

CHARLES BURNAND GALLERY

## **NIAMH BARRY**

ARTIST PROFILE

## NIAMH BARRY

Niamh Barry (b. 1968) is an Irish artist whose sculptural works in bronze and light explore movement, balance and the expressive potential of line. Since founding her Dublin studio in 2001, she has developed a distinctive language of fluid, spatial forms in which light is embedded as an integral material.

Beginning with intuitive drawings and progressing through maquettes, digital studies and technical development, Barry translates gestural lines into precisely engineered three-dimensional compositions. Although many works incorporate illumination, they are conceived as sculpture first, with function occupying a secondary position.

Barry's work has been exhibited internationally at Design Miami, Design Miami/Basel, Salon Art + Design, PAD London and FOG Art + Design. It was also the subject of a solo exhibition at the National Museum of Ireland from 2018 to 2020. Her commissions include a permanent installation for the Central Bank of Ireland, and her work is held in public and private collections internationally.







## Practice, Process and Materials

Barry's practice begins before an image is committed to paper. Ideas often develop over weeks or months through a period of subconscious incubation, emerging gradually as partial forms, sensations or lines. Rather than forcing an early resolution, she allows the work to develop until it is ready to be drawn out.

The first physical stage consists of rapid, intuitive line drawings. These are not preliminary illustrations of a predetermined object, but a means of discovering its form. Barry repeats and refines the line through drawing, collage, digital manipulation, two- and three-dimensional computer modelling, and physical maquettes. Moving between these formats allows her to test proportion, balance, negative space and spatial presence before determining the final composition.

Once the form has been established, the process shifts from intuition to technical resolution. Bronze is hand-formed and engineered to support structures that can be visually open, physically expansive and, at times, internally illuminated. Its strength allows Barry to preserve the clarity of the original gesture while working at an architectural scale.

Light is integrated into the structure rather than applied after its completion. Barry uses it to extend the drawn line, articulate voids and activate the surrounding space. Opal glass, LEDs, surface treatments and polished or patinated bronze are resolved in relation to the specific character of each work.

Every sculpture is handcrafted in Barry's Dublin studio by a small specialist team. A single work can require approximately 400 hours to complete, bringing intuitive mark-making, material knowledge and exacting engineering into a unified process.



**NIAMH BARRY | Artists Hand VII | 2026**

Hand formed solid bronze, mirror polished, opal mosaic glass, LEDs  
H. 74 x W. 154 x D. 105 cm | H. 29 1/8 x W. 60 5/8 x D. 41 3/8 inches







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H. 74 x W. 154 x D. 105 cm | H. 29 1/8 x W. 60 5/8 x D. 41 3/8 inches

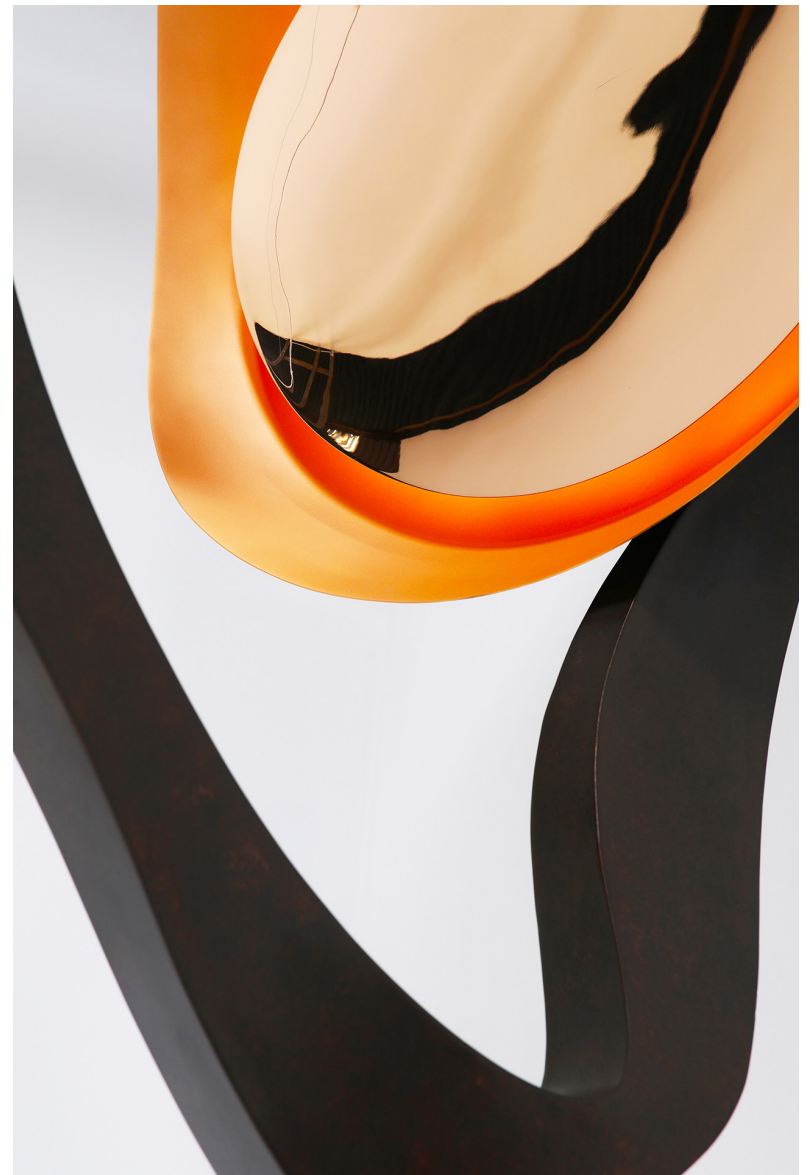




NIAMH BARRY | Ossification | 2025

Hand hammered and hand formed solid bronze, dark brown patina, LEDs, magnets  
H. 226.7 x W. 372.4 x D. 96.8 cm | H. 89 1/4 x W. 146 5/8 x D. 38 1/8 inches





**NIAMH BARRY | Ossification | 2025**

Hand hammered and formed solid bronze, dark brown patina, LEDs, magnets  
H. 226.7 x W. 372.4 x D. 96.8 cm | H. 89 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x W. 146 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 38 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches









**NIAMH BARRY | Standing Light Sculpture | 2022**

Solid hand formed bronze, black patina and mirror polish, LEDs  
H. 230 x W. 130 x D. 85 cm | H. 90 1/2 x W. 51 1/8 x D. 33 1/2 inches







**NIAMH BARRY | Counterpoise III | 2018**

Hand formed mirror polished and brushed solid bronze, magnets, LEDs  
H. 88.6 x W. 168.8 x D. 95.4cm | H. 34 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x W. 66 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x D. 37 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>5</sub> inches





**NIAMH BARRY | On It Goes IV | 2022**

Solid hand formed bronze, black patina, glass, LEDs  
H. 75.5 x W. 214.2 x D. 108.5 cm | H. 29 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x W. 84 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 42 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches









**NIAMH BARRY | Shouldering Table | 2022**

Hand hammered solid bronze, blue Patina  
H. 78 x W. 240 x D. 61 cm | H. 30 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x W. 94 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x D. 24 inches







NIAMH BARRY | I'm Here, You're There | 2025

Hand formed solid bronze, mirror polished  
H. 75.5 x W. 23.2 x D. 20 cm | H. 29 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x W. 9 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 7 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches





NIAMH BARRY | Black Poise | 2016

Black patinated bronze, mirror polished bronze, magnets, LEDs  
H. 225 x W. 120 x D. 80 cm | H. 88 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x W. 47 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x D. 31 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches





**NIAMH BARRY | Slow Crawl | 2025**

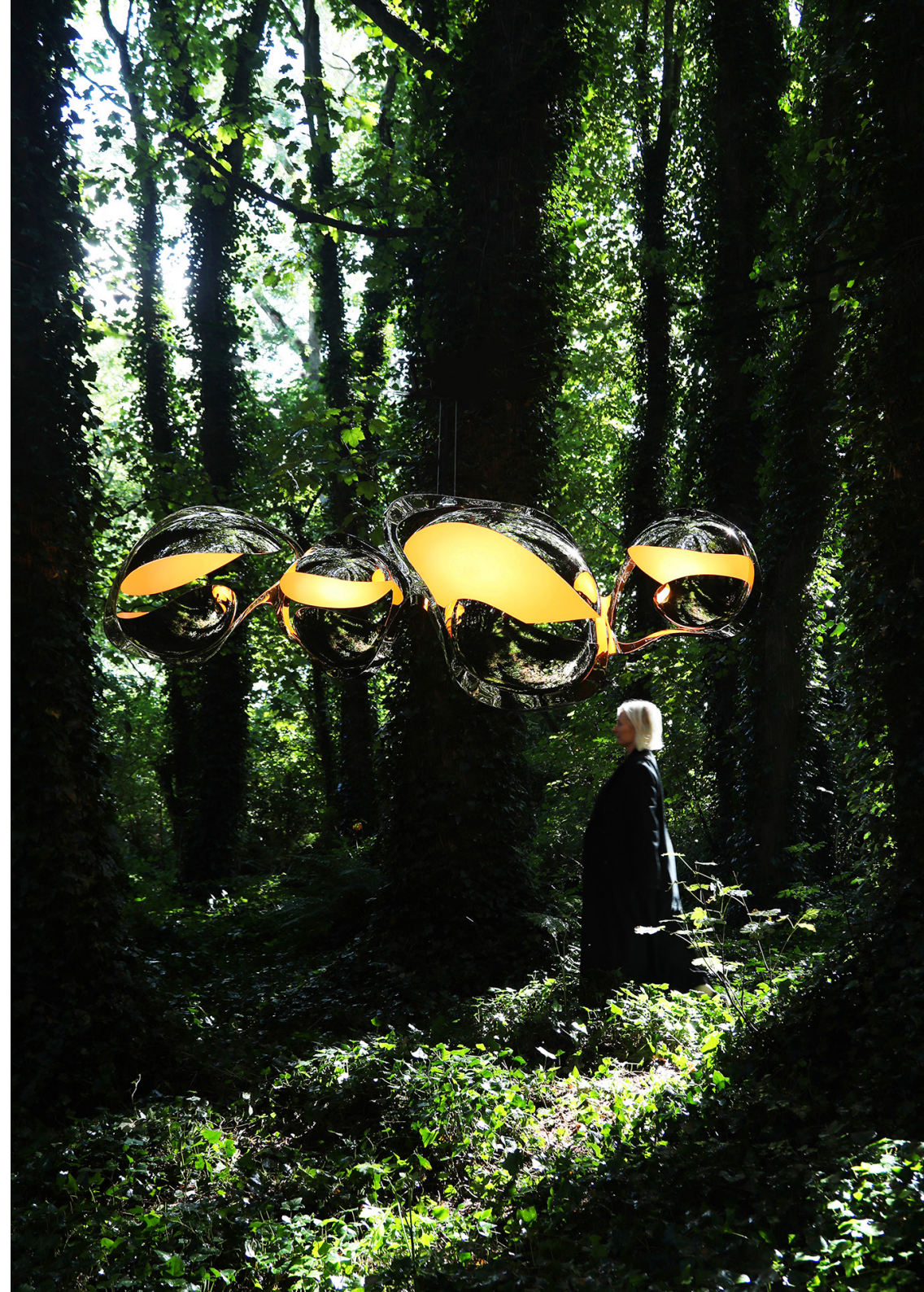
Solid hand formed bronze, mirror polished, LEDs, magnets  
H. 86.6 x W. 264 x D. 80 cm | H. 34 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x W. 104 x D. 31 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches





**NIAMH BARRY | Slow Crawl | 2025**

Solid hand formed bronze, mirror polished, LEDs, magnets  
H. 86.6 x W. 264 x D. 80 cm | H. 34 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x W. 104 x D. 31 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches















**NIAMH BARRY | Underneath | 2018**

Solid bronze, patina, LEDs

H. 155 x W. 82 x D. 60 cm | H. 61 x W. 32 1/4 x D. 23 5/8 inches







NIAMH BARRY | In The Eyes Of | 2023

Mirror polished solid hand formed bronze, LEDs

H. 160 x W. 160 x D. 120 cm | H. 63 x W. 63 x D. 47 1/4 inches









**NIAMH BARRY | Torque | 2023**

Hand formed mirror polished solid bronze, glass mosaic, LEDs  
H. 363.4 x W. 154 x D. 150 cm | H. 143 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x W. 60 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 59 inches



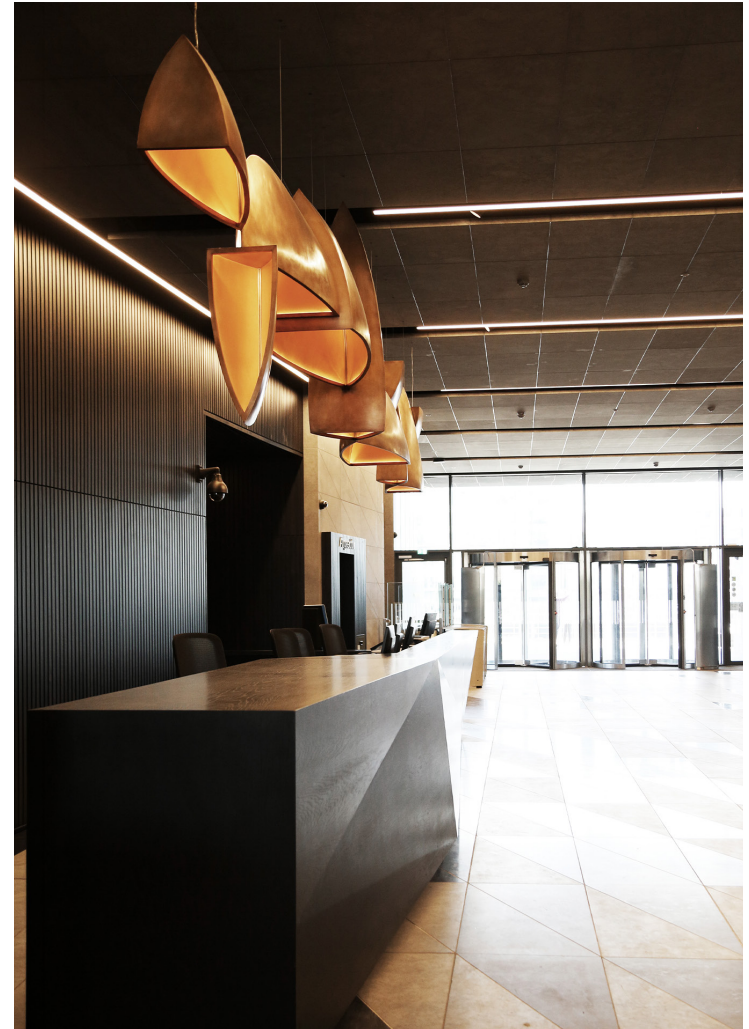


NIAMH BARRY | Vessel Scape | 2017

Bank of Ireland Installation

Hand formed solid bronze, black patina, LEDs  
H. 196.4 x W. 931.2 x D. 51.2 cm | H. 77<sup>3/8</sup> x W. 366<sup>5/8</sup> x D. 20<sup>1/8</sup> inches





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Hand formed solid bronze, black patina, LEDs  
H. 196.4 x W. 931.2 x D. 51.2 cm | H. 77<sup>3/8</sup> x W. 366<sup>5/8</sup> x D. 20<sup>1/8</sup> inches









NIAMH BARRY | Ghost Bench | 2022

Mirror polished solid hand formed bronze  
H. 48 x W. 215 x D. 50 cm | H. 18 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x W. 84 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 19 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches







NIAMH BARRY | Whale II | 2023

Hand formed solid bronze, mirror polished and black patina, glass, LEDs  
H. 233.9 x W. 116.1 x D. 144 cm | H. 92 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x W. 45 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x D. 56 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches









**NIAMH BARRY | What If Everything Is Not Linear | 2023**

Hand hammered solid bronze, magnets, LEDs  
H. 123.5 x W. 142 x D. 137 cm | H. 48 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x W. 55 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 54 inches









**NIAMH BARRY | On It Goes Sconces | 2021**

Mirror polished solid hand formed bronze, glass, LEDs  
H. 120.1 x W. 23.1 x D. 20.4 cm | H. 47 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x W. 9 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 8 inches





NIAMH BARRY | On It Goes | 2018

Mirror polished hand formed, solid bronze light sculpture, opal glass, LED's  
H. 110 x W 270.5 x D. 99.5 cm | H. 43 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x W. 106 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x D. 39 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches



## Artists Statement

I make three-dimensional drawings in bronze and light.

My work begins long before I put a line on paper. An idea often develops quietly within the subconscious, sometimes over weeks or months. I think about it while also trying not to disturb it. The space between wakefulness and sleep can be especially important: it allows me to observe a form as it gradually begins to reveal itself.

When the idea is ready, I begin to draw. I work rapidly and repeatedly, allowing the line to flow until something truthful appears. Drawing is not simply a way of recording an existing idea; it is how I discover what the work needs to become. From there, I move between collage, digital studies, modelling and maquettes, coaxing the form from an intuitive gesture into physical space.

I draw continually from the beauty I encounter in the natural world and the human body: a figure in movement or repose, birds in flight, winter light passing through bare branches, cloud formations, cultivated landscapes, and the patterns and structures that surround us. These observations become part of an internal image bank rather than direct references for individual pieces.

Once the form has emerged, the process becomes an interrogation of structure, material, light and space. I consider how the work will hold itself, how its illumination will interact with the surrounding architecture, and how people will experience it physically and emotionally.

I aspire to make work that transcends utility. Balance, movement, proportion, negative space and purity of line are central to everything I make. Light gives me another drawing tool: it allows the line to continue through space and gives the sculpture an internal life.

I create viscerally. I want the work to be seen with the eyes but experienced emotionally. I try not to let my mind interfere. I allow instinct to lead the way.

Beauty is key to everything.







**NIAMH BARRY | Muscularity | 2019**

Solid hand formed Bronze, patina, magnets, LEDs  
H. 82 x W. 316.5 x D. 78 cm | H. 32 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x W. 124 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 30 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches









NIAMH BARRY | Vertical Stacked | 2020

Hand formed solid bronze, patina  
H. 87 x W. 20 x D. 26 cm | H. 34 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x W. 7 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x D. 10 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches





NIAMH BARRY | **Blackscape II** | 2025

Hand formed solid bronze, black patina, LEDs

H. 88 x W. 292.5 x D. 45.5 cm | H. 34 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x W. 115 x D. 17 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches













Winner  
Best of Show  
**2025**  
**DESIGN**  
**MIAMI.**

## CHARLES BURNAND GALLERY

Charles Burnand Gallery champions contemporary collectible design, with a particular focus on Art Furniture and Illuminated Sculpture that fuse radical material integrity, emotional resonance, and intellectual rigour. Founded in 2009 by Simon Stewart, the gallery presents both emerging and established contemporary artists and designers, curating monumental, sculptural works that push the boundaries of function, perception, and craft.

Known for its forward-thinking programme and sculptural focus, the gallery exhibits internationally at leading fairs including Design Miami, Frieze, PAD London, Salon Art + Design, and Collect Art Fair.

Alongside its exhibition programme, Charles Burnand Gallery operates an in-house design and production studio specialising in the development and realisation of monumental Illuminated Sculpture, enabling artists to create ambitious works at architectural scale through a global network of specialist makers and master artisans.

In 2026, Charles Burnand Gallery opens a flagship gallery in Mayfair, London, followed in 2027 by a permanent gallery in the Cotswolds, establishing a dual-site platform for ambitious exhibitions, international cultural programming, and institutional collaborations.

Awarded Best in Show at Design Miami in 2025, Charles Burnand Gallery continues to build an internationally recognised platform dedicated to the most ambitious voices in contemporary collectible design.



**CHARLES BURNAND** GALLERY

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