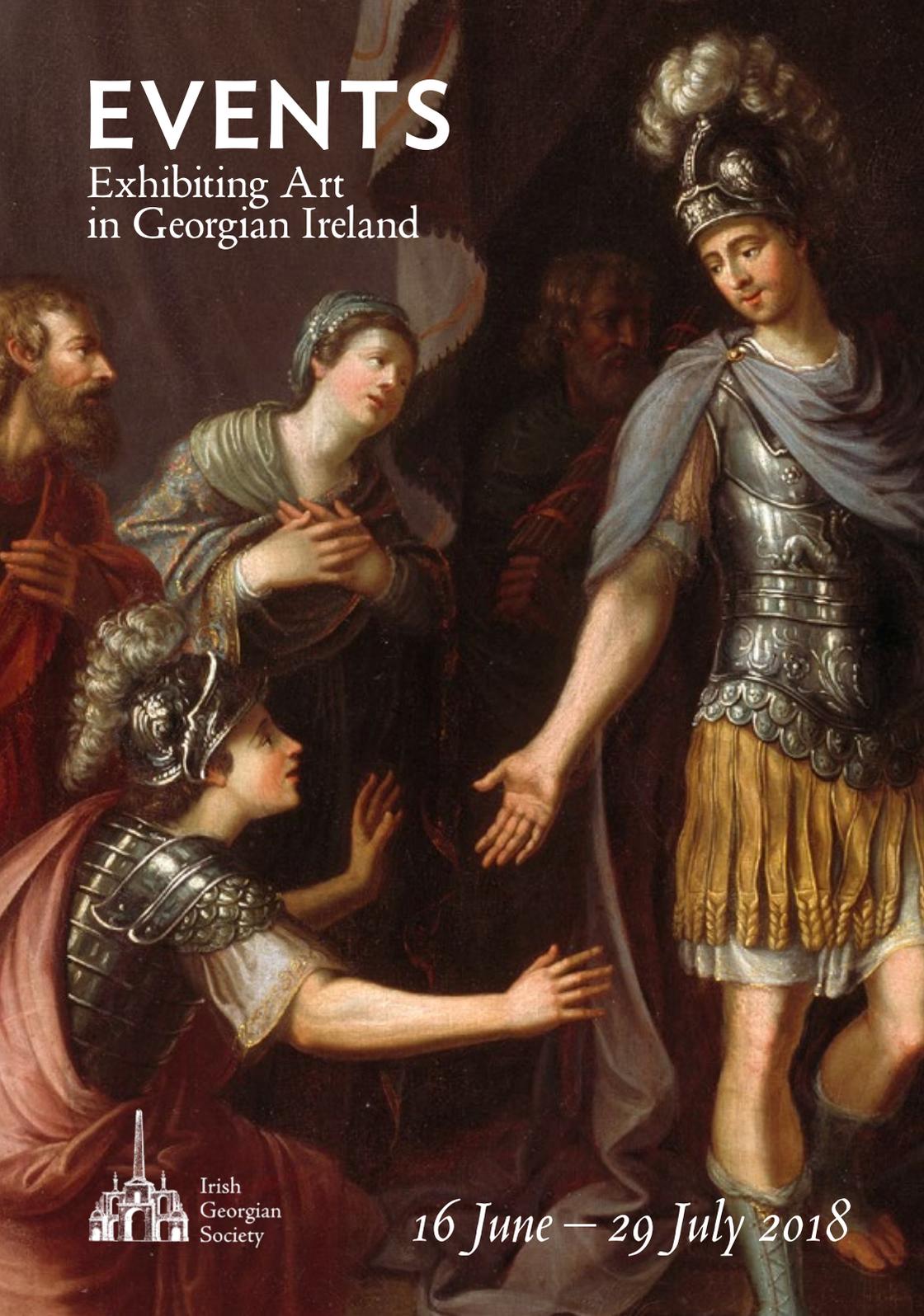


# EVENTS

Exhibiting Art  
in Georgian Ireland



Irish  
Georgian  
Society

*16 June – 29 July 2018*

It is a great honour as President of the Irish Georgian Society to introduce *Exhibiting Art in Georgian Ireland*. The exhibition is the result of considerable research and is staged to mark the grand re-opening of the City Assembly House in Dublin as the principal office of the Society. Our ambition has been to bring back as many of the pictures as possible that were once shown in the Society of Artists' Exhibition room in a building erected in 1766 by the great artists of the time for the public display of their works. Exhibited are some 80 works drawn almost equally from institutional and private owners and we thank each one of them for their willingness to lend to the exhibition. The paintings have been purposely hung in a salon style, similar to the way they were originally displayed.

