CRISTIN TIERNEY



Maureen O’Leary
ADAA Fair

CRISTIN TIERNEY

Maureen O'Leary
ADAA Fair

Booth C2
Park Avenue Armory
November 13 -16, 2026

Truth is stranger than fiction in the paintings of Maureen O'Leary.

Through an unnatural palette, expressive figures, and *horror vacui* compositions, O'Leary's paintings reveal the surreal undercurrents of ostensibly mundane moments. Her subjects include people, interiors, and landscapes drawn from the artist's home and travels in Rome, Bangkok, Puerto Rico, Prague, and New York. She uses color to capture the distinctive light, flora, and architecture of each place.

Formally, O'Leary sits squarely within the lineage of the Post-Impressionists, favoring a scene's emotive content over its objective reality. She describes her work as "a search for the contemporary romantic," positioning it as a rejoinder to an increasingly digital age that encourages isolation and disconnection.

This presentation coincides with O'Leary's solo exhibition at the gallery, *The Linden Trees*, a thirty-four-narrative installation that reimagines the lives of two heroines of Russian literature: Natasha Rostova from Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace* and Princess Polina from Alexander Pushkin's *Roslavlev*.

O'Leary's work has been exhibited at the Custom House, Fondation des États-Unis, Ely Center of Contemporary Art, Art Lab Tokyo, Midwest Center for Photography, Artspace, Power Plant Gallery at Duke University, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Gallery, Staten Island Museum, Meadows Gallery - University of Texas at Tyler, and more. She is the recipient of the Brooklyn Arts Council - Brooklyn Arts Fund Grant and the Harriet Hale Woolley Fellowship from the Fondation des États-Unis.

The artist has published six books: The Linden Trees (2026), ROMA (2024), By The Same Sea, Homes of The Irish Diaspora (2023), Record (2021), Belle Mort (2013, Paper Chase Press) and Look/Listen (2010, Look/Listen Press). O'Leary's work has been written about in Galerie Magazine, Hyperallergic, FAD Magazine, Whitehot Magazine, and Hypebeast, among others.

Her work is held in the collections of the Fondation des États-Unis, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University, Fidelity Investments Corporate Art Collection, and JP Morgan Chase Art Collection. She has studios in Long Island, NY, and Puerto Rico.



Maureen O'Leary
Where Sunshine Fell on Tall White Lilies (Misunderstanding)
2026
Oil on linen
32 x 32 inches (81.3 x 81.3 cm)
CT-11111





