

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART HELD BY  
CONFERENCE CALL, DUBLIN ON 16 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 13.00 PM**

Present: David Harvey, Mary Apied, Emma Goltz, Dermod Dwyer, John Cunningham, Gerard Byrne, Margot Lyons, Eva Kenny

Apologies: Jane Dillon-Byrne

In attendance: Annie Fletcher, Fintan McDonald (Company Secretary)

**1 Conflict of Interest**

All Directors confirmed that they had no conflict of interest in relation to the matters to be dealt with at this meeting.

**2 Opening**

DH opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of the sad passing of GB's mother. He also acknowledged the passing of James Fitzpatrick who had played an active part in the AFAI in its on-going support of IMMA. The Board passed on their sympathies to the families and friends of each of the deceased.

DH formally welcomed EK to the Board.

**3 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 12 January 2021 were taken as read.

Minutes proposed for adoption by JC, seconded by DD and approved.

**4 Matters arising**

None.

**5 Director's Report**

- a) The IMMA Partnership with the Dean Hotel to create a set of Artist Studios was formally announced and has received wide coverage in the media. IMMA will be allocated four Studios for its nominated artists, a move that will make a small contribution to the shortage of such spaces in the city. Most of the response has been favourable but there is a background of concern within the artist community about problems of affordability of accommodation and studio space in Dublin. The Board endorsed the Partnership as a continuation of the long-standing relationship with the Dean and their support of the Arts at IMMA over a number of years. There is an awareness of the problems of gentrification but IMMA is mandated by the Department to secure independent funding for its work and to source sponsorship partners.
- b) There will be an open call soon for applications to join IMMA's own Artist Residency Programme in Kilmainham.

- c) The Decade of Commemorations – Proposals have been prepared and submitted to the Department that include a contextualisation of the arts in the light of early 20<sup>th</sup> Century social developments across Europe. Ideas proposed include a conference and artist commissions.
- d) Plans are being drawn up for an expansion of the outdoor programming that was pioneered in 2020.
- e) IMMA's Summer School, which was so successful in 2020, is being planned on a similar scale for 2021.
- f) Acquisitions – The Collection & Acquisitions Committee has been working hard to bring coherence to the spending of the recent Government Grant. The aim is to help balance the Collection and to build concentrations of expertise in selected areas.
- g) A researcher has been appointed with support the EU Horizon 2020 fund to look into IMMA's community outreach.
- h) The timing of the exhibition programme is under constant review in light of the uncertainties about restrictions on returning to site for key workers, and gallery opening rules.

## 6 **Finance**

The Management Accounts to Period 12, 2020 and Period 1, 2021 were presented and discussed. The accounts are being finalised in advance of the external audit in March. The forecast year end position is expected to be close to budget with a surplus of about €100k. The Government fund for the purchase of artworks is nearly all committed and has made a significant contribution to supporting artists. Many of the works will be on display at some point during 2021.

## 7 **Report from the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee**

The committee met this morning, 16<sup>th</sup> February.

- a. Reports from the Internal Auditor on the operation of the control environment were presented by [REDACTED] and discussed. Overall, the reports show a satisfactory assessment of the operation of internal controls. A number of recommendations remain under consideration by the Committee. Following a tender for Internal Audit services in 2020 a new Internal Auditor has been appointed and Crowe Ireland will begin a programme of work in the coming months.
- b. There will be an in-depth discussion on Cyber Security at the next meeting.

## 8 **Collection & Acquisitions Committee – JC, Chair of the Committee**

The process of committing the Government Grant for the acquisition of artworks continues. There has been a significant amount of discussion around each acquisition. There is a strong and transparent process around each decision and these discussions, both internal and with other CNCIs, have helped to refine the criteria embedded in IMMA's Art Acquisition Policy.

9      **Risk Register**

The Risk Register was circulated with the meeting papers. The Board continues to monitor developments.

10     **Governance**

The annual update of the Corporate Governance Framework was presented. There were some minor changes relating to the charters and work of sub-committees, mostly of a procedural nature. This latest issue of the Framework was endorsed by the Board.

11     **AOB**

There are now three Board vacancies. A draft of the advertisement to be sent to the Public Appointments Service is being prepared by the Director and will be circulated.

12     **Close**

The next meeting is scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

The executive left the meeting and the Board members continued in private conference.