



# CRAWFORD ART GALLERY CORK

## ANNUAL REPORT 2010

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### Preface

The role of the Crawford Art Gallery is to serve as a museum of fine arts, presenting exhibitions of works from the permanent collection, as well as temporary exhibitions of both contemporary and historic art. The Gallery serves people in the local community, the Munster region and further afield, as well as encouraging cultural tourism, with a programme that includes lectures, tours, concerts and seminars. The Gallery promotes scholarship, through its exhibitions, publications and conferences. Education for all age groups is central to the Gallery's mission.

The Gallery and its staff are committed to providing a quality service to the public and to ensuring that visits to the museum are enjoyable and informative. Admission is free and over 200,000 visitors now visit the Gallery each year.

A National Cultural Institution, the Crawford Art Gallery receives its annual grant-in-aid from the Department of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

## Introduction

In 2010, in spite of cutbacks in the budget, the Crawford Art Gallery continued to build on successes achieved over previous years. There were significant additions to the permanent collection, while the exhibitions programme continued, with a sustained commitment to showing only high-quality art. There were no changes to the Gallery staffing allocation, but the existing complement of staff worked to ensure that all aspects of the programme were delivered in a professional manner. In 2010, as in the previous year, the Gallery received its grant-in-aid from the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism. Through 2010, the Gallery continued to open on Thursday evenings to the public. This report charts the consolidation of the Crawford Art Gallery in its role as a National Cultural Institution.

The board of directors, chaired by John Bowen, met eight times during the year. Sub-committees, dealing with finance and legal issues, artistic policy, and marketing, met regularly and made significant contributions to the development of the Gallery's profile and operational efficiency. With the assistance of the Minister for Arts and officials of the the Department, the Gallery succeeded in substantially meeting public expectations, in terms of exhibitions, acquisitions and education projects. However, with the budget cutbacks, and with the prospect of futher reductions in funding in the coming years, there was an inevitable easing off of expectations regarding continued growth. The year can be characterised as one of stablisation. With the OPW awaiting finalisation of the transfer of legal title to the building, building maintenance continued to be looked after by board and Gallery management.

The Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism pay allocation to the Gallery for 2010 was fixed in February at €486,000, while the non-pay allocation was €818,000. The capital allocation for 2010 was €275,000.

### Legal Establishment

The board of directors of the company "Crawford Art Gallery Cork Ltd", registered in November 2006, met eight times during the year 2010. The board comprises sixteen members, including nominations of one member each from Cork City Council, Cork County Council and City of Cork VEC. Tim Lucey, Cork City Manager, is appointed ex officio.

## Board of Director

John R. Bowen (Chairman)

Anne Harpur

Neil Prendeville

Michael F. Downes

Mary O'Donovan

Mairin Quill

Frank Hayes

Jim Corr

Tim Brosnan

Tim Lucey, City Manager

Sheila Maguire

Kevin Lonergan

Barbara Murray

Noel O'Keefe

Members of the Board are directors of a company registered as a Guarantee Licence Company. The Company Secretary is Peter Murray, Gallery Director, who reports to the board.

## REVIEW OF OPERATIONS IN 2010

The year 2010 was the second year in which the Gallery operated independently of the City of Cork VEC. In spite of administrative staff shortages, the Board met at twice-monthly intervals, overseeing the implementation of several important changes, and advancing the Gallery in its new independent status. Crowleys DFK provided financial accounting and financial reporting services to the Gallery throughout the year.

The Gallery began and ended the year in good financial order, with no overspend in 2009 and success in meeting overall budget targets for 2010.

While the shortfall in staffing, identified in the Gallery's Strategic Development Plan, and in the Interim Report, continued to be the key factor hampering the Gallery's further development, the exhibitions and education programme delivered to the public continued at a high level of output and quality. The lack of a Marketing Officer or Development Officer continued to hamper fund-raising and the wider promotion of the Gallery.

Pending the Office of Public Works taking ownership and responsibility for the Crawford Art Gallery building and grounds, a series of measures were implemented by the Board. These included improvements to fire safety, picture storage units, new security system and additional cctv cameras. The extensive flooding in Cork city centre did not affect the Gallery. Work on the repair and replacement of windows in the Sculpture Galleries was completed, as was the full list of requirements attached to the Gallery's Fire Certificate. An off-site automatic back-up of Gallery computer records was implemented in 2010.

