

## Paint in their genes

They say art runs in families, the creative and artistic genes can be passed down through the family generations. "Father & Son" at Campion Framing is that show!

For the first time in over five years Val Byrne and his son Roland have come together to bring a unique two man art exhibition to the Kilkenny Arts Festival. Father & Son spans two generations of family art.

Val was born in Dublin, he studied Art and Architecture at UCD. By the early 70's he had established his own architectural practice. The business carried out major projects throughout Ireland, Africa and the Middle East. In 1985 Val was awarded and made a Fellow of the Royal **Institute of the Architects** of Ireland (FRIAI).

In the late 1980's Val retired and went full time with his painting, he has a particular interest in the urban landscape most of his paintings record Irish scenes of the 20th and 21st Century with an emphasis on harbours, boats and a mixture of domestic and residential buildings. Bright colours, a degree of quirkiness and the absurd are trademarks of Val's work.

Roland lives and paints full time from his studio near Leighlinbridge, he was the creative director at Metro Advertising PLC and a popular broadcaster in the 90s. He specialises in both water-



Val and Roland Byrne.

colour and oil landscape painting. Roland's work is a combination of fine art techniques coupled with his own innovative methods which bring the observer into a rich atmospheric and often semi abstract world. Vast coastal landscapes with strong colour, contrast and yet equally quiet passages allow the viewer to engage with his paintings on many different levels. Fragmented busy streetscapes full of colour, light and shadows convey the atmosphere and mystery of local iconic cities and towns.

Both Roland's and Val's paintings are held in many private and corporate art collections throughout the world including: Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland; Mary McAleese, Former President of Ireland; Mary Robinson, Former President of

Ireland and U.N. Commissioner for Human Rights; Jean Kennedy Smith, former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland; Irish Embassies in Europe, USA, Asia and Australia; The Department of Defence; The Irish Defence Forces; Bank of America; Electric Ireland; Sheraton Hotels & Resorts & Radisson Blu Hotel Group.

Val and Roland are two very different artists when it comes to the brush and technique but their passion and talent for painting equals. It's a stunning, vibrant and unique show that you shouldn't miss as both father and son exhibit their work side by side.

Two generations of art, "Father & Son" shows daily at their good friend Paul Campion's framing shop. Campion Framing, Dean Street. From 10am till 7pm, Friday 5th Aug till Sunday 14th August.