

Press Release: Friday 26 February, 2015  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# MARTIN HEALY

## A moment twice lived

March 5 – May 14, 2016

[www.crawfordartgallery.ie](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie)



Image © Martin Healy, 2016

Crawford Art Gallery is delighted to present Martin Healy: *A moment twice lived*, an exhibition of new and recent work by the Dublin-based artist.

Martin Healy's film and photographic installations have explored ideological motifs from early 20th century literature endeavouring to mine the synthesis of fact, fiction and manifest mythology embedded in systems of belief. The work featured in *A moment twice lived* extrapolates concerns about earth and the cosmos, dreams and reality, and investigates states of temporal being, both physical and psychological. Frequently examining the relationship between scientific truth and aesthetic form, the works emphasise fleeting or ethereal moments when these two ideologies coalesce.

The exhibition, displayed over two floors, includes a number of new photographic and sculptural works and a key new single screen installation entitled, *A moment twice lived* (2016). The film's circuitous narrative makes reference to JW Dunne's writing, in particular the book *An Experiment with Time* (1927), by way of a curiously overlooked painting in the Crawford Gallery's collection by Nathaniel Grogan – a small, late eighteenth century genre-painting which only recently has been re-attributed to the artist<sup>1</sup>. During the course of the film, a narrator periodically refers to dreams and experiences of temporal dislocation, questioning our perception of the passage of time and its relationship to our understanding of the world. The narrator's text is based on Dunne's writings as well as notes from the J.B. Priestley Archive at the University of Bradford.

Healy has also adeptly created a number of sculptural installations which explore variant possibilities of concepts of time. These reflections on time and its many facets are explored in *The long afternoon of eternity* (2016) – which appears at first to be a standard garden bench - the ends of which are in fact made from a fusion of cast iron and an iron meteorite. The artist has physically merged a humble cast iron bench with an artifact from the farthest stretches of the universe; creating a place for contemplation and suggesting the potential for traversing the many dimensions of time.

As a counterpoint, the mesmeric film *Harvest* (2015) follows a character as he attentively records the sound of plants as they are watered over the course of a morning. Blurring the lines between documentary and fiction, the work is characterised by the use of a real protagonist in a real

---

<sup>1</sup> Nathaniel Grogan the Younger (c.1765-c 1825) *Banditti around a campfire* c.1796}

**Press Release: Friday 26 February, 2015**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

environment who fastidiously attends to the plants in silence, cultivating a sense of unease through the ambiguity of his actions. The sound recorded from the surface of the plants is progressively integrated into the soundtrack of the piece and becomes the dominant element in the final section, effectively allowing the viewer to listen to the sounds of the environment as the plants 'experience' the sensation of the water.

In these works, Martin Healy adroitly creates a reflective space for the consideration of the histories and destinies of our local and cosmic environments ruminating on our relationship to the rhythms of the natural world and the phenomena that affect our existence.

Dr Francis Halsall (Course Director MA Art in the Contemporary World) and Matt Packer (Director, CCAD, Derry/Londonderry) will participate in a public conversation with the artist at 5:30 pm, Thursday 31 March in the Crawford Art Gallery.

A publication to accompany the exhibition *A moment twice lived* featuring new texts by Francis Halsall and Matt Packer published by Crawford Art Gallery, Cork (ISBN.978-1-874756-25-5).

*A Moment Twice Lived* was funded by The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon Visual Arts Project Award (2014)

For further information & images contact: [dawnwilliams@crawfordartgallery.ie](mailto:dawnwilliams@crawfordartgallery.ie)/ T: +353 (0) 21 4807853

---

## **EDITOR NOTES**

### **About the artist**

Martin Healy lives and works in Dublin. His works have been shown widely both nationally and internationally and recent solo exhibitions include: *Terrain*, Galway Arts Centre, 2015; *Aether*, Oonagh Young Gallery, Dublin 2014 and *The Inhabitant*, Temple Bar Gallery and Studios, Dublin, 2011; *Facsimile*, Lismore Castle Arts, St Carthage Hall, 2011.

Selected group exhibitions: Tulca festival of visual arts, Galway, 2015; *Dead Eye*, Rua Red, Dublin, 2015; *Cosmic Dust*, Visual Centre for Contemporary Art, Carlow, 2015; *Transit and Transport* (screening), Fact, Liverpool, 2014; *Island: New Art from Ireland*, Galleria Civica Di Modena, 2013; *Still Light*, Gallery Augusta, Suomenlinna, Helsinki, 2013. [www.martinhealy.net](http://www.martinhealy.net)

---

### **About the Crawford Art Gallery**

Crawford Art Gallery is a National Cultural Institution and regional art museum for Munster, dedicated to the visual arts, both historic and contemporary. The permanent collection comprises over 2500 works, ranging from eighteenth century Irish and European painting and sculpture, through to contemporary video installations. At the heart of the collection is a collection of Greek and Roman sculpture casts, brought to Cork in 1818 from the Vatican Museum in Rome.

Through its temporary exhibitions, publications and education programmes, the Crawford Art Gallery is committed to fostering recognition, critical assessment, and acknowledgement of historical and contemporary Irish and international art practice. Located in the heart of Cork city, the gallery is a critical part of Ireland's cultural and tourism infrastructure, welcoming over 200,000

**Press Release: Friday 26 February, 2015**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

visitors a year.

### **How to get to the Crawford Art Gallery**

Crawford Art Gallery is located in the heart of Cork City centre, adjacent to Cork Opera House and Opera Lane, just off Patrick Street. Ten minutes walk from Cork's Kent Train Station and five minutes walk from Cork Bus Terminus. Disabled parking zones are available at the front entrance of the gallery at Emmet Place and Academy Street.

### **Access & Education**

For details on guided tours, access and education contact: [emmaklemencic@crawfordartgallery.ie](mailto:emmaklemencic@crawfordartgallery.ie)  
[www.crawfordartgallery.ie/education.html](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie/education.html)

### **Admission / Opening Hours**

Admission to the Crawford Art Gallery and *Martin Healy: A moment twice lived* exhibition is free.

Monday - Saturday: 10 am - 5pm (last entry 4:45pm); Thursday: 10 am - 8pm

closed Sundays and Bank Holidays

**ENDS**