



Image credit: Mike MacSweeney. Provision

Press Release 25/06/20

Final preparations as Crawford Art Gallery reopens to the public on Monday 29 June

Crawford Art Gallery reopens its doors to visitors at 10am on Monday the 29th of June. The Board and staff are extremely excited to welcome visitors back to enjoy newly installed Exhibitions and to enjoy international exhibitions installed in March which have yet to be seen by the public.

Director Mary McCarthy says **“We are incredibly happy to open the doors again on June 29th after a 15-week mandatory closure and look forward to welcoming back familiar faces and new audiences. During Lockdown we developed incredible social media loyalty and content and we will continue to engage digitally, but we believe there is no substitute for standing in front of a work of art and appreciating it in the context of other art works and other people. This building needs people. We have been rehangng exhibitions so visitors will have new encounters. We also have new signage, both external and internal, in place to support our visitors throughout their visit. Like our other cultural colleagues in Cork we are proud to support the positioning of Cork as a safe and welcoming city with so much to offer”**.

The health and safety of visitors and staff is a top priority for the team of Crawford Art Gallery and new measures will be implemented to ensure the public enjoy their visit in a safe, welcoming and relaxed environment.

The Gallery will introduce a new visitor route from Monday and some additional safety measures to ensure that visitors continue to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of this city centre attraction. The Crawford website has a full list of what to expect before a member of the public visits.

Rose McHugh, Chair of the Gallery, is delighted to be welcoming visitors back to the Gallery to visit the national collection in a safe environment. **“Our visitors can expect to see some changes in place when they come to the Gallery. We take the health of our visitors and our staff very seriously. To ensure that everyone enjoys the Gallery, with comfort and safety in mind, we have implemented a range of protocols that are in compliance with HSE and Government Guidelines. We look forward to welcoming our visitors back to the Crawford and encourage them to take time out and to relax and enjoy this oasis of beauty and calm in the heart of Cork City.”**

Crawford presents a mix of international programming with *In Transit* and *Artists’ Film International* as well as highlights of the national collection. Two new exhibitions based around the collection *lucid abnormalities* and *Statio Bene* showcase some of the highlights of the collection as well as some works rarely seen by the public.

Statio Bene: Art and Ireland’s Maritime Haven. Fittingly presented in the Long Room of the city’s old Custom House (Crawford Art Gallery), Statio Bene is inspired by Cork’s motto – Statio Bene Fide Carinis (a safe harbour for ships) – and coincides with the 300th anniversary of the world’s oldest established yacht club: Royal Cork Yacht Club.

The Crawford Garden Café will open on 10 July to facilitate alfresco dining and The Gallery Café opens 17 July.

ENDS

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Notes to the editor:

New protocol for visitors <https://crawfordartgallery.ie/visit/>

Exhibitions currently on display <https://crawfordartgallery.ie/exhibitions/>

Social Media:

Twitter@CrawfordArtGall

FacebookCrawfordArtGallery

Instagram CrawfordArtGallery

Website :www.crawfordartgallery.ie

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. Home to a collection of national importance, it tells a compelling story of Cork and Ireland over the last three centuries, while also offering a vibrant and dynamic programme of temporary exhibitions.

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 3,000 objects are well-known and much-loved works by Irish artists James Barry, Harry Clarke, Mainie Jellett, Seán Keating, Daniel Maclise, Norah McGuinness, Edith Somerville, and Jack B. Yeats, as well as contemporary artists Gerard Byrne, Maud Cotter, Dorothy Cross, Eilis O'Connell, and Hughie O'Donoghue.

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. The Gallery boasts an award-winning Café in stunning surroundings, serving fresh local produce for which Cork is famous.

Opening Hours

Crawford Art Gallery reopens 29 June

Monday–Saturday 10.00am–5.00pm Late opening Thursdays until 8.00pm Sundays

and Bank Holidays Gallery: 11am - 4pm

Crawford Gallery Café & Garden Café

The Gallery boasts an award-winning Café in stunning surroundings, serving fresh local produce for which Cork is famous.

Opening Hours

Café Open 17 July Mon – Sat 8.30am – 4pm, Sundays and Bank holidays 11am -4pm

Gaden Café Open 10 July 10am – 3pm (weather permitting)