

Cúirt

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE
FÉILE IDIRNÁISIÚNTA LITRÍOCHTA
17th - 24th APRIL 2016

"ALL WATER HAS
PERFECT MEMORY
AND IS FOREVER TRYING
TO GET BACK TO
WHERE IT WAS."



FUNDING PARTNERS



BUSINESS PARTNERS



Charlie Byrne's BOOKSHOP





CULTUREFOX.IE

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CULTUREFOX

The Arts Council's new, upgraded **CULTUREFOX** events guide is now live. Free, faster, easy to use – and personalised for you. Never miss out again.



Dani Gill (photo: Boyd Challenger)

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

In what is an historic year for Ireland, we explore looking back, assessing the present and questioning legacy. As Galway aims for Capital of Culture, and as Cúirt enters a new season, we find ourselves celebrating what we have and imagining something greater.

Cúirt naturally crosses borders, inviting writers from over 20 countries to take part annually, giving voice to unfamiliar cultures and connecting people through words.

It is with great pleasure that we anticipate another spring of events and welcome you, our audience to experience debate, laughter, learning and reflection.

Dani Gill
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR
@TheeDaniMagic

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Festival Director: **Dani Gill**
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CONTENTS

AR CHÚIRT SECTION	04	SPOKEN WORD PLATFORM	35
ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE	06	PETINA GAPPAN - THE BOOK OF MEMORY	36
THEATRE	07	SIMON VAN BOOY & HOLLIE MCNISH	37
FILM	09	AN EVENING WITH TOBIAS WOLFF	38
SONGS FROM A ROOM	10	GRANTA IRELAND LAUNCH	39
CÚIRT IN THE LATIN QUARTER	13	POEMS FOR PATIENCE LAUNCH	40
WORKSHOPS	14	KIRSTY LOGAN & JOANNA WALSH	41
HISTORY WARS:		MIRIAM TOEWS	42
POLITICS IN AMERICAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS	16	DÓNAL RYAN & CHARLES BOCK	43
SHOW UP & SHOW OFF	16	MISE RAIFTEARAÍ AN FÍODÓIR FOCAL	44
CÚIRT LABS	17	KEVIN BARRY & PATRICK DE WITT	45
POETRY TRAIL	21	ATHENA FARROKHZAD, SELINA NWULU, & REBECCA PERRY	46
OFFICIAL OPENING	22	LESLIE JAMISON	47
SHARING THE WORLD LAUNCH	23	JOSHUA FERRIS & LISA MCINERNEY	48
BLERINA ROGOVA GAXHA, POLONA GLAVAN & BREDA WALL RYAN	24	LOUISE O'NEILL & RACHEL B. GLASER	49
NEBOJSA LUJANOVI, KORANA SERDAREVI & RAFIQ KATHWARI	25	JENNIFER JOHNSTON & BELINDA MCKEON	50
CÚIRT SEISÚIN/JOE BOSKE NIGHT	27	RITA ANN HIGGINS, COLETTE BRYCE, KAREN SOLIE	51
LAUNCH OF BONE FIRE BY SUSAN MILLAR DUMARS	28	MIKE MCCORMACK & JOHN BANVILLE	53
PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD (IRISH RADIO PLAY)	29	MNÁ 2016 AT CÚIRT	54
LEABHAR NA HÁTHGHABHÁLA (POEMS OF REPOSSESSION)	30	CÚIRT LITERARY BRUNCH	55
CÚIRT/OVER THE EDGE NEW WRITING SHOWCASE	31	PANEL EVENT, WOMEN AND OBJECTS	56
ROPES LITERARY JOURNAL LAUNCH	32	FAR FROM LITERATURE WE WERE REARED	59
POETRY IRELAND & CÚIRT BURSARY	32	BOOKING INFORMATION	60
OF THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE PEOPLE: ROBERT PINSKY & NATASHA TRETHERWEY	33	GENERAL INFORMATION	62
OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION	33		
INTO THE VOID - INTO BEING, INTO FEELING	34		

20
16

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WRITERS' WOODLAND AT TERRYLAND FOREST PARK

Galway's Terryland Forest Park was the largest urban neighbourhood forest project in Ireland when planting commenced in January 2000 with 120 acres zoned by Galway City Council for a new woodland and riverine park. Since then over 100,000 native Irish trees have been planted by the people and schools of Galway, creating an expansive natural habitat for a wide variety of flora and fauna. Cúirt initiated a Writers' Woodland in the forest park in 2013 and now, as part of the annual Cúirt festival, visiting writers plant trees in Terryland, adding new leaves to the festival narrative.



READ ME, I'M YOURS

Each year a number of copies of visiting authors books are dropped in various locations around Galway city where people can pick them up and read them. Each book has a flyer inside that gives the date and time of the authors' reading so that those intrigued by what they read can then go along to the event. This year books will be left at cafés, pubs and hotel foyers in the months of March and April.