Now more than 250 years later, the Irish Georgian Society, working in partnership with Dublin City Council, and with the support of valued friends and donors in Ireland, the United States of America and the United Kingdom, have brought this building back to life. We are very proud of what has been achieved. The great octagonal room is dedicated to Desmond FitzGerald, the Knight of Glin, my predecessor as President of the Society, who was such a visionary and an instrumental force in ensuring this would happen for the benefit not only of the members of the Society but the wider public.

So, as we celebrate this great achievement, we encourage members and their friends to join us at the events outlined in this programme, which range from children's workshops to lectures, concerts and film screenings, as well as to view for themselves the great masterpieces of late eighteenth-century Irish painting.

SIR DAVID DAVIES  
*President, Irish Georgian Society*



## EXHIBITING ART IN GEORGIAN IRELAND: THE SOCIETY OF ARTISTS' EXHIBITIONS RECREATED

This world-class exhibition brings together over 80 works many of which were originally shown by the Society of Artists of Ireland between 1765 and 1780. Opening to the public on Saturday 16 June, it will continue until Sunday 29 July.

### OPENING HOURS

The exhibition will be open seven days a week from Monday to Sunday, 10.00am to 5.00pm, with late opening for special events.

### ADMISSION

The exhibition is free to the public, with charges for curator's tours and special events. Tickets for tours and events can be purchased online ([www.igs.ie](http://www.igs.ie)) or in the IGS bookshop.

### ACCESSIBILITY

Large print exhibition guides are available. A wheelchair accessible lift gives access to the Knight of Glin Exhibition Room from Coppinger Row. There are gallery benches available and exhibition invigilators will be on hand to answer any questions visitors may have. There are two access tours of the exhibition throughout its duration, more information on these is available in this brochure.

### EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

A beautifully illustrated catalogue, edited by Dr David Fleming, Dr Ruth Kenny and William Laffan, with contributions from Victoria Browne, Dr Paul Caffrey, Donough Cahill, Logan Morse and Dr Brendan Rooney is available from the IGS bookshop or online from [shop.igs.ie](http://shop.igs.ie)

### PHOTOGRAPHY

It is not permitted to photograph or touch works of art, consume refreshments, smoke, or use a mobile phone in the Knight of Glin Exhibition Room. Photography elsewhere in the building is permitted for personal use.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

🐦 @IrishGeorgian  
📷 @IrishGeorgianSociety  
📘 Irish.Georgian.Society  
#CAH1766

Jacob Ennis (1728-1770)  
*Vulcan Ends the Manufacture of Arms*  
National Gallery of Ireland





## CURATOR'S TOURS

Join exhibition curator Dr Ruth Kenny as she leads a tour of highlights from the *Exhibiting Art in Georgian Ireland* exhibition. Please note: a maximum of 30 people can attend tours. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets can be purchased in the IGS bookshop or online from [www.igs.ie](http://www.igs.ie).

€5 per person. Booking not required.  
Duration: 30 minutes.

Friday 29 June, 1.00pm

Sunday 1 July, 12.00pm

Friday 6 July, 1.00pm

Sunday 15 July, 1.00pm

Sunday 22 July, 12.00pm

Francis Wheatley (1747-1801)  
*The Abduction of Parolles*, from 'All's well that ends well'  
Private Collection

## WALKING TOURS

### **The Society of Artists and Eighteenth-Century Dublin**

*Wednesday 27 June, 6.00pm*

*Saturday 14 July, 12.00pm*

The Society of Artists exhibitions of 1765-80 took place in a city changing in both appearance and in sensibility. The exhibitions catered to a public recently converted to Palladian architecture, with tastes and aesthetic expectations increasingly shaped by the experience of the Grand Tour. Arran Henderson of Dublin Decoded leads a walking tour around the South William Street district drawing on details of both local artists and patrons, in an attempt to sketch out some of the context and flavour of those times.

Tickets €16 / €18.50 non-members.  
Booking required. Duration: 2 hours.

## ACCESS TOURS

The Irish Georgian Society is delighted to offer two accessible tours of the exhibition. These tours will be led by exhibition curator Dr Ruth Kenny, and interpreted by specifically trained guides and practitioners.

### **Audio described tour**

*Sunday 8 July, 11.00am*

### **Irish Sign Language tour**

*Saturday 14 July, 11.30am*

Suggested donation of €5 per person.  
Booking required. Duration: 45 minutes.

