

Crawford Art Gallery



Dr Michael Waldron, Curator of Collections & Special Projects, Crawford Art Gallery, and Conor Tallon 96 FM in the stores of the national collection at Crawford Art Gallery. Photographed amongst some of the Artworks featuring in 'Work of the Week'. Séamus Murphy, *Joan*, undated. © the artist's estate. Photography: Clare Keogh

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Crawford Art Gallery and 96FM's 'The Arts House' celebrate the 100th edition of the popular 'Work of the Week' series.

In this weekly series, Conor Tallon and curator Michael Waldron discuss some of the most interesting and unique artworks from the national collection at Crawford Art Gallery on the well-loved radio show hosted by Elmarie Mawe.

What began as a Lockdown project to maintain a 'cultural connection' turned into a real buddy story between Conor and Michael as well as an accessible weekly art history lesson.

Michael guides listeners in the discovery of artworks that are on display in the Gallery, from Salvador Dalí to Alice Maher, and from paintings and sculptures through to photography and ceramics, but all of which are part of the national collection held in Cork. These conversations between art historian and presenter often highlights little details the visitor might otherwise miss.

Since its inception, 'Work of the Week' has been a cultural highlight of 96FM's and C103 Cork programming, providing listeners with in-depth insights into the stories from behind the scenes. The feature is presented weekly as part of 'The Arts House' with Elmarie Mawe – jointly the most listened to radio show in Cork – which has a loyal audience of 74,000 listeners every Sunday morning.

The series has continued in the aftermath of successive Lockdowns and now Conor and Michael meet in person each week. Usually this happens in front of the artwork where it is displayed in the Gallery, but occasionally they find a relevant location in the city such as the English Market or other significant sites that match the artwork being discussed.

Feedback from listeners who tune in every Sunday morning has been wonderful. Some try to imagine the artwork being described without looking online at the image. Artists have also sent their appreciation for being featured and the success and longevity of the series has surpassed initial expectations.

Michael Waldron of Crawford Art Gallery: *'Conor and I began recording over the phone and on Skype during Lockdown, focusing on something interesting every week and to conjure an image in words for The Arts House listeners. It quickly turned into a weekly check in with a friend and a good old chat, sometimes light-hearted, sometimes profound. It helped both of us through and we hope that listeners felt the same.'*

Elmarie Mawe host of 'The Art House': *'This series began without any end-point in mind. To have covered 100 Works of the Week is a happy milestone to have reached! And with thousands of works in the Crawford, we have many more happy years of discovery and celebration to go yet!'*

'These weekly bite-sized episodes are more than just a description of the painting or whatever work it is. The conversation weaves around the artist, what was happening in their life at the time, fascinating nuggets about Cork history of the period and many other topics.'

Tune in Sunday mornings to 'The Arts House' on Cork's 96FM and C103 to catch 'Work of the Week' and much more besdies.

To hear the 100th edition of Work of the Week check out:
<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/work-of-the-week-6-february-2023/>

ENDS

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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 Custom House, the Gallery is home to the famous Canova Casts, gifted to Cork two centuries ago. Featured in the gallery's collection of more than 3,000 objects are contemporary artists Aileen 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 250,000 visitors annually. **The Green Room** at the Crawford café serves the best of local Cork and Irish produce, treated with a light hand by chefs committed to simplicity and flavour.

Opening Hours

Monday–Saturday 10:00am–5:00pm
Late opening Thursdays until 8:00pm
Sundays / Bank Holidays 11:00am – 4:00pm
Entry Free

Free Tours

Sundays and Bank Holidays 2:00pm
Thursdays 6:30pm
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