

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 15 November 2004

REPORT ON: Exhibition at McManus Galleries

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 749-2004

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform committee of the forthcoming exhibition “The Artist and the Thinker : John Duncan and Patrick Geddes in Dundee” and its supporting programme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the content of this report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The estimated cost of mounting the exhibition is £8,000 which can be met from the Leisure and Arts Department’s Revenue Budget 2004/2005.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The project supports the principles “opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are available to all” and “access to the skills, knowledge and information needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society”.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The project enhances the position of cultural and heritage resources for all age groups.
- 5.2 The project provides opportunities for people of all ages regardless of ability, social background, race, sex of disadvantage.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

- 6.1 The exhibition will run in the McManus Galleries from Sunday 28 November 2004 to Sunday 30 January 2005.
- 6.2 The exhibition is being organised jointly by the McManus Galleries in collaboration with the University of Dundee. It celebrates the 150th anniversary of Patrick Geddes (1854-1932) and examines his influential relationship with John Duncan, born Dundee 1866, one of the city’s most illustrious artists.
- 6.3 Geddes has been described as “*one of the greatest Scottish minds of his age*”. A scientist, town planner and cultural champion, he was Professor of Botany at Dundee University for 30 years.

- 6.4 John Duncan emerged as the leading Scottish painter working in the Celtic Revival movement, which owed much to Geddes. His masterpiece of tempera painting, "The Riders of the Sidhe", was presented to Dundee Art Galleries in 1912. It will be a focal point in the exhibition
- 6.5 Other notable artists in the Dundee art scene of 'Circa 1900', Stewart Carmichael and George Dutch Davidson, are also featured in the exhibition.
- 6.6 The Events Programme. Two guided tours of the exhibition by the joint curators are scheduled for 1 and 7 December at 1pm. Clara Young will discuss the work of John Duncan while Matthew Jarron will talk about the career of Patrick Geddes.
A one-day seminar on the theme of "Art in Dundee circa 1900" will be organised at Dundee University on Saturday 22 January 2005. To be followed by a reception at the McManus Galleries.
- 6.7 The exhibition will be opened by Dr Michael Shea, John Duncan's godson, at a morning reception to be held on Saturday 27 November.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have all been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None

**STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE and ARTS
19 NOVEMBER 2004**