

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART at IMMA, KILMAINHAM, ON 16th SEPTEMBER at 13.10pm.

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

On-line: John McLaughlin

Apologies : None

In attendance: Annie Fletcher (On-Line), Fintan McDonald (Company Secretary), Lucy Durack, Lisa Fitzsimons 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. DD drew the Board's attention to his role as Chair of Powerscourt House which hosts wedding receptions, and that this may conflict with commercial proposals to host wedding receptions at IMMA.

2 Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 10th June 2025.

The minutes were proposed by JC, seconded by MA and approved.

3 Matters Arising

A proposal to issue papers requiring Board approval two weeks in advance of the meeting was agreed. The Chair will consider whether longer meetings should be scheduled where there are important matters or policies to be debated or agreed.

4 Director's Report

- a. Global Connector – IMMA is two years into the implementation of its Strategy and there has been much progress particularly in advancing its goal of being a Global Connector. AF is currently in Japan for a visit with the Aichi Triennale which is particularly exciting and opens up valuable potential for meaningful exchange and deeper cross-cultural dialogue. The trip is funded by Culture Ireland.
- b. Global connector – IMMA has launched a strategic partnership with the Irish Arts Center, NYC, and the exhibition of Patrica Hurl's work has opened with great acclaim.
- c. Ireland Invites has had significant success with nominated artists going to arts expos around the world.
- d. Earth Rising – 12-14th September has just closed and there has been excellent feedback with IMMA showing itself as a Catalyst for Change and a Thought Leader.
- e. IMMA's Strategy 2024-28 is deeply embedded in the organisation and staff have a clear understanding of IMMA's strategic direction.

- f. Living Canvas is showcasing films from the BeinalSur Biennale in Argentina.
- g. The Summer at IMMA programme has ended. It ran throughout June, July and August with over 150 events.
- h. The latest open call for the Dwell Here Residency Programme received 562 applications. The applications came from 69 different countries.
- i. An advertisement for the vacant Head of Visitor Experience and Security position has been published.

5 Ethical Sponsorship Policy - LD

The purpose of this Ethical Fundraising Policy is to safeguard IMMA's reputation while ensuring its sustainability and growth. This policy aims to provide clarity on IMMA's approach to ethical sponsorship. IMMA actively seeks opportunities to collaborate with external organisations and individuals to achieve shared objectives while maintaining independence and preserving IMMA's reputation.

The Policy is a cultural act and provides a structure to inform decision-making when entering into sponsorship arrangements with cultural institutions or private bodies or individuals.

It has guiding principles that align with IMMA's values.

The Board discussed the Policy and requested that LD address critical risk factors. The policy remains in draft form. It is to be edited and circulated.

6 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Update - SOS

The Committee met on 2nd September.

The latest financial forecast for the year was reviewed with an expectation of a result close to forecast.

Calculations supporting the latest letter to the Department re pensions were reviewed.

The Charity Compliance Record was reviewed, changes were recommended and it is with the Executive to finalise.

The OCAG Management Letter was reviewed with no major observations.

The Risk Register was reviewed and some recommendations proposed to the Executive.

The Internal Audit recommendations are progressing well.

A Self-assessment exercise on the work of the Committee has commenced.

A summary of recent artwork acquisitions was reviewed.

7 Finance

The Management Accounts to July 2025 were presented. The forecast for the year is in line with the 2025 budget.

8 **Pensions Letter**

A letter was sent to the Department in August requesting a commitment for the funding of pension outlays. A response is awaited. The Internal Auditor is compiling a report to review the estimates and to weigh the business risks that flow from future pension commitments.

9 **Collections & Acquisitions Committee update – JC**

The Committee met on 11th September.

- An update on tax relief and donations was discussed to guide future activity
- An Impact Report is being prepared regarding recent acquisitions
- There are two new members – Emma Goltz and Alistair Hudson
- Over €50k has been generated for acquisitions through the Collectors' Circle. Research into potential acquisitions continues.

10 **External Assessment of Board Performance**

A sub-group of the Board has been formed to prepare a tender document for external assessment. It is hoped that this exercise can be completed before the end of November.

11 **Risk Register**

The latest version of the Risk Register was discussed and the changes recommended by the FAR Committee were noted.

12 **Strategy Update - LF**

There has been a great deal of positive developments against the Strategy Implementation Plan with positive momentum behind the majority of goals, in particular IMMA Horizons, development of the new lecture room, archive acquisitions, wayfinding and visitor facilities.

There remains a delay in securing Department funding for the Global Research & Learning Centre, and the Conservation Management Plan that will inform site development has not yet been received from the OPW.

The Strategy is well-embedded among staff and the Erasmus+ programme has expanded IMMA's relations with peer institutions across Europe and has brought insightful learning back to IMMA.

There has been an increase in collaboration with other cultural bodies, most recently with a number of Earth Rising partnerships. There is a growing relationship with the DFA and Culture Ireland who have supported IMMA's intervention in the Aichi Triennale and the Patricia Hurl exhibition with the Irish Arts Center in New York. The trend in lifelong wellness is clearly represented in the strategy and the partnership with St James Hospital, the Alzheimer's Society, and Trinity College is advancing.

Visitor Facilities are being enhanced with an expansion of the Matheson Creativity Hub and more outdoor seating.

13 **AOB**

Dates for 2026 Board Meetings are being drafted.

14 **Close**

The next meeting is scheduled for 11th November 2025.