

BOOK  
REVIEWS

DUBLIN

Krass Clement

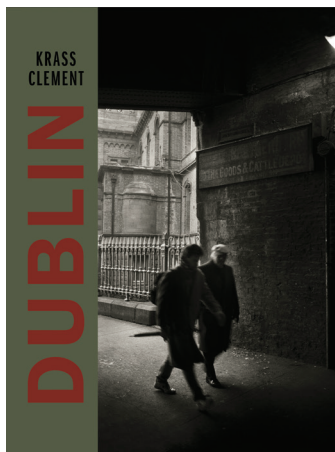
▣ RRB Publishing  
▣ Hardback, £45

Published more than 20 years ago, Krass Clement's photobook *Drum* became a classic of the genre, and now his new publication *Dublin*, while not of the same groundbreaking ilk, does have the hallmark of his well-defined style.

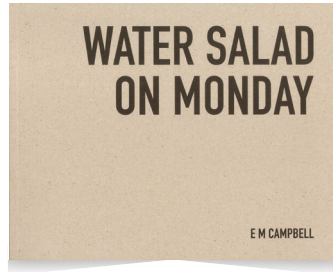
During a short period from February to March 1991, Clement made three trips to Dublin to walk its streets and define his view of the city. The resulting images paint a bleak picture of overcast skies, deprived areas and people enduring hard lives. But there is also a kind of grim romance about the place enhanced by the richness of the black & white printing – a street at night hung heavy with fog, a lone newspaper seller, an elderly man on a horse-drawn cart – classic images with an enduring appeal.

You feel as though you are led through Clement's vision of the hardship and beauty of the place, his own experience of the Dublin he saw.

Elizabeth Roberts



ON THE SHELF



WATER SALAD  
ON MONDAY

EM Campbell

▣ esthermaycampbell.com  
▣ Softback, £20

earth, the animals and the plants. A powerful role reversal.

The intriguing title comes, not from any poetic allusion but from a more prosaic source – simply a regular farming chore: water salad on Monday, ready for Wednesday market. In many ways this represents Campbell's point of view – we see these people, often marginalised in society, as adults with a whole range of personalities, emotions and talents, working hard and living their lives.

A moving and beautiful record which has taken insight, empathy and commitment to achieve – in a very nicely produced book.

Elizabeth Roberts

*'The resulting pictures are intimate, insightful and tender, revealing moments in which those who are cared for become the carers.'*

Fragments of everyday life that, homed in on, become sacred, moments of grace that can never be repeated in exactly the same way – this is at the heart of Cig Harvey's latest monograph. Having experienced a traumatic road accident, Harvey's focus on the incidental has become, for her, a way of making sense of life – and the fragile line that lies between life and death.

Images that are enigmatic, lyrical and compelling blend with the intermittent text to reveal a private world of personal relationships, caught moments and magic-like experiences. Her daughter, Scout, her friends and family all appear fleetingly on the pages like memories or dreams.

Encased between covers of a vibrant deep yellow, this book points us to the awe of the present and to the future, fragile and uncertain as it is.

Elizabeth Roberts

Through Esther May's grainy black & white images we are introduced to Elm Tree Farm, a working farm that grows a range of organic vegetables, fruit and flowers along with livestock. The farm is also a social enterprise that offers training to adults with learning disabilities and autism.

Campbell spent a year photographing the farm and its workers. The resulting pictures are intimate, insightful and tender, revealing moments in which those who are cared for become the carers – tending the

THE  
DISAPPEARANCE  
OF JOSEPH  
PLUMMER

Amani Willett

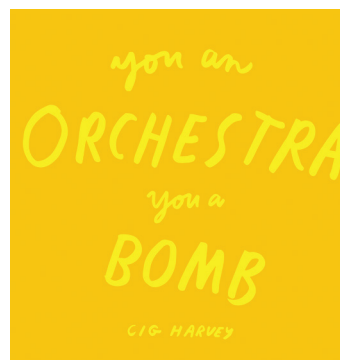
▣ Overlapse  
▣ Hardback, £35

Searching the past through photography is a challenge, but one that Amani Willett has risen to with charm and insight.

Back in the 1970s his father bought a piece of undeveloped land in New Hampshire as a place to escape the stresses of modern life, but it was not until 2010 that Amani became interested in the story of a man called Joseph Plummer who, he discovered, had lived as a recluse in these same woodlands in the late 1700s. Captivated by the story, he researched local history and managed to define a bare outline of the man's life. The story is revealed through fragmented images and text that allow the imagination to wander with the photographer and his father as they walk in the footsteps of Plummer, whose vehement rejection of progress – roads and railways – led him to a life of seclusion.

An intriguing and beautiful book that draws you into a story that you can never fully know, and one that questions the values of progress.

Elizabeth Roberts



YOU AN  
ORCHESTRA  
YOU A BOMB

Cig Harvey

▣ Schilt Publishing  
▣ Hardback, £40

