

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART at IMMA, KILMAINHAM, ON 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 13.15pm.**

Present: Ali Curran (Chair), Mary Apied, Margot Lyons, Sinead O'Sullivan, Mike Fitzpatrick, Eva Kenny, John Cunningham, Dermot Dwyer, Jess Majekodunmi, Gerard Byrne

Apologies :

In attendance: Annie Fletcher, Fintan McDonald (Company Secretary), Lisa Fitzsimons for selected item

**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 Meetings**

The minutes of the Board Meetings held on 11<sup>th</sup> June were proposed by JC, seconded by ML and approved.

**3 Matters Arising**

None

**4 Director's Report**

- a. IMMA won two awards at the 2024 Business to Arts Awards event on 9<sup>th</sup> September. The partnership with Matheson LLP for The Matheson Creativity Hub in Memory of Tim Scanlon won the CBRE Major Arts Partnership Award. IMMA also won for an award for its part in Ecclesiastical Insurance's philanthropy portfolio for the Judges Special Recognition Award.
- b. The funding from Ecclesiastical will support new research initiatives.
- c. The Board asked that their congratulations be passed on to the Development Team.
- d. The Museum Director and the Head of Programming will tour a number of Baltic states in November to give a series of talks related to the recent Self-Determination Exhibition and Conference.
- e. The full programming team is planning the next major exhibition and research conference on the subject of Technologies of Peace, to take place in 2026.
- f. The Take a Breath exhibition has been very well reviewed in the Arts Press and has been well received by audiences.
- g. Hilary Heron: A Retrospective continues to receive substantial coverage in the media with a feature in the Sunday Business Post, an interview with Curator Sean Kissane in the Irish Examiner and an article by Sean Kissane in the Visual Artists Ireland Newssheet.

- h. A new brand positioning strategy has been developed to ensure that everyone at the museum, our stakeholders, audiences, and community are clear on what IMMA stands for and the unique space we want to hold in the minds and imaginations of our audiences.
- i. The new Artists Residency Programme has been launched. Dwell Here offers three programming strands, each supporting numerous residents, with residencies ranging from one month to one year in duration.
- j. The commissioning of the IPUT screen continues to be delayed. It is now hoped to open in time for the Earth Rising festival.
- k. A curator in the Research & Learning Department undertook an Erasmus placement at Publics Helsinki mentored by Paul O'Neill for the month of August to oversee the packing and cataloguing of the Paul O'Neill Archive for shipment to IMMA.
- l. Earth Rising 2024 will take place from Fri 20 – Sun 22 Sept, featuring a dynamic and engaging programme of exhibitions, installations, walks & talks, screenings, artists salons, workshops, eco-fair, live music and more.

## 5 **IMMA Brand Strategy - LF**

A new proposed direction for IMMA's brand strategy was presented and discussed including the strategy's objectives, brand positioning, manifesto, target audiences and how IMMA can differentiate itself in Ireland and internationally as a dynamic, democratic, and welcoming institution. The thinking has emerged from the IMMA Strategy 2024 – 2028 and the museum's vision to be the most dynamic and welcoming cultural destination in Ireland, collecting and presenting modern art, and recognised internationally as a thought leader in contemporary art practice. Armed with a meaningful, well-defined, and articulated brand, IMMA can continue to explore the immense potential to connect with broader and more diverse audiences on a local and global stage.

The Executive is now reviewing how the new brand positioning will be implemented across each Department, and it is hoped that the new strategy will begin full implementation in early 2025

## 6 **Annual Report 2023**

The Annual Report was reviewed and approved. The Board recommends that a section on Climate Action be added to the 2024 Annual Report.

## 7 **Climate Action Roadmap**

The 2023 Climate Action Roadmap was presented. The report was not ready for the June Board Meeting due to a delay in receiving SEAI reports for 2023. The Roadmap shows that progress is being made by IMMA and it outlines further actions to be undertaken to help to achieve the 2030 targets. The Roadmap was approved by the Board.

The Board will return to the discussion on climate action training for Board members.

## 8 **Charities Compliance Record**

The latest update and submission to the Charities Regulator was presented to the Board. The Board is satisfied that IMMA is complying with its responsibilities under the Charities Code and

notes the recent Internal Audit on Corporate Governance that is under review by the FAR Committee.

## **9 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee update**

A meeting of the Committee was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

The Internal Auditor presented a report on Corporate Governance. There were five medium priority recommendations and one of low priority. Overall, the Internal auditor was satisfied with the standard of control.

Future audits on Financial Controls and Collections Management are planned.

The External Auditors were represented at the meeting by a Director from Mazars who discussed the conduct of the 2023 audit and the Management Letter. All findings were satisfactory.

The Committee undertook a self-assessment exercise, and the findings are under review.

The Risk Register was reviewed for matters relating to Audiences and Communication.

The next meeting will be on 5<sup>th</sup> November.

## **10 Finance**

The Management Accounts to August 2024 were presented with a result close to budget. The full year forecast remains under review.

## **11 Collections & Acquisitions Committee Update - JC**

A meeting of the Committee was held on 5<sup>th</sup> June.

A shortlist of artworks to acquire was agreed, subject to funds being available.

A submission to the Department for an Acquisition Fund has been jointly made between the Crawford Art Gallery and IMMA.

The Board requested a short presentation on acquisitions from the past two years.

## **12 Risk Register**

The latest version of the Risk Register was discussed and the changes from the June version were noted.

## **13 AOB**

A proposal of meeting dates for 2025 was circulated.

**14 Close**

The next meeting is scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

**15 In Camera**

The executive left the meeting and discussions continued In Camera.

**Chair**