CRISTIN TIERNEY

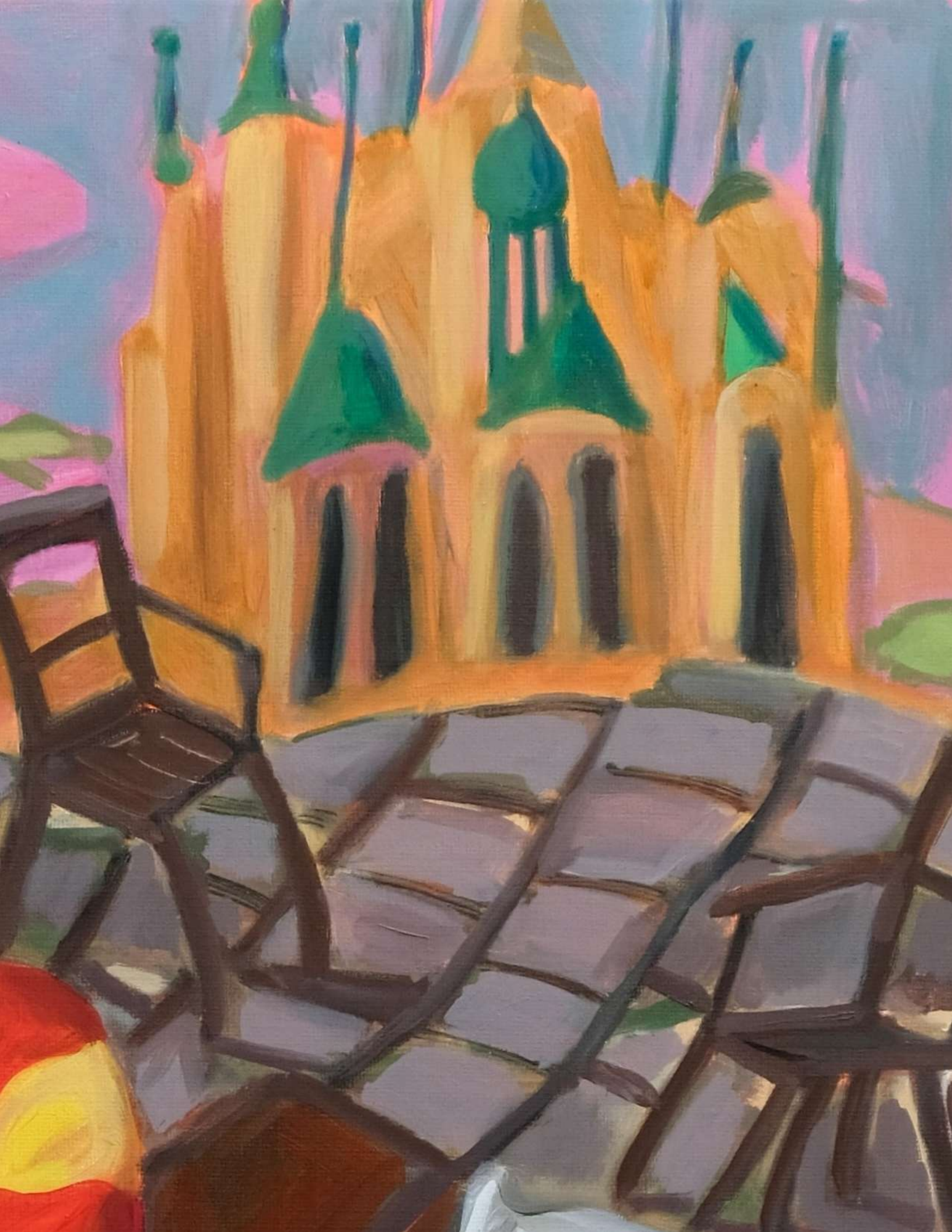


Maureen O'Leary
Queens
2026
Oil on linen
16 x 16 inches (40.6 x 40.6 cm)
CT-11238





Maureen O'Leary
A Delicious Snack on the Visit
2026
Oil on linen
20 x 20 inches (50.8 x 50.8 cm)
CT-11101





CRISTIN TIERNEY



Maureen O'Leary
Rising December Moon
2026
Oil on linen
20 x 20 inches (50.8 x 50.8 cm)
CT-11099



CRISTIN TIERNEY



Maureen O'Leary
Rome, Open Kitchen
2025
Oil on linen
46 x 46 inches (116.8 x 116.8 cm)
CT-10829





CRISTIN TIERNEY



Maureen O'Leary
Old Montauk Highway
2026
Oil on linen
30 x 30 inches (76.2 x 76.2 cm)
CT-11339





Maureen O'Leary
Open Boat
2026
Oil on linen
30 x 30 inches (76.2 x 76.2 cm)
CT-11106





MAUREEN O'LEARY
b. 1965, Washington, D.C.
maureenoleary.com

EDUCATION

2008-2010	International Center of Photography
2005-2010	Art Students League of New York
1987	Yale College, Bachelor of Science, *cum laude*

AWARDS

2023	Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Annaghmakerrig, Newbliss, Ireland Residency
2022	Residency, American Academy in Rome, Italy
2017	Brooklyn Arts Council, Brooklyn Arts Fund Grant for Wayfarers collective, Brooklyn, New York (collaboration with George Ferrandi and Christy Gast)
1990	Harriet Hale Woolley Fellowship (painting), Fondation des États-Unis, Cité Internationale Universitaire, Paris, France

SOLO, TWO, AND THREE PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2026	*Maureen O'Leary: The Linden Trees,* Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, NY
2025	Maureen O'Leary: *Les Tilleuls (The Linden Trees),* Fondation des États-Unis, Paris, France
	Lost Angels, Confort Mental, Paris, France
2023	*By the Same Sea: Homes of the Irish Diaspora*, Custom House Studios + Gallery, Westport, Ireland
2022	*Maureen O'Leary: Both/And*, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, NY
	American Portraits of Ireland's Easter Rising Leaders, Kimmel Windows Gallery, New York University, New York, NY
2021	*Slightly Surreal Suburbia*, Cristin Tierney, New York, NY
2020	*Not in my backyard*, Public Swim Gallery, New York, NY
2017	*What's Not to Like but Everything*, West Gallery, Earlville Opera House, Earlville, NY
2016	*havens*. Hangars, Wayfarers Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
2015	*Honey Lane (or number 352)*, One Arts Gallery, Burlington, VT
2014	*Belle Mort*, Marshall Arts Gallery, Memphis, TN
2013	*Maureen O'Leary Recent Paintings*, Center Stage Cuts and Culture, Newark, NJ
2010	*Look, Listen*, Lucky Gallery, Red Hook, Brooklyn, NY
1996	*Maureen O'Leary*, Yellow Barn Gallery, Glen Echo, MD
1995	*Maureen O'Leary, New Paintings*, GO! Arlington, VA
1990	*Paintings: Maureen O'Leary*, Art Attic, Baltimore, MD
	Maureen O'Leary, Harriet Hale Woolley Fellows Exhibition, Fondation des États-Unis, Paris, France

