggis.com