



Top Image: Salvatore of Lucan, *Me Ma Healing Me (Detail)*, 2020

Below Image: Della Cowper-Gray (age 14), *Painting in a different world now (My Father The Artist)*, (detail) 2021

Press Release 26/04/2022

## **The Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize return to Crawford Art Gallery**

Crawford Art Gallery is delighted to once again welcome the Zurich Portrait Prize to Cork and Munster, in partnership with the National Gallery of Ireland. Sponsored by Zurich Insurance plc, this is the third time the exhibition will travel outside of Dublin to Crawford Art Gallery, creating a wider opportunity for the public to encounter the remarkable portraits on display. The exhibition features the twenty-four shortlisted works from the 2021 edition as chosen by an esteemed judging panel.

Also making a welcome return is the Zurich Young Portrait Prize, a special competition for young people which encourages them to shape who we see and how we see them. The twenty shortlisted works from 2021, created by

young artists aged between 5 and 18, will be on display together with the Zurich Portrait Prize at Crawford Art Gallery from 23 April until 17 July 2022. Mary McCarthy, Director of Crawford says *'Both exhibitions will be displayed together in the historic Gibson Galleries at the heart of Crawford, offering the perfect opportunity for visitors to experience the work by this year's winning, highly commended, and shortlisted artists. A companion catalogue will be available from the gallery shop. This partnership with the National Gallery of Ireland is important to Crawford and ensures that together we broaden access to this important initiative. It means we open after our temporary closure with exciting new perspectives for our audiences'*.

Responding to significant ideas of identity and experience, the 24 works shortlisted for the Zurich Portrait Prize 2021 once again demonstrate the exceptional breadth that exists in contemporary Irish portraiture. Employing oils, acrylic, pastel, egg tempera, video, photography, even hair and dust, the selected artworks make for an exciting, sometimes unexpected art encounter for visitors. The shortlisted portraits were chosen by the 2021 judging panel, comprising artist Eamonn Doyle, Róisín Kennedy (University College Dublin), and curator Sean Kissane (Irish Museum of Modern Art).

The winning artist, Salvatore of Lucan, received a cash prize of €15,000, and a commission worth €5,000 to create a work for inclusion in the National Portrait Collection at the National Gallery of Ireland. Two highly commended artists, Vanessa Jones and Tom McLean, also received €1,500 each.

Now in its third year, the Zurich **Young** Portrait Prize is a special competition focused on young artists in Ireland. It is an inclusive art competition open to children and young people of all abilities, aged up to 18, from across the island of Ireland. The difficult task of shortlisting works for Zurich **Young** Portrait Prize 2021 fell to visual artists Aideen Barry and Joe

Caslin, and curator Tadhg Crowley (The Glucksman). The exhibition showcases works by artists from the ages of 5 to 18 across four separate categories. Add winning artists?

Zurich Portrait Prize 2021 and Zurich **Young** Portrait Prize 2021 can be visited daily at Crawford Art Gallery from 23 April until 17 July 2022, with an array of online offerings on the gallery website. Entry to the gallery and exhibitions is free.

## **ENDS**

Dyane Hanrahan

Marketing & Communications Manager

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

T +353 (0) 21 4907856

M +353 (0) 86 8278151

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

Crawford Art Gallery,

Emmet Place,

Cork, Ireland.

T12 TNE6

**Note to editor:** Please click [here](#) for imagery of works.

## **More about The Zurich Portrait Prize**

The Portrait Prize, open to artists aged 19 over, ran for the eighth time in 2021 with Zurich as sponsor for the fourth year. The aim of the Zurich Portrait Prize is to showcase and encourage interest in contemporary portraiture, support Irish talent and to raise the profile of the long-standing and constantly evolving National Portrait Collection at the National Gallery of Ireland. The shortlisted artists' works were exhibited in the National Gallery of Ireland from in late 2021 and early 2022, and will be on display at Crawford Art Gallery from 23 April - 17 July 2022.

### **More about Zurich Insurance plc**

Ireland is Zurich's location of choice for its pan-European company Zurich Insurance plc (ZIP). Since 2009, ZIP has been headquartered in Dublin and is the main risk carrier for Zurich's general insurance business in the EU. Neil Freshwater is the CEO of Zurich Insurance plc. In terms of domestic business, Zurich focuses on two key business areas in Ireland – General Insurance and Life. In Ireland, Zurich employs over 1,250 people.

### **More about the National Gallery of Ireland**

Established in 1854 by an Act of Parliament, the National Gallery of Ireland houses the nation's collection of European and Irish fine art spanning the early Renaissance to the present day, with over 16,300 works of art. The Gallery is also home to the National Portrait Collection (established 1874). Find out more at [www.nationalgallery.ie](http://www.nationalgallery.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 over 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. Welcoming over 265,000 visitors annually, the Gallery boasts an award-winning indoor

and outdoor Café in stunning surroundings, serving fresh local produce for which Cork is famous.

### **Opening Hours**

Monday–Saturday 10.00am–5.00pm

Late opening Thursdays until 8.00pm

Sundays and Bank Holidays

Gallery: 11am - 4pm

Entry Free

Free Public Tours

Sunday & Bank Holiday Mondays 2pm



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