SELECTED GROUP AND CURATED EXHIBITIONS

2026	*The Pursuit of Happiness*, Oakland University Art Gallery, Rochester, MI
	Swim in Cold Seas, Ejecta, Carlisle, PA
	Influencers, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, NY
2025	*DIY in the District*, Martin Luther King Public Library, Washington, D.C.
	Fifteen, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, NY
2024	*Fictions, the Making of Other* Worlds, Dublin Art Book Fair, Temple Bar Gallery Studios, Dublin, Ireland
2023	*What is for Supper? What is a Meal?* Northern Illinois University Art Museum, DeKalb, Illinois
	L'Art Pour Climat, Fondation des États-Unis, Paris, France
	Nesting, Midwest Center for Photography, Wichita, Kansas
2020	*Quarantine Quotidian*, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, NY
	What We Create May Save Us, Ejecta Projects, Carlisle, PA

	Breeding the Unfamiliar, Quaid Gallery, Tampa, FL
2019	*American Wilderness*, Art Lab Tokyo and Art Lab Akiba, Tokyo, Japan
	What Surrounds, Ely Center of Contemporary Art, New Haven, CT
	Anthropocene Blues, curated by Jane Ursula Harris, Wayfarers Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
	Unsolicited Submissions, Ejecta Projects, Carlisle, PA
	Ten Years of Photographs, Midwest Center for Photography, Wichita, KS
2018	*Life in Analogue*, curated by Kristin Gaylord, Fort Works Art, Fort Worth, TX
	Squaring the Circle, Fondation des États-Unis, Paris, France
	Lasciare la Terra/To Leave Earth, Palazzina Liberty, Giardini Margherita, Bologna, Italy
	Language of Perception, Artspace, Loveland, CO
	Domesticity, Midwest Center for Photography, Wichita, KS
2017	*How to Draw a Tyrant*, curated by Jasmine Dreame Wagner, Wayfarers Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
	ATM Cigarettes Flowers Lottery God Bless Deli 2, Space Heater Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
	Sketch Open, Rabley Drawing Center, Marlborough, United Kingdom
2016	*The Reconsidered Landscape*, Perry and Carlson Gallery, Mount Vernon, WA
	Fall Show, curated by George Turner, New York Arbor Gallery, Rockaways, NY
	I'll be your mirror, Wayfarers, Brooklyn, NY
2015	*Family Album*, curated by Candace Moeller, Wayfarers, Brooklyn, NY
	Uncharted, Lewis Art Gallery, Milsaps College, Jackson, MI
	What Does Art Add? Figuring the More-than-Human World, City Without Walls, Newark, NJ
	2nd Annual Artists' Books Exhibition, WOCA Projects, Fort Worth, TX
2014	*Picture Books*, Power Plant Gallery, Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Durham, NC
	M.A.C.H.I.N.E. Consciousness, Gallery West, University of Texas, Arlington, TX
	Viewpoints, Aljira Center for Contemporary Art, Newark, NJ
	The Trip, Loft 594, Bushwick, Brooklyn, NY
2013	*Art of the Figure*, Gallery North, curated by Philip Pearlstein, East Setauket, NY
	Material Witness, Dalton Gallery, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA
	Valdosta National, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta, GA
	Art of the Urban Environment, Cakewalk Gallery, Baltimore, MD
2012	*Summer Show*, curated by Bartholomew Bland, Staten Island Museum, Staten Island, NY
	Contemporary, Traditional and Emerging Work from All Over Ireland, Higher Bridges Gallery, Enniskillen, United Kingdom
2011	*PHOTOMONTH*, Gallery 50 and Packard-Reath Gallery, Rehoboth and Lewes, DE
	Black and White, Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition, Red Hook, Brooklyn, NY
	Under the Influence, Foto Foto, Huntington, NY
2008	*Small Works. Border Walls*, Boltax.Gallery, Shelter Island, NY

LECTURES

2023	Artist talk, Custom House Studio + Gallery, Westport, Ireland
2022	Artist Talk, Glucksman Ireland House, New York University, New York, NY
2021	Artist talk for book of photography, *Record*, Arts Club of Washington, DC
2020	Artist talk, Quaid Gallery, Tampa, Florida
2019	Artist talk, Ely Center of Contemporary Art, New Haven, CT
	Panel talk with curator Jane Ursula Harris, Wayfarers Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
2018	Panel talk with curator Tom McGlynn, Wayfarers Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
	Artist talk, Fondation des Etats-Unis, Paris
	Artist talk, ArtSpace, Loveland, CO
2017	Artist talk, West Gallery, Earlville Opera House, Earlville, NY
2015	Panelist, City Without Walls, Newark, NJ
	Artist talk, One Arts, Burlington, VT

SELECTED PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

2026	Ferber, Hayley, "Maureen O'Leary: Distilling Ambiguity," *USA Art News,* February 9, 2026.
	Quadros, Karly, "Atomic Doodles, Polka Dota, and Feet Pics: These are the 11 Must-See Group Shows in New York this Month," *Cultured Mag,* January 12, 2026.