KITCHEN READINGS

For the past five years, Cúirt in association with the Galway Library Service have hosted Kitchen Readings. These are informal gatherings of poets and musicians in homes across Galway, offering an intimate and fun experience to neighbours and friends. This year the Rape Crisis Centre in Galway City will also be hosting a Kitchen Reading. Participating in the kitchen readings this year will be: Aindrias de Staic and Clare Murphy.

ONE BOOK ONE GALWAY

The 2015 One Book One Galway is Gary Paulsen's *Hatchet*, published in 1987. It is the first novel of five in the Hatchet series. The novel explores the themes of survival and endurance and what it means to be human, all through the eyes of the main character, 13 year old Brian Robeson.

The project is run by the Home School community liaison service from Galway City schools and the Galway City Library service and will see over 500 children from both primary and post-primary schools in Galway taking part this year. The aim of One Book is to bring children together for a community wide reading experience to help develop appreciation for reading as the gateway that makes all other learning possible.

For further information on One Book Please Contact: Westside Library. 091 520616



PLAQUE UNVEILINGS

For a number of years Cúirt has unveiled plaques around Galway at different locations linked to writing about Galway.

The prose and poetry collections cast onto bronze or carved into stone, are on display through out the city providing a literary trail for locals and visitors. Each plaque is made possible with the support of Galway City Council in conjunction with Kenny's Bookshop. This year two plaques will be added to the collection:

The first, *Margadh* by Máire Holmes, will be unveiled on Tuesday April 19th at 4pm outside Geraghty's on Lombard Street.

The second, *Galway Bay* by Arthur Colohan, (with an Irish translation and a French translation by Joseph Gilmartin) will be unveiled on the promenade directly opposite the aquarium on Wednesday April 20th at 1pm.

This year Cúirt will be introducing an Artist in Residence, a Storyteller in Residence and a Musician in Residence who will be performing in various venues throughout the festival.

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

THE RESIDENTS FOR 2016 ARE:



CLARE MUIREANN MURPHY (STORYTELLER IN RESIDENCE)

Performer, writer and curiosist, Clare celebrates her tenth year this year storytelling. Originally from Dublin, Clare has lived in America, Spain and now London. She has performed the world over from Brazil to Oslo. She has frequented great stages such as The Globe Theatre, The National Theatre and Soho Theatre in London, as well as touring once a year around the US.

She teaches, collaborates, colludes, consults, and trains in storytelling. Clare teaches storytelling, leads creative workshops, and is a guest lecturer at universities around London and the US. She was awarded the Social Entrepreneurship Ireland award in 2007 for her work with storytelling and marginalised communities.

Clare is a deftly physical performer, playing with her typical wit and verve in the space between audience and story.



AINDRIAS DE STAIC (MUSICIAN IN RESIDENCE)

Aindrias de Staic is a much-loved TV presenter, Comic Actor, Film-maker & Storyteller but he is first and foremost a musician.

Since completing his MA (Hons) in Community Music in University Limerick he has taught, toured and jammed with a variety of musicians & musical styles in a variety of projects across the globe. He has scored music for Award winning films and he features regularly on screen and stage internationally.

Wildly original, worldly, enthralling and slightly enigmatic, Aindrias is a captivating and diverse performer who will leave audiences amused and confused, delighted and bewildered and creatively fuelled with his explosive, infectious energy. Drawing on the history and mystery of life in the West of Ireland Aindrias continues to perform with a Wild Atlantic Wallop of energy, wit and passion.

ED HODGKINSON (ARTIST IN RESIDENCE)

Ed Hodgkinson currently lives and works in London. He has exhibited widely, both in London and internationally, showing in New York, LA, Tokyo, Cape Town, Stockholm, Hong Kong and Reykjavik. He studied at Camberwell College of Art and is represented by galleries in London and Cape Town. Hodgkinson is a painter whose work is fundamentally concerned with drawing. Working from life, he takes the qualities found in line drawing - spontaneity, simplicity, abbreviation & experiment, and incorporates them directly into his painting. The drawn line acting as a stream of consciousness... or as Erika Naginski describes it '...an activity that exemplifies an imagination in flux'.



april 21st & 22nd
thursday & friday 3pm
NUNS ISLAND THEATRE
tickets €10

WHAT FOREMOTHERS?

In 1992, Irish poet Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill asked this question in response to the suggestion that female Irish poets have “a long healthy chain of foremothers” available to them. She could well have been forgiven for doing so, as the project of nation-building in the early days of the Irish State played a huge role in the construction of a male-dominated literary canon. It is only in recent years that the erasure and cultural depreciation of female voices has begun to be redressed. A whole segment of poetic lineage that our culture could be drawing on has been wiped out.

This ensemble performance deals with a group of female poets writing in the early decades of the Irish State. It gives voice to experiences that have long been stifled, and questions what a canon is - a pantheon of literary treasures judged solely by artistic merit? Or a sustained political project that marches the idea of ‘nationhood’ forward? What has been lost? And more importantly, why?

Directed by Sarah O’Toole and produced in tandem with #wakingthefeministswest, a student-led theatre initiative supported by NUI Galway’s Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance.

Performed by: Megan D. Vine, Sarah-Jane Scott, Sarah Healy, Yvette Picque, Unamaya Kennedy, Lucy Heaney.

*Photograph credit - Mark Conlon.



april 18th - 23rd
monday - saturday 8pm
GALWAY ARTS CENTRE
tickets €15/€12

THE CENTRE FOR
DRAMA & THEATRE
PERFORMANCE
NUI GALWAY &
GALWAY ARTS CENTRE
PRESENT

'SOME GIRLS' BY NEIL LA BUTE

Your career as a writer is blossoming, your beautiful young fiancée is waiting to get married and rush off to Cancun by your side - so what is your natural reaction?

Well if you're a man, it's probably to get nervous and start calling up old girlfriends. So begins a single mans odyssey through five hotel rooms as he flies across the country in search of the perfect woman (whom he's already broken up with). 'Some Girls' is outrageously funny and yet a deadly serious portrait of the artist as a young seducer as he wanders through the heart of darkness that is himself.

Directed by Andrew Flynn

THE CENTRE FOR DRAMA & THEATRE
PERFORMANCE NUI GALWAY
& GALWAY ARTS CENTRE PRESENT



'OUR TEACHER'S A TROLL' BY DENNIS KELLY

april 19th - 23rd / tuesday - saturday
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY 10AM & 12PM,
THURSDAY 9.30AM
SATURDAY 10AM & 3PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE
tickets €10

Once, there were two terrible twins called Holly and Sean, they had a talent for turmoil and ruled their school with terror and tyranny. That is, until the arrival of a new Head Teacher with green scaly skin, sharp gnarly fangs, and a long spiky tail... For you see, the new Head Teacher was - a Troll. Can Holly and Sean save the day and stop the Troll from eating their classmates and teachers? Can they get brussel sprouts in peanut butter taken off the lunch menu? And most importantly, can naughtiness prevail? Come and find out and be outrageously entertained!

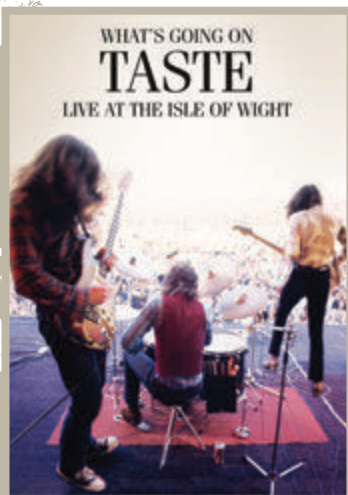
From Dennis Kelly, the writer of award-winning West End show Matilda the Musical.
Directed by Andrew Flynn

FÍS NA FUISEOIGE

Manglam de chroí agus cloigeann atá i bhFís na Fuisioige, scrúdaítear an ceangal idir an Duine agus an Dúthaigh, mar a léirítear i bhfilíocht agus seanchas áitiúil na Gaeilge ó ré na bpágánach i leith. Siad na filí finnéithe na staire, traidisiún liteartha gan bhriseadh, an traidisiún is ársa ar oileán na hÉireann.

Fís na Fuisioige is a heady blend of heart and head, celebration of place in poetry is traced from pagan Ireland through to modern times. In an unbroken Irish tradition, the poets as historical witnesses, act as spokespersons of the oldest and deepest-rooted culture on the island.

april 23rd
saturday 11am
AN TAIBHDHEARG
tickets €8



Chairperson: Tony Clayton-Lea is a freelance journalist who writes mostly on music and pop culture for *The Irish Times*. He is Chairman of the Judging Panel of the Choice Music Prize, Ireland's most prestigious music awards event.

april 23rd saturday 3pm
RÓISÍN DUBH tickets €10

TASTE WHAT'S GOING ON LIVE AT THE ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL 1970

This film tells the story of Ireland's seminal rock band Taste, formed in Cork in 1966 by Rory Gallagher. Taste had a brief but influential career, releasing two studio albums in 1969 and 1970 and disbanding shortly after their legendary appearance at the 1970 Isle of Wight Festival, which is the centrepiece of this film. The core of "What's Going On" is the band's performance at the festival on August 28th but it is encapsulated by a documentary on the history and importance of Taste, featuring contributions from Rory's brother and Taste road manager Donal Gallagher, Brian May (Queen), The Edge (U2), Bob Geldof and renowned guitarist Larry Coryell.

There will be an interview and Q&A with Dónal Gallagher after the film viewing.



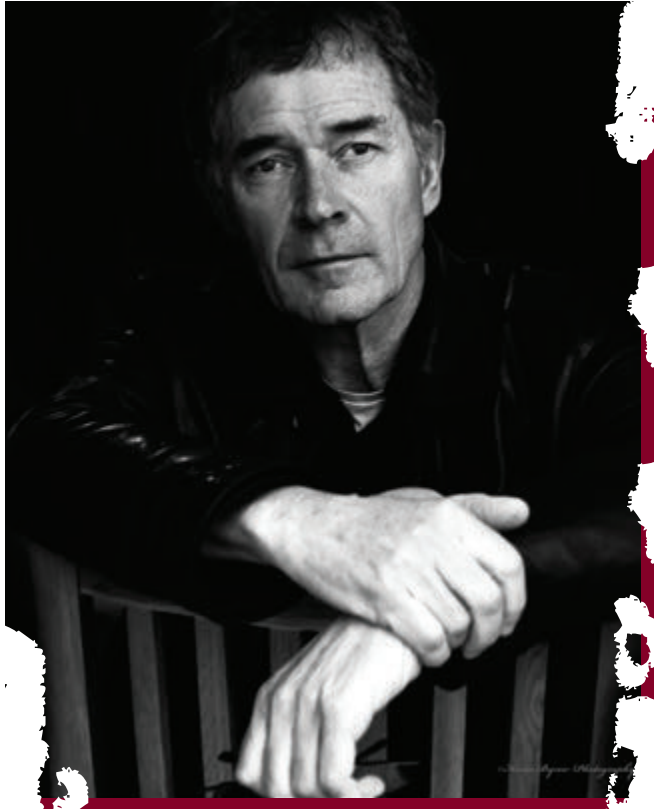
SONGS FROM A ROOM
TRACY BRUEN

april 23rd
saturday 1pm
RUBY ROOM,
KING'S HEAD
tickets €12

Tracy Bruen, *Galway Advertiser's* solo artist of the year 2015, has been writing and gigging her original music since 2013. She has played electric picnic, Body and Soul and Killarney-Festival and supported or shared the stage with such artists as the West Cork Ukulele Orchestra and Mick Flannery. Her EP, "Play Outside the Lines" was released to critical acclaim in 2014 and she and her band are currently recording their debut album.

"With a stunning vocal range and a theatrical bent, multi-instrumentalist Tracy Bruen blends indie folk with wistful blues to tug the heartstrings and inspire the mind".- Electric Picnic 2014.

*"One of the foremost voices on the Galway scene."
- Connaught Tribune*



Johnny Duhan started his career as a fifteen year old front man with Granny's Intentions, the most popular beat group in Ireland in the 60s. After rousing Dublin with their soul touch, they moved to London, were signed to the prestigious Deram label, enjoyed considerable success and then disbanded. Johnny started writing folk songs, poetry and prose. In a career spanning 50 years, his greatest achievement is a quartet of epic albums - *Just Another Town*, *To The Light*, *The Voyage* and *Flame* - which correspond to the four chapters of his lyrical autobiography, *To The Light*. Johnny's songs are sung worldwide in a variety of languages, thanks to the focus put on them by Christy Moore, The Dubliners, Mary Black and hosts of other Irish and international singers. His song *The Voyage* has become a modern classic. Christy Moore has termed Johnny "One of our greatest songwriters." And the late Ronnie Drew described him as "one of my favourite songwriters."

SONGS FROM A ROOM
JOHNNY DUHAN

april 22nd
friday 1pm
RUBY ROOM,
KING'S HEAD
tickets €12

april 21st
thursday 1pm
RUBY ROOM,
KING'S HEAD
tickets €12

SONGS FROM A ROOM

DAVY CARTON
& LEO MORAN

Two great performers offer a special concert in the intimacy of the Ruby Room.

"Davy Carton and Leo Moran have a sharp eye for mixed emotions and lyric detail, which they marry to bouncy melodies. They lionize Ireland's "N17" in much the same way Bobby Troup once celebrated America's "Route 66", but Carton and Moran are smart enough to balance the romance of the road with an acknowledgement of the price it demands.

In "To Win Just Once" they have crafted an anthem for losers of the world, and in "Same Oul' Town", they have mixed affection and frustration in their portrait of their provincial hometown."

- **The Washington Post.**

The Saw Doctors offer wistfulness, humor, and small town nostalgia... the details are homey, self-effacing and proudly local. - **The New York Times**





This year Cúirt will stage pop up events in Galway's Latin Quarter, featuring music, song and words at these locations:

CÚIRT IN THE LATIN QUARTER

April 19th - 22nd

Tuesday 19th, 11am

Charlie Byrnes Bookshop

Wednesday 20th, 11am

House Hotel

Wednesday 20th, 4pm

Sonny's, High Street

Thursday 21st, 11am

Judy Greenes, Kirwan's Lane

Thursday 21st, 4pm

Tig Neachtain

Friday 22nd, 11am

Cúpan Tae, Spanish Parade

Friday 22nd, 4pm

McDonagh's Fish & Chip Shop,
Quay Street



EDITING FICTION WITH DECLAN MEADE

april 21st
thursday 10am - 12noon
tickets €25

Declan Meade is publisher and founding editor of *The Stinging Fly* magazine and Editor and Publisher with Stinging Fly Press. Since 2005 he has published debut short story collections by Kevin Barry, Michael J. Farrell, Mary Costello, Colin Barrett, Claire-Louise Bennett, Danielle McLaughlin and he has edited a number of anthologies, including *These Are Our Lives*, *Let's Be Alone Together* and *Davy Byrnes Stories*.

In this two-hour session, Declan will talk about his experiences as an editor and publisher with a focus on the editorial process. He will answer questions about what writers need to consider before submitting work for publication and what happens during the move from manuscript to published story or book.



FICTION WORKSHOP WITH SIMON VAN BOOY

FROM FIRST LINE
TO FINISHED BOOK

april 22nd
friday 9.30am - 11.30am
tickets €25

Simon Van Booy is the author of *The Secret Lives of People in Love*, *Love Begins in Winter*, *Everything Beautiful Began After*, and *The Illusion of Separateness*. His latest collection of stories, *Tales of Accidental Genius*, was published in November 2015, and a new novel, *Father's Day*, was released in February 2016.

Simon teaches part-time at the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan, and frequently hosts creative writing courses. In 2013 he founded Writers for Children, a project which helps young people build confidence in their literary abilities through annual writing awards. His fiction has been translated into seventeen languages. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife and daughter.



POETRY MASTERCLASS

WITH **KAREN SOLIE**

april 22nd
friday 9.30am
MEYRICK HOTEL
tickets €25

Karen Solie was born in Canada in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and now lives in Toronto. She initially wanted a career as a vet but dropped that plan to pursue her writing. Her first collection *Short Haul Engine* came out in 2011, and was awarded the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize. In 2005 she published *Modern and Normal*, which was shortlisted for the Trillium Book Award for Poetry. *Pigeon*, published by Anansi in 2009, won her the Canadian Griffin Poetry Prize, Pat Lowther Award and Trillium Book Award for Poetry. Her poems have been published across Canada, in the US, UK, and Europe, and have been translated into French, German, Korean and Dutch. *The Living Option: Selected Poems*, was published by Bloodaxe Books in 2013—new poems in the Bloodaxe UK edition have been published in Canada in *The Road In Is Not The Same Road Out* (Anansi, 2015). Karen Solie is Associate Director for the Banff Centre's Writing Studio program in Banff, Alberta.

Uncertainty is a source of power in poetry. Through writing, experiment, and discussion, this workshop will explore ways to attend to it.

april 21st
thursday 5pm
G011,
James Hardiman
Library,
NUI GALWAY

HISTORY WARS: POLITICS IN AMERICAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS

**PROFESSOR
JERRY GRISWOLD**
SAN DIEGO
STATE UNIVERSITY

Keeping in mind Ireland's celebrations of the Irish Rising of 1916, Jerry Griswold will examine how the Right and the Left claim ownership of the American Revolution. And he will explain something curious: How this battle is being fought in the arena of children's books.

A former professor at San Diego State University and a one-time lecturer at NUIG, Griswold is a specialist in American children's literature and the author of seven books. He is also a frequent contributor to the *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times*.

*This is a talk about children's books for adults. While some teenagers might find it accessible it is not suitable for children.



SHOW UP & SHOW OFF

**PRESENTED BY
GALWAY YOUTH ARTS ALLIANCE**
SIOBHÁN PARKINSON IN CONVERSATION
WITH PATRICIA FORDE



april 23rd
saturday 7pm
FORÓIGE YOUTH CAFE
FAIRGREEN

Siobhán Parkinson

Siobhán Parkinson has been writing for children and teenagers for more than twenty years and has published dozens of books, the best known of which is *Sisters — No Way!* Her most recent books for teenagers are *Bruised* and *Heart-Shaped*.

She was Ireland's first Laureate for Children's Literature (2010-12) and is also a translator, editor and publisher. She lived in Loughrea, where she has family connections, as a child, and for one year in Galway city, where she attended Scoil Íde.

Patricia Forde

Patricia Forde lives in Galway. She has written many books and television programmes for children and young people in Irish and in English. Her first novel, *The Wordsmith*, was published in May 2015 to wide critical acclaim and won a White Raven award from the International Youth Library. She has worked as a writer on both English and Irish language soap operas. In another life, she was a primary school teacher and the artistic director of Galway Arts Festival. In her spare time, she collects vintage children's books and reads them late at night.

The Galway Youth Arts Alliance is a youth-led non-profit arts organisation for secondary level students in Galway.



Each year Cúirt Labs engages children and young people from Galway City and County in various workshops, talks, readings and debates with artists from all disciplines. This year artist Shona Shirley MacDonald has transformed Galway Arts Centre into a midnight circus where children and teenagers will meet writers, a musician and some circus performers. Cúirt Labs will also make a trip to Furbo National School where storyteller Clare Muireann Murphy will take over a class for the morning.



Shona Shirley MacDonald

Shona Shirley MacDonald is an artist originally from Aberdeen, Scotland, though currently based in Co. Waterford, Ireland. She studied Visual Communication at Edinburgh College of Art where she specialised in stop-motion animation. She currently works as an illustrator and past projects include illustration for comics, poetry, short stories, murals, textile design and concept art. She has had solo shows in the Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre in Limavady in August 2014 and the Riverbank Arts Centre, Kildare, 2016. She is a member of the Illustrators Guild of Ireland.



