



*Three centuries of history at Crawford Art Gallery will be enhanced and added to during Transforming Crawford Art Gallery, an ambitious capital redevelopment project. Photo: Marcin Lewandowski*

## **PRESS RELEASE 20/08/24**

### **Crawford Art Gallery announces date of closure for major redevelopment**

Crawford Art Gallery has announced the closure date for their upcoming major redevelopment project, Transforming Crawford Art Gallery.

The gallery will close its doors to the public on the evening of Sunday, September 22, Crawford Art Gallery director Mary McCarthy has confirmed.

The temporary closure is to allow for an ambitious multi-million euro redevelopment on the Crawford site.

The capital project, Transforming Crawford Art Gallery, is set to add:

- 50% of additional space – increased spaces for exhibitions, new state-of-the-art storage for its collection and a new Learn & Explore facility for educational programmes.
- A restaurant facing onto Half Moon Street.
- An entrance restored to the original historic Customs House entrance on Emmet Place, with new landscaping and entrance.
- A new public gallery on the top floor of a five-storey extension offering a birds-eye view of Cork city landmarks.
- Improved accessibility, lifts and toilet facilities over several floors.

Transforming Crawford Art Gallery is part of Project Ireland 2040, in partnership with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Art, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media and the Office of Public Works (OPW).

A tender process is currently underway for the building and renovation works which will see a contractor appointed and on site in the spring of 2025. The redevelopment works are estimated to take two and a half years to complete.

Staff will continue working in the building following the public closure, throughout the autumn and winter of 2024, to safely remove the gallery's treasured collection, which will in part be housed in secure storage facilities off site for the duration of the redevelopment. This period is necessary to remove many large and fragile works.

As the only National Cultural Institution located entirely outside of Dublin, Crawford Art Gallery is home to over 3,500 works of art.

The redevelopment designs are the result of years of planning by an interdisciplinary design team headed up by the award-winning Irish firm Grafton Architects.

"Cork is growing, and so too are we," gallery director Mary McCarthy said. "We are excited to be at this phase of our ambitious project, for Crawford and for Cork. Transforming Crawford Art Gallery has been years in the making."

"We have collaborated closely with our design team and the OPW to ensure we conserve the many special elements and qualities of our buildings, while we also expand our spaces to ensure the building is fit for purpose, and sustainable for generations to come."

"We look forward to sharing news of the building works over the next two and a half years, and to delivering an exceptional project here on Emmet Place for all our audiences. We are very grateful to our loyal visitors and champions for their continued support."

"This development is extremely good news for Crawford Art Gallery and for Cork," Rose McHugh, Chair of Crawford Art Gallery, said.

"This unprecedented public investment demonstrates confidence in Crawford Art Gallery, Cork city's cultural heritage, and its future potential. We are very grateful to Minister Catherine Martin and her officials for their deep commitment to the gallery and its future."

"We recognise that the public will miss the gallery during the necessary closure period, but the redevelopment will ensure the gallery can thrive into the future."

Gallery staff will continue to work off-site throughout the period of closure, conducting an extensive care-of-the-collection programme to conserve artworks, and liaising with other cultural institutions on a touring programme.

Learn & Explore outreach and education programmes will continue to be delivered in a variety of venues and locations, as well as online.

Works from the Crawford collection will also be on loan to other galleries and museums all over Ireland, including Doneraile Court, Cork Public Museum, Hillsborough Castle, The National Museum of Ireland, the Hugh Lane Gallery, Uillinn West Cork Arts and more.

For regular updates on Transforming Crawford Art Gallery throughout the closure period, it's best to sign up to the gallery's newsletter on [www.crawfordartgallery.ie](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie) or follow the gallery's social media channels.

## **ENDS**

[www.crawfordartgallery.ie](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie) Crawford Art Gallery, Emmet Place, Cork, Ireland.

Dyane Hanrahan Marketing & Communications Manager

E: [dyanehanrahan@crawfordartgallery.ie](mailto:dyanehanrahan@crawfordartgallery.ie) T +353 (0) 21 4907856 M +353 (0) 86 8278151

Ellie O'Byrne Press Officer

E: [press@crawfordartgallery.ie](mailto:press@crawfordartgallery.ie) M +353 (0)87125 8446

## **Notes for editors:**

Photo press release will be issued to all photo desks separately at 9am on Tuesday, August 20.