With practically all exhibition spaces in the Gallery open to the public by the year's end, the progress made in upgrading and improvements showed very positive results. Locker facilities were provided for visitors close to the entrance hallway.

## Gallery Staffing

- 1 Director : Peter Murray
- 2 Gallery Secretary: Leona Hennessy
- 3 Exhibitions Officer: Dawn Williams
- 4 Exhibitions/Education Officer (p/t): Anne Boddaert
- 5 Gallery FAS Team Supervisor: vacant
- 6 Senior Caretaker: Joseph Murphy
- 7 Caretaker: Frank Allen
- 8 Attendant: Alex Walsh
- 9 Attendant: Anke Auler
- 10 Attendant: Wendie Young
- 11 Attendant: Philip Lyons
- 12 Cleaner (part-time): Margaret Kenneally
- 13 Cleaner (part-time): Rita Dee
- 14 Cleaner (part-time): Kathleen Madden
- 15 Cleaner (part-time) Betty O'Mahony

### Staff Training

Gallery staff receive training through on-the-job supervision and assessment on a continuing basis. Additional training in handling, storage and display of artworks was provided through programmes run by the Irish Museum of Modern Art and seminars on museum practice and standards organised by the National Gallery of Ireland. Staff at the Crawford Gallery received additional training in computer operation, word processing and new media areas, particularly in terms of updating and maintaining the Gallery website. The Gallery itself through in-house staff provided training on an ongoing basis to placement interns under a co-operation agreement with the University of Trento. Elena Rossi, Nadia Giordani and Fransizka Sinn, Gallery staff also received specialised training in-house from consultants expert in the area of visitor management, fire safety and health and safety issues. In 2010 the Gallery succeeded in its application for inclusion in the National Heritage Council's Museum Accreditation Course. Participation in this course will improve the professionalism of the Gallery in all respects.

## Permanent Collection 2010

The Gallery's permanent collection was presented throughout the building, in

the Gibson Galleries, the Eighteenth-Century Cork and Penrose Rooms, the Watercolour Room, Modern Galleries, the Harry Clarke Room and Sculpture Galleries. With many of the works from the collection out on tour, in the US and in Germany, a special exhibition, curated by artist Shane Cullen, was presented in the Gibson Galleries. Based upon art that had a specific memorial or political message, the exhibition included a variety of works including John Lavery's portrait of the widow of Terence McSwiney, and Rita Donagh's artwork marking the peace talks in Northern Ireland.

Because of the Gallery's reduced funding, there were few purchases of works of art for the permanent collection made during the year. The most notable acquisition (by purchase) was a mid nineteenth century oil painting *Eviction Scene*, attributed to the Cork artist Daniel McDonald. Under Section 1003 of the Finance Act, three important paintings by Hughie O'Donoghue, one of the leading contemporary artists working in Ireland today, were presented by the artist to the Gallery. The paintings are *Raft*, *Medusa*, and *Flanders and the Narrow Seas*. A painting by Eugene MacSweeney, *A Woodland Glade*, depicting a woodland scene at sunset, was also donated to the Gallery. In addition, several smaller works, including a pastel portrait of Joan Denise Moriarty by Marshall Hutson, were accepted as donations. In June, Dr. Edward Brett, of London, donated a work by Evie Hone, *Head of Christ*, to the Gallery's permanent collection.

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, the database of the Gallery's permanent collection was transferred from its existing Excel format, into a new ArtBase collections management software package.

Since July 2009, an additional 650 works of art in the collection have been photographed, including sculptures, paintings and prints. The gallery website has been reorganized and improved, and an online bookshop facility has been incorporated into the website. The number of works from the permanent collection on the website now numbers 466. There have been regular updates to the education and exhibitions pages, and to the on-line bookshop.

At the request of the Irish Heritage Trust, the painting *The Battle of the Birds*, by Frans Snyders, was loaned to Fota House, for a six-month period. The painting augments the existing exhibition at Fota House, which includes an important display of seventeenth-century Netherlandish paintings.

