

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART at IMMA, KILMAINHAM, on 20th JANUARY at 13.00pm.

Present: Ali Curran (Chair), Mike Fitzpatrick, Jess Majekodunmi, Rhoda Lane-O’Kelly, John McLaughlin, Ramatoulaye Diallo, John Cunningham

On Line: Sinead O’Sullivan, Gerard Byrne

Apologies: None

In attendance: Annie Fletcher, Fintan McDonald (Company Secretary), Lisa Fitzsimons, Mary Cremin, and Christina Kennedy for selected items.

1 The Chair welcomed RD to her first IMMA Board meeting.

2 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.

3 Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 11th November 2025 were presented.

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

4 Matters Arising

None.

5 Director’s Report

IMMA was shortlisted for the prestigious Apollo Awards for the Sam Gilliam exhibition. The winner of the award was the National Gallery in London and IMMA has extended its congratulations.

IMMA is a member of the L’Internationale organisation of European Contemporary Art Museums and IMMA is considering undertaking a leading role within the confederation from 2027. This grouping involves some of the most forward-thinking museums of Europe and greater investment will advance IMMA’s role as a Global Connector.

The first phase of IMMA’s involvement in the Leargas / Erasmus + programme is now complete. 23 educators and curators from IMMA have been to museums across Europe for job-shadowing or training events. The programme has been a great success and IMMA hopes to gain accreditation from Leargas to continue this work.

IMMA will again take students from Inchicore and Ballyfermot colleges for job placement in 2026.

The new Head of Visitor Experience and Security will start in April. The new post-holder comes with extensive experience from Blenheim Palace in the UK and will have responsibility for the full visitor journey.

IMMA has received a significant private donation of an artwork by Cecelia Vicuna through the Section 1003 scheme.

Works on the refurbished Lecture Room and Library are nearing completion and will be operational in the first quarter of 2026.

There are plans to extend the very successful Ireland Invites initiative with our collaborators, Culture Ireland and the Hugh Lane Gallery.

6 Conservation Management Plan – AF

A draft CMP has been received from the OPW. This was originally commissioned two years ago and it was agreed that the CMP would precede plans for site development under the National Development Plan. The Board will consider how to respond to the CMP with input from JMCL.

7 IMMA Values - LF

IMMA has spent the last two years embedding the 2024-28 Strategy and advancing goals to deliver the ambition of the Strategy. A programme has commenced to articulate a set of values to deepen behaviours that align with the Strategy. IMMA's values set the standards for how we behave, make decisions, collaborate, and represent the museum. They support coherence across departments, strengthen trust internally and externally, and help articulate how IMMA does its work, not just what it does. There is a plan to communicate and discuss this with the IMMA staff to agree and embed these values. This process will run in parallel with Board discussions.

8 Strategy Progress Report – LF

The agreed goals that are mapped across the four pillars of the Strategy are progressing well with the majority rated green, demonstrating clear momentum, strengthening organisational capacity, and a growing ability to translate ambition into measurable public impact.

9 Programme Update – MC

The Tarek Atoui sound installation in the Chapel and East Ground will open on 19th February.

An exhibition by Camille Souter and Alberta Whittle opens on 5th March.

Eltiqa – an artist collective from Gaza City, will open an exhibition in August.

Technologies of Peace: Art and Transition in Contemporary Europe opens in September and will examine how artistic imagination and enquiry has contributed to post-conflict recovery and democratic transition across Europe since 1968. This is a major exhibition and follows themes set in the Self-Determination exhibition.

IMMA will present an exhibition in collaboration with the Sharjah Art Foundation Collection that platforms artistic practices and commissions from Palestine and neighbouring countries. The exhibition includes a focus on Abdul Hay Mosallam Zarara (1933 – 2020). Opens November 2026.

10 Collections Management update – CK

The IMMA Collection comprises almost 5,000 works, mostly from the 1960's to the present. It is an impressive collection and covers a wide range of significant Irish and international artists. There is an on-going programme of loaning these works nationwide and also for international exhibitions.

In the past 5 years 235 works by Irish artists and 349 works by international artists have been added to the Collection, and 368 artworks have been loaned out.

All acquisitions to the Collection are informed by the IMMA Acquisitions Policy and are discussed and agreed by the Collections & Acquisitions Committee.

Significant new acquisitions include:

Leonora Carrington, **Untitled Tapestry, c. 1948–1955**

Leonora Carrington, ***The High Queen of Ireland, 1945***

Cecilia Vicuña, ***Mother Shadow, 2024-2025***

Cecilia Vicuña, ***Fethard Sheela Na Gig, 2025***

11 **Pensions**

A Letter to Department regarding Pensions Funding was reviewed and approved.

12 **Finance Update**

Accounts for 2025 are being finalised. A deficit for the year of around €60,000 is forecast. Income from Sponsorship and Commercial activities exceeded budget, and significant steps to reduce energy usage have delivered savings against budget.

13 **Risk Register**

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

14 **AOB**

It was agreed that RLOK and JMCL would join the Collections & Acquisitions Committee.

This is Gerard Byrne's last Board Meeting following 10 years of service to IMMA. The Chair expressed her deep gratitude to Gerard for his incredibly valuable contribution as a teacher and practicing artist.

15 **Close**

The next meeting is scheduled for 17th February 2026.

Chair