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**John Shinnors (b.1950)**

**MAYO MOON, BLACK SCARECROW AND BADGER, 1996**

oil on canvas

with inscribed RHA exhibition label on reverse

36 by 38in. (91.44 by 96.52cm)

*Provenance:*

RHA, Dublin, 1996

*Exhibited:*

RHA Annual Exhibition, Dublin, 1996, catalogue no. 436

John Shinnors was among the artists Jim O'Driscoll knew personally and his works hold a prominent place within his collection. This outstanding example by the Limerick artist displays all the characteristics one would associate with his work. As with many of his paintings the title guides the viewer into the narrative. *Mayo Moon, Black Scarecrow and Badger*, all familiar motifs in Shinnors' oeuvre, are shown here from an askew aerial perspective. The moon in the extreme left-hand corner casts a theatrical light on the scene hitting the figure of the scarecrow first, picking up accents of colour in the field, before resting on the striped back of the nocturnal creature lower right. The soft light off the Mayo moon lightens the mood of the canvas providing relief to the unsettling tone sometimes associated with the artist's work. *Mayo Moon, Black Scarecrow and Badger* was accepted to the RHA in 1996 from where it was sold to the present owner.

€12,000-€15,000 (£9,836-£12,295 approx).