

Cry me a river

A woman in a pool of despair – both literally and figuratively – is the central figure in *Party Over* (*There Goes Rampart Street*).

Bathed in the almost contradictory golden light of autumn, she stands against a backdrop of William Morris wallpaper, contemplating her fractured reflection with her hands gripping her head in what appears to be anguished pain.

The party is indeed over.

An intriguing painting by Paul Rattigan, it features in the suitably titled “Solo”, the first solo exhibition by Rattigan, on display at the Zeus Gallery, No 1, Lower Ormond Quay. For viewing, phone 01 8733700; www.paulrattigan.com

Rattigan is best known for his stage-related creations, as he has been the graphic designer

EXHIBIT A SOPHIE GORMAN

with *Riverdance* for more than a decade, not to mention putting in more than 30 successful years as a lighting, stage and advertising designer for the likes of the Rolling Stones, Bryan Ferry, The Clash and Led Zeppelin.

Rattigan first picked up a brush at a very young age, when he attended classes at the Dublin studio of the late Harry Kernoff.

Some years later, a more grown-up Rattigan officially studied art at the National College of Art Dublin, continuing his studies at the Slade School of Fine Art in London.

Choosing the more commer-

cial option of working as an advertising designer, he spent his 20s working in London and New York. His career path took a big turn in the ‘70s, when he branched out into stage and lighting design, which introduced him to some of rock’s biggest names.

Thankfully, he finally returned home and established what has since become one of our most respected graphic design consultancies.

And his career comes full circle with “Solo”, a display of vibrant yet haunting, large-scale works that are filled with landscape and figurative references.



Paul Rattigan's *Party Over (There Goes Rampart Street)* part of his “Solo” exhibition