



Maria McKinney, *Management/Polled, Doon just the job* (CH2305), 2016. Collection: Arts Council of northern Ireland © the artist

Press Release 04/07/22

Food, Glorious Food! Crawford Art Gallery announces major summer exhibition *Meat and Potatoes*.

Eye-catching, thought-provoking and mouth-watering in equal measure, **Meat and Potatoes** Crawford Art Gallery's newest exhibition opens across two floors this summer.

Bringing together works by historic and contemporary artists with food as their muse, this significant exhibition, with an extensive programme of accompanying events opens on 16 July and runs until the 6 November.

Meat and Potatoes features an abundance of food-related artworks produced over the last four centuries, ranging from still life to video works and installations which consider the politics and concerns that have shaped perspectives on food right up to the present day.

This exhibition draws particular inspiration from the staples of meat, potatoes and bread in the history of food-focused art and our personal diets throughout the ages.

Works drawn from Crawford Art Gallery's own collection find a new context when exhibited beside artworks borrowed from other collections. Work from the **Sire Series** by Maria McKinney are exhibited for the first time in Cork. The artist's photographs of bulls adorned with insemination straw sculptures look at the use of genomics in modern cattle breeding, an invitation to visitors to think critically about the impact of human intervention on the natural world.

In addition to the diverse artworks included in **Meat and Potatoes**, Crawford Art Gallery has commissioned a series of texts. One of the texts commissioned for the exhibition by Cristin Leach, (Irish radio and television presenter, journalist, and art critic) comments that *"Potatoes are a provocative symbol of more than just food in Ireland. Deirdre O'Mahony's **The Persistent Return** is a film exploration of the political implications of reliance on this particular foodstuff, globally and locally."*

Recent worldwide events have again highlighted how fragile the global food supply chains can be, as shown in Abigail O'Brien prescient artwork **With Bread** also featuring in the exhibition.

Monika Crowley's bold graphic style series ***Domestic*** also featuring is evocative of rite of passages and tradition passed on from mother to daughter whilst also hinting at the demands of providing for a family.

To accompany the exhibition, Crawford Art Gallery will offer an extensive programme of food related events throughout the summer and early autumn. Visitors can avail of talks, tours and some surprising activities such as potato growing, creating edible art and viewing Crawford Collection inspired biscuits to name a few.

Further details on the programme of events created in collaboration with the Gallery's Learn and Explore team and local and international artists, horticulture and food experts can be seen on www.crawfordartgallery.ie as they become available.

ENDS

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Notes to Editor:

The Gallery will present an extensive programme of food and art related events to accompany the exhibition. Further details online as released.

<https://crawfordartgallery.ie/meat-and-potatoes/>

For more imagery please click [here](#)

Current Event Programme:

From 15 July

Spuds growing in the Upper Gallery

in partnership with **Cork Rooftop Farm (Brian McCarthy)**

16 July

Lisa Fingleton - drawing in situ: The Sandwich Project

16 , 17 ,18 July

Takes the biscuit

Dr Ella Hawkins (UK based) creates biscuit artworks inspired by *Meat and Potatoes* .The biscuits will be displayed in the exhibition. There will be a short talk at 3.30pm on the 18th of July. (<https://ellahawkins.com/biscuit-art/>)

17- 24 July

Bubble and Squeak - animation programme

There is a morning camp (Monday to Friday) and drop-ins session for afternoons and weekends. For times and more information please visit www.crawfordartgallery.ie

5 August

Soil and the City

Growing food in the City, how realistic it can be and what does it entails, a panel discussion with Erin O'Brien of Cork Urban Soil Project (<https://www.urbansoilproject.com/home>), Maria Young (coordinator of Green

Spaces for Health and the Cork Food Policy Council) and Brian McCarthy of Cork Rooftop farm.