Aistear @ Cúirt Labs

This year Cúirt Labs is working with Junior and Senior Infants from Scoil Chroí Íosa in Galway City who are currently participating the Aistear programme. Aistear is an early years programme that assists children in becoming competent and confident learners. Participants focus on real-world scenarios and using different play strategies explore language, identity, belonging and well-being. Cúirt Labs has worked with Scoil Chroí Íosa on the theme 'A Visit to a Book Festival'. The three week project culminates in a trip to Cúirt Labs to meet a writer.



Juno Dawson

Queen of Teen 2014 Juno Dawson - formerly known as James - is the multi award-winning author of dark teen thrillers *Hollow Pike*, *Cruel Summer*, *Say Her Name* and *Under My Skin*. In 2015, she released her first contemporary romance, *All Of The Above*. In 2016, she will author one of the World Book Day titles: *Spot The Difference*.

Her first non-fiction book, *Being A Boy* tackled puberty, sex and relationships in a frank and funny fashion. A follow up for young LGBT people, *This Book Is Gay* came out in 2014. This year, there will be a new non-fiction title, *Mind Your Head*, everything a young person needs to know about mental health. Juno's titles have received rave reviews and have been translated into more than ten languages around the world.



Simon Van Booy

Simon Van Booy is the author of *The Secret Lives of People in Love*, *Love Begins in Winter*, *Everything Beautiful Began After*, and *The Illusion of Separateness*. His latest collection of stories, *Tales of Accidental Genius*, was published in November 2015, and a new novel, *Father's Day*, was released in February 2016.

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His fiction has been translated into seventeen languages. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife and daughter.



Selina Nwulu

Selina Nwulu is a writer, poet and researcher for a think tank. She has written for a number of outlets such as *The Guardian*, *Red Pepper*, the Free Word Centre and *Sable* litmag.

Her work has been published in a variety of magazines and anthologies including collections by the RSA, Lunar Poetry, and Emma Press. She has performed at a number of festivals including Glastonbury, Edinburgh Fringe and Fiery Tongues Festival in Holland. She has previously toured nationally with Apples and Snakes, representing London as part of the 'Public Address II tour'

Her work often touches on social and environmental justice as well as identity, nostalgia and belonging. Her first chapbook collection, *The Secrets I Let Slip*, published by Burning Eye Books is out now. She is currently Young Poet Laureate for London 2015/6. *Burning Eye Books* is out now.



Charles Bock

Charles Bock is the author of the novel *Beautiful Children*, which was a *New York Times* bestseller and Notable Book, and which won the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Harper's*, *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *Slate*, as well as in numerous anthologies. His new novel *Alice and Oliver*, has just been published by Random House USA. He lives with his wife, Leslie Jamison, and his daughter in New York City.



Sarah Maria Griffin

Sarah Maria Griffin is a writer from Dublin. She doesn't live in San Francisco anymore. Her nonfiction collection of essays, *Not Lost*, was published by New Island in 2013. Her first novel, *Spare and Found Parts*, is coming from Greenwillow Press this autumn. She tweets @griffski.



Improvistational Theatre Taster with members of The Sky Babies

Órla Mc Govern and Darragh O'Brien are members of The Sky Babies, a dynamic improv troupe based in Galway. They both wear many hats as performers, and appear regularly with the group and beyond. Órla is also an artistic director of Improv Fest Ireland and teaches improv globally. Improvisational theatre and comedy is an increasingly popular art form, where the contents of the performance are often created from scratch on the spot. Improv is now regularly used in professional and educational settings as a means to enable creative thinking, team building and problem solving. It has the added benefit of being massive amounts of craic!



**Youth Forum:
"Utopia: This Must Be
The Place"**

This year the Youth Forum will be facilitated by members of Red Bird Youth Arts Collective and Dani Gill's young writers group. The topic for discussion is Utopia: why is it important and is it something that can be achieved? Stemming from Red Bird's recent project Agitating Space, participants are invited to discuss how the study and interrogation of Utopia can inform daily life and creative endeavour.



Galway Community Circus
Galway Community Circus is Ireland's first dedicated youth circus. They are a charitable organisation built on fun, innovation, and a commitment to inspiring and empowering people through circus arts. Since 2002, GCC has been at the forefront of teaching circus skills to young people; helping them to discover and develop their talents, and in some cases, laying the foundation for a lifelong vocation.



Furbo Event
Cúirt Labs will return to Furbo National School after last year's successful visit from writer and illustrator Ed Vere. This year storyteller Clare Muireann Murphy will visit 3rd and 4th class.

POETRY TRAIL WITH

JOAN MCBREEN & AFRIC McGLINCHEY

Flanêurs, agus siúiloirí join us for a special Cúirt outing to the 'speckled hill' for The Letterfrack Poetry Trail. Nine specially commissioned poems by nine of Ireland's finest contemporary poets punctuate the trail. Designed by The Restoration Centre in Letterfrack, the larch-wood on slate poetry plaques connect the village, the Connemara West Centre and Connemara National Park. Guests will be treated to a guided walk of the trail and readings by Joan McBreen and Afric McGlinchey. To finish, there will be a special reception with refreshments and music.

Bus departs from the Galway Cathedral Carpark at 12noon, returning at 5pm.
An outing to leave you trailing your words!