## Gallery Website

Work continued through 2010 on upgrading the Gallery website, making it easier for online visitors to learn about the exhibition and education programmes, the permanent collection and other facilities such as café and bookshop. With over 1500 works of art in the collection now photographed, including sculptures, paintings and prints, and with over 600 of these images on the website, the Crawford Gallery is now maintaining a key national online art and education resource, available to individual users, schools and colleges throughout Ireland and worldwide. Use of the website grew through 2010, to number over 1500 people logging on every week. The website is updated on a regular basis, reflecting the current, previous and upcoming exhibitions as they occur.



# Exhibition Programme 2010

The 2010 Exhibition Programme offered a diverse and engaging series of exhibitions examining artistic practice from the eighteenth century to the contemporary. Over the past decade, the Gallery has developed a programme which focuses on originating exhibitions, rather than accepting touring shows. These originated exhibitions include both historic and contemporary art.

The Gallery has maintained an average of eight visiting or temporary exhibitions a year, but in 2010 resources focused on originated exhibitions, with catalogues published by the Gallery. The annual programme of exhibitions is designed to be lively and well-balanced, and Gallery policy includes giving exposure to young artists as well as the more established.

## Terror and Sublime: Art in an Age of Anxiety

Friday 20 November 2009 – Saturday 27 February 2010



The exhibition *Terror and the Sublime: Art in an Age of Anxiety* featured works by over forty artists, from the late eighteenth century to the present, whose subject-matter reflects the spirit of their times. From the nineteenth century painter Francis Danby, who identified in the mountains of Norway a metaphor for the challenges facing his survival as an artist, to contemporary sculptor Jim Sanborn (whose work featured in Dan Brown's novel *The Lost Symbol*), creating a replica of the first atom bomb that destroyed Hiroshima, the exhibition gave an insight into the way artists respond to the times they live in.

The artists, ranging from eighteenth century to contemporary, included George Barrett, Aideen Barry, James Barry, Cecily Brennan, Oliver Comerford, Gary Coyle, Francis Danby, Michelle Deignan, Willie Doherty, Jonathan Fisher, Mary FitzGerald, Samuel Forde, James Forrester, David Godbold, Andreas Gursky, Clare Langan, Robert Longo, Fergus Martin, John Martin, Eoin McHugh, Theresa Nanigian, Paul Nugent, James Arthur O'Connor, Hughie O'Donoghue, George Petrie, Nigel Rolfe, Thomas Ruff, Jim Sanborn, Sean Shanahan, Hiroshi Sugimoto and Paul Winstanley.

Curated by Peter Murray, *Terror and the Sublime: Art in an Age of Anxiety*

received good attendances and positive media reviews. A seminar was held on February 3rd, where six contemporary artists represented in the exhibition gave short talks on their work, followed by a round-table discussion on the issues raised by the exhibition, and the relationship between artists and aesthetic theory.

## **Backwater TWENTY-10**

**Friday 11 March - Saturday 10 April**

This large-scale exhibition was a celebration of twenty years of the Cork collective studios “Backwater Artists Group”. It include works by one hundred and sixty artists, both current and past members of Backwater Studios. Selected by Stephen Brandes and Vera Ryan, and curated by Dawn Williams, Crawford Exhibitions Officer, the exhibition was accompanied by artists’ talks and satellite events around the city.

## **Music in Art**

**Modern Galleries**

A thematic selection of works from the collection, celebrating the life and work of the Cork-based composer Aloys Fleischmann (1910-1992) in the centenary year of his birth.

## **Screenings I**

### **Sean Lynch**

Video screenings of ‘Peregrine Falcons Visit Moyross’

**April 16 – May 15**

Artist’s Talk: Saturday 8 May at 12 noon.

### **Anthony Haughey**

Video screenings of ‘Citizen / Prehistory of the Crisis II’

**Thursday 20 May – Saturday 19 June**

Artist’s Talk: Thursday 20 May, 6 pm

## **Weltkunst Collection**

**Friday 23 April – Tuesday 6 July** Lower Gallery

Curated by Anne Boddaert of the Crawford Gallery, this large-scale exhibition included selected works from the Weltkunst Collection, comprising mainly British sculpture and drawings of the 1980’s and 90’s. Presented in association with IMMA, the exhibition featured works by Richard Deacon, Rachel Whiteread, Anish Kapoor, Antony Gormley and Alison Wilding.

