



Press Release 14/05/21

‘Friends of Crawford Art Gallery’ gift work by Cork artist James Mahony to the National Collection

Crawford Art Gallery announce the gift of a work by Cork artist James Mahony by ‘Friends of Crawford Art Gallery’. The work “The Official Opening of ‘The National Exhibition of the Arts, Manufactures and Products of Ireland’ Cork, 1852 was purchased by ‘Friends of Crawford Art Gallery’, an independent support group for Crawford Art Gallery whose aim is to promote an awareness of the gallery, its collection and exhibitions.

Director Mary McCarthy said “We are very grateful to the ‘Friends of Crawford Art Gallery’ for fully supporting us in purchasing this work. It is a brilliant addition to the Collection and ensures that this work will be kept in public circulation for public appreciation.”

Chairperson of ‘Friends of Crawford Art Gallery’, Etta Goulding says “We are privileged as a group to have been able to acquire and gift this wonderful painting to the Crawford Collection and to the City that inspired it. We are constantly on a mission to attract more members to the ‘Friends of Crawford Art Gallery’ and are taking this opportunity to invite anyone with an interest in the Arts to consider joining up with us to promote and help the gallery to continue to serve the people of Cork and wider audiences in its artistic endeavours.”

'Friends of Crawford Art Gallery' treasurer Mary English tells us "This painting was chosen for its rich history of Art, Architecture and Design prevalent in Cork at that time and the personal history of the artist who was a founding member of a Cork Art Union. His painting of Fr Matthew Memorial Tower at Glanmire was presented to Queen Victoria in November 1846. One of his paintings in the National Gallery of Ireland is a watercolour depicting the visit by Queen Victoria & Prince Albert to the 1853 Dublin Exhibition . The Artist is probably best known for his graphic images of the effect of the famine in Co. Cork which were published in the Illustrated London News in the 1840s. These harrowing images influenced public opinion and are thought to have brought change to the British Government official stance of indifference to the great famine . He resided in London from 1852 until his death in 1879."

As part of the new public health measures announced, the gallery is currently open and the public have responded to this opening with great enthusiasm. With the commemorations exhibition by Dara McGrath 'For Those That Tell No Tales' and the renowned exhibitions Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize which featured in the National Gallery.

Dyane Hanrahan Communications and Marketing Manager says "The response from the public has been very positive and they are enjoying being back in the gallery the national collection and new exhibitions."

The health and safety of visitors and staff is a top priority at Crawford Art Gallery and they continue to keep measures in place to ensure the public enjoy their visit in a safe, welcoming and relaxed environment.

The Gallery has a visitor route and some additional safety measures to ensure that visitors continue to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of this city centre attraction needed now more than ever.

The Crawford website has a full list of what to expect before a member of the public visits. www.crawfordartgallery.ie/visit/

As well as the extensive commemorations exhibition the Gallery also presents collection shows **Statio Bene**, film screenings of Artists International and Recasting Canova in its Sculpture Galleries.

The Crawford Gallery Café will reopen on June 7 when outdoor dining will be resumed as part of the Governments public health measures announced.

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/>

For additional imagery please contact dyanehanrahan@crawfordartgallery.ie

Social Media:

Twitter@CrawfordArtGall

FacebookCrawfordArtGallery

Instagram CrawfordArtGallery

LinkedIn www.linkedin.com/in/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.

Friends of the Gallery

As an independent support group for Crawford Art Gallery, the Friends' aim is to promote awareness of the Gallery, its collections and exhibitions and to foster an interest in all aspects of art, culture and heritage.

The Crawford Art Gallery is assisted in its fundraising by the Friends of the Crawford Art Gallery, an independent support organisation, established in May 1989.

Join the Friends of the Crawford Art Gallery membership programme: it's a fun, social, creative and educational way to engage with exhibitions and events at the Gallery! Members are invited to participate in a program of events including talks, exhibition previews, and private tours.

Opening Hours

Crawford Art Gallery is currently opened 7 days a week and free to enter

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.

For opening hours

www.crawfordgallerycafe.com



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