## LUNCHTIME LECTURES

Engage in thought-provoking discussion with leading historians and experts while seated in the Knight of Glin Exhibition Room every Tuesday over the course of the exhibition. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Podcast recordings will later be made available on the Irish Georgian Society's website ([www.igs.ie](http://www.igs.ie)) and the IGS Soundcloud ([soundcloud.com/irishgeorgiansociety](https://soundcloud.com/irishgeorgiansociety)).

Commencing at 1.10pm sharp.  
Free admission. Duration: 40 minutes.



### **Leading the Curious to Points of View; The landscape paintings of Jonathan Fisher and James Arthur O'Connor**

*Tuesday 19 June*

Professor Finola O'Kane-Crimmins

Ireland's demesnes, or gentleman's parks, were the precursors of the Irish tourist routes. Landscape paintings, once corralled within demesne walls, adjusted their focus to the wider landscape where their facility for framing picturesque views helped to position Ireland for the tourist. The progression is particularly evident in the career and work of Jonathan Fisher, an early advocate of engraved views and the much wider public they could seduce. James Arthur O'Connor's views and prospects of the Sligo estates in the early nineteenth century changed perceptions of the west of Ireland. This lecture will use the exhibition's paintings to illuminate the art history of Irish tourism.

Professor Finola O'Kane Crimmins is a landscape historian, architect and conservation specialist at University College Dublin's School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy. In 2017 she was elected a member of the Royal Irish Academy.

Hugh Douglas Hamilton (1740-1808)

*Portrait of Charles James Fox*  
The Castletown Foundation

Right: Jonathan Fisher (1735-1809)

*A View of the Lake of Killarney, from Lord Kenmare's Park*  
Private Collection





### Private landscapes: the demesne paintings of Thomas Roberts

Tuesday 26 June

Professor Tom Dunne

This lecture will examine the private grounds depicted in landscape paintings of Thomas Roberts in the 1770s, in the contexts of politics and society in 'Ascendancy Ireland', and the revolution in garden design in England as depicted by Richard Wilson.

Tom Dunne is Professor Emeritus of History in University College Cork and has published widely on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Irish and British art, including 'Sensibility and the Sublime in the storm paintings of Thomas Roberts' in the journal of the Irish Georgian Society, *Irish Architectural and Decorative Studies*, xii (2009).

### William Burton Conyngham: Patron of the Arts in Georgian Ireland

Tuesday 3 July

Peter Harbison

William Burton Conyngham (1733-1796), the leading antiquarian of his day, commissioned international artists to execute hundreds of drawings of Ireland's ancient monuments which formed the most extensive collection of watercolours in eighteenth-century Ireland. He intended (in vain) to publish them in albums, but only Grose's *Antiquities* of the 1790s partially succeeded in doing so.

Conyngham was portrayed in Rome by Mengs (one of whose paintings he donated to the Society of Artists), but also in Dublin by Gilbert Stuart and Hugh Douglas Hamilton. He presented Brian Boru's harp to Trinity College.

Peter Harbison is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and its honorary academic editor. He is author of *William Burton Conyngham and His Irish Circle of Antiquarian Artists* published by Yale University Press in 2013.



Thomas Roberts (1748-1777)  
*The Sheet of Water at Carton, County Kildare*  
Private Collection

Right: Anton Raphael Mengs (1726-79)  
*Portrait of William Burton Conyngham*  
J. Paul Getty Museum

## Pioneering artists and builders: the Society of Artists and its downfall

Tuesday 10 July

Dr David Fleming

The Society of Artists staged the first regular public art exhibitions in Ireland from 1765. Drawing on newly uncovered material produced especially for the *Exhibiting Art in Georgian Ireland* exhibition, Dr Fleming will evaluate the success of the exhibitions and the importance of its building, and also identify the reasons why the Society imploded in 1780, which left its great exhibition room available for other uses.

Dr David Fleming is a historian of eighteenth-century Ireland and is the Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Limerick. He is secretary of the Eighteenth-Century Ireland Society, a trustee of the Hunt Museums' Trust and former chairman of the Irish Georgian Foundation.

