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

****Images available here****

24 May 2024

Crawford Art Gallery redevelopment project to progress to tender

Historic redevelopment of landmark Cork building reaches key stage

The Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin T.D., has approved the Crawford Art Gallery (CAG) redevelopment project to proceed to invitation to tender stage. The ambitious redevelopment of the Gallery is one of the projects included in the programme of investment under the National Development Plan, which will see many of our National Cultural Institutions restored and renewed.

Located in a heritage building in the heart of Cork city, Crawford is the only National Cultural Institution operating entirely outside of Dublin. The proposed design by award-winning Grafton Architects, will address long-standing challenges with the fabric of the building, enhancing its sustainability and providing fit-for-purpose storage spaces for its collection. It will expand and modernise Crawford in line with international standards, providing new exhibition spaces as well as a Learn and Explore facility to engage new audiences.

A new public gallery will provide panoramic views of Cork city and a new entrance from Emmett Place will create an opening onto a new urban plaza at the heart of the cultural life of the city. The Gallery will remain open to visitors until the Autumn of 2024 with work to commence on-site a number of months later.

Speaking today Minister Martin said:
"This is an exciting stage in the redevelopment of the Crawford Art Gallery. The investment by my Department will ensure that the Crawford is revamped and

modernised, providing a beautiful new public building in Cork. The new Gallery's facilities will be more attractive for visitors and will provide a fantastic new setting for the collection on display. I am confident this reimagination of the building will support the development of the Gallery long into the future and help it play an even more significant part of Irish cultural life. I look forward to work commencing and visiting the Gallery after the development is complete"

Minister of State with Responsibility for the Office of Public Works, Kieran O'Donnell, and T.D. said:

"The OPW has been working closely with the Crawford Art Gallery and the Design Team, led by Grafton Architects to bring this project to this significant stage. We are delighted to announce the call for tenders for the redevelopment work of the Art Gallery.

The refurbishment works on this historic building will provide a space that is more accessible to the public through creating new universal access to the Gallery. The much needed redevelopment will also provide a space with the necessary environmental controls to care for the extensive historic and contemporary art collections housed within the Gallery. This is an exciting project that will bring culture and urban life closer together".

Director of the Crawford Art Gallery, Mary McCarthy, said:

"Crawford Art Gallery is delighted to reach this significant milestone in its capital development programme. Much care and attention has been taken by the OPW, the interdisciplinary design team led by Grafton Architects and Crawford Art Gallery to ensure that this development will deliver a significant cultural project for Cork and one that will contribute to Irelands cultural landscape into the future.

As well as providing significant new cultural space for the public, the capital redevelopment project will provide essential preservation and protection for over three centuries of existing built heritage, revitalising the life of Crawford Art Gallery's existing much-beloved gallery spaces for centuries to come."

The Crawford Art Gallery redevelopment project funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media is being delivered by the Office of Public Works. The invitation to tender is issuing to prequalified contractors.

ENDS

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Editor's Notes:

The project is part of the Minister's significant programme of investment in the National Cultural Institutions, under the National Development Plan.

The project will deliver the following:

- A significant reorientation of the existing Gallery space, with the new entrance relocated to the historic Custom House building, facing onto Emmet Place.
- New and enhanced spaces including the following:
  - c. 236 sq. m of new build additional gallery / exhibition space including a new public gallery with panoramic views of the city
  - c. 640 sq. m of new build additional circulation space
  - c. 100 sq. m of reception area space
  - c. 316 sq. m of new build art collection storage space to protect and care for the national collections
  - c. 245 sq. m of new build additional ancillary space
  - c. 74 sq. m for a new Learn and Explore facility
  - c. 175 sq. m of new courtyard space
- The existing galleries and public spaces will be made more accessible and socially inclusive.
- The historic fabric of the building will be protected and there will be significant investment in its sustainability.
- The Invitation to tender was issued to a selected number of contractors that had previously prequalified on the basis of Suitability Assessment Questionnaire.

Íomhánna ar fail anseo

24 Bealtaine 2024

Tionscadal athfhorbartha Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford le dul ar tairiscint

Céim thábhachtach sroichte ag athfhorbairt stairiúil an fhoirgnimh shuntasaigh i gCorcaigh

Thug an tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán, Catherine Martin, T.D., cead do thionscadal athfhorbartha Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford leanúint ar aghaidh go céim an ghlao ar thairiscintí. Tá athfhorbairt uaillmhianach an Ghailearaí ar cheann de na tionscadail atá mar pháirt den chlár infheistíochta faoin Phlean Forbartha Náisiúnta, faoina ndéanfar athchóiriú agus athnuachan ar go leor dár bhForais Chultúrtha Náisiúnta.

Tá Crawford ar an t-aon Fhoras Chultúrtha Náisiúnta atá ag feidhmiú ina iomláine taobh amuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath, agus é lonnaithe i bhfoirgneamh stairiúil i croílár chathair Chorcaí. Leis an dearadh bheartaithe ón chomhlacht mór le rá, Grafton Architects, rachfar i ngleic le dúshláin a théann siar i bhfad le creatlach an fhoirgnimh, rud a chuirfidh feabhas ar a inbhuanaitheacht agus lena gcuirfear spásanna stórála oiriúnacha ar fáil dá bhailiúchán. Leathnóidh sé agus nuachóireoidh sé Crawford i gcomhréir le caighdeáin idirnáisiúnta, cuirfidh sé spásanna taispeántais nua ar fáil chomh maith le háis Foghlaim agus Aimsigh chun daoine nua a mhealladh isteach.

