



Credit: Ellie O' Byrne

Press Release 03/08/2022

Swap, Sow or Save seeds at Crawford Art Gallery

An exciting season of food-related events hosted by Crawford Art Gallery continues with an open seed swap and seed-saving workshop from the experts.

Learn to save seeds, bring seeds to swap, or sow a seed to take home at this family-friendly event brought to you by Irish Seed Savers Association and seed sovereignty advocate Jason Horner.

The living heritage of heirloom seeds, and their vital role in future-proofing our food supply against climate change, will be in the spotlight: crop monocultures are increasingly vulnerable and crop biodiversity is the solution, Deirdre Morrissey of Irish Seed Savers Association and seed sovereignty advocate Jason Horner say.

Deirdre and Jason will host a lively Saturday seed workshop and seed swap during Heritage Week, in the Project Space at Meat and Potatoes, the Crawford's food-themed exhibition.

From growing a full crop of a rare blight-resistant potato variety in the gallery, to bread-making workshops to conversations on food security and food poverty, the Project Space at Meat and Potatoes is open between

now and November 4th, with a series of ambitious events to compliment the artworks in the exhibition.

EVENT DETAILS: SEEDS ARE STORIES: Saturday the 13th of August for HERITAGE WEEK, at 1pm

A lunchtime workshop on seed saving with Irish Seed Savers Association's seed curator Deirdre Morrissey, followed by a "seed show and tell" with Jason Horner, where people can bring, swap and sow food crop seeds and explain the origins of their saved seed. Sow a seed to bring home. 1pm seed workshop, 2pm-4pm seed swap/sowing.

ENDS

Kayleigh Milner
Marketing & Communications Executive
E Marketing@crawfordartgallery.ie
M +353 (0) 87 655 6423
W www.crawfordartgallery.ie
Crawford Art Gallery,
Emmet Place,
Cork, Ireland.
T12 TNE6

Notes to Editor:

The Gallery will present an extensive programme of food and art related events to accompany the exhibition. Further details online as released.

<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/meat-and-potatoes/>

If you would like an interview with Jason Horner and Irish Seed Savers Gillian Lattimore, please contact **marketing@crawfordartgallery.ie**

For more imagery, please click [here](#).

About the Crawford Art Gallery's Meat and Potatoes Project Space

Meat and Potatoes is the Crawford Art Gallery's food-themed art exhibition, running from July 16th to November 4th. While the downstairs gallery is showing artworks with food as a theme, upstairs, the project space is holding a big, ambitious programme of food events, from live baking workshops to a crop of gallery spuds which will be harvested and cooked in the gallery, to talks and workshops exploring the serious food issues of the day. Full programme of events [here](#).

About Irish Seed Savers

[Irish Seed Savers Association](#) (ISSA) in Scariff, Co Clare, is Ireland's only public seed bank. They maintain and preserve the biodiversity of Irish food crops through their work in saving heirloom seed. They are also home to Ullórd na hÉireann, an orchard that serves as a living gene bank for threatened varieties of Irish heirloom apples. ISSA was founded by Anita Hayes, the American wife of Stockton's Wing bodhrán player Tommy Hayes, in 1991.

About Deirdre Morrissey

Deirdre Morrissey is ISSA's Seed Officer. She trained in Organic Horticulture at Dromcollagher Organic College and joined Irish Seed Savers Association in 2017 as Seed-to-Seed Assistant. In 2020 she undertook training in Botany with the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh and in Seed Conservation techniques with The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. She is a passionate advocate for community gardening and gardening for well-being and loves inspiring people to save their own seeds.

About Jason Horner

Jason Horner is a seed saver based in Co Clare. Having worked in commercial organic horticulture for 30 years, in 2020 he began producing seed commercially. He is the Gaia Foundation's Seed Sovereignty Programme Coordinator for Ireland and he is also a coordinator for the Organic Growers of Ireland's Small Growers Network.

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 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 tranquillity, Crawford Art Gallery is open seven days a week, free to enter, and a must-see for locals and tourists alike. Welcoming over 265,000 visitors annually, the Gallery boasts an award-winning Café in stunning surroundings, serving fresh local produce for which Cork is famous.

