

Press Release : for immediate release

October 6, 15, 2015

## WILLIAM HUNT

### Playing the Goat

October 23, 2015 to February 20, 2016

[www.crawfordartgallery.ie](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie)



Image © William Hunt, 2015

**Crawford Art Gallery** is delighted to present two films by William Hunt as part of the gallery's continued screening programme of Irish and International artists.

*Playing the Goat* brings together two films that combined create a fascinating yet awkward tension for the audience. The film *A Moment's Hesitation* (2012) takes the form of a documentary interview in which the artist responds to questions regarding his motivation for his work. Hunt's answers, and his practice, hover between dedicated protagonist and an unnerving commitment to extreme situations. Primarily performance based, Hunt has often tested his body's abilities under the influence of gravity or other acute physical forces, orchestrating situations in which he sings and plays instruments.

However, the professional discussion collapses into the personal when the artist tells the interviewer about a planned performance to crash a car. The personal becomes apparent as the viewer realises that it is the Hunt's wife who is the interviewer. What the viewer really witnesses is a couple having an intimate discussion about his ambitions, her fears and their compromise.

*Still yourself and calm your boots* (2014) is the resultant work posited in *A Moment's Hesitation*. Commissioned by PEER, London, Hunt tackles velocity and the effect it has on his body by driving a car at high speed and crashing it into a concrete barrier, after which he performs a song he has written for the occasion. Hunt produces a complex moving image that captures the morbid thrill, confusion and intense physical and psychological effects of a car crash, while also exploring the precarious path between intention and action. The high-definition video footage allows for closer scrutiny of the artist's body enabling the viewer to analyse in minute detail the physical effects of the crash – and his musical performance. Combined the films create an resounding awe and awkwardness shifting between Hunt's emperical fascination of the physical and the psychological impact of the car crash of not only the artist and his loved ones too, but for the audience too.

*Still Yourself and Calm Your Boots*" HD Video, William Hunt 2014. Commissioned by PEER UK. Courtesy: IBID Projects London, Rotwand Zurich, Petra Rinck Düsseldorf.

**Artist Talk: 5.30 pm, Thursday 22 October, 2015**

Press Release : for immediate release

October 6, 15, 2015

## **EDITOR NOTES**

### **About the artist:**

**William Hunt** (born 1977, London, lives and works in Dusseldorf) He studied at The Slade School of Fine Art, and at Goldsmith's College. Recent projects, performances and exhibitions include Kunstmuseum Stuttgart, Marres (2015); *BRA-VO OH BRA-VO!* Rotwand, Zurich (2014); *Ship, Ship, Slip and Drip* at Hunt Kastner, Prague (2014); *Playing the Goat*, PEER, London (2014); *Not Knowing, But Looking* at Petra Rinck, Düsseldorf (2014); *Paranalía* at Siobhan Davies Dance Studio, London (2013); *PLAY!* *Recapturing the Radical Imagination*, GIBCA – Göteborg International Biennial for Contemporary Art, Gothenburg, (2013). He is represented by Ibid Projects, London; Petra Rinck, Dusseldorf; Rotwand, Zurich.

**For further information or images contact:** dawnwilliams@crawfordartgallery.ie

---

### **Access & Education**

For details on guided tours, access and education contact:  
emmaklemencic@crawfordartgallery.ie or  
www.crawfordartgallery.ie/education.html

---

### **About the Crawford Art Gallery**

Crawford Art Gallery is a National Cultural Institution and regional art museum for Munster, dedicated to the visual arts, both historic and contemporary. The permanent collection comprises over 2500 works, ranging from eighteenth century Irish and European painting and sculpture, through to contemporary video installations. At the heart of the collection is a collection of Greek and Roman sculpture casts, brought to Cork in 1818 from the Vatican Museum in Rome.

Through its temporary exhibitions, publications and education programmes, the Crawford Art Gallery is committed to fostering recognition, critical assessment, and acknowledgement of historical and contemporary Irish and international art practice. Located in the heart of Cork city, the gallery is a critical part of Ireland's cultural and tourism infrastructure, welcoming over 200,000 visitors a year.

---

### **How to get to the Crawford Art Gallery**

Crawford Art Gallery is located in the heart of Cork City centre, adjacent to Cork Opera House and Opera Lane, just off Patrick Street. Ten minutes walk from Cork's Kent Train Station and five minutes walk from Cork Bus Terminus. Disabled parking zones are available at the front entrance of the gallery at Emmet Place and Academy Street.

---

### **Admission**

Admission to the Crawford Art Gallery and *Motivational Deficit* exhibition is free.

---

### **Opening Hours:**

Monday - Saturday: 10 am - 5pm (last entry 4:45pm); Thursday: 10 am - 8pm  
closed Sundays and Bank Holidays

---

**Crawford Art Gallery, Emmet Place, Cork, T12 TNE6, Ireland**

T: + 353 (0)21 4805042  
[www.crawfordartgallery.ie](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie)

E: [info@crawfordartgallery.ie](mailto:info@crawfordartgallery.ie)

**ENDS**