



# Crash Ensemble - Climate Action Policy & Action Plan

March 2025

## **Introduction**

Crash Ensemble is Ireland's leading new music ensemble; a group of world-class musicians who play the most adventurous, ground-breaking music of today.

Led by cellist and Artistic Director, Kate Ellis and Principal Conductor, Ryan McAdams, the ensemble commissions, collaborates, explores, investigates and experiments with a broad spectrum of music creators and artistic collaborators. We love to innovate, with quality always at the heart of everything we do. We are passionate about the music we play. We create experiences; exploring new ways of presenting music and bringing our audiences on new adventures.

Community for us is key – our community inspires us to create and experiment more. We value our audiences and our connection with them.

Crash perform both in Ireland and internationally. Our music is available on our label, Crash Records as well as on Nonesuch, Cantaloupe, NMC, Ergodos and Bedroom Community labels.

## **Context**

Crash Ensemble is an internationally recognised performing ensemble. We currently operate from our home at the National Concert Hall in Dublin where our offices and storage facilities are based. It is also our primary location for rehearsals. As a performing ensemble operating within this context, we are mindful of the NCH's Climate Action Road Map in our day to day operations.

As a performing ensemble, we perform in Dublin across a variety of venues and locations as well as nationally and internationally, partnering with programmers, festivals and venues.

Touring, both nationally and internationally, is a challenge for an island-based, performing ensemble in the context of climate action. Despite these challenges and barriers, we endeavour to set out areas for improvement and growth, as we fundamentally believe that this will contribute to a better long term future for everyone.

In recent years, Crash has identified programming opportunities to highlight the topics of environment and sustainability. We have programmed work such as Liza Lim's *Extinction Events & Dawn Chorus* (Irish premiere at the National Concert Hall, Dublin as part of Crash 25 in December 2023).

Under our Crash Works programme, 7 Postcard pieces by Maeve Kelly, Jenn Kirby, Dani Larkin, Neil O'Connor, Paul Scully, Michael Sullivan and Emmelle Wadding premiered at Kilkenny Arts Festival 2024 and 5 new commissions by Crash Works creators Tim Doyle, Aoife King, Aleks

Nisse, Cathal O’Riordan and Lara Weaver will premiere at New Music Dublin in 2025. Each of these new commissions explores the ideas of our relationship to the environment, sustainability and climate action.

### **Climate Commitment**

Crash Ensemble recognises the impact of climate change on a global scale and we are committed to playing our part in reducing the environmental impact of our work. We want to be part of the solution and are committed to working with our stakeholders - staff, board, musicians, composers & artists, audiences, funders and our wide network of collaborators - to realise this.

### **Aims and Objectives**

- Measure the environmental impact of our work to understand the baseline from which we operate.
- Develop an Action Plan in consultation with our team for implementation from 2025 onward.
- Identify ways to effectively reduce our impact and integrate these into our Action Plan.
- Be a leader in our field by developing sustainable approaches to our work.
- Champion and advocate for agreed climate targets with our partners and stakeholders.
- To appoint a climate action champion on our team who will be responsible for oversight of action plan.

### **Priorities**

Touring and Performance - to adopt sustainable models of touring reducing our impact and working with partners to adopt sustainable models of performance.

Company Culture and Operations - to embed sustainability into our workplace culture and to reduce our impact in areas such as energy, waste and digital impact.

Monitoring and Evaluation - to monitor and evaluate the progress of our actions and to evaluate this data and information to feed into the future development of our action plan.

### **Review and Monitoring**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors and updated as needed.

## Crash Ensemble Climate Action Plan 2025-2027

Action	Desired Outcome
Climate action champion appointed.	Internal advocate overseeing action plan progress.
Measure our baseline over the period of a full cycle of performances and artistic activities to understand our current position and carbon impact.	Clarity on our baseline enabling us to make informed decisions about future actions.
Implement changes in performance practices and artistic activities to reduce our carbon impact.	Reduce our carbon footprint.
Create a list of ideas/suggestions to encourage greener participation in our activities such as rehearsals and performances and include this information as standard in our internal communications.	Embed sustainability into our internal communications.
Review our standard technical rider to incorporate areas for improvement and ways to reduce our carbon footprint.	Sustainable work practices.
Devise a way of working with programming partners to incorporate climate action into performance opportunities and audience engagement.	Sustainable approaches to performances.
Focus on ensuring ensemble activities are programmed in such a way that will maximise resources and reduce environmental impact.	Sustainable approaches to scheduling. Reduce carbon impact.
Continue our commitment to producing digital programme notes for performances and events.	Reduced waste.
Identify ways that we can reduce our environmental impact in terms of waste and energy within our office context.	Sustainable working practices.

Implement methods of reducing our environmental impact in terms of waste and energy within our office context.	Reduced waste. Reduced energy consumption.
Create a database of preferred suppliers who offer sustainable options and have sustainability embedded into their ethos and use this database as a guide for future purchases.	Sustainable work practices.
Assess our digital file storage and identify areas for improvement so as to reduce our cloud storage requirements.	Sustainable working practices.
Implement changes to our digital file storage to reduce our cloud storage requirements.	Reduced energy consumption.

<b>CREATED</b> DATE: March 2025 BY: SC	<b>APPROVED</b> DATE: March 2025 BY: Board	<b>LATEST REVIEW</b> DATE: March 2025 BY: CEO/Board	<b>REVIEW DUE</b> DATE: March 2026 BY: CEO/Board
<b>DISTRIBUTED TO</b> (SIGNED AS READ AND UNDERSTOOD)	<b>BOARD</b>		