Current Event Programme:

From 15 July

Spuds growing in the Upper Gallery
in partnership with **Cork Rooftop Farm (Brian McCarthy)**

5 August

Soil and the City

Evening Panel Discussion/Live Podcast: How much of our food could we grow in the city? And what would we need to make that happen? Join Cork Urban Soil Project, Brian McCarthy of Cork Rooftop Farms and Maria Young of Cork Food Policy Council, who co-ordinates community growing projects including Togher Community Gardens, for a lively discussion. Allotment-growers and others with an interest particularly welcome!

13 August – Heritage week

Seeds are Stories

1pm Seed Workshop, 2pm–4pm Seed Swap/Sowing

A lunchtime workshop on seed saving with Irish Seed Savers Association's seed curator Deirdre Morrissey, and then a "seed show and tell" where people can bring, swap and sow food crop seeds and explain the origins of their saved seed. Sow a seed to bring home.

14 August – Heritage week

Art Picnic at the Gallery

Come join us in the gallery for an artistic feast. A picnic themed drop-in workshop where you can have a try at still life painting, drawing and basic block printing. All ages welcome. No art experience necessary.

25 August

Locavore: Brexit, Covid, Ukraine and Irish food security

Thursday 25 August 6pm

Artist and food activist Lisa Fingleton is the founder of the annual "30 day local food challenge," in which, each year she and others eat only foods grown in Ireland for the month of September. Lisa has been warning about imbalances in Irish food production for years, and recent crises including the

invasion of Ukraine have highlighted how fragile our global food supply chains can be. Join Lisa and a panel of fellow experts to explore and debate the current state of Irish food security. Details of contributors to follow.

10 September

Cork Rooftop Farm: Morning Tour

Saturday 10am Cornmarket, outside Cork Rooftop Farm

Join Brian McCarthy for a tour of the Rooftop farm that's less than 500m from the door of the Crawford Art Gallery. Brian has been the brains behind the crop of spuds growing in the Crawford and if you want to see how it's possible to grow food in the city, there's no better place to start. A free but ticketed event with limited places; pre-booking is essential. Keep an eye on our events page for when tickets will become available.

10 September

The Animal Connection : walking tours in the city with Food historian Regina Sexton. Free but with registration on Eventbrite.

16 September

Irish Heritage Potatoes and the Lost Crops of the Andes Friday 16 September 1:15pm

Purple Sweet Potatoes, Yacon, Oca: come to a lunchtime talk and meet the food crops Ireland could be growing to diversify and provide sustainable food sources into the future. Join horticultural innovator Pat Fitzgerald, whose company, Beotanics, specialises in developing and breeding rare plant crops whose true potential remains untapped in Ireland.

17 September

Walking Cork's Food Culture: Past and Present Saturday 17 September 10:30am-2pm

For a period in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, Cork was known as 'The Slaughter House of Ireland' due to its role in supplying salted beef to the provisioning industry. Discover how the production of salted beef and butter shaped a lot of the character of the city and join food and culinary historian Regina Sexton for a walking tour of this fascinating and sometimes bloody history. A free but ticketed event, with limited numbers. Suitable for adults. Please note this is an active walking tour over several hours. Tour starts on the ground floor of the Crawford Art Gallery and ends at the Old English Market. Keep an eye on our events page for when tickets will become available.

22 September

Ancient Grain

Wheat is the dominant crop on which most of the developed world's bread traditions is based. But what can we learn from our ancestors about diversifying our use of grains in response to climate challenges and food supply chain disruptions? Three grain growers – Donal Creedon of Macrooom Oatmeal, Leonie Workman from Dunany Farm, and Fanny Leenhardt of Real Bread Ireland – join UCD ancient food and farming expert and archaeologist Meriel McClatchie for a lively discussion and some tastings and samples.

23 September – Culture night

Puppet Tours

Puppets will take on the role of tour guides, showing Children around the gallery. Exploring the Meat and Potatoes exhibition, the puppets will talk about some of the artworks, engage the children with stories and create an interactive fun experience for all. Keep an eye on our events page for when tickets will become available.

Interactive Workshop In Meat and Potatoes Project Space

Connecting colour and food this interactive workshop will focus on the ways we can create ecologically friendly art and highlight the role of food in creating a circular economy. Using dyes created by Ashleigh Elis from different foods, spices and herbs, participants paint, stamp and print artworks. A family friendly event, this workshop will be open to all ages.