Joan McBreen is from Sligo. She divides her time between Tuam and Renvyle, County Galway. Her publications include: *The Wind Beyond the Wall*, *A Walled Garden in Moylough* and *Winter in the Eye - New and Selected Poems*, *The White Page / An Bhileog Bhán - Twentieth-Century Irish Women Poets* (Editor), *Heather Island*, and the anthology *The Watchful Heart - A New Generation of Irish Poets - Poems and Essays*. She is a member of the Board of Poetry Ireland.



Afric McGlinchey grew up in Ireland and Africa. Her work has received a Hennessy Poetry Award, the Northern Liberties Poetry Prize and was selected for the 2014 Italo-Irish Literature Exchange and a Faber Academy Fellowship. Afric's début, *The Lucky Star of Hidden Things* (2012), was translated into Italian. Published earlier this year, *Ghost of the Fisher Cat* is her second collection from Salmon.



april
17th sunday
LETTERFRACK, CONNEMARA
12pm - 5pm
tickets €12 / €8 for U-18s or Students



april
17th sunday
 HOTEL MERRYCK
 7pm admission free

OFFICIAL OPENING
 RITA ANN HIGGINS,
 ELAINE FEENEY,
 MIKE McCORMACK,
 ST. PATRICKS BRASS BAND

Join us for the official opening of Cúirt International Festival of Literature 2016, with music from St. Patricks Brass Band and readings by Rita Ann Higgins, Elaine Feeney and Mike McCormack.

Refreshments will be provided and it promises to be a great evening.



LAUNCH

**SHARING
THE
WORLD**

Join us for the official launch of Sharing the World in Nun's Island Theatre where we will formally launch the programme of events with a reception for our guests and speakers from Galway 2020.

Sharing the World: A European Partnership Project

Cúirt International Festival of Literature, in association with Vilenica International Literary Festival, Slovenia and Festival of World Literature, Croatia present *Sharing the World: A European Partnership Project*. Under the European Commission's "Creative Europe" programme, the three festivals will combine their efforts to create a fruitful alliance sharing resources, expertise and ideas.

april 18th 12pm
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE
admission free



april
18th monday
NTN'S ISLAND
admission free
THEATRE



BLERINA ROGOVA GAXHA, POLONA GLAVAN & BREDA WALL RYAN

MODERATOR ÓRFHLAITH FOYLE

Blerina Rogova Gaxha was born in 1982 in Gjakova, Kosovo. She completed her PhD at the Faculty of Philology at the University of Prishtina. She works as Assistant Professor of Albanian Literature at the University of Gjakova, and writes for Balkan Investigative Reporting Network - BIRN Kosovo. For several years she worked as a journalist at BBC radio's office in Prishtina and was a regular columnist and editor at the national newspaper *Zëri*. She has published three poetry collections: *Gorgonë* (2009), *Kate* (2013), and *Ajo vjen nga Lindja* (2016) and was recipient of "Crystal Vilenica" prize in 2015.

Polona Glavan was born in 1974 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. She graduated from the University of Ljubljana and is active as a literary translator. Her first novel *A Night in Europe* (*Noč v Evropi*) was published in 2001 and shortlisted for the Kresnik award for best Slovenian novel of the year. Her short story collection *Gverilci* (*Guerillas*) was published in 2004 to great critical acclaim and was awarded the Zlataptica award. Her novel *Kakorkoli* (*No Matter How*) was published in 2014 and was shortlisted for the Kritiškosoito Book of the Year Award, the Kresnik Award and won the Vilenica Crystal Award in 2015.

Breda Wall Ryan grew up on a farm in County Waterford and now lives in County Wicklow. In 2013 she won the Yeats Poetry Competition, Dromineer Poetry Competition and the Over the Edge New Writer of the Year Competition. In 2014 she was selected for the Poetry Ireland Introductions Series and was awarded second place in the Patrick Kavanagh Awards. A Pushcart Prize and Forward Prize nominee, she won the Gregory O'Donoghue International Poetry Competition in 2015. Her debut collection, *In a Hare's Eye*, published by Doire Press, is currently shortlisted for the Shine/Strong Prize.

Moderator:

Órfhláith Foyle is a writer based in Galway. In 2015 she completed a writing residency in Slovenia as part of the Vilenica International Literary Festival. Her most recent short story collection *Clemency Brown Dreams of Gin* is published by Arlen House.