For audio clips of Mary McCarthy announcing the gallery's closure date, click here. [click here](#)

For a timelapse video of the Michael Warren sculpture being removed, click [here](#).

For extra images please click [here](#).

For a video announcement of the closure by Crawford director Mary McCarthy, please click [here](#).

## **About Crawford Art Gallery**

Crawford Art Gallery is an Irish National Cultural Institution (NCI) dedicated to contemporary and historic visual art, located in a significant heritage building in the heart of Cork city. Offering a dynamic programme of temporary exhibitions, it also houses a collection of national importance which tells the 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 Aileen Barry, Gerard Byrne, Maud Cotter, Dorothy Cross and Sean Scully, as well as much-loved works by Irish artists James Barry, Harry Clarke, Mainie Jellett, Seán Keating, Daniel Maclise, Norah McGuinness and Jack B. Yeats.

## **About Transforming Crawford Art Gallery**

Crawford Art Gallery closes from 23 September 2024 to undergo an enormously exciting capital redevelopment project.

This multi-million euro investment will increase gallery space by 50%, preserve and protect three centuries of existing built heritage, and create a cultural legacy for a new century as Cork continues to grow.

The project is a Government of Ireland 2040 project funded by the department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in partnership with the Office of Public Works (OPW).

The award-winning Grafton Architects have worked on a redevelopment design that includes a new Learn and Explore facility for public engagement, significant storage for the National Collection at Crawford, a new entrance, and a dramatically improved public realm including new café facing onto Half Moon Street.

The building's entrance will be reoriented to Emmet Place in line with the original Customs House layout dating to 1724.

A large new public gallery space will be created five stories above Cork City, creating a new vantage point for visitors to view city centre landmarks including Shandon and St Finbarre's Cathedral.

#### **Opening Hours**

Monday–Saturday 10.00am–5.00pm. Late opening Thursdays until 8.00pm. Sundays and Bank Holidays from 11am - 4pm. Entry is free.

#### **Tours**

Free Tours on Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays at 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.



**Gailearaí  
Ealaíne  
Crawford** | **Crawford  
Art  
Gallery**

*Cuirfidh Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, tionscadal athfhorbartha caipitil uaimhianach, le trí chéad bliain de stair Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford agus feabhsófar é lena linn. Íomhá: Marcin Lewandowski*

**20/08/24**

### **Fógraíonn Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford dáta dúnta don mhór-athfhorbairt**

Tá an dáta dúnta fógartha ag Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford dá mhórtionscadal athfhorbartha atá amach romhainn, *Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford*.

Beidh an gailearaí ag dúnadh na doirse don phobal oíche Dé Domhnaigh, 22 Meán Fómhair, a dhearbhaigh stiúrthóir Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, Mary McCarthy.

Beidh an gailearaí dúnta go sealadach chun athfhorbairt uaimhianach, ar fiú na milliúin euro é, a dhéanamh ar shuíomh Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford.

Tá sé beartaithe sa tionscadal caipitil, Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, an méid seo a leanas a bhaint amach:

- 50% spás breise - níos mó spásanna do thaispeántais, stóráil úrscothach nua dá bhailiúchán agus áis nua Foghlama & Fiosraithe do na cláir oideachasúla.
- Bialann ag féachaint amach ar Shráid na Leathghealaí.
- Bealach isteach athchóirithe don bhunbhealach isteach stairiúil ag Teach an Chustaim ar Phlás Emmet, le tírdhrechtú agus bealach isteach nua.
- Áiléar poiblí nua ar an urlár uachtair den síneadh ar chúig urlár a thugann radharc ón spéir anuas ar shainchomharthaí chathair Chorcaí.

- Áiseanna inrochtaineachta, ardaitheoirí agus leithris a chur ar fáil thar roinnt urláir.

Is togra de chuid Thograí Rialtas na hÉireann 2040 é Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford atá ag fáil maoiniú ón Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meáin i gcomhar le hOifig na nOibreacha Poiblí (OPW).

Tá próiseas tairisceana ar siúl faoi láthair do na hoibreacha tógála agus athchóirithe ina gceapfar conraitheoir a bheidh ar an láthair in earrach na bliana 2025. Meastar go dtógfaidh na hoibreacha athfhorbartha dhá bhliain go leith le cur i gcrích.