Beidh leathanradharc ar chathair Chorcaí sa dhánlann phoiblí nua agus leis an bealach nua isteach ar Emmet Place, tabharfar cuairteoirí amach go plás uirbeach nua i gcroílar shaol cultúrtha na cathrach. Fanfaidh an Gailearaí ar oscailt do chuairteoirí go Fómhar 2024, agus cuirfear tús le hobair ar an tsuíomh roinnt míonna ina dhiaidh sin.

Agus í ag labhairt inniu, dúirt an tAire Martin:
"Is céim iontach í seo in athfhorbairt Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford. Cinnteofar leis an infheistíocht ó mo Roinn féin go ndéantar Crawford a athdhearadh agus a nuachóiriú, rud a chuirfidh foirgneamh poiblí álainn nua ar fáil i gCorcaigh. Beidh áiseanna nua an Ghailearaí níos mealltaí do chuairteoirí agus cuirfidh sé suíomh spreagúil nua ar

fáil don bhailiúchán atá ar taispeáint. Leis an athshamhlú seo ar an bhfoirgneamh, tá muinín agam go dtacófar le forbairt an Ghailearaí amach anseo agus go gcabhrófar leis ról níos suntasaí fós a imirt i saol cultúrtha na hÉireann. Tá mé ag súil le tús na hoibre agus le cuairt a thabhairt ar an nGailearaí tar éis don fhorbairt chríochnú."

Dúirt an tAire Stáit le Freagracht as Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí, Kieran O'Donnell, T.D.

"Tá Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí ag obair go dlúth le Dánlann Crawford agus leis an bhFoireann Deartha, faoi stiúir Grafton Architects chun an tionscadal seo a thabhairt chuig an gcéim shuntasach seo. Tá lúcháir orainn an glao ar thairiscintí a fhógairt d'obair athfhorbartha an Ghailearaí Ealaíne.

Soláthróidh na hoibreacha athchóirithe ar an bhfoirgneamh stairiúil seo spás a bheidh níos inrochtana don phobal trí rochtain uilíoch nua a chruthú ar an nGailearaí. Soláthróidh an athfhorbairt seo, a bhfuil géarghá leis, spás leis na rialuithe comhshaoil riachtanacha chun cúram a dhéanamh do na bailiúcháin ealaíne stairiúla agus comhaimseartha fairsinge atá sa Ghailearaí. Is tionscadal spreagúil é seo a thabharfaidh an cultúr agus an saol uirbeach níos gaire dá chéile".

Dúirt Stiúrthóir Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, Mary McCarthy:

"Is cúis áthais do Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford an sprioc tábhachtach seo ina chlár forbartha caipitil a bhaint amach. Tá obair chúramach déanta ag Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí, an fhoireann deartha idirdhisciplíneach faoi stiúir Grafton Architects agus Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford chun cinnte a dhéanamh go gcuirfear tionscadal cultúrtha suntasach ar fáil do Chorcaigh leis an bhforbairt seo, rud a chuirfidh le tírdhreach cultúrtha na hÉireann amach anseo.

Chomh maith le spás cultúrtha suntasach nua a chur ar fáil don phobal, déanfar caomhnú agus cosaint bhunriachtanach ar oidhreacht thógtha atá trí chéad bliana d'aois leis an tionscadal athforbartha caipitil, rud a dhéanfaidh spásanna gailearaí reatha Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, arb ansa leis an bpobal iad, a athbheochan go ceann na gcéadta bliain."

Tá tionscadal athfhorbartha Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, arna mhaoiniú ag an Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán, á thabhairt i gcrích ag Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí. Tá an glao ar thairiscintí á eisiúint go conraitheoirí réamhcháilithe.

CRÍOCH

Oifig Phreasa agus Eolais
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Nótaí Eagarthóra:

Tá an tionscadal mar pháirt de chlár infheistíochta suntasach an Aire sna Forais Chultúrtha Náisiúnta, faoin Phlean Forbartha Náisiúnta.

Tabharfar é seo a leanas i gcrích faoin tionscadal:

- Bunathrú suntasach ar an spás reatha sa Ghailearaí, agus aistriú an bealach nua isteach go foirgneamh stairiúil Theach an Chustaim, leis an aghaidh ar Emmet Place.
- I measc na spásanna nua agus feabhsaithe, tá:
    - t. 236 m^2 spás gailearaí / taispeántais breise nuathógtha, le gailearaí poiblí nua le leathanradharc ar an chathair
    - t. 640 m^2 spás cúrsaíochta breise nuathógtha
    - t. 100 m^2 spás do láthair fáiltithe
    - t. 316 m^2 spás stórála nuathógtha don bhailiúchán ealaíne, chun na bailiúcháin náisiúnta a chosaint agus aire a thabhairt dóibh
    - t. 245 m^2 spás coimhdeach breise nuathógtha
    - t. 74 m^2 d'áis nua Foghlaim agus Aimsigh
    - t. 175 m^2 do chlós nua
- Déanfar na gailearaithe agus spásanna poiblí atá ann cheana níos inrochtana agus níos inchuimsithí ó thaobh sóisialta de.
- Déanfar creatlach stairiúil an fhoirgnimh a chosaint agus beidh infheistíocht shuntasach ina inbhuanaitheacht.
- Eisíodh an glao ar thairiscintí go líon roghnaithe conraitheoirí a bhí réamhcháilithe roimhe seo ar bhonn Cheistneora Measúnaithe Oiriúnachta.