

A photograph of a man in a light blue button-down shirt and dark trousers, smiling and playing a drum set. He is holding a drumstick in his right hand. The setting is an art gallery with teal walls, a large teal door, and several white marble statues on pedestals. The text "Crawford Art Gallery" is overlaid in white on the top right of the image.

Crawford Art Gallery

Credit: Mike Mc Sweeney/ Provision

Press Release 23/10/2021

An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D. visits Crawford Art Gallery

An Taoiseach tours *Rembrandt in Print* and *REMAINS*, a new exhibition by Irish artist Brian Maguire, with the Chair of the Gallery, Rose McHugh, and the Director, Mary McCarthy

On his visit to the Crawford Art Gallery on the bank holiday, Mr Martin toured two major exhibitions: *Rembrandt In Print* and *REMAINS* by Brian Maguire. He also viewed works from the national collection held by the Gallery.

Crawford Art Gallery is the only Irish gallery where *Rembrandt in Print* can be seen, and the exhibition is proving a real draw for local, national and more recently international audiences. The exhibition presents 50 of the Dutch Master's finest works in print from the Ashmolean Museum's world-class collection of over 200 etchings and drypoints.

In response to the tour of the Gallery, the Taoiseach said:

“These are two outstanding exhibitions of International calibre on display at Crawford Art Gallery.

“Any visitor to the city, and the people of Cork, will revel in this opportunity to see Rembrandt's almost 400 year old artworks, alongside Irish artist Brian Maguire's contemporary work highlighting international issues of migration.

“It is a real pleasure to be back in this beloved historic building, and to view some of the wonderful art from the nation's collection.

“I am delighted that the Government has committed to the capital redevelopment of the Gallery in the coming years, and heartened to know that the Crawford will play a massive role, not just in the cultural fabric of the city, but as a catalyst for tourism and business in the region in the years ahead.”

Rose McHugh, Chair of the Crawford Art Gallery, welcomed the Taoiseach and conveyed to him **“the gratitude of everyone associated with the Gallery for the Government's commitment to the Gallery in the recent budget and its ongoing vital support for the Gallery's current capital project.”** She commented on **“the ambitious plans that the Gallery is pursuing and on the contribution that it seeks to make to the development of Cork city and the region”.**

Mary McCarthy, Director of the Crawford Art Gallery, said that, **“she is delighted that the Gallery can now present the *Rembrandt in Print* exhibition free to the public, seven days a week.”** Ms McCarthy went on to add that **“ the exhibition, which had been on hold for 16 months due to the pandemic is being held in collaboration with the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, a testament to the strong cultural links between Ireland and the United Kingdom. The Gallery continues to develop relationships such as this, which can bring significant art works to Cork, allow works from the Gallery’s collection to tour in the UK, and provide opportunities for Irish artists”.**

The Taoiseach was also taken with the works of contemporary artist, Brian Maguire. The exhibition *REMAINS* presents a series of large-scale artworks depicting the lives lost crossing the border from Mexico to the United States. Brian Maguire is known for his expressionist paintings addressing issues of social justice, and with these works he continues his creative enquiry into the Mexican/American border.

Before this visit, Mr Martin’s most recent visit to the Gallery was to announce the awarding of a design contract to Grafton Architects for the redevelopment of Gallery, which will take place over the coming years as the 300-year-old building is upgraded so that it can fulfil its mission for many decades into the future.

ENDS

Kayleigh Milner
Marketing & Communications Executive
E marketing@crawfordartgallery.ie
T +353 (0) 21 4907865
M +353 (0) 87 6556423
W www.crawfordartgallery.ie
Crawford Art Gallery,
Emmet Place,

Cork, Ireland.

T12 TNE6

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 4,000 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. 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.

Rembrandt in Print

17 September 2021 - 9 January 2022

Rembrandt in Print presents 50 of the finest works from the Ashmolean's world-class collection of over 200 etchings and drypoints by Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669).

Widely hailed as the greatest painter of the Dutch Golden Age, Rembrandt was also one of the most innovative and experimental printmakers of the seventeenth century. This touring exhibition will present Rembrandt as an unrivalled storyteller through a selection of fifty outstanding prints ranging from 1630 until the late 1650s. These works demonstrate Rembrandt's inventive techniques and extraordinary skills. They are displayed together for the first time.

Brian Maguire: REMAINS

17 September – 9 January 2022

In 2019, Brian Maguire visited Dr Greg Hess, Chief Medical Examiner for Pima County, Tucson, Arizona. Dr Hess gave the artist access to some thousand visual records of migrant lives lost in the crossing from South and Central America and Mexico, into the United States.

Each discovery of a body in the desert creates a case file and digital images. Using a selection from this photographic source, Brian began a new series of paintings, acknowledging the many unidentified victims who undertook this perilous journey.

Rembrandt in Print and *REMAINS*-Brian Maguire run until, 9 January 2022. The catalogues that accompany these exhibitions can be purchased online or at the Gallery bookshop.

Opening Hours

Open daily | Free entry

Monday–Saturday 10.00am–5.00pm

Late opening Thursdays until 8.00pm

Sundays and Bank Holidays

Gallery: 11am - 4pm Entry Free



An Roinn
Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta

Department of
Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht