

WEEKEND

# Visual arts

Andrew Harper



## PREVIEW

*LOUD*  
*Aleks Crossan*  
*SOCIAL*  
*Salamanca Arts Centre*  
*77 Salamanca Place*

Aleks Crossan presents a new exhibition, *LOUD* at *Social*, Salamanca Place. Crossan has moved into visual art after a career as a physical performer, and her work speaks to, and to some extent is derived from, that personal history – there's a lot of dance and rich senses of movement to be found here. The gesture is very strong in this work – everything is composed of bold, large shapes that have a looseness clearly derived from persona and physical energy and action. Crossan uses bright, strong colour as a strategy to underline her gestural and formal expressiveness – everything glows and leaps out to a point of luminosity.

It's not all big – there are shapes, calligraphic codes and little spikes of detail that appear and disappear with a brisk suddenness. The work itself hovers and shifts between chunks of smeary expression, impressions of organic form and a dedicated joy in mark-making. Crossan is also finding ways to express and use her medium, and there's lots of experimentation and risk-taking in the work. More than anything else though, the artist has clearly had a good time making the work, and that exuberant, expressive energy is the defining feature of *LOUD* – it's all big and joyful, revelling in the creative moment.



*She's All Over The Place,*  
by Aleks Crossan