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Going Out

Inside today: Essential guide to film, theatre and arts



The Ulster artist's work at centre of transatlantic dispute P4&5



NEWS P7

Fury over killer wife's jail term

A WOMAN who stabbed her husband to death was given a minimum sentence of just four years in jail yesterday. The term given to Pauline Shaw at Belfast Crown Court sparked outrage from the victim's family and from domestic violence campaigners. The brothers of Stephen Shaw shouted abuse at the 47-year-old as she was led to the cells.

LIFE P35

JANE GRAHAM Teen mums need help, not censure



SPORT P84

IFA set to land £23m next year

THE Irish FA are in line to land millions of pounds from the Government early next year after controversial proposals to restructure the association collapsed at last night's EGM. The IFA will receive £23 million for the upgrading of Windsor Park if they can prove they are fit for the purpose in the coming months. Sports Minister Nelson McCausland had threatened to withdraw the cash had the proposals gone through.

Terrorists may go free in fingerprint blunder

TERRORISTS who were recently convicted on fingerprint evidence could now be set free, it was revealed today.

BY CLAIRE McNEILLY AND PAUL HIGGINS

Electronically-captured fingerprints were used in nearly 180 serious crime or terrorist cases dur-

ing a two-year period without the required Government authorisation. A leading Northern Ireland barrister today told the Belfast Telegraph that there was

potential for convicted criminals to be released creating an "alarming situation".

The Live Scan system took 50,000 prints in Northern Ireland

in 2007-09, even though the approval needed for the technique from the Secretary of State was not in place.

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BEST OF BROADWAY

Saturday 18 Dec 2010
Belfast Waterfront
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Join the Ulster Orchestra and guests for songs and orchestral music from award-winning Broadway shows such as *Phantom of the Opera*, *Oliver!*, *Aspects of Love*, *West Side Story*, *The King and I* and more.

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The paintings on the left are by American artist Tim Rogerson...



But would you be able

'He's stealing my life experiences that these paintings are all about'

BY ELAINE LOUGHLIN

A NORTHERN Ireland artist has put himself in the frame of an unlikely transatlantic dispute involving some very colourful drawings.

Belfast-born Martin Bradley has been accused of the ultimate artist's faux-pas — copying another artist's work.

Mr Bradley's paintings look strikingly similar to the work of renowned American artist Tim Rogerson.

When contacted by the Belfast Telegraph, Mr Rogerson accused the local artist of stealing his work.

In response Mr Bradley has apologised for any offence, but denied any deliberate intent to copy. He claims instead to have been influenced by the US painter.

But despite this he has been accused of producing works which are almost "exact replicas" of those produced on the other side of the Atlantic.

Some of the works which Mr Bradley has been accused of copying appeared for sale on an art website earlier this week. This website now redirects users to

another site which does not contain these paintings.

Mr Bradley said that for his own personal collection — and not for resale — he did produce one or two pieces based upon Mr Rogerson's images.

The six paintings by both men feature angular characters in a range of social situations.

Florida-based Mr Rogerson has gained world recognition for his Disney fine art and was also chosen as official artist for the Winter Olympics 2006.

He told this paper: "What bothers me most is not ripping off my style of painting, it's stealing my stories and life experiences that these paintings are all about."

"Each of these paintings are from my personal experiences. I carry a sketchbook everywhere I go and do tons of drawings every day from coffee shops, restaurants, jazz clubs, Martini bars, wherever I go. These characters are my neighbours, my friends, and my family."

"Mr Bradley has no idea who these people are."

Belfast-born Mr Bradley (55) charges up to £300 for prints of

his work. He is the brother of world-famous artist Terry Bradley.

He told the Belfast Telegraph he had taken "inspiration" from the American artist.

He said: "The artist Tim Rogerson is someone I have admired now for quite some time."

"When I first discovered his work I saw a huge comparison to the directions I had found myself taking and I loved how he had developed the ideas further."

"For my own personal collection, and not for resale, I did produce one or two pieces based upon his images."

"But I am not the first artist to have ever practised in this way, nor will I be the last, and I still own the pieces in question."

"It has been brought to my attention once or twice that some of my more recent pieces have a similar style to Tim's but this has never affected the collector's decision to purchase."

"Of course, if I have in some way offended Tim Rogerson I will obviously offer the artist my sincere apologies but that is an issue I will discuss with Tim directly," he said.

'What bothers me most is not ripping off my style, it's stealing my stories and life experiences'

— Tim Rogerson

'The artist Tim Rogerson is someone I have admired now for quite some time'

— Martin Bradley



the two works on the right are by Belfast artist Martin Bradley



to spot the difference?



Artist Martin Bradley's paintings on this side of the page bear a remarkable resemblance to those of Tim Rogerson's on the left

How the law draws a very fine line between homage and copyright

MANY famous artists have been caught up in copying controversies and have been accused of stealing inspiration and ideas.

In some cases the artistic disputes end up in court or with hefty out-of-court settlements.

A leading Belfast solicitor has said that Mr Bradley's paintings may be in breach of copyright and he could face court action.

Paul McDonnell, from McKinty and Wright, said: "Copyright is a property right which subsists in original artistic works and Mr Rogerson's paintings may therefore attract copyright protection.

"Any unauthorised copying of protected works is likely to be an infringement of this right.

"There are a number of remedies available through the courts that Mr Rogerson may well have recourse to in order to protect his rights," Mr McDonnell said.

This is the latest in a long line of artistic disputes.

Andy Warhol made an out-of-court settlement with photographer Patricia Caulfield after he used one of her pictures on a silk screen print in 1964. Ms Caulfield had taken a picture of flowers for

a photography magazine and was outraged when she saw the silk screen copy of the image hanging on the walls of a New York gallery.

The pop-artist, best known for his psychedelic pictures of Marilyn Monroe and Campbell's soup, agreed to give Caulfield a royalty for future use of the image as well as two of the paintings.

Recently British artist Damien Hirst was accused of copying a children's toy to create his iconic 20-foot sculpture Hymn in 2000.

Mr Hirst settled out of court with manufacturers, Humbrol.

In the US photographer Art Rogers accused artist Jeff Koons of stealing the subject of one of his pictures to create a sculpture.

The well-known photograph, Puppies, was used on greeting cards and other merchandise.

Mr Koons admitted that he had intentionally copied the image of a man and woman holding puppies in his sculpture, String Of Puppies. He was found to be in breach of copyright in a US court.

In the UK copyright is breached when the whole work or a substantial part of the work is directly copied from the original.

profile

Belfast-born Martin Bradley (right) now lives and works in Ballyclare. He has produced two collections of paintings, *A Night On The Town* and *The Musical Misfits*, and is now working on a series of images titled *The Icons*. The 55-year-old worked in business for 20 years before deciding to become a professional artist. He is due to exhibit some of his new work in McCracken's Cafe Bar, Belfast, on September 29



profile

Tim Rogerson (right) is a Florida-based artist who has gained recognition for his work for Disney and his use of bright colour. Mr Rogerson studied at Ringling School of Art & Design, Florida, and graduated in 2004. As a student he was quickly spotted as an upcoming artist and influence in his own right. His work was shown at the Best of Ringling exhibitions in 2003 and 2004. He has won international acclaim for his modern cubist twist on Classic Disney images.

