## CORK AIDS ALLIANCE

16 Peters Street, Cork.

AIDS HELPLINE CORK
Tel: 021-276676

Mon 7.00-9.00p.m. Thurs 7.00-9.00p.m. Sat 2.00-6.00p.m.

PRESS RELEASE

20.1.90

NO EMBARGO

INTERNATIONAL AIDS POSTER EXHIBITION FOR CORK

VISUAL AIDS is an exhibition of posters reflecting the diversity of reactions to AIDS around the world. The touring exhibition has been shown in New York, Berlin and London. It has been brought to Cork by the Cork AIDS Alliance and will be opened by Senator Brendan Ryan on Friday 26th. January.

The objectives of the exhibition are to heighten public awareness of the AIDS crisis and to deepen compassionate concern for people living with AIDS by illustrating how people all over the world are coping with the epidemic. The exhibition also aims to alert viewers to the sometimes blatant, often subtle advertising and re-inforcement of deep-rooted prejudices against social groups stigmatised by the epidemic.

Each poster is accompanied by a short analysis of the cultural implications of its words and images. These illustrate the theme of the exhibition which is the tension between erotic and anti-erotic approaches to life in the Age of AIDS as reflected in how key issues are treated in different countries and contexts: issues such as health care, safer sex, research funding and social tolerance.

AIDS ACTION AI

DUBLIN CORK GALWAY

More...

The exhibition was assembled by Professor James Miller of Ontario in Canada. He sums up the posters as follows:

'At one extreme are expressions of panic, omens of death, and militaristic threats explicitly or implicitly directed at social groups regarded as endangering the good blood or bright future of of the general public. At the other extreme are defiantly joyous affirmations of bodily pleasure, manifestoes of erotic liberation, and fantasies of safesex, springing from a frantic confidence in the prophylactic and aphrodisiac virtues of the condom, the transparent talisman of the Age of AIDS.'

The posters document the social and sexual attitude of their diverse sources: national and local governments, international, national and regional health agencies, private charities, advertising firms, artists' co-operatives, gay action groups, galleries, universities, hospices and churches.

The exhibition runs from Sat. 26th. January to Sun. 4th. February inclusive.

TIMES: Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat.: 12.00-6.00pm,
Thurs. and Fri. 12.00-9.00pm

Sum 2.00-6.00pm

VENUE: No. 5, South Mall. Opposite Imperial Hotel.

INFORMATION: Claire Watson (CAA Admin.) 276676 offfice hrs. Arthur Leahy (Chairperson) 317660 (W), 341610 (H)

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