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## **National Gallery of Ireland and Crawford Art Gallery continue partnership with Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize**

**Cork gallery will once again present exhibitions in 2021**

The National Gallery of Ireland and Crawford Art Gallery are delighted to announce a continuation of their partnership for the Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize exhibitions. Earlier this year, the portraiture exhibitions travelled to a second venue outside of Dublin when the 2019 shortlists were displayed in Crawford Art Gallery from January 2020.

This year's Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize competitions are now open for entries, with artists and young people invited to submit their portraits before 1 July 2020. Shortlisted works from both competitions will be displayed in the National Gallery of Ireland 21 November 2020 to 21 March 2021. The exhibitions will then travel to Crawford Art Gallery in Cork, where they will run from 17 April – 11 July 2021.

Sean Rainbird, Director of the National Gallery of Ireland, said: *"We are committed to growing the national footprint of the Gallery and are thrilled to bring the Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize to Cork once again this year. Working with Crawford Art Gallery for last year's exhibitions was a terrific experience, and we're thrilled to bring new work to audiences in the south west yet again in 2021."*

Mary McCarthy, Director of Crawford Art Gallery, commented: *"The Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize 2019 edition fully engaged our audiences at Crawford and stimulated us to relook at the Crawford's Art Collection and exhibit some of our work in a new context. Partnering with the National Gallery of Ireland brings huge professional reach and benefit to Crawford Art Gallery and we are grateful to both the National Gallery of Ireland and Zurich for their generous collaboration. As we are living in such extreme times we anticipate some interesting perspectives from artists and our younger creatives when the exhibition comes to Crawford in 2021."*

Neil Freshwater, CEO of Zurich, added: *"As we sponsor these important national competitions for a third year in 2020, we're happy to see the partnership between the National Gallery of Ireland and*

*Crawford Art Gallery grow. It will be exciting to see the shortlists of both the Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize displayed in Cork again next year."*

The Zurich Portrait Prize aims to encourage interest in contemporary portraiture and to showcase the National Portrait Collection at the National Gallery of Ireland. Judges for the Zurich Portrait Prize are artist Rita Duffy; Dr Philip Cottrell, lecturer and assistant professor at the School of Art History and Cultural Policy, UCD; Aoife Ruane, Director of Highlanes Gallery.

Following a hugely popular inaugural edition in 2019, the Zurich Young Portrait Prize returns in 2020. The inclusive art competition is open to children and young people of all abilities aged up to 18 from across the island of Ireland. This year's Zurich Young Portrait Prize judges are Head of Education at The Hunt Museum Maria Cagney; artist Colin Davidson; and illustrator, author and comedian Aoife Dooley.

Details of the Zurich Portrait Prize and the Zurich Young Portrait Prize including information about entering the competitions can be found at [www.nationalgallery.ie](http://www.nationalgallery.ie).

**ENDS**

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**Note: National Gallery of Ireland Closure**

The National Gallery of Ireland is currently closed, but is finding ways for people to engage with their national collection during this time. Follow the Gallery's [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages as it moves online including with creative activities for children and families to try at home. A 'Picture of the Day' is being shared, as well as weekly sessions on [Mindfulness and Art](#). A series of [Virtual Tours](#) – including of the Grand Gallery, the Shaw Room and recent exhibitions – can be explored from home.

**Note: Crawford Art Gallery Closure**

The Crawford Art Gallery is currently closed, but currently active on social media engaging with our audiences at home. Reaching out to exam students, families, primary schools and the community at home. Follow the Gallery's [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages. [Zurich Portrait Prize](#) and [Zurich Young Portrait Prize](#) 2019 may currently be seen on Crawford Art Gallery homepage.

Exhibitions currently hanging in the Galleries can be enjoyed on

<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/>

Work of the Week (a new post every week featuring the National collection)

<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/work-of-the-week/>

Homelife Replacing Sunday workshop (Family Friendly content)

<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/homelife/>

Talking Pictures from Learn and Explore (more fun activities for all the family)

<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/homelife-24-march-2020/>

[Teens and Exam Students](#)

<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/figure-drawing/>

Screenings from AFI

<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/artists-film-international/>

**About the Zurich Portrait Prize:**

The Portrait Prize, open to artists aged 19 over, runs for the seventh time in 2020 with Zurich as sponsor for the third year. The aim of the Zurich Portrait Prize is to showcase and encourage interest in contemporary portraiture, support Irish talent and to raise the profile of the long-standing and constantly evolving National Portrait Collection at the National Gallery of Ireland.

**About the Zurich Young Portrait Prize:**

Following the outstanding success of the inaugural Zurich Young Portrait Prize in 2019, the competitions runs for the second year in 2020. This inclusive art competition is open to children and young people of all abilities, up to the age of 18, from across the island of Ireland.

**About 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 collection comprises almost 4,000 works, ranging from eighteenth century Irish and European painting and sculpture, through to contemporary video installations.

**About the National Gallery of Ireland:**

The National Gallery of Ireland is one of the country's most popular visitor attractions housing the nation's collection of European and Irish art from about 1300 to the present day, and an extensive Library & Archive. Entry to the collection is free for all to enjoy, learn and be inspired.

**About Zurich:**

Ireland is Zurich's location of choice for its pan-European company Zurich Insurance plc (ZIP). Since 2009, ZIP has been headquartered in Dublin and is the main risk carrier for Zurich's general insurance business in the EU. Neil Freshwater is the CEO of Zurich Insurance plc. In terms of domestic business, Zurich focuses on two key business areas in Ireland – General Insurance and Life. In Ireland, Zurich employs more than 1,300 people.