

**W**ith total sales of just under €6 million, and an average sale through rate of 85 per cent, 2023 was a strong year for Whyte's of Molesworth Street.

"It has been another good year," says Ian Whyte of the Dublin auction house, but he notes that consignments were lower than in 2022. He blames this on Brexit, whereby "fewer paintings are being sent to Dublin due to the 13.5 per cent import duty", and the combined aggregate of fees and duty.

Whyte's achieved the top price in Ireland in 2023 for Jack B Yeats's *Glory to the Brave Singër*, which made €290,000; John Lavery's *Switzerland, Hazel and Alice* sold for €230,000; and Paul Henry's *Dooega, Achill Island*, achieved €155,000. Whyte notes that there was some price resistance to Paul Henry last year, with most selling at the lower estimate. However, paintings by James Humbert Craig and Frank McKelvey, whose works in the 1950s and 1960s would have commanded more than Henry's, but tanked in the recession, are beginning to rise again.