

Killyleagh artist wheels into gear with cyclists

AWARD-WINNING Killyleagh artist Deepa Mann-Kler is celebrating the achievements of cycling's most riders.

In the first exhibition of its kind, Deepa will exhibit her road cycle paintings as part of the Tour of Ireland 2009, with paintings available to view at the end stage of each day's racing.

A fine art painter, Deepa's style and subjects continue to be highly original, and her work hangs in private collections in Japan, India, Ireland, Belgium, France and Northern Ireland. She has also exhibited widely in China, Germany and Northern Ireland.

She explains the motivation behind 'Kings of the Road': "This exhibition is called Kings of the Road and celebrates my love of cycling and the achievements of cycling's most famous sportsmen

"It is an amazing opportunity to be exhibiting as part of Tour of Ireland 2009, where my paintings will be seen by biking enthusiasts.



Cyclists Fleche Wallone and Jurgen Vandenbroeck as captured by Killyleagh artist Deepa Mann-Klerr for her latest collection.

"It is extra special being involved with the Tour this year as not only Lance Armstrong, seven times Tour de France winner, but also Mark Cavendish, winner of six stages in this year's Tour de France, will also be racing. So the interest across Ireland is going to be immense.

"What I want my paintings to reflect and celebrate is the absolute

commitment and obsessiveness of cyclists. They are an incredibly single-minded bunch."

'Kings of the Road' will be available to view in Waterford on August 21, in Killarney on August 22, and finally in Cork on August 23.

There will also be a chance to view these paintings when they are exhibited in Bike Dock in Belfast next month.