## Close to Hand

Friday 23 July – Saturday 9 October Upper and Lower Gallery

Curated by Dawn Williams, this exhibition of contemporary art included works by Gary Coyle, Katie Holten, Cleary and Connolly, Nick Miller, Collette Nolan, Nathalie du Pasquier and Lorraine Burrell. 'Close to Hand' focused on the investigations and creative processes of eight artists who invoke the personal and physical relationship of their surroundings in their practices. This exhibition celebrated the creative impetus found in the familiar, and often overlooked, within the proximity of our everyday context and surroundings.

## Pepiniere Group Show

Thursday 14 October – Saturday 27 November – Modern Galleries

In partnership with National Sculpture Factory a group show featuring three emerging artists featured in the 2009 Pepiniere Residency Programme. The National Sculpture Factory hosted residencies by three artists, Katrin Hornek, Alana Riley and Oliver Jacobi. The works shown were created during these residencies.

## Screenings II

**GRACE WEIR** October 28 – November 27

**MARK LEWIS** December 2 – Saturday 8 January 2011

## Soundcast

Saturday 2 October; Saturday 2 October; Saturday 6 November; Saturday 4 December

Following the overwhelming success of Soundcast [4x4] in 2009, Cork-based international sound artist Mick O'Shea curated four sound art events, each first Saturday, from October – December. These performances featured David Stalling, Anthony Kelly, Irene Murphy, Danny McCarthy, working in collaboration with national and international sound artists.



## Portraits and People: Art in Seventeenth-Century Ireland

Friday 22 October – Saturday 29 January



In October 2010 the Crawford Art Gallery presented an originated exhibition of seventeenth-century portraits, that included works from the Gallery’s permanent collection, as well as paintings borrowed from the Office of Public Works, the Hunt Museum, Chatsworth House and other public and private collections in Ireland and in the UK. The aim of the exhibition was to give an insight into society, politics and the everyday lives of people in Ireland some four centuries ago. While most of the works shown were portraits, there were also books and artifacts illustrating aspects of social life. Although the exhibition focused less on grand affairs of state, than on the details of everyday life, the most evocative



portrait was that of Donal O’Sullivan Beare, the Gaelic lord exiled to Spain in the early seventeenth century, while among the other key works were portraits of *Richard Boyle* by Anthony van Dyck, *The Countess of Cork* by Sir Peter Lely and the scientist *Robert Boyle* by Johann Kerseboom, on loan from Chatsworth House. There were several portraits of a woman who gained celebrity not least due to her very great age, Katherine Fitzgerald, the Countess of Desmond. There was also a very important portrait of Sir Neil O’Neill by Michael Wright, as well as a range of portraits and artifacts from Birr Castle. The exhibition was the first of its kind to have been held in Ireland.

### **Eamon O’Kane “Twentieth of April Sixteen Eighty Nine”**

Friday 29 October 2010– Saturday 22 January 2011

Eamon O’Kane’s exhibition of contemporary work, presented simultaneously with *Portraits and People: Art in Seventeenth Century Ireland* featured a film made by the artist which re-enacted a meal at which James II had attended. The meal had taken place in the garden of the artist’s childhood house in Co. Donegal. O’Kane’s intriguing installation focused on a pivotal period in Ireland’s history. His installation, which addressed the idea of history being a highly contingent construct, formed both a homage to the event but also a critique of the way in which history is represented. The complexities inherent in the construction of history are teased in O’Kane’s art, to form a subtle interrogation of the belief systems and political mind-sets subsequently formed in contemporary Ireland.



**Touring Exhibition “Literary Lives: Portraits of Irish Writers”  
McMullen Museum Boston USA**

A touring exhibition organised by the Crawford Art Gallery and shown at the McMullen Museum of Art at Boston College, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2010 to Jan 2011.



The exhibition *Literary Lives: Portraits from the Crawford Art Gallery and the Abbey Theatre*, comprising thirty-four portraits from the Crawford Gallery collection, nine portraits from the Abbey Theatre, and three from the Arts Council, opened at the McMullen Museum in Boston on September 4<sup>th</sup> 2010. Supported by Culture Ireland, the exhibition also included works from the Hanvey photographic collection at the Burns Library at Boston College. Among those attending the opening reception were Fiach MacConghail director of the Abbey Theatre, the Irish Consul in Boston, Michael Lonergan and vice consul Deirdre Ni Fhalluin. The Provost of the college, Cutberto Garza, and the director of the McMullen Museum, Nancy Netzer, introduced the evening. The exhibition continued until January 2011. The Strule Arts Centre in Omagh, Northern Ireland, is to a selection from this exhibition in 2011.

**Touring Exhibition “*Impressionen von der Grunen Insel: Irische Malerei 1870-1930*,” Sweckverband Dachaur Gallery, Munich,**

A touring exhibition organised by the Crawford Gallery and Sweckverband Dachauer Galerien und Museen, and shown in the town of Dachau from October 2010 to Feb 2011

A second touring exhibition, *Irish Artists on the Continent 1880-1950*, was shown at the Sweckverband Dachauer Galerien und Museen, from October 2010 to February 2011, to coincide with the Aloys Fleischmann centenary celebrations. The Fleischmann family, who made a significant contribution to music and cultural life in Ireland from the early twentieth century onwards, were from this medieval town near Munich. Although the name Dachau is now associated irrevocably with the Nazi era, the town itself has a strong tradition of art, culture and music, and was a centre for artists in the late nineteenth century. Curated by Dr. Elisabeth Boser, director of the Sweckverband Dachauer Galerien, the exhibition included landscapes, portraits and other works by Irish artists. The exhibition was opened by the HE the Irish Ambassador to Germany, Dan Mulhall.



Dr. Peter Beurgel, Mayor of Dachau (left), with HE Dan Mulhall, Irish Ambassador to Germany



Opening evening of the exhibition with Anne Fleischmann (seated, right foreground) and Dr. Ruth Fleishmann (seated fifth from right)

**Touring Exhibition “*Irish Art 1950-1980: Works from the Great Southern Art Collection,*” Department of Arts, Killarney**

In consultation with DTCS staff in Killarney, a selection of works of art from the Great Southern Collection was made, for showing in the foyer gallery area of the Department’s new offices in Killarney. Including prints by Patrick Hickey and Cecil King, and nine paintings by various artists, including George Campbell, Norah McGuinness and Gerard Dillon, the exhibition was opened by Minister for Arts Jimmy Deenihan.





Minister Jimmy Deenihan with staff from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, at the opening of the Great Southern Exhibition.

## EDUCATION PROGRAMME 2010

### *ACCESS AND CREATIVE PARTICIPATION*

By creating awareness of the rich cultural resource that the Galery's collection and exhibition programme represent, the Guided Visits Programme seeks to foster an atmosphere where people will return to the Crawford Art Gallery on an ongoing basis, for learning and enjoyment. Gallery tours link with national events such as Heritage Week, Bealtine, Culture Night and Drawing Day, as well as local initiatives, most notably the Life-Long Learning Festival which highlights the variety of learning opportunities available in the city.

Guided Visits: Three strands

- Guided Visits that offer information on art works in an accessible way, appropriate to both age and needs. These visits are planned in collaboration with the group leader.

- Guided Visits that includes art making activities, allowing participants to respond to artwork in the gallery space.
- Free Guided Tours of the Gallery, open to public, Thursday evenings at 6.30pm and Saturday afternoons at 2.30pm.

The gallery's cadre of experienced guides, many of them practicing artists, convey their knowledge of the collection and art skills to meet the specific needs of schools, community groups, families, and visitors, local, national and international. Primary and Secondary level eachers are encouraged to use the gallery as an educational resource. A moderate fee is charged for the Guided Visits. The gallery provides all art materials for the art-making tours. This is welcomed, particularly by primary school pupils and teachers.

In 2010 Gallery hosted, on average, three school or group Guided Visits per week, in addition to the free Guided Tours, availed of by both tourists and regular visitors. In addition, sessions were tailored to accommodate groups from Simon Community and NASC (an immigrant support service), as well as other groups. These tours and visits promote the Gallery in terms of the service it can offer to both tourists and visitors, at a relatively low cost, and play a role in the development of both national education, and cultural tourism.

## Teacher Course (July)

By enabling and encouraging teachers to lead their own groups within the gallery space, the Crawford Gallery actively supports the teaching community in developing skills in terms of appreciating and understanding the visual arts. The programme aims to remove obstacles to children accessing the Gallery and its artwork. To this end, teacher courses have been developed in collaboration with the Cork Education Support Centre. These link directly to the National Curriculum and encourage an in-depth use of gallery resources, through active engagement and also the use of a Gallery Resource Pack.

The courses include a primer course for the uninitiated, as well as a more intensive week-long series of workshops, linking to the primary school National Curriculum. In 2010 thirty-five teachers attended and the courses were oversubscribed. These events were held in the gallery and led by Gallery facilitator, Eilis Ni Longaigh, whose extensive teaching experience encompasses special needs education and gallery mediation.

The Primer Course consisted of an introduction, including a short history of the gallery, and information session on what is available to schools under the education programme. There was a Gallery tour '*Beware of Greeks Bearing Gifts*', that covered eight key works from the collection. The impact of the Greeks and the Romans on the history of Western Art was the central theme, with an emphasis on cross-curricular links with English and History. The Primer

Course included an introduction to the gallery's teacher resource pack. The Week-Long Course drew on the diverse collection of paintings, sculptures and ceramics in the Gallery, and aimed to allow participants to maximize on the learning potential of a gallery visit. The format was a blend of interactive tours, presentation of gallery publications, illustrated talks and 'hands on' workshops. These linked directly to key areas of the primary curriculum and demonstrated practical classroom projects in drawing, colour work and ceramics.



## LEAVING CERT STUDY DAYS (January 2010)

The 2010 series of Leaving Cert Study Days were a real success, with over 300 pupils and teachers attended from Cork city and county, and the Munster region. These study days, presented in collaboration with the National Gallery of Ireland, were free of charge and were all over-subscribed. The focus of the study days, which included intensive revision sessions, was on the Leaving Cert Art curriculum. These study days have the dual purpose of bringing young people and teachers into the Gallery, while also encouraging these audiences to return

and use the gallery as a site of learning in the future. While in 2009, the Gallery acted as a host to the National Gallery's lectures, in 2010 the Crawford Gallery education team presenting an originated set of illustrated lectures and discussion sessions, as well as focused gallery tours keying into the Leaving Cert curriculum.

## LECTURE SERIES

*(ON-GOING)*

For over two decades, the Crawford Art Gallery has worked in close partnership with the independent support association, The Friends of the Crawford Gallery, in organising lectures, and concerts, as well as trips to museums, heritage houses and cultural destinations abroad. The Friends' lecture programme is generally linked directly with the exhibition programme.

Highlights of the Friend's lecture series 2010, most recently included, a focus on the exhibition *Portraits and People, Art in 17<sup>th</sup> Century Ireland*. The speakers included Karen Hearn, curator at Tate Britain, Dr. Hiram Morgan of the Department of History at UCC, Dr. Jane Fenlon, Peter Murray, Gallery director, and Dr. Elizabeth Heckett. The lectures covered many aspects of seventeenth century painting in Ireland, including textiles, costume, as well as historical events such as the Flight of the Earls.

A strong relationship is maintained between the Crawford Gallery and third level institutions, notably the Crawford College of Art (CIT) and UCC , but also with UCD and TCD. In 2010, the Gallery collaborated with UCC on the two-day conference *Making in Two Modes*, with keynote speaker Professor Michael Newman of Goldsmiths College London.

## TEEN PROGRAMME

*(ON-GOING)*

The Gallery's Teen Programme has become an important way of both attracting an important audience to the gallery, and engaging with the local community. The Teen Programme was devised in response to requests from parents, schools and youth groups who have asked for activities for teens. The Programme arose from a shared recognition that there are few opportunities for teenagers to engage

with cultural institutions outside academic structures, which inevitably focus on exams.

The Teen Programme, which like many of the Gallery's education initiatives is over-subscribed, invites young people from the local community and families to participate in the gallery in a way that addresses their interests, and that encourages them to explore what it means to be creative. The Programme works with a number of School Completion Programmes, and actively seeks to include young people from across the social spectrum.

In 2010, facilitators Julie Kelleher and Julie Forrester worked with fourteen participants aged 14 - 17 to explore drawing, using mixed media, collage and animation. Youth worker and graffiti artist Timmy Murphy worked with teenagers in the gallery to develop their own creativity and explore youth culture and forms of visual expression in street art. The designs were painted onto a gallery wall and this section of the project culminated in a weekend Graffiti Blast.



“Arts and Minds”  
(ON-GOING)



In 2010, Mahon Community Health Nurse Mary Dineen approached the gallery with a view to organizing sessions for adults living with mental illness. This approach led to a continuing dialogue between the gallery and the group, “Arts and Minds”. This tentative learning process proved invaluable to both Gallery and the group, and will be built upon in coming years. The Education Team initially facilitated six sessions allowing the group to explore the gallery and its exhibitions, led by artist Julie Forrester. Positive feedback led to a further six sessions, that allowed participants to develop short animated films based on Haiku poems. These films were screened in the Gallery. Working positively to remove of any sense of social stigma attached to mental illness was an important part of these programmes.

## Community Outreach Programme

### *Ballypnehane Community Development Project*

In early 2010, the Gallery Education Team approached Ballypnehane Community Development Project, with a view to working collaboratively. The aims were to introduce the Gallery as a resource, to both learn and teach, to exchange skills, and to explore ways of working collaboratively. The process and results of this programme form part of building expertise and knowledge of how best to engage with local communities, while encourage a sense of involvement and community ownership of the gallery. Ballypnehane was chosen because of its strong community spirit, a large number of older residents and a strong craft tradition. On-going contact, which involved visits to satellite groups, tours and workshops in the Gallery, led to a pattern of long-term engagement with over fifty adults.

Following workshops in the gallery during *Bealtaine 2010*, which were tailored to the needs of four groups of adults, an exhibition project has been developed for 2011. The work of four groups culminated in an exhibition in the Gallery, during the Bealtaine Festival in May 2011; Textile artist Mary Timmons worked with older residents skilled in crochet; Artist Julie Kelleher worked with two groups of adults using painting and drawing; Stained glass artist Debbie Dawson worked with a group to make light boxes in stained glass. Many of the participants stated that they would have never entered the Gallery before this project, or thought of it as a place for them.



Members of Ballyphane Community group working with Gallery Team

## Children's Animation Workshops July and August 2010



The Summer Programme for children presents three weeks of animation workshops using “stop motion” techniques. These workshops are designed and facilitated by artist Julie Forrester and the children’s animations can be viewed on the Gallery website. Led by artist Julie Forrester, the workshops explore narratives with children, using animation and web publishing techniques. The workshops involve different types of media; sound, construction, photography and lighting, and allow children to build entire worlds, to engage imaginatively with materials and narrative, and even to self-publish. These workshops were again over-subscribed in 2010.

The Gallery also provides workshops where children learn computer and camera skills in a creative and collaborative environment. In 2010, short animation films resulting from these workshops were exhibited in the Gallery, as well as, receiving a special screening in the Screening Room for parents, friends and family. The feedback from participants and others is very positive: visitors are intrigued by the children’s visual imaginings, while the children are proud that their work is given value in a proper gallery setting. This programme is designed to encourage equal access for children.





## Local and National Links

### Bealtaine

Every Tuesday in May

Bealtaine is a nationwide celebration of creativity in older age organized by Age and Opportunity Ireland. In 2010, the Crawford Gallery was delighted to welcome over one hundred participants. In promoting Bealtaine, the education office purposely targets local community groups through mailshots and direct invitation and is actively working in terms of widening participation.. The gallery has been facilitating sessions for older audiences celebrating Bealtaine since 2003. This experience has led to the development of a structured programme over four afternoons in May, which offers thematic tours with a lively and interested guide, a social and relaxed tea and scone session. The afternoon concludes with an optional art making session with a professional artist. This year's programme allowed audiences to view and respond sculpturally to the ceramic work of John ffrench and the sculptural portraits of Seamus Murphy

### Drawing Day

(May 22)

Drawing Day, a nationwide event initiated by the National Gallery of Ireland, now includes art venues across the country. The main aim is to encourage people of all ages and abilities to visit their local arts venue and pick up a pencil. Artist Helle Helsner and students from the Crawford Art College worked with the Gallery team to create a relaxed afternoon of sketching in the Sculpture Gallery. People could drop in and take materials from a box in the space, or simply watch others and chat. The Gallery team welcomed seventy people, from children with their families, to teens and older visitors.



## Life-Long Learning Festival

The Life Long Learning Festival, organized by Cork City Council, highlights the variety of learning opportunities available to everyone in Cork. A variety of educational organizations and community groups take part in this open event. In 2010, the Gallery offered free tours and hands-on sessions exploring stained glass design, in popular sessions led by artist Julie Kelleher.

## Heritage Week - August

National Heritage Week seeks to build awareness of the importance of Ireland's cultural heritage, and to encourage conservation and preservation. The Crawford Gallery participated by offering free family tours and free tours of the Cooper Penrose Collection, focusing on the private, cultural and business lives of this influential Cork Quaker family.

## Culture Night - September 24

Culture Night, a national event that sees art venues across Ireland opening their doors late into the evening, aims to invite everyone to actively explore culture in their area. The Crawford Gallery was delighted to participate in Culture Night Cork and in 2010 welcomed over 800 visitors, who enjoyed a family tour *Beware of Greeks Bearing Gifts*; free tours for adults looking to Cork's cultural heritage and highlights from the collection. Younger visitors had great fun participating in specifically-designed art detective trails, puzzles and competitions.

The planning of the Gallery's Education programme for 2010 involved looking at each initiative as a stepping-stone or building block. The aim was to encourage the local community, and visitors, to continue to return to the Crawford Art Gallery, and to come to appreciate and use the Gallery as a resource and a place of learning and enjoyment. Each initiative was carefully structured to provide interpretive tools. Qualified and professional artists led all of our tours and workshops. In 2010 Gallery education staff concentrated in particular on developing resources for schools.

## Friends of the Crawford Art Gallery

Established in 1987 as an independent support group for the gallery, the Friends of the Crawford Art Gallery now has a membership of over four hundred members. The purpose of the Friends is to raise funds in support of new acquisitions, to foster an interest in all aspects of art and promote an awareness of the gallery's collection and exhibitions through a programme of activities that take place throughout the year. The Friends provide an autumn and spring series of weekly lunchtime lectures on Irish and European art and on aspects of local heritage in art and architecture. These are held in the gallery's lecture theatre and are open to the public, for a nominal fee of five euros. The Friends' lectures are consistently well attended.

# Marketing the Crawford Art Gallery

The board sub-committee established a marketing policy for the Gallery, focusing on attracting tourists and special interest sectors such as academics, cultural associations, community groups and tour organizers to Cork. These visitors were attracted by exhibitions of contemporary and historic art, group exhibitions and loan exhibitions. Promotion of gallery through bookshop and catalogue sales continued, with prints and reproductions of works of art for sale. A new range of prints, postcards and greeting cards was published, highlighting works from the permanent collection. International audiences were targeted through a combination of editorial coverage and advertising, as well as through website development, as well as through the distribution and sale of catalogues. National audiences were targeted by similar means, mainly through editorial coverage and reviews in newspapers and magazines. The exhibitions programme, including both historic and contemporary art, generated significant profile and coverage for the Gallery.

Local audiences were not forgotten, with the Gallery continuing to be an active partner in events such as the Cork Film Festival, the Mid-Summer Festival and other events in Cork.

At a meeting of the Council of National Cultural Institutions held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010 the Gallery Director, Peter Murray, was appointed chairman of the CNCI for the coming year. This provided an opportunity to consolidate the Crawford Art Gallery's work as a National Cultural Institution.

## Visitor Figures

Crawford Art Gallery		Jan to December 2007	January to December 2008	January to December 2010
		204,855	174,457	170,334

Visitor figures were lower for 2010, due to extensive building and urban renewal works in the immediate vicinity of Gallery. These works began in July 2007 and were completed in October 2010. After that date, visitor figures significantly increased.