13 August – Heritage week

Seeds are Stories: Seed swap/Seed open mic/workshop

In partnership with Irish Seed Savers's seed curator, Deirdre Morrissey

And a family-friendly seed swap and planting workshop

14 August – Heritage week

Picnic at the Gallery, will be a drop in art feast - There will be a drawing and painting workshop for all ages

25 August

Locavore: Brexit, Covid, Ukraine and Irish food security

10 September

The Animal Connection : walking tours in the city with Food historian Regina Sexton. Free but with registration on Eventbrite.

22 September

Ancient Grain (part 1) Talk with Fanny Leenhardt of Real Bread Ireland and Ballinhassig grower/baker, Leonie Workman of Dunany Farm (organic rye), Donal Creedon of Macroom oatmeal Mills and Dr Meriel McClatchie, associate Professor in Archaeology at UCD School of Archaeology, Director of the UCD Ancient Foods Research Group.

23 September – Culture night

Drawing workshop with inks made from edible sources in partnership with Asleigh Ellis

From October

Installation of **grow towers** in partnership with Green Towers Ireland to produce a crop of curly kale.

6 October

Take The Cake, a performance by **April Gertler** (<http://aprilgertler.com>) – commissioned by Julia Gelezova for the Terms of Consumption project (<https://gelezova.com/toc/>)

8 October

Ancient Grain (part 2), Our Daily Bread, a day long bread workshop with Fanny Leenhardt and Ben Lebon from Real Bread Ireland. Free but with booking. limited places

9 October

All about cakes, demonstration and cupcake decoration workshops with the Cork Sugarcraft association.

20 October

Artist talk : Deirdre O'Mahony

Deidre has two artworks in the exhibition, *The Persistent Return* and *Trial and errors*. She will talk about her projects whilst cooking boxty.

29 October

Hunger: Fasting, science and faith

31 October - Halloween

Colcannon with Gallery potatoes' crop and kale harvest.

Halloween, food traditions, trick and treats with Dr Jenny Butler, faculty member of UCC College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences

4 November

Food Future, Future Foods

More details soon

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 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 Aideen 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 265,000 visitors annually, the Gallery boasts an award-winning Café in stunning surroundings, serving fresh local produce for which Cork is famous.

More About the Crawford National Collection

The Crawford Art Gallery collection comprises over 3,000 works, ranging from eighteenth-century Irish and European painting and sculpture to contemporary film and photography. At the heart of the collection are the Canova Casts, which were brought to Cork in 1818 from the Vatican Museums in Rome.

As well as the purchase and receipt of donated artworks throughout the years, the collection has been greatly enhanced and expanded through the Gibson Bequest (1919), Fr. McGrath Bequest (1998), Great Southern Collection (2006), and part of the AIB Art Collection (2012).

In 2020 a fund of €400,000 was provided to the Crawford Art Gallery from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Art, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media which was designed to support artists based in Ireland throughout the most challenging period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2020 Crawford Art Gallery purchased 225 artworks by 39 contemporary artists including many leading artist's work such as Jennifer Trouton, Katie Holten, Michael Quane and Brian Maguire. The acquisitions ranged from paintings, photographs, prints, and drawings, to sculptures, installations, digital film and sound works, textile and embroideries .

In 2022 a fund of €650,000 was provided again by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Art, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media aimed to address significant gaps that remain in the National Collection following years of limited acquisitions. This funding will enable both Institutions to acquire works that ensure that the National Collection is more representative and represents the diverse communities of contemporary Ireland and reflects the issues occupying artists including climate change and global

Opening Hours

Monday–Saturday 10.00am–5.00pm

Late opening Thursdays until 8.00pm

Sundays and Bank Holidays

Gallery: 11am - 4pm

Entry Free

Upcoming Exhibitions

Meat and Potatoes

16 July – 6 November

DRAWING ROOM

16 September – 4 December

As They Must Have Been: Men of the South, 1922-2022

30 July – 18 September 2022

TOURS

Free Tours Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays 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.



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