

# Exhibition and book draw on artists' views

THE exhibition, Focus on Drawing, An Anthology of Visual Thinking and Feeling, (at the Crawford Gallery, Cork, to May 5), consists of drawings by artists and designers who teach at the Crawford College of Art and Design, Cork; the Limerick School of Art and Design, and the National College of Art and Design, Dublin.

## Review

Alannah  
Hopkin

The exhibition, which was organised by Jil Dennis, Joe Wilson and Jim Savage, is accompanied by an anthology of writing on drawing by contemporary artists, designers, critics, curators, historians and others.

Drawing Texts, a hefty volume of over 300 pages, edited by Jim Savage, contains 53 texts on drawing. Published by Occasional Press, it is available from the Crawford Gallery, and is a real bargain, complete with illustrations, including a cover photograph by Peter Morgan.

The aim of the anthology was to gather together a range of different ideas and opinions on drawing, from those who actually make drawings, and from outside commentators, who write about drawing, or organise exhibitions of it.

Jim Savage describes his method of commissioning the pieces as blind mapping - nobody knew what anyone else was writing about, nor in what form or style.

Largely because Jim Savage approached the right people, the result is a wonderfully varied combination of opinions, personal reminiscence, confessions, manifestos, autobiography, poems, philosophy and art history.

Many of the artists, including Jim Savage and David Lilbrun, describe the sensual pleasure of moving a pencil across paper, and give a strong impression of the important place drawing holds in their lives, not just in their art practice.

Drawing Texts is enjoyable, accessible, and gives unusual insights into the working practice of some of the best contemporary artists.