

I AM WOMAN...

An investigative photo-essay
by Documentary Visual Artist,

Lise McGreevy



I Am... Woman is McGreevy's latest collection as part of Phase II of her PEACE AND RECONCILE programme.

It comprise of 20 A0 size (841 x 1189mm) pieces.

Collection Biography

“Empowering women as equals is vital; when on a local, and global stage, men so often still take the lead casting. Choosing 2021/22 as the years to collegiate this collection is particularly relevant, with #MeToo campaign high on the public agenda. This year also marks the 50 year anniversary of the first UK Women’s Liberation conference. So how do women’s rights stand presently in Northern Ireland?”

“In 2021, Northern Ireland still has vast gender inequality across all aspects of society.

“At a time when the adult population in NI is a majority 52% female. Inequality still reigns across all sectors of our community. This exhibition aims to support and promote female equality and diversity across race, religion, sexual orientations. By stripping away their differences, I have instead focused on the complex emotions that are felt by all women. This body of work celebrates the humanism and psychological dexterity of the female race.

“*I Am... Woman* encompasses both compassion for women, as well as promotes ‘confident’, ‘fearless’ women who ‘push boundaries. Vive La Femme!”
(McGreevy)

THE ARTWORK



TITLES

- 1 I Am... Dreaming
- 3 I Am... Overjoyed

- 2 I Am... Equal
- 4 I Am ... In Turmoil



5 I Am Every Woman
7 I Am Passionate

6 I Am Fiery
8 I Am Hurting

CURATION OF EXHIBITION

All paper based pieces are hung unframed on bull dog clips. They are light-weight and can be easily hung on the hooks of any hanging system. This technique was used with McGreevy's Abandoned; Not Forgotten? Exhibition during its hosting at The Engine Room Gallery, Belfast, The Flax Gallery, Newtownabbey, The Market Place, Armagh, The Atrium Gallery Space, Dublin and The Gerard Dillon Gallery, Belfast (as Below)

The full collection consists of 15 artworks A0 size (841mm x 1189mm); it is therefore easy to erect/take down and transport. It is also versatile and can be up/downed scaled to suit any specific gallery space. As the works are digital, this collection can be print in any required size to suit venue and client preference and restrictions.

WORKSHOPS

- McGreevy shall begin by introducing the I Am Woman programme. Then the artist will showcase her art collection. Thus, giving the participants an opportunity to connect mentally with their own feelings at that time.
- As part of this programme, McGreevy would also hosts group activities. These take the form of interactive workshops – one or several can be facilitated, depending on what the client's wants/needs. Usually, these workshops consist of 16-20 participants, which are split in four teams. Covid restriction apply.

As an ice breaker, McGreevy shall facilitate a team activity of pass the parcel. The gifts shall be wrapped in different colours (rainbow/primary colours – reflecting a link or ode to the gay community).

- A second fun/educational activity will be facilitated next. Where a designated member from each group must run to retrieve an item from an area within the room. These consist of a note with an equality fact written thereon, wrapped around a token gift). Each team player gets to keep the gift for participating. The fastest participant to retrieve their item, is awarded another gift and their team are announced the winners. Each group will then spend 15 minutes discussing the issue on the retrieved note. Each team's note will be different. Then another 15 minutes of full group discussion shall take place, in relation to all of facts. McGreevy shall facilitate between each of the groups to encourage open discussion.
- With phase two of the workshop, participants will be shown a presentation created by McGreevy, which will showcase the story of women's role and advancement in their rights throughout Northern Irish centenary. To encourage involvement and education, McGreevy shall then facilitate a quiz based on what is learnt during the presentation. A small prize will be awarded.
- For the third part of the workshop, the participants have the opportunity to get creative. McGreevy has printed the titles of some of her collection (such as I Am Creative, I Am Happy, I Am Strong) on to A4 sheets of blank paper. Participants can choose a page that they relate to. Then, either do a drawing/sketch/painting or write a poem/short story, reflecting what the title means to them.
- In conclusion, participants can discuss their drawings, emotions with the group or keep the drawings as a keepsake. Should they choose to talk, this will give the participants the opportunity of discussing issues that they are find hard to deal with emotionally, at work or otherwise. In a safe environment with other who understand the complexities of the workplace, especially during the past two years of the pandemic.