Silver medal issued to subscribers allowing access to Society of Artists' Exhibitions  
Private Collection



## 'An Insufficiency of Drapery': The Nude in Irish Art from the Society of Artists to Today

Tuesday 17 July

William Laffan

The nude is a contested genre in Irish art. As recently as 2010 Mick O'Dea, President of the Royal Hibernian Academy, could write: 'even fundamentalist cultures have produced more nudes than we have'. This talk by William Laffan, co-curator of the exhibition *Naked Truth, the Nude in Irish Art*, which opens in the Crawford Art Gallery in Cork in mid-July, shows that there has in fact been a distinguished tradition of painting the nude going back to exhibits at the Society of Artists in the 1760s. The talk features the work of eighteenth-century artists such as James Barry, Hugh Douglas Hamilton and Robert Fagan and exciting contemporary practitioners who explore the unclothed body in their art including Amanda Coogan, Dorothy Cross and Kathy Prendergast.

William Laffan is an art historian and author, and former editor of *Irish Architectural and Decorative Studies*, the Journal of the Irish Georgian Society.

Henry Tresham (1751-1814)  
*Cupid and Venus*  
Private collection



## The contribution of foreign artists to the cultural and commercial life of eighteenth-century Dublin

Tuesday 24 July

Dr Nicola Figgis

From the early Georgian period, Dublin was a thriving city, and foreign painters came in significant numbers, often making major contributions to the cultural and commercial life of the city. This talk will examine the work of visiting artists who came to the city for a variety of reasons. Better known artists such as the Dutch landscape painter William Van der Hagen, the American portrait painter Gilbert Stuart, and the Italian decorative painter Vincent Waldré will be discussed. Lesser known foreign figures will also be considered such as Francesco Geminiani, who was involved in wider commercial activities such as the developing art market in Dublin.

Francis Wheatley (1747-1801)  
*A Meeting of the Volunteers on College Green*  
National Gallery of Ireland



Dr Nicola Figgis is currently Head of the School of Art History and Cultural Policy at University College Dublin. Dr Figgis is principal author and editor of *Art and Architecture of Ireland: Painting 1600-1900*, volume 2, published by the Royal Irish Academy and Yale University Press, Dublin in 2014.

## CONCERTS

### Thursday, 21 June, 6.00pm

Yonit Kosovske and Rachel Factor,  
harpsichords  
*Side by Side*

In a rare opportunity to see two harpsichords side by side, Yonit Kosovske and Rachel Factor present a programme of repertoire both written and transcribed for two harpsichords. The concert features works by such eighteenth-century composers as Silvius Leopold Weiss, Vivaldi, Bach and more.

#### PROGRAMME:

Weiss: Sonata no. 60 A Major, orig. 2 lutes  
Buxtehude: Ciaconna in E minor  
BuxWV160  
Handel: Suite in C minor HWV446  
Vivaldi (transcription Enrico Baiano):  
Da "L'Estro Armonico"  
Weiss: Sonata no. 59 D Major, orig. 2 lutes  
And works by J.S Bach and C.P.E Bach

Tickets €18 / €22 non-members.  
Booking required. Duration: 70 minutes.

### Saturday, 7 July, 6.00pm

Rachel Factor, harpsichord  
Aisling Kenny, voice  
Theresa Burton, recorder  
Margaret Doris, cello

A selection of works for voice, recorder and basso continuo (harpsichord and cello) by eighteenth-century composers, many of whom had a connection with Dublin, including Handel, Geminiani, and Pepusch. The concert features cantatas and instrumental pieces, performed with a keen awareness of historical performance.

#### PROGRAMME:

Geminiani: Sonata No. 3 in g minor  
for alto recorder  
Vivaldi: All ombra di sospetto  
Handel: HWV 134.  
Pensieri notturni di Filli  
Geminiani: A Variation on a Scottish air  
Pepusch: When love's soft passion  
F. Mancini: Sonata for Recorder  
Bononcini: Idol mio bel Tesoro

Tickets €18 / €22 non-members.  
Booking required. Duration: 70 minutes.

Joshua Reynolds (1723-92)  
*A Parody of the School of Athens*  
National Gallery of Ireland



## FAMILY AND ADULT WORKSHOPS

### Georgian play and puppetry workshops

*Saturday 30 June, 11.00am*  
*Saturday 21 July, 11.00am*  
Suitable for children aged 6 to 12

Drop in to the City Assembly House for a hands-on workshop with artist Edel Cox. This family session will be a fun and creative exploration of this unique exhibition, including colourful insights into Georgian life and culture. Children will learn how to make their own puppet to take home, inspired by the games of the Georgian era!

€5 per child. Booking required.  
Duration: 80 minutes.

