

The darkest hour is just before the dawn:

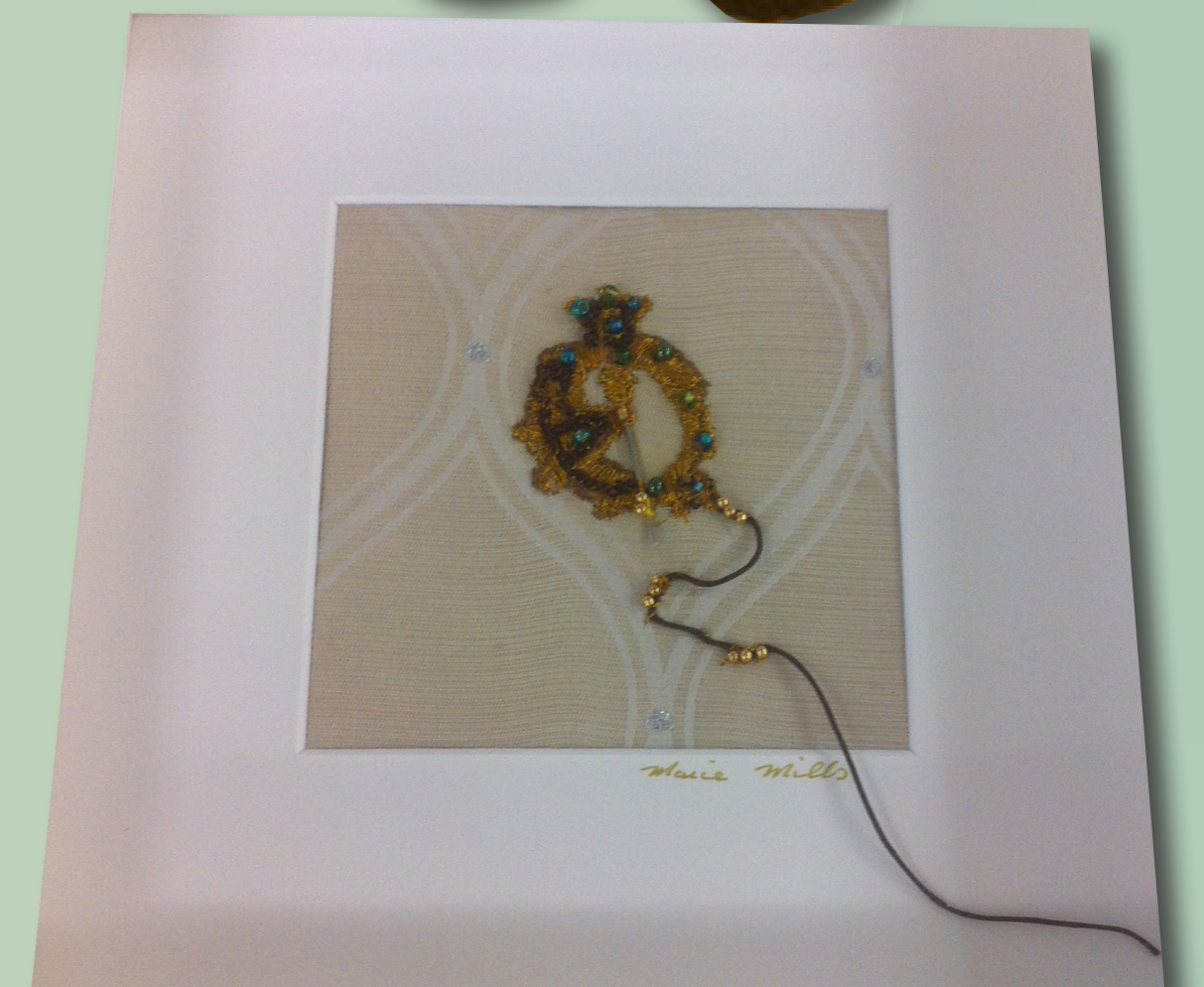
An exhibition of art works inspired by the 1916 Rising

Central to this exhibition and the collaborative process that it evolved from, was a mutual desire to build and strengthen links between the National Museum of Ireland – Decorative Arts & History and the participating local, community based, adult art groups.

The Community Exhibition, *The darkest hour is just before the dawn*, supported and promoted the work of the adult learning community in the area local to the Museum. The groups engaged with were the HACE Daughters of Charity Services and the Phibsboro art group. In reaching out to these groups, the Museum aims to build on our links, as a National Cultural Institution, with local adult art education groups. The provision of a national platform for the display of artworks created by members of art groups in the area local to the Museum is intended to publically acknowledge this relationship.

By giving over space to the exhibition of the art works produced by these groups, the Museum was not just reaching out, but inviting them in. In doing so we aim to acknowledge the Museum as a public space, not just as a place to visit to look at exhibitions, but as a place to inhabit and own.

For more information on this project contact Eimir O'Brien, the Education and Outreach Department, National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History Collins Barracks, at eobrien@museum.ie



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