

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRISH MUSEUM OF
MODERN ART, AT THE ROYAL HOSPITAL, KILMAINHAM, ON 14th NOVEMBER 2023
AT 15.30pm.**

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

Apologies : None

In attendance: Annie Fletcher, Fintan McDonald (Company Secretary); and for agenda items Mary Cremin

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. There followed a discussion on whether IMMA should compile a register of interests. A full register was deemed unnecessary but the matter of how to manage structural potential conflicts will need to be addressed. The Company Secretary was asked to review the annual advice letter on Conflicts and issue it in advance of the January meeting.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 12th September 2023 were taken as read.

Minutes were proposed for approval by JC, seconded by DD and approved.

3 Matters arising

No matters arising.

4 Director's Report

- a. Self-Determination – A Global Perspective formally opens on 28th November. The exhibition is the outcome of three years of research and looks at the arts and culture that emerged in response to the forming of new states in the aftermath of the First World War. The exhibition will be in the East Wing and Garden Galleries and will run until 21st April 2024.
- b. Capital Upgrades. Formal appreciation was noted for the approval of Capital funding by Minister Martin for the redesign of the museum foyer and café, for a new research area on the first floor and for a new storage unit in the courtyard that will host solar panels. Work is also progressing on the new Matheson Innovation Hub located next to the reception area.

- c. The Letter of Funding Allocation for 2024 has been received. The Department indicate that they received significantly less than they requested. There is no funding to cover inflation or energy costs, or for the expanded programme that IMMA proposed. This unchanged grant represents a 14% reduction in real terms. All NCI's have experienced similar allocations, and a joint representation has been made to the Department to express their disappointment. IMMA has received increases in funding in prior years and that has allowed an increase in programming, in particular in relation to Department priorities of sustainability and inclusion & diversity. Internal budgets are being reviewed.
- d. Acquisitions. A submission is with the Department for the Acquisition of the Weltkunst Collection. A proposal has been put to the Department by IMMA and The Crawford Art Gallery for a multi-year commitment for the acquisition of art. The Department acknowledges the importance of building the National Collection and is considering the proposal.
- e. A major exhibition of works from IMMA's collection is planned for late 2024, early 2025. This exhibition will remain in situ for over two years.
- f. Living Canvas – the IPUT Screen that was recently in Wilton Place will be installed on the front lawn of IMMA in Q1, 2024. The screen will allow a film programme of works from the IMMA Collection and other loaned works. It will remain in place for two years.

5 **Programming Plans 2024-25 – MC**

- a. The next major exhibition, Take a Breath, will open early summer 2024 and will involve new commissions. All large-scale exhibitions will be planned with strong narratives.
- b. There will be an installation in the Chapel of the North Range during summer 2024.
- c. Exhibitions from artists Hamid Butt and Hilary Heron will take place in 2024.

6. **Budget 2024**

FM presented the proposed budget for 2024. The Department allocation represents an inflation-adjusted decrease on the prior year. The budget has been drawn up and discussed by the executive to reflect this. There will be less investment in programming and exhibitions during 2024 and other cost areas are being addressed with a view to reducing expenditure. There is a reduced sum in the budget for the acquisition of artworks and the Board affirmed its commitment to allocating a sum for the building of the Collection as this is central to IMMA's mission.

The budget was approved unanimously.

7. **Finance, Audit & Risk Committee update - ML**

The FARC met on 14th November.

The committee discussed the proposed Budget 2024 in detail.

The long-term funding of IMMA's pension liabilities remains unresolved.

The Committee discussed the Risk Register and Risk Statements. These Risk statements are to be discussed by the Board at a future meeting.

6 IMMA Constitution

The latest draft was discussed. Observations from the Department and the Executive have been incorporated. Some minor amendments were proposed, and the draft was approved. The new Constitution will now go to the Minister for formal sign-off.

7 Risk Register

The latest version of the Risk Register was discussed and updates since the last meeting were reviewed.

8 Committee Appointments

SOS to take over the position of Chair of the FARC.

GB to join the Collections & Acquisitions Committee

Gus McNamara to be offered a second term as an external member of the FAR Committee.

Clíodhna Shaffrey to stand down from the Collections & Acquisitions Committee after a long and constructive period of membership. The Board formally extended its thanks to Clíodhna for her commitment and the perspective she brought to the work of the Committee.

9 AOB

Emma Goltz has now completed her full 10 years as a member of IMMA's Board. The Chair thanked Emma for her wisdom and dedication.

10 Close

The next meeting is scheduled for 10th January 2024.

Chair