NEBOJSA LUJANOVIĆ, KORANA SERDAREVIĆ & RAFIQ KATHWARI

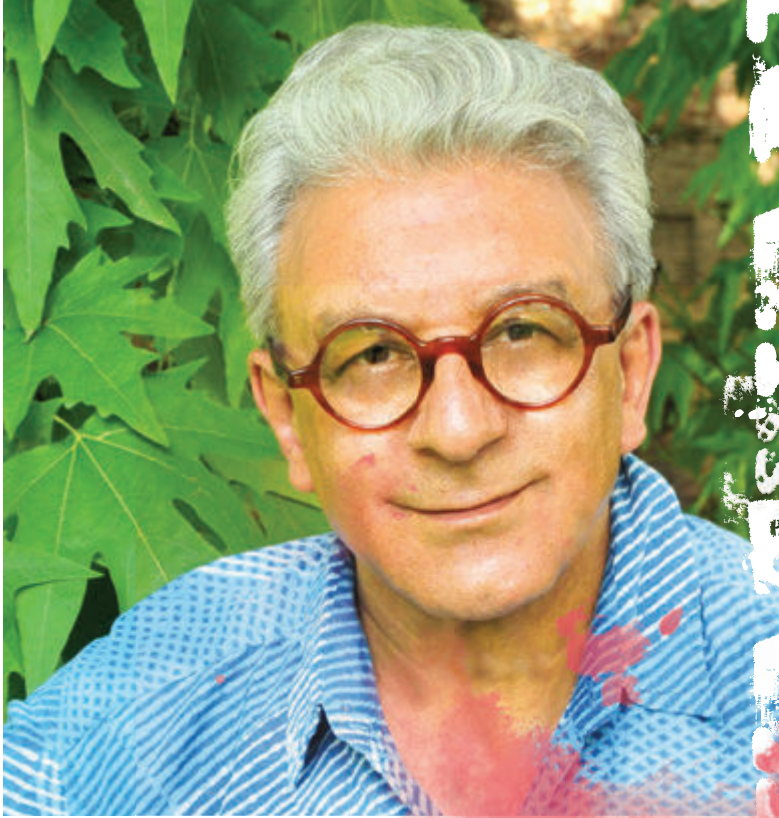


Nebojsa Lujanovic is a writer and scientist, born in 1981 in Novi Travnik, Bosnia and Herzegovina. He moved to Zagreb, Croatia as a refugee in 1992. There he graduated with a Ph.D. degree in literary theory. He is a writer, editor and lecturer in creative writing. Currently teaching Literary Theory, World Literature and Croatian Literature, he is an external Associate Professor at universities in Split and Zenica. He has published four novels and one short story collection. His most recent novel has received positive reviews in Croatia and neighbouring countries, *Oblakbojekože* (*Skin Coloured Cloud*), focuses on Roma culture and Roma holocaust.

Korana Serdarevic was born in 1982 in Zadar, Croatia. She graduated with a degree in Croatian and Comparative Literature from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb. She worked as a journalist for the culture sections of *Veernji list* and *Forum*. Since 2013, she has taught at second level and translates from English. In 2013, she won two short story awards: Ranko Marinkovi Prize for *Kravosas* and Zlatko Tomić Prize for *Ptice*. *Nema se što uiniti* (*Fraktura*, 2015) is her first short story collection.

april
18
4pm

18th Monday
MUNN'S ISLAND THEATRE
admission free



Rafiq Kathwari is the first non-Irish recipient of the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award in the forty four-year history of the award. Born in the disputed Kashmir Valley, Rafiq received an MFA in Creative Writing at Columbia University and a Masters in Political and Social Science from the New School University. He divides his time between New York City, Ballyoonan and Kashmir. *In Another Country*, published by Doire Press, is his debut collection.

april 18

6.30pm



SEISIÚN NA CÚIRTE JOE BOSKE NIGHT

april **18** th monday
6.30pm **THE CRANE BAR**
admission free

This years Cúirt session will celebrate the artist Joe Boske. Joe's designs on books, posters and album covers have become the iconic images of the West of Ireland. The session will feature compositions from "Amara", a suite of Irish music composed by Joe.

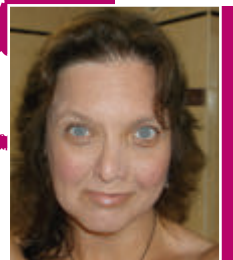
Lined up for this unique evening are musicians Máirtín O'Connor, Brendan O'Reagan, Garry O'Brian and Seán Smyth.



LAUNCH OF

BONE FIRE
BY
SUSAN MILLAR
DUMARS

april 18th monday
8pm DOCK 1, UPSTAIRS
admission free
SALMON POETRY



Bone Fire

The **bones** are the bones of the poet - integral to the landscape of her body. The bones are the spines of trees, the bone white of the moon. They belong to the hawk, the blackbird, the lion and the deer. They are, too, the bones of the dead and discarded, the martyred and maimed and the simply inconvenient. They are the bones of the forgotten, who have not forgotten us....

The **fire** is love and lust - a lover's tongue, a naked woman. It's the red stones of a canyon. The fire is the red hair of the poet's grandfather, the blood of JFK, a warehouse burning in South Philadelphia. Most of all, the fire is destruction; a torching, a bonfire, a clearing of space for whatever comes next.

Bone Fire is what we feel when *history unfolds its dark feathers*.

Bone Fire, a new collection of poetry by Susan Millar DuMars will be officially launched by Robyn Rowland.

april **19** th tuesday
8pm AN TAIBHDHEARG
tickets €12

IRISH RADIO PLAY
**PLAYBOY OF THE
WESTERN WORLD**



This musical version of John Millington Synge's 'