Dhá shaothar an-éagsúla de chathair Chorcaí bronnta ar an Ardmhéara ag Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford

Bhronn Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford dhá shaothar a léiríonn radhairc an-éagsúla de chathair Chorcaí ar an Ardmhéara, an Comhairleoir Dan Boyle.

Is traidisiún bliantúil seanbhunaithe é go dtugtar deis do gach Ardmhéara nua i gCorcaigh saothar ealaíne a roghnú ó bhailiúchán Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, agus bronntar macasamhlú ardchaighdeáin den saothar orthu lena chur ar taispeáint i Seomra an Ardmhéara i Halla na Cathrach.

I mbliana, bronnadh dhá shaothar shuntasacha a dhéanann ceiliúradh ar oidhreacht shaibhir mhuirí chathair Chorcaí ar an Ardmhéara: *View of the Port of Cork* le Seán Keating agus *Reflections, Parliament Bridge, Cork* le Edward Yen Sang.

Cé go bhfuil an dá shaothar ealaíne an-difriúil ó thaobh stíle agus peirspictíochta de, léiríonn siad carachtar agus stair Chorcaí ar bhealach álainn. Léiríonn *View of the Port of Cork* (c.1960) le Seán Keating oidhreacht uasal bhródúil na cathrach agus an calafort bríomhar atá lárnach d'fhéiniúlacht Chorcaí. I gcodarsnacht leis sin, tugann *Reflections, Parliament Bridge, Cork* (c.2002) le Edward Yen Sang léargas níos suaimhní, ina léirítear áilleacht shéimh de chuid na Laoi le hais tírdhreacha uirbigh Chorcaí.

Is meabhrú é an traidisiún bliantúil seo ar an ról atá ag an ealaín i gcreatlach chultúrtha na cathrach agus, in ainneoin gur dúnadh í, tiomántas Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford mar bhunchloch chultúrtha de chathair Chorcaí chun an ealaín a choinneáil i gcroí agus in intinn an phobail.

Dúnadh Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford go sealadach don phobal i mí Mheán Fómhair 2024 le haghaidh tionscadail mhóir athchóirithe agus athfhorbartha, Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford.

Ina aitheasc ag an searmanas beag a reáchtáladh chun na saothair ealaíne a bhronnadh air, labhair Ardmhéara Chorcaí, an Comhairleoir Dan Boyle ar thábhacht an bhronnta seo:

"Ní hamháin go dtaispeánann na saothair ghalánta ealaíne seo áilleacht na cathrach, ach neartaíonn siad freisin an nasc domhain atá ag Corcaigh lena habhann, lena muintir agus lena hoidhreacht."

"Is comhartha measa é bronnadh na saothar seo i Seomra an Ardmhéara ar thírdhreach cultúrtha Chorcaí agus ar a todhchaí, mar go mbeidh siad anois mar chuid bhuan d'oidhreacht na cathrach. Cuireann na saothair ealaíne seo i gcuimhne dúinn an luach atá ag an ealaín chun ár bhféiniúlacht chomhchoiteann a mhúnlú."

Chuir Michael Waldron, Coimeádaí na mBailiúchán agus Tionscadail Speisialta i nGailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, le dearcadh an Ardmhéara, a rá:

"Léiríonn rogha íomhánna an Ardmhéara féiniúlacht uathúil abhann agus mhuirí Chorcaí agus an ról a bhí ag an Laoi i stair eacnamaíoch agus chultúrtha na cathrach. Tá siad mar mheabhrúchán freisin ar a chuairt ar Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford níos luaithe i mbliana, le linn Sheachtain na hOidhreachta, nuair a chonaic sé na saothair ealaíne seo dó féin inár dtaispeántas, *From Source to Sea*."

Leag Michelle Carew, Oifigeach Ealaíon Chomhairle Cathrach Chorcaí, béim ar thábhacht an bhronnta seo ina cuid cainte:

"Is ceiliúradh iontach ar bheocht ealaíonta Chorcaí é deonú na saothar seo ó Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford. Ní hamháin go gcuirfidh na pictiúir seo i Seomra an Ardmhéara le haeistéitic an spáis ach tabharfaidh sé deis do chuairteoirí agus do chónaitheoirí araon ceangal níos doimhne a dhéanamh le traidisiúin ealaíne na cathrach. Tá an caidreamh idir an chomhairle agus Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford ríthábhachtach d'aitheantas leanúnach Chorcaí mar lárionad cultúir agus cruthaitheachta."

Cé go bhfuil Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford dúnta don phobal faoi láthair, tá an fhoireann tiomanta i gcónaí do dhul i dteagmháil leis an bpobal le linn a dhúnta, le clár leanúnach d'imeachtaí Foghlaim & Fiosraigh, agus comhoibriú lasmuigh den láthair le hionaid agus le heagraíochtaí ealaíon eile lena n-áirítear saothair a thugtar ar iasacht do ghailearaithe agus músaeim ar fud na tíre. Chun níos mó eolais a fháil faoi Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, féach www.crawfordartgallery.ie

CRÍOCH

www.crawfordartgallery.ie Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford, Plás Emmet, Corcaigh, Éire.

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Nótaí don Eagarthóir: chun breis íomhánna a fheiceáil, 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, 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 taispeáint sa Ghailearaí, a bronnadh ar Chorcaigh dhá chéad bliain ó shin. Tá os cionn 3,500 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

Dúnadh Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford i bhfómhar 2024 chun tabhairt faoi thogra athfhorbartha caipitil darb' ainm Claochlú Ghailearaí Ealaíne Crawford.

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 Grafton Architects a bhfuil gradaim bainte acu tar éis obair a dhéanamh ar dhearadh athfhorbartha lena n-áirítear áis Foghlam agus Fiosraithe nua le rannpháirtíocht ghníomhach, stóráil shuntasach don Bhailiúchán Náisiúnta i nGailearaí Crawford, bealach isteach nua, agus spás poiblí a bheidh feabhsaithe go mór lena n-áirítear caifé nua 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 urlár ag féachaint amach ar Chathair Chorcaí, a chruthaíonn radharc do chuairteoirí chun féachaint ar shainchomharthaí i lár na cathrach lena n-áirítear An Seandún agus Ardeaglais Naomh Fionnbarra.

Two unique views of Cork city presented to Lord Mayor by Crawford Art Gallery

Two images depicting very different views of Cork city have been presented to Lord Mayor Cllr Dan Boyle by Crawford Art Gallery.

It is a longstanding annual tradition that each new Lord Mayor of Cork is given the opportunity to select artwork from Crawford Art Gallery's collection, and is presented with a high quality reproductions of the works for display in the Lord Mayor's Chambers at City Hall.

This year, two striking pieces celebrating Cork city's rich maritime heritage were gifted to the Lord Mayor: *View of the Port of Cork* by Seán Keating and *Reflections, Parliament Bridge, Cork* by Edward Yen Sang.

The two artworks, though very different in style and perspective, beautifully capture Cork's character and history. Seán Keating's *View of the Port of Cork* (c.1960) highlights the city's proud maritime heritage, showcasing the bustling port that is central to Cork's identity. In contrast, Edward Yen Sang's *Reflections, Parliament Bridge, Cork* (c.2002) offers a more tranquil perspective, portraying the serene beauty of the River Lee juxtaposed against Cork's urban landscape.

This annual tradition serves as a reminder of the role that art plays in the cultural fabric of the city and despite its closure, Crawford Art Gallery's commitment as a cultural cornerstone of Cork city to keep art in the hearts and minds of the public.

Crawford Art Gallery temporarily closed to the public in September 2024 for an extensive renovation and redevelopment project, Transforming Crawford Art Gallery.

In his address at the small ceremony held to present the artworks, the Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor Dan Boyle spoke on the significance of this presentation:

"These beautiful reproductions not only showcase the majesty of our city but also reinforce the deep connection Cork has with it's river, it's people, and it's heritage. The presentation of these works to the Lord Mayor's Chambers is a gesture of respect for Cork's cultural landscape and its future. Crawford Art Gallery's gift reminds us of the value that art holds in shaping our collective identity."

Michael Waldron, Curator of Collections & Special Projects at Crawford Art Gallery, echoed the Lord Mayor's sentiments, adding:

"The Lord Mayor's selection of images reflects Cork's unique riverine and maritime identity and the role the Lee has played in the city's economic and cultural history. They also act as a reminder of his visit to Crawford Art Gallery earlier this year, during Heritage Week, when he saw these artworks for himself in our exhibition, *From Source to Sea*."

Michelle Carew, Arts Officer for Cork City Council, highlighted the importance of this gift in her remarks:

"The gift of these reproductions by Crawford Art Gallery is a wonderful celebration of Cork's artistic vibrancy. The inclusion of these paintings in the Lord Mayor's Chambers will not only enrich the aesthetic of the space but also offer visitors alike the opportunity to connect more deeply with the city's artistic traditions. The relationship between the Council and the Crawford Art Gallery is vital for Cork's continued recognition as a centre of culture and creativity."

While Crawford Art Gallery is currently closed to the public, the team remains committed to engaging with the community during its closure, with a continued programme of Learn & Explore events, and offsite collaborations with other arts venues and organisations including works loaned to galleries and museums nationwide. For more information on Transforming Crawford Art Gallery see www.crawfordartgallery.ie

ENDS

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Notes to Editor: for extra images 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 3,500 objects are contemporary artists Aideen 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 closed to the public from September 23 2024 to undergo an enormously 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 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 Fin Barre’s Cathedral.

After a contractor has been appointed and begins work in spring 2025, it is envisaged that Crawford Art Gallery will reopen to the public in 2027.

For all the latest news on Transforming Crawford Art Gallery, sign up to the newsletter on www.crawfordartgallery.ie or follow the gallery’s social media.