

100 years of Building as Witness: six exciting new commissions at Crawford Art Gallery

Throughout the upheaval, triumphs, bloodshed and peacetimes of the past century in Cork, the building that houses Crawford Art Gallery has borne silent witness.

Now, Crawford Art Gallery's Decade of Centenaries project, *Building as Witness*, is coming to an exciting denouement.

From November 2023 through to May 2024, artists **Ursula Burke, Linda Curtin & David Keating, Fiona Linnane, Jan McCullough, Dominic Thorpe, and Jennie Taylor & Brian Teeling** will present creative responses including project events, talks, installations and exhibitions that engage with Crawford Art Gallery's buildings and history as part of the *Building as Witness* programme.

From musical compositions and exhibitions to screenings and virtual reality (VR) installations, the artworks explore and respond to Crawford Art Gallery's material presence over time, the characters that have inhabited it and the events the landmark building has witnessed over the past 100 years.

The Building As Witness project

Building As Witness began with an online interactive history project on 6 December, 2021 – the centenary of the Anglo-Irish Treaty. The project includes the centenary of the date in April 1924 when the Gibson Bequest Committee agreed on the purchase of Seán Keating's iconic painting *Men of the South (1921-22)* for Crawford Art Gallery's collection.

The six projects of Crawford Art Gallery's *Building As Witness* are kindly supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Decade of Centenaries Programme 2012-2023.

Programme

Project 1: Cognarnach

Composer Fiona Linnane's *Cogarnach* is a musical promenade performance of her specially composed 30 minute piece inside Crawford Art Gallery, with young musicians of Cork ETB School of Music and soprano Triona Walsh.

Event: 16:00 and 17:30, Sunday 26 November 2023, free but ticketed on Eventbrite.

Project 2: Dark Dark Mouth

Artist Dominic Thorpe explores perpetrator trauma and the Irish Civil War in Cork city through performance, drawing, installation and video work, including a panel discussion called Perpetrator Trauma: A Discussion alongside Dr Cara Levey (University College Cork), Dr Síobhra Aiken (Ulster University), and Cork-based human rights filmmaker Peadar King.

Exhibition: Monday 15 – Sunday 28 January 2024.

Event: Perpetrator Trauma: A Discussion 10:00 – 13:00 Saturday 27 January

Project 3: TEELING AND TAYLOR in the glow of a frozen flame

Artist Brian Teeling and arts writer Jennie Taylor collaborate to explore Crawford Art Gallery's buildings and immediate surroundings through a printed publication populated by photographic images and pieces of flash fiction. In this publication, time fictionally folds and collapses to bring details from 1921-1924 into a dislocated moment.

February – March and online

Project 4: Ursula Burke

Artist Ursula Burke creates a tapestry frieze investigating historical and contemporary representations of guerrilla warfare. Ukrainian weaver Zhanna Petrenko will weave the tapestry, creating a thread between Ireland and Ukraine, both having suffered oppression at the hands of a more powerful neighbour and with common experiences of the devastating effects of famine.

Event: *Ursula Burke in conversation with Sri Lankan art historian Edwin Coomasaru: 17:00 - 18:00*
Friday 15 March

Exhibition: 16 March – 6 May

Project 5: Jan McCullough

Presented at a pivotal time before the building undergoes a period of extensive renovation, McCullough will create photographs and site-specific sculpture from her research into the history of Crawford Art Gallery. The project will respond to how acts of labour and the people who perform it are intertwined with the building's fabric.

Exhibition: *Saturday 13 April – Monday 3 June*

Project 6: Sit Stand Smoke

A short theatre experience in Virtual Reality (VR) by filmmakers Linda Curtin and David Keating that positions Seán Keating's painting *Men of the South* in its own time. Art historian Éimear O'Connor gives insights into the characters that appear in Seán Keating's iconic painting *Men of the South* (1921 - 1922), but eventually, Keating himself shows up with his own view on proceedings.

Exhibition: *Throughout April*

ENDS

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Notes to edito

For more images, click [here](#).

