

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART HELD BY
CONFERENCE CALL, DUBLIN ON 8 JUNE 2021 AT 13.00 PM**

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

Apologies: Jane Dillon-Byrne, Eva Kenny

In attendance: Annie Fletcher, Fintan McDonald (Company Secretary), David Duff – for selected items

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 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 13 April 2021 were taken as read.

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

3 Matters arising

None.

4 Director's Report

- a) IMMA had its 30th Birthday on 25th May with muted celebrations, including the Paula Rego exhibition remaining open until 10pm. There is a large poster of the thirty year time-line in the short west wing.
- b) The acquisition programme from the €600k Department grant is almost complete. There was an online event with the Minister to celebrate the fund involving artists and the Directors of IMMA and The Crawford.
- c) There was a soft launch of the IMMA 30 for 30 Fund reaching out to some of our key supporters over the past 6 years. There are plans for a further birthday fundraising appeal.
- d) IMMA is looking for partners to launch an environmental exhibition and convention in 2022 to reflect the nature of the site as a green lung in the heart of the city.
- e) The 5-Year Freud exhibition is due to close in August. Discussions are continuing on how to build on its success and to find a new framework for research for the next five years.
- f) Exhibitions – Bharti Kerr has been de-installed and Paula Rego is also being taken down as it is going to Tate London for a summer exhibition. Three films have been made about the exhibition that will be available on the IMMA website. The outdoor summer programme has commenced and all events are fully booked. The two pavilions have been very warmly received and are being widely used.

- g) The Art and Ageing online programme is still proving to be extremely popular with all Talking Art and Armchair Azure sessions fully booked throughout April and May and with 200 programme bookings.
- h) The Health & Well-Being Committee is conducting a survey to see how everyone is managing, both at home, and in transitioning back to working on site.
- i) The executive has commenced discussions on the new 5-Year Strategy to be brought to the Board in September.
- j) Board Recruitment – a draft has been submitted to the Department for the three vacancies.

5 Programme Development

- a) There is an evolving change in current trends of curating culture, with a central thrust of telling stories through artworks. IMMA's programme development will look at the journey of Ireland and how IMMA tells the story of these years through art.
- b) The first challenge is how to reconcile a 17th Century building with a contemporary art museum, and the key to this is an understanding of the project of modernism.
- c) The birthday exhibition, The Narrow Gate of the Here and Now, will open from July, the first of four chapters of a collection-based exhibition that will open in phases to occupy the whole museum by the late autumn.
- d) Culturstruction, an Irish-based design duo, has been appointed to help design the entire exhibition. There will be temporary passages, curtains, light and sound to create an atmosphere. Consideration is being given to having a performance space within the exhibition. The theme is to re-acquaint audiences with IMMA's collection and the necessity of continuing to acquire. The whole project is a reflection on the past 30 years and its interaction with events in Ireland and internationally, while tracking developments in the art world.

6 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Annual report and update

- a) The FAR Committee (FARC) met on 1st June
- b) Crowe Ireland, the new internal auditors, attended the meeting and presented their strategic audit plan. The focus this year will be on IT Risk and IMMA's Risk Management procedures.
- c) The draft Statutory Accounts were discussed and some minor amendments were proposed. The FARC is happy to propose these for approval by the Board. – approved unanimously.
- d) Management Account to April were discussed by the FARC.
- e) There were presentations at the meeting on the progress of the Collection Management System and on Cyber Security at the meeting. A balance needs to be struck between what needs to be protected and what systems are public-oriented.
- f) The FARC Annual Report 2020 had been circulated with the Board papers and was recommended to the Board for approval – Approved unanimously.

7 Finance

The Management Accounts to Period 4, 2021 were presented and discussed. The forecast for the year remains close to the original budget and the management team is confident that there will be sufficient resources for the full year.

An update on capital equipment for security and the Collection Management system project was discussed.

8 Collections & Acquisitions Committee – JC & AF

All of the €600k grant is now spent.

9 Security presentation – DD

- a) New gallery security hardware will be installed by the end of the year and this will improve the protection of artworks. The hardware is in accordance with international standards and will reassure lenders that IMMA has a secure environment. It uses RFID technology that creates an alert if works are moved or touched. Sensors can be attached to artworks and plinths, or as beams or infrared curtains. Any interaction alerts staff who are monitoring cameras and gallery staff.
- b) The installation has been delayed due to pandemic restrictions and it is hoped that implementation will be complete in Quarter 3.
- c) The new hardware will also free up staff for more visitor engagement

10 Risk Register

The Risk Register was circulated with the meeting papers. The Risk register will be reviewed by the Internal Auditor.

11 Governance

No updates.

12 AOB

The advertisement draft for the Board vacancies has been submitted to the Department for comment.

13 Close

The next meeting is scheduled for 7th September 2021.