



See Crawford Art Gallery laid bare in new, behind the scenes tours. *Photo: Joleen Cronin*

Crawford Uncovered: The Art is Gone, but the Stories Remain...

Crawford Art Gallery is launching a series of free, behind-the-scenes tours, offering the public an unprecedented opportunity to experience the currently closed venue from an all new perspective - completely empty, with the National Collection of artworks removed and the walls laid bare.

From personal anecdotes to insights into the historic building, these tours are a unique opportunity to witness Crawford in this fleeting moment before its major redevelopment 'Transforming Crawford Art Gallery'. The team will delve into the gallery's past, present and future, showing visitors a sneak peak of what to expect when the gallery reopens.



Is there a gallery ghost? What treasures were uncovered during the decant? Where do the secret doors lead? All these questions and more will be answered as visitors discover hidden spaces and hear untold stories of the gallery from the staff who know it best.

Director of Crawford Art Gallery, Mary McCarthy said; “Crawford Uncovered offers a unique moment to see our gallery paired back to its very essence, a place of history, creativity, and transformation. As we prepare for a new chapter with the redevelopment, these tours invite visitors to connect with the stories and spirit that make Crawford so special, a storied building. Join us as we will guide you through parts previously not open to the public.”

This is once in a lifetime opportunity to experience the Crawford Art Gallery before the National Cultural Institution’s much-anticipated restoration. Because every artwork starts with a blank canvas!

Tour Details:

The **Crawford Uncovered** tours will take 60-80 minutes and will take place from the 25 November 2025 for a limited time. There will be Irish language tours, family friendly tours and photography tours available to the public. Tours are free of charge, but spaces are limited so booking is essential. Tickets available via crawfordartgallery.ie.

ENDS

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Notes to Editor: for hi-res captioned images, please [click here](#).

About Transforming Crawford Art Gallery

Crawford Art Gallery is currently closed to the public to undergo an exciting capital redevelopment project: Transforming Crawford Art Gallery.

This multi-million euro investment will increase gallery space by almost 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 Culture, Communication and Sport in partnership with the Office of Public Works (OPW).

The award-winning Grafton Architects have worked on a [redesign](#) that include a new Learn & Explore facility for public engagement, significant storage for the National Collection, a new entrance, and a dramatically improved public realm including new café facing onto Half Moon Street as well as additional exhibition spaces. The building's entrance will be reoriented to Emmet Place in line with the original Custom House layout dating to 1724. A large new public gallery space will create a new vantage point for visitors to view city centre landmarks including St Anne's, Shandon and St Fin Barre's Cathedral.

About Crawford Art Gallery

The gallery is currently closed to the public to enable a major redevelopment plan.

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 Custom House, the gallery is home to the famous Canova Casts, gifted to Cork two centuries ago. Featured in the gallery's collection of over 3,500 objects are contemporary Irish and international artists Gerard Byrne, Dorothy Cross, Joy Gerrard, Rula Halawani, Isabel Nolan, Kathy Prendergast, Sean Scully, and Nedko Solakov, as well as much-loved works by artists James Barry, Mainie Jellett, Daniel Maclise, Norah McGuinness, Harry Clarke, Seán Keating, John Lavery, Evie Hone, Patrick Scott, Mary Swanzy and Jack B. Yeats.

The gallery is currently closed to the public to enable a major redevelopment plan.



Féach ar Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford lom nocht sna turais nua laistiar den chúlra. Grianghraf: Joleen Cronin

Gailearaí Crawford Nochtaithe: Tá na Saothair Ealaíne imithe, ach Fanann na Scéalta...

Tá Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford ag seoladh sraith turas saor in aisce, laistiar de na cúlraí, ag tabhairt deis don phobal den chéad uair taithí a fháil ar an ionad atá dúnta faoi láthair ó shúil nua ar fad - go hiomlán folamh, agus an bailiúchán náisiúnta de shaothair ealaíne bainte agus na ballaí leagtha lom.

Iidir scéalta pearsanta agus léargais ar an bhfoirgneamh stairiúil, is deis speisialta iad na turais seo chun Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford a fheiceáil sa spléachadh seo roimh a mhór-athfhorbairt 'Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford'. Pléifidh an fhoireann an t-am a chuaigh thart, an t-am i láthair agus an t-am atá le teacht sa ghailearaí, rud a léireoidh spléachadh do



chuaireoirí maidir leis an méid a mbeifí ag súil leis nuair a athosclóidh an gailearaí.

An bhfuil taibhse sa ghailearaí? Cé hiad na seodra a nochtadh nuair a glanadh amach an foirgneamh? Cá bhfuil a dtriall ag na doirse rúnda? Freagrófar na ceistanna seo go léir agus go leor eile de réir mar a aimsíonn cuairteoirí spásanna i bhfolach agus nuair a chloiseann siad scéalta nua faoin ngailearaí ón bhfoireann is fearr a bhfuil aithne acu orthu.

Bhí an méid seo a leanas le rá ag Stiúrthóir Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, Mary McCarthy: “Cuireann Gailearaí Crawford Nochtaithe deis speisialta ar fáil an craiceann a bhaint dár ngailearaí – áit stairiúil, chruthaithe agus áit atá athraithe go mór. Agus muid ag ullmhú don chéim nua leis an athfhorbairt, tugann na turais seo cuireadh do chuaireoirí nascadh leis na scéalta agus leis an spiorad a dhéanann foirgneamh speisialta, scéalaíoch do Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford. Bí linn agus sinn do do threoraí in áiteanna nach raibh ar fáil don phobal go dtí seo.”

Is deis faoi leith é seo Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford a fheiceáil roimh athchóiriú na hInstitiúide Cultúrtha Náisiúnta a bhfuiltear ag súil go mór leis. Mar gheall go gcuirtear tús le gach saothar ealaíne le canbhás bán.

Sonraí an Turais:

Tógfaidh turais **Gailearaí Crawford Nochtaithe** 60-80 nóiméad agus beidh siad ar siúl ón 25 Samhain 2025 ar feadh tréimhse ama teoranta. Beidh turais as Gaeilge, turais oiriúnach do theaghlaigh agus turais ghrianghrafadóireachta ar fáil don phobal. Tá na turais seo saor in aisce, ach tá na spásanna teoranta, mar sin is gá áirithintí a dhéanamh. Is féidir ticéid a cheannach ar crawfordartgallery.ie.



CRÍOCH

www.crawfordartgallery.ie

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Nótaí don Eagarthóir:

Le haghaidh íomhánna fotheidealaithe ardaifigh, [cliceáil anseo](#).

Maidir le Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford

Is institiúid chultúrtha náisiúnta é Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford atá suite i bhfoirgneamh oidhreachta suntasach i gcroílár chathair Chorcaí, agus atá tiomnaithe do na hamharc-ealaíona, idir stairiúil agus chomhaimseartha. 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 Múnlaí cáiliúla Canova ar taispeáint sa Ghailearaí, a bronnadh ar Chorcaigh dhá chéad bliain ó shin. I measc bhailiúchán an ghailearaí, tá os cionn 3,500 saothar ó ealaíontóirí comhaimseartha na hÉireann agus idirnáisiúnta Isabel Nolan, Gerard Byrne, Joy Gerrard, Rula Halawani, Kathy Prendergast, Dorothy Cross, Sean Scully agus Nedko Solakov mar aon leis na saothair ó na healaíontóirí a bhfuil an-tóir orthu James Barry, Mainie Jellett, Daniel Maclise, Norah McGuinness, Harry Clarke, Seán Keating, John Lavery, Evie Hone, Patrick Scott, Mary Swanzy agus Jack B. Yeats.

Tá an Gailearaí dúnta faoi láthair don phobal chun plean mór athfhorbartha a chur i gcrích.

Maidir le Chlaochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford

Tá Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford dúnta ó Mheán Fómhair 2024 chun tabhairt faoi thogra athfhorbartha caipitil a bheidh go hiontach ar fad: Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford.

Cuirfidh an infheistíocht, ar fiú na milliúin euro é, beagnach 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 Cultúir, Cumarsáide agus Spóirt i gcomhar le hOifig na nOibreacha Poiblí (OPW).

Tá Ailtirí Grafton, [a bhfuil gradaim bainte acu, tar éis obair a dhéanamh ar dhearadh athfhorbartha](#) lena n-áirítear áis Foghlama agus Fiosraithe nua le rannpháirtíocht ghníomhach, stóráil shuntasach don Bhailiúchán Náisiúnta, bealach isteach nua, agus spás poiblí a bheidh feabhsaithe go mór lena n-áirítear caifé nua ar Shráid na Leathghealaí chomh maith le spásanna taispeántais breise. 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 mór gailearaí nua, a chruthaíonn radharc do chuairoteoirí chun féachaint ar shainchomharthaí i lár na cathrach lena n-áirítear Ardán San Anna, An Seandún agus Ardeaglais Naomh Fionnbarra.

Chun níos mó eolais rialta a fháil ar Chlaochlú Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, is fearr clárú do nuachtlitir an ghailearaí ar www.crawfordartgallery.ie nó lean muid ar mheáin shóisialta an ghailearaí.