

PRESS RELEASE May 2016

\*\*High Res imagery available on request\*\*

## **Duda Launches Solo Exhibition at Sol Art Gallery**

The event will be opened by music legend **Kevin Godley** at 6pm on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May** 2016

After a successful year exhibiting in Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, Stockholm and London, Irish-Italian artist, David Uda (Duda), has returned to home soil to launch his most recent body of work as a solo exhibition *Belles & Whistles* at **Sol Art** gallery in Dublin. *Belles & Whistles* will be officially opened on **Friday 27th May** by music legend **Kevin Godley**, formerly of platinum-selling band 10cc. The launch event will be sponsored by Italian brewery **Peroni** with music by **DJ Mark Alton**.

While Duda draws a significant amount of his inspiration from the female form, many of his themes reflect his personal take on modern day life. Speaking on the upcoming exhibition, Sol Art Director, Martin Davis, said; "We are extremely excited to be showcasing this new body of work by Duda. A rising star in the Irish art world we find his work to be both intriguing and provocative. The strength of his graphic lines and bold colouring make the most simple images become beautiful, and his messages are strong, direct and refreshing. We are honoured to be representing such unique talent at this pivotal moment in his career."

With a background in fashion and a love for the aesthetics of shape and form, Duda's pieces are colourful and naturally rendered. Many of Duda's paintings can be characterized by a genuine appreciation for beauty and he is known for exploring a wide variety of techniques in his work - ranging from original stencils to glasswork. Featured on the walls of private homes across the world, in well-known bars and restaurants here and abroad, and with two large commissions on New York's Wall Street - a piece by Duda breathes new life to any space, whether it be private, public or site-specific. Duda continues to catch the eye of collectors both in Ireland and abroad with his unique style of contemporary pop art.

The exhibition will run until June 10th, 2016.

To find out more log on to www.solart.ie

For any press enquiries, interview and high res imagery requests please contact:

Gemma Kenny – GKPR - (086) 805 0025 - gemmakennypr@gmail.com

For queries relating to the Duda Exhibition please contact:

Camille Lynch, Sol Art – (01) 675 0972 or (085) 712 2420 - info@solart.ie

Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Sol-Art-Gallery">https://www.facebook.com/Sol-Art-Gallery</a>

Twitter: @solartgallery



## **NOTES TO EDITOR**

\*Kevin Godley – also known for Godley & Crème, and more recently award-winning director of music videos for acts such as Paul McCartney, U2, The Police, Duran Duran and many others.

## **DAVID UDA**

Born in London in 1980 to an Italian father and an Irish mother, Duda now lives and works in Dublin. With a background in fashion and a love for the aesthetics of shape and form, Duda's pieces are colourful and naturally rendered. Many of Duda's paintings can be characterized by a genuine appreciation for beauty and he is known for exploring a wide variety of techniques in his work - ranging from original stencils to glasswork.

Since 2011 Duda has held four solo shows, as well as various group exhibitions including Art Source in the Royal Dublin Society. Represented by Sol Art Gallery in Dublin, Duda was also selected to exhibit at the renowned Affordable Art Fair in London, Hong Kong, Singapore, Stockholm, Bristol & South Korea, with a show in New York taking place in September 2016.

While a number of his pieces are displayed in major cities around the world, the majority of Duda's work can be seen in well-known wine bars, restaurants and premium retail outlets all over Dublin city - namely Coppinger Row, Whitefriar Grill, The South William, Ukiyo, Pygmalion, Toni & Guy and more. In 2013 Duda was selected by The Jack & Jill Children's Foundation to be amongst Ireland's top artists, as part of the Big Egg Hunt event. Sponsored by leading designer department store, Brown Thomas, Duda's work raised €10,000 at live auction for the children's charity. Following this success, Duda spent several months in the USA, where he was commissioned to create a large-scale portrait of the iconic literary figure Samuel Beckett which now hangs in a well renowned establishment, The Bailey, on New York's Wall Street. Duda continues to catch the eye of collectors internationally with his unique style of contemporary pop art which echoes that of Banksy and Warhol, while adding to his ever-growing portfolio, with personal collections for upcoming exhibitions and bespoke commissions for admirers of his work.