



**Dermot Seymour: Spatial Notions**

Dermot Seymour's longstanding preoccupation with the history of Northern Ireland shifts to outer space in his latest show. His signature farm animals turn their attention to distant galaxies in works such as *Mars Dreaming*, a profile of a sheep gazing at the red planet. His repertoire has expanded to include a space rat and *Limerick Space Monkey*, above, named in honour of the trainer of Gordo, the first monkey in space, who hailed from the city. These paintings are accompanied by portraits of political figures in Northern Ireland, among them Ian Paisley, the subject of *Spacedoctor*. These are striking in their forthright depiction, which has none of the allegorical qualities of the animals. The transposition of spatial conflicts to distant solar systems is witty and apt, particularly with regard to the utopian final frontier and its contrast with political realities such as the border, represented in the goose that is the focus of *Border Peck*.

**Catherine Leen**

*Kevin Kavanagh, Dublin, Mon-Sat 11am-5pm, free (01 874 0064)*

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