For more information on Building As Witness, click [here](#).

Crawford Art Gallery History

Crawford Art Gallery, then Cork Municipal School of Art (CMSA), remained open throughout the War of Independence and Civil War, with the exception of a brief period in the immediate aftermath of the murder of Lord Mayor of Cork Tomás MacCurtain (1884-1920).

Cork City Hall and the Carnegie Library were destroyed in the Burning of Cork in December 1920, and as a result CMSA operated as a library and hosted local government meetings. The School of Art largely escaped violence, apart from a British Army raid in May 1921 and three bomb and gun attacks carried out by the anti-Treaty IRA in 1923.

Two families, those of the caretaker and the Secretary of the Committee, lived in the building.

More about Crawford Art Gallery

Crawford Art Gallery is an Irish national cultural institution, dedicated to contemporary and historic visual art, located in a significant heritage building in the heart of Cork city. Offering a vibrant and dynamic programme of temporary exhibitions, it is also houses a collection of national importance which tells a compelling story of Cork and Ireland over the last three centuries.

Originally built in 1724 as the city's Customs House, the Gallery is home to the famous Canova Casts, gifted to Cork two centuries ago. Featured in the gallery's collection of over 3,000 objects are contemporary artists Aideen Barry, Gerard Byrne, Maud Cotter, Dorothy Cross, Tacita Dean, and Sean Scully as well as much-loved works by Irish artists James Barry, Harry Clarke, Mainie Jellett, Seán Keating, Daniel Maclise, Norah McGuinness, Edith Somerville, and Jack B. Yeats.

An oasis of calm and tranquility, Crawford Art Gallery is open seven days a week, free to enter, and a must-see for locals and tourists alike.

Opening Hours

Monday–Saturday 10.00am–5.00pm Late opening Thursdays until 8.00pm Sundays and Bank Holidays Gallery: 11am - 4pm Entry Free

Tours

Free Tours Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays 2pm Free Tours on Thursday 6.30 pm . This project is in support of the Night-Time Economy and funded by The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Café

The Green Room

A classic old world dining room in Cork's cultural epicentre that mixes traditional food offerings alongside contemporary trends.

Open 7 days a week with opening times on www.crawfordartgallery.ie

Leagan Gaeilge:

100 bliain de Building as Witness: sé choimisiún spreagúla nua ag Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford

I rith chior thuathail, buanna, doirteadh fola agus tréimhsí síochána an chéid seo caite i gCorcaigh, tá an foirgneamh a bhfuil Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford ann anois tar éis a bheith ina fhinné tostach aige.

Anois, tá tionscadal Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán de chuid Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, *Building as Witness*, ag teacht chun críche iontach.

Ó Shamhain 2023 go dtí Bealtaine 2024, cuirfidh na healaíontóirí **Ursula Burke, Linda Curtin & David Keating, Fiona Linnane, Jan McCullough, Dominic Thorpe**, agus **Jennie Taylor & Brian Teeling** freagraí cruthaitheacha i láthair, lena n-áirítear imeachtaí tionscadail, cainteanna, suiteálacha agus taispeántais a bhíonn a thugann aghaidh ar fhoirgnimh agus stair Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford mar chuid den chlár *Building as Witness*.

Idir chumadóireacht agus thaispeántais cheoil agus léirithe agus shuiteálacha réaltachta fíorúla (VR), déanann na saothair ealaíne iniúchadh agus freagairt ar láithreachtaí ábhartha Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford le himeacht ama, ar na carachtair a raibh cónaí orthu ann agus ar na himeachtaí a chonaic an foirgneamh sainchomhartha le 100 bliain anuas.

An tionscadal Building As Witness

Cuireadh tús le *Building As Witness* le tionscadal staire idirghníomhach ar líne ar an 6 Nollaig, 2021 – comóradh céad bliain an Chonartha Angla-Éireannaigh. Cuimsíonn an tionscadal comóradh céad bliain an dáta i mí Aibreáin 1924 nuair a d'aontaigh Coiste Tiomnachta Gibson ar phictiúr íocónach Sheáin Keating, *Men of the South (1921 -22)* a cheannach do bhailiúchán Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford.

Faigheann na sé thionscadal *Building As Witness* de chuid Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford tacaíocht chineálta ón Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán faoi Chlár Dheich mBliana na gCuimhneachán 2012 -2023:

Clár

Tionscadal 1: Cognarnach

Is léiriú proanáide ceoil é *Cogarnach* ón gcumadóir Fiona Linnane dá píosa 30 nóiméad a cumadh go speisialta taobh istigh de Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, le ceoltóirí óga Scoil Cheoil BOO Chorcaí agus an soprán Triona Walsh.

Imeacht: 16:00 agus 17:30, *Dé Domhnaigh an 26 Samhain 2023, saor in aisce ach ticéadaithe ar Eventbrite.*

Tionscadal 2: Dark Dark Mouth

Fiosraíonn an t-ealaíontóir Dominic Thorpe tráma déantóra agus Cogadh Cathartha na hÉireann i gcathair Chorcaí trí shaothar taibhithe, líníochta, suiteála agus físe, ina measc plé painéil darb ainm Perpetrator Trauma: A Discussion in éineacht leis an Dochtúir Cara Levey (Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh), an Dochtúir Síobhra Aiken (Ollscoil Uladh), agus an scannánóir cearta daonna Peadar King atá lonnaithe i gCorcaigh.

Taispeántas: Dé Luain 15 – Dé Domhnaigh 28 Eanáir 2024.

Imeacht: Perpetrator Trauma: A Discussion 10:00 – 13:00 Dé Sathairn 27 Eanáir

Tionscadal 3: TEELING AND TAYLOR in the glow of a frozen flame

Comhoibríonn an t-ealaíontóir Brian Teeling agus an scríbhneoir ealaíon Jennie Taylor chun iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar fhoirgnimh agus ar gharthimpeallacht Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford trí fhoilseachán clóite a bhfuil íomhánna grianghrafadóireachta agus píosaí mearfhicsin ann. San fhoilseachán seo, fillteann agus cliseann am go ficseanúil chun sonraí ó 1921 -1924 a thabhairt isteach i nóiméad díláithrithe.

Feabhra – Márta agus ar líne

Tionscadal 4: Ursula Burke

Cruthaíonn an t-ealaíontóir Ursula Burke fríos taipéise ag fiosrú léirithe stairiúla agus comhaimseartha den treallchogaíocht. Déanfaidh an fíodóir Úcránach Zhanna Petrenko an taipéis a fhí, ag cruthú snáithe idir Éire agus an Úcráin, tar éis dóibh beirt a bheith thíos ag an gcos ar bolg ag lámha comharsa níos cumhachtaí agus le taithí choitianta ar éifeachtaí tubaisteacha an ghorta.

Imeacht: Ursula Burke in conversation with Sri Lankan art historian Edwin Coomasaru: 17:00 - 18:00 Dé hAoine 15 Márta

Taispeántas: 16 Márta – 6 Bealtaine

Tionscadal 5: Jan McCullough

Arna chur i láthair ag am cinniúnach sula ndéantar athchóiriú fairsing ar an bhfoirgneamh, cruthóidh McCullough grianghraif agus dealbhóireacht a bhaineann go sonrach le suíomh óna taighde ar stair Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford. Freagróidh an tionscadal don chaoi a bhfuil gníomhartha saothair agus na daoine a thugann faoi fite fuaite le creatlach an fhoirgnimh.

Taispeántas: *Dé Sathairn 13 Aibreán – Dé Luain 3 Meitheamh*

Tionscadal 6: Sit Stand Smoke

Eispéireas gearr amharclannaíochta i Réaltacht Fhíorúil (VR) leis na scannánóirí Linda Curtin agus David Keating, a chuireann pictiúr Sean Keating ' *Men of the South* ' ina am féin. Tugann an staraí ealaíne Éimear O'Connor léargas ar na carachtair atá le feiceáil i bpictiúr íocónach Sheáin Keating, *Men of the South* (1921 - 1922), ach sa deireadh, beidh Keating féin ann lena dhearcadh féin ar imeachtaí.

Taispeántas: *I rith mhí Aibreáin*

DEIREADH

www.crawfordartgallery.ie Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, Plás Emmet, Corcaigh, Éire.

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Nótaí don Eagarthóir:

Le haghaidh tuilleadh íomhánna, cliceáil [anseo](#).

Chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil ar Building As Witness, cliceáil [anseo](#).

Stair Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford

D'fhan Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, Scoil Ealaíne Bhardasach Chorcaí (CMSA) ag an am, ar oscailt i rith Chogadh na Saoirse agus an Chogaidh Chathartha, cé is moite de thréimhse ghairid díreach i ndiaidh dhúnmharú Ard-Mhéara Chorcaí Tomás Mac Curtáin (1884 -1920).

Scríosadh Halla na Cathrach i gCorcaigh agus Leabharlann Carnegie i nDó Chorcaí i mí na Nollag 1920, agus dá bharr sin bhí CMSA ag feidhmiú mar leabharlann agus d'óstáil siad cruinnithe rialtais áitiúil. Bhí Scoil na hEalaíne saor ó fhoréigean den chuid is mó, seachas ruathar de chuid Arm na Breataine i mBealtaine 1921 agus trí ionsaí buama agus gunna a rinne an IRA frith-Chonartha in 1923.

Bhí dhá theaghlach, teaghlach an airígh agus Rúnaí an Choiste, ina gcónaí san fhoirgneamh.

Tuilleadh eolais faoi Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford

Institiúid chultúrtha náisiúnta Éireannach is ea Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, atá tiomanta d'amharc-ealaín chomhaimseartha agus stairiúil, atá lonnaithe i bhfoirgneamh oidhreachtas suntasach i gcoilár chathair Chorcaí. Cuireann sé clár bríomhar dinimiciúil de thaispeántais shealadacha ar fáil, agus tá bailiúchán ann freisin a bhfuil tábhacht náisiúnta aige agus a insíonn scéal iontach faoi Chorcaigh agus faoi Éirinn le trí chéad bliain anuas.

Tógadh an Gailearaí den chéad uair i 1724 mar Theach Custaim na cathrach, áit a bhfuil na Cásálacha cáiliúla Canova, a bronnadh ar Chorcaigh dhá chéad bliain ó shin. Tá ealaíontóirí comhaimseartha Aideen Barry, Gerard Byrne, Maud Cotter, Dorothy Cross, Tacita Dean, agus Sean Scully le feiceáil i mbailiúchán an ghailearaí, chomh maith le saothair leis na healaíontóirí Éireannacha James Barry, Harry Clarke, Mainie Jellett, Seán Keating, Daniel Maclise, Norah McGuinness, Edith Somerville, agus Jack B. Yeats.

Tá sé ina thearmann de shíocháin agus de shuaimhneas, tá Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford oscailte seacht lá na seachtaine, saor in aisce le dul isteach, agus riachtanach le feiceáil do mhuintir na háite agus turasóirí araon.

Uaireanta Oscailte

Dé Luain-Dé Sathairn 10.00r.n-5.00i.n

An Déardaoin ag oscailt go dtí 8.00i.n

Dé Domhnaigh agus Gailearaí na Laethanta Saoire Bainc: 11r.n - 4i.n Iontráil shaor

Turais

Dé Domhnaigh tá turais Saor in Aisce agus Saoire Bainc Dé Luain 2 i.n

Turais saor in aisce ar an Déardaoin ag 6.30i.n.

Tá an tionscadal seo ag tacú leis an nGeilleagar Oíche agus á mhaoiniú ag an Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

Caifé: An Seomra Glas

Seomra bia clasaiceach domhanda i gcroílár cultúrtha Chorcaí ina measctar tairiscintí bia traidisiúnta in éineacht le treochtaí comhaimseartha.

Oscailte 7 lá na seachtaine le huaireanta oscailte ar www.crawfordartgallery.ie