Leanfaidh an fhoireann ag obair san fhoirgneamh tar éis an dúnta poiblí, i rith an fhómhair agus an gheimhridh in 2024, chun bailiúchán luachmhar an ghailearaí a thógáil amach go sábháilte, a bheidh faoi dhíon in áiseanna stórála daingne as an láthair ar feadh na hathfhorbartha. Tá gá leis an tréimhse seo chun go leor saothair ealaíne móra agus sobhrise a thógáil amach.

Is é Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford an t-aon Institiúid Chultúrtha Náisiúnta atá suite go hiomlán lasmuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath, ina bhfuil os cionn 3,500 saothar ealaíne faoina dhíon aige.

Tá na dearáí athfhorbartha mar thoradh ar bhlianta pleanála ag an bhfoireann deartha idirdhisciplíneach faoi stiúir ailtirí gradamúla na hÉireann, Grafton Architects.

“Tá Corcaigh ag fás, agus tá muidne freisin,” a deir stiúrthóir an Ghailearaí, Mary McCarthy. “Tá ríméad orainn faoin gcéim seo dár dtogra uaillmhianach, do Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford agus do Chorcaigh. Tá pleananna ar bun faoi Chlaochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford leis na blianta.”

“Bhíomar ag obair go dlúth lenár bhfoireann deartha agus le hOifig na nOibreacha Poiblí (OPW) lena chinntiú gur chaomhnaíomar na gnéithe agus na tréithe speisialta ar fad dár bhfoirgnimh, agus muid ag leathnú ár spásanna lena chinntiú go bhfuil an foirgneamh oiriúnach don fheidhm, agus inbhuanaithe do na glúnta amach romhainn.”

“Táimid ag súil lenár nuacht a roinnt faoi na hoibreacha tógála sa dhá bhliain go leith amach romhainn, agus chun tionscadal eisceachtúil a chur ar fáil anseo ar Phlás Emmet dár lucht féachana ar fad. Táimid an-bhuíoch dár gcuairteoirí agus dár seaimpíní dílse as a dtacaíocht leanúnach.”

“Is dea-scéala é an fhorbairt seo do Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford agus do Chorcaigh,” a deir Rose McHugh, Cathaoirleach Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford.

“Léiríonn an infheistíocht phoiblí seo, nár tharla riamh cheana, an mhuinín atá i nGailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, oidhreacht chultúrtha chathair Chorcaí, agus a chumas don todhchaí. Táimid an-bhuíoch don Aire, Catherine Martin agus dá hoifigigh as a dtiomantas domhain don ghailearaí agus don todhchaí.”

“Tuigimid go gcaillfidh an pobal amach as cuairt a thabhairt ar an ngailearaí nuair a bheidh sé dúnta, ach cinnteoidh an athfhorbairt go mbeidh borradh faoin ngailearaí amach anseo.”

Beidh foireann an ghailearaí ag leanúint ag obair lasmuigh den láthair nuair a bheidh sé dúnta, chun clár fairsing um chúram don bhailiúchán a dhéanamh chun na saothair ealaíne a chaomhnú, agus chun dul i gcomhairle le hinstitiúidí cultúrtha eile ar chlár turasóireachta.

Leanfar le cláir Foghlama & Fiosraithe ar fhor-rochtain agus ar oideachas a chur ar fáil i réimse ionaid agus suíomhanna, chomh maith le bheith ar líne.

Beidh saothair ealaíne ó bhailiúchán Crawford ar iasacht freisin do ghailearaithe agus do mhúsaem eile ar fud na hÉireann, lena n-áirítear Cúirt Doneraile, Músaem Poiblí Chorcaí, Caisleán Chromghlinne, Músaem Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Dánlann an Hugh Lane, Ionad Ealaíon Iarthar Chorcaí Uillinn agus níos mó fós.

Chun níos mó eolais rialta a fháil ar Chlaochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford nuair a bheidh sé dúnta, is fearr clárú do nuachtlitir an ghailearaí ar [www.crawfordartgallery.ie](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie) nó lean muid ar mheáin shóisialta an ghailearaí.

CRÍOCH

[www.crawfordartgallery.ie](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie) Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, Plás Emmet, Corcaigh, Éire.

Dyane Hanrahan Bainisteoir Margaíochta & Cumarsáide

R: [dyanehanrahan@crawfordartgallery.ie](mailto:dyanehanrahan@crawfordartgallery.ie) T +353 (0) 21 4907856 M +353 (0) 86 8278151

Ellie O'Byrne Preasoifigeach

R: [press@crawfordartgallery.ie](mailto:press@crawfordartgallery.ie) M +353 (0)87125 8446

**Nótaí don Eagarthóir:** chun breis íomhánna a fheiceáil, cliceáil [anseo](#).

Le haghaidh comhad fuaime Mary McCarthy ag caint faoin dáta dúnta, cliceáil [anseo](#).

Le haghaidh físeán imeacht ama do baint amach an dealbh Michael Warren, cliceáil [anseo](#).

Chun físeán a fheiceáil le stiúrthóir Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, Mary McCarthy, cliceáil [anseo](#)

### **Maidir le Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford**

Is institiúid chultúrtha náisiúnta é Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford atá suite i bhfoirgneamh oidhreachtas suntasach i gcroílár chathair Chorcaí agus atá tiomnaithe do na hamharc-ealaíona, go stairiúil agus go comhaimseartha araon. Agus é ag cur clár fuinniúil taispeántas sealadach ar fáil, tá bailiúchán náisiúnta tábhachtach faoina dhíon freisin a insíonn scéal spéisiúil Chorcaí agus na hÉireann le trí chéad bliain anuas.

Tógadh ar dtús i 1724 é mar Theach Custaim na cathrach agus tá na Múnlaí Canova cáiliúla ar taispeánt sa Ghailearaí, a bronnadh ar Chorcaigh dhá chéad bliain ó shin. Tá os cionn 3,000 saothar i mbailiúchán an ghailearaí. Ina measc tá na healaíontóirí comhaimseartha Aideen Barry, Gerard Byrne, Maud Cotter, Dorothy Cross agus Seán Scully mar aon le saothair a bhfuil gean mór orthu leis na healaíontóirí Éireannacha James Barry, Harry Clarke, Mainie Jellett, Seán Keating, Daniel Maclise, Norah McGuinness agus Jack B. Yeats.

### **Maidir le Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford**

Beidh Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford dúnta 23 Meán Fómhair 2024 chun tabhairt faoi thogra athfhorbartha caipitil a bheidh go hiontach ar fad.

Cuirfidh an infheistíocht, ar fiú na milliúin euro é, 50% breise le spás an ghailearaí, agus déanfaidh sé trí chéad bliain d'oidhreacht thógtha a chaomhnú agus a chosaint, agus cruthófar oidhreacht chultúrtha don ghlúin amach romhainn de réir mar a bheidh Corcaigh ag leanúint ag fás.

Is togra de chuid Thograí Rialtas na hÉireann 2040 é atá ag fáil maoiniú ón Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meáin i gcomhar le hOifig na nOibreacha Poiblí (OPW).

Tá Ailtirí Grafton gradamúla tar éis obair a dhéanamh ar dhearadh athfhorbartha lena n-áirítear áis Foghlama agus Fiosraithe nua le rannpháirtíocht ghníomhach, stóráil shuntasach don Bhailiúchán Náisiúnta i nGailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, bealach isteach nua, agus spás poiblí a bheidh feabhsaithe go mór lena n-áirítear caifé nua ag féachaint amach ar Shráid na Leathghealaí.

Beidh bealach isteach an fhoirgnimh curtha ar ais go Plás Emmet de réir leagan amach Theach an Chustaim a chuaigh siar go 1724.

Cruthófar spás gailearaí mór nua le cúig hurlár ag féachaint amach ar Chathair Chorcaí, a chruthaíonn radharc do chuirteoirí chun féachaint ar shainchomharthaí i lár na cathrach lena n-áirítear An Seandún agus Ardeaglais Naomh Fionnbarra.

## **Uaireanta Oscailte**

### **Oscailte go Laethúil**

Dé Luain-Dé Sathairn 10.00am–5.00pm Oscailte go déanach Déardaoin go dtí 8.00pm Dé Domhnaigh agus Laethanta Saoire Bainc: 11am - 4pm  
Cead isteach Saor in aisce

### **Turais**

Turais Saor in aisce Dé Domhnaigh agus Luain Saoire Bainc 2pm Turais Saor in aisce Déardaoin 6.30pm. Tacaíonn an tionscadal seo le Geilleagar san Oíche agus faigheann sé tacaíocht ón Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meáin.