### Children's drawing workshop with illustrator Chris Judge

*Saturday, 7 July, 11.00am*  
Suitable for children aged 3 and up

Award-winning illustrator Chris Judge will lead this children's drawing workshop in the City Assembly House. Inspired by the paintings in the exhibition, children will draw their own colourful masterpiece, which will be framed for them to take home. Parents are welcome to join in!

€5 per child. Booking required.  
Duration: 120 minutes.

At these workshops all children must be accompanied by an adult. Our child protection policy is available on [www.igs.ie](http://www.igs.ie)

### Adult life drawing class with James Hanley RHA

*Thursday 5 July, 6.30pm*

Join renowned artist James Hanley after hours in the City Assembly House for a live nude life drawing class. Learn from a contemporary master in the intimate surroundings of the Knight of Glin Exhibition Room. Visit our exhibition beforehand and be inspired by the techniques and materials used by the Society of Artists.

Chairs and easels will be provided but bring your materials of choice (pencil, charcoal or pastel, no paint or liquids are permitted). This class is suitable for all levels and abilities.

€25 per person. Booking required.  
Duration: 120 minutes.

## FILM SCREENINGS

To celebrate *Exhibiting Art in Georgian Ireland*, the Irish Georgian Society have partnered with the Irish Film Institute to screen free archive films throughout the month of July, with a special film screening and panel discussion focusing on The Big House in Ireland.

### **Archive at Lunchtime focus on Georgian Ireland**

1.00pm (daily throughout July)

Irish Film Institute, 6 Eustace St, Temple Bar, Dublin 2

Every lunchtime throughout the month of July the Irish Film Institute will screen short documentary films from their archive, free of charge. These short films will focus on Georgian architecture in Ireland, with a particular focus on Georgian Dublin.

Simply collect your free tickets from the Irish Film Institute Box Office. For more information on these shorts please visit [www.ifi.ie](http://www.ifi.ie) – a full programme will be confirmed in June.

### **THE BIG HOUSE IN IRELAND - FILM SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

#### **The Last September**

Wednesday 4 July, 6.30pm

Irish Film Institute, 6 Eustace St, Temple Bar, Dublin 2

Danielstown is the country home of Sir Richard Naylor and his wife, Lady Myra around the time of the Irish struggle for independence. Behind the façade of set-piece dinners, tennis parties and army-camp dances, however, all know that their essentially feudal way of life is coming to an end. Lady Myra's niece, Lois, who is being courted by a captain in the British army, is lured by the menacingly playful and violent young man who has taken up residence at the bottom of the garden. What unfolds is a portrait of the demise of a way of life and a young woman's coming of age in a dangerous time.

Filmed in Dowth Hall, Co. Meath, *The Last September* (1999) is a drama based on the 1929 novel of the same name by Elizabeth Bowen. This special screening, organised in partnership with the Irish Film Institute, will be followed by a panel discussion with photographer James Fennell (Burtown House), Fionnuala Ardee (Kilruddery House) and location manager Colm Nolan (*Love and Friendship*, *Penny Dreadful*), focusing on the 'Big House' in Ireland, the use of the Irish country house in cinema, and the attraction of Ireland as a film location.

€8.50/€11. Book through the IFI website ([www.ifi.ie](http://www.ifi.ie)). Duration: 130 minutes.

## JOIN THE IRISH GEORGIAN SOCIETY

The Irish Georgian Society is a membership organisation whose mission is to promote awareness and the protection of Ireland's built heritage and decorative arts.

Members take part in a lively selection of outings, lectures, conferences, tours and social events, together with publications and conservation education programmes. Members are also entitled to free or concessionary access to historic houses and properties throughout Ireland.

Support our work by becoming a member today!

Student membership / €15

Individual membership / €60

Family membership / €90

Patron / €350

Benefactor / €2,000

Join today through our website ([www.igs.ie](http://www.igs.ie)) or contacting Róisín Lambe, Membership and Events Administrator ([roisin.lambe@igs.ie](mailto:roisin.lambe@igs.ie)) or by calling +353 (01) 679 8675.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Irish Georgian Society gratefully acknowledges the support of our donors and the organisations below for the *Exhibiting Art in Georgian Ireland* exhibition.



THE APOLLO FOUNDATION

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CATALOGUE EDITORS: Dr David Fleming,  
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Zoë Coleman  
Beth Dater  
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Michael Kerrigan  
William Laffan  
Michael Wall

Cover image: Henry Brooke (1738-1806)  
*The Continnence of Scipio*  
National Gallery of Ireland