2025	Krasner, Bob, "New Digs, Same Soul: Cristin Tierney Gallery Reimagined in Tribeca," *amNewYork,* September 2025.
	Keenan, Annabel, "10 Standout Shows to See During Armory Week," *Artsy,* August 27, 2025.
	Jager, David, "Maureen O'Leary at Untitled Miami," *Whitehot Magazine of Contemporary Art,* January 18, 2025.
2024	Laster, Paul, "6 Standout Artists Discovered at the Dallas Art Fair," *Galerie*, April 8, 2024.
	D'Avignon, Angella, "Eavesdropping at the Dallas Art Fair," *Hyperallergic*, April 5, 2024.
	Benzine, Vittoria, "Maureen O'Leary at Dallas Art Fair," *FAD Magazine*, April 5, 2024.
2023	Babbs, Verity, "Maureen O'Leary: By the same sea, homes of the Irish diaspora," *The BS Art Report*, September 28, 2023.
	Høltermand, K, "Maureen O'Leary: Record," *Nowhere Diary*, January 2023.
2022	"Hayden's Ferry Review," published by Arizona State University featured the painting *Two Poussins*, Summer 2022.
	Sandstorm: A journal of arts and letters, published by the University of Texas, Permian, 2022.
	Benzine, Vittoria, "Dualities Over Dichotomies: Maureen O'Leary at Cristin Tierney Gallery," *WhiteHot Magazine*, May 25, 2022.
	Basin, three paintings featured, Spring 2022: 41-42.
2021	Zises, H, "Slightly Surreal Suburbia: Cristin Tierney Gallery," *Portray Magazine*, August 2, 2021.
	Able, K, "D.C. is a city of grand monuments and federal buildings. These photos capture the often unseen poetic details," *The Washington Post*, July 30, 2021.
	Ghassemitari, S, "Joan Linder and Maureen O'Leary turn the suburbs surreal," *HYPEBEAST*, 2021.
	Silvester, J, "25 Notable new releases over the next two weeks. Joan Linder and Maureen O'Leary in 'Slightly Surreal Suburbia,'" *New York Magazine*, 2021.
	Huffman, Anthony, "Maureen O'Leary's Record," *The Brooklyn Rail*, June 3, 2021.
	Lambert, Audra, "21 Artists to Watch in 2021: Part 3 of the Movers and Shakers Series," *Ante Mag*, 2021.
2020	Strouse, Allen W, "NIMBY," *Medium*, May 4, 2020.
	Zises, Heather, "Not in My Backyard: Interview with Maureen O'Leary," *Fine Art Globe*, June 17, 2020.
2019	Lambert, Audra, "What surrounds, Ely Center of Contemporary Art," *Delicious Line*, October 31, 2019.
	Slattery, Brian, "Ely Center Strikes a Climate Nerve," *New Have Independent*, October 30, 2019.
	Lambert, Audra, "Anthropocene Blues at Wayfarers Captures our Ephemeral Moment," *Ante*, October 22, 2019.
2018	Gellert, Christoper, "Visions of liberty, rooms with a view," *Transatlantica: Revue d'études américaines*, 2018.
	"Gemellaggio Artistico Bologna," *Confederazione Nazionale dell'Artigianato e della Piccola e Media Impressa*, 2018.
	Albani-Burgio, Paul, "Three artists consider nature of awareness at Loveland's Artspace Gallery," *Reporter-Herald*, April 23, 2018.
2016	Hunter, Stephen, "Perry and Carlson: a new game in town," *Cascadia Arts Weekly*, December 2016.
	Hannan, Patricia, "Nature and some numbers," *The Wave*, October 7, 2016.

ARTIST BOOKS AND PRINT EDITIONS

2026	*The Linden Trees*, O'Leary, Maureen, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York
2024	*ROMA*, O'Leary, Maureen and Jane Ursula Harris, self-published, New York
2023	*By the same sea, homes of the Irish diaspora*, Red Fox Press, Achill, Ireland
	By The Same Sea, Homes of The Irish Diaspora, self-published, New York
2022	*Both/And*, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, NY.
2021	*Record, Photographs by Maureen O'Leary*, Midwest Center for Photography, Wichita, Kansas
2020	
2018	*Lasciare la Terra/ To Leave Earth*, printed by Wayfarers Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
2013	*Belle Mort* (book of photography), O'Leary, Maureen., and T. Phillips Paper Chase Press, Los Angeles, CA

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, New Haven, CT

Fidelity Investments Collection
Fondation des Etats-Unis, Cité Internationale Universitaire, Paris, France
J. P. Morgan Chase Art Collection