Saturday 24 September – Friday 7 October

Milling Saturday 24 September – Friday 7 October

Gallery-goers can try their hand at milling flour from organic Irish-grown spelt berries when they visit the Meat and Potatoes project space between Saturday 24 September – Friday 7 October. The flour will be stored for use in our bread-making workshop on the 8th of October.

1 October

Green Towers at Crawford Saturday 1 October – Sunday 6 November

Green Towers are an aeroponic growing system; they may look like sci-fi, but they're capable of growing a lot of veg in just one square metre, and with up to 90% less water consumption. To complement our gallery spuds and to prepare for a harvest feast of Colcannon, the Crawford will be growing a crop of curly kale in a Green Tower.

6 October

Take the Cake Thursday 6 October 5:30 pm

An ongoing project of artist April Gertler, TAKE THE CAKE is a hybrid lecture performance / baking show with the intention of examining the historical trajectory of common ingredients in a cake using a feminist and post-colonial perspective. As part of her research project, Terms of Consumption,

curator Julia Gelezova commissioned Gertler to develop an Irish edition of TAKE THE CAKE, with the performances taking place in Cork and Dublin this October.

8 October

Our Daily Bread: A Sourdough Bread-baking Workshop with the Experts Saturday 8 October 11am–3pm

Eight lucky members of the public can sign up for a full halfday bread baking workshop in the Project Space. Join Fanny Leenhardt of Well Bread and Ben Le Bon of the Natural Foods Bakery to learn traditional sourdough baking methods with Irish-grown spelt flour. This workshop is free but ticketed and will be dispensed on a firstcome, first-served basis to adult participants (over 18s) only. Please ensure that you have the time to be present for the entire four hours before booking a ticket. Even if you can't get a ticket, the workshop is open to all for viewing; there's still a lot to learn by stopping by to watch the baking happen. Keep an eye on our events page for when tickets will become available.

9 October

All About Cake Decoration Sunday 9 October 1–4pm

Cork Sugar-craft Association is a big mix of people - young, old, hobbyists and professional cake decorators – who are passionate about cake decorating and all things sugar craft. Join members to be wowed with a display of their work and then try your hand at some of their cake decorating techniques. Suitable for adults and children.

13 October

Breads of the World Thursday 13 October 5:30pm

Bread is the cornerstone of many cultures; join home bakers for live baking demonstrations in the Meat and Potatoes Project Space.

20 October

Artist talk : Deirdre O'Mahony

Deidre will talk about The Persistent Return and Trial and errors, her 2 works featuring in Meat and Potatoes, in the wider context of her artistic practice. Deirdre O'Mahony, The Persistent Return Two-screen moving-image installation, 2018.

27 October

Food Price Crisis Thursday 27 October 5pm

In the midst of plenty, a large, silent minority are experiencing hunger. Food inflation has pushed the price of foods up by over 5% in the past two years. Meanwhile, one in five Irish people is living in poverty after housing costs have been accounted for, according to Social Inclusion Ireland. Join UCC public health nutritionist Janas Harrington and others for an evening discussion on the impacts of food poverty in Ireland.

31 October

Samhain: The Origins of an Irish Halloween and The Festive Foods of Humans and Fairies Monday 31 October 3–5:30pm

After a whole growing season, it's time for the Crawford to dig their spuds and pick their kale! Join food and culinary historian Regina Sexton and UCC folklorist Dr Jenny Butler for a hands-on afternoon in which we will dig spuds and cook up a batch of colcannon while discovering the traditional dishes of the festival. Jenny will explain the pre-Christian and folk dimensions of an Irish Halloween and Regina will outline the role of food in the festival. Suitable for all ages, and if you're going trick-or-treating straight afterwards, fancy dress is welcome too

4 November

Food Futures Friday 4 November 6–8pm

Say farewell to Meat and Potatoes with an exciting closing evening of bite-size, TED-style talks on the future of food, accompanied by some surprising nibbles. Introduced and moderated by sustainable food systems advocate Ruth Hegarty. Others speakers to be confirmed.

Opening Hours

Monday–Saturday 10.00am–5.00pm

Late opening Thursdays until 8.00pm

Sundays and Bank Holidays

Gallery: 11am - 4pm

Entry Free

Upcoming Exhibitions

Meat and Potatoes

16 July – 6 November

DRAWING ROOM

16 September – 4 December

As They Must Have Been: Men of the South, 1922-2022

30 July – 18 September 2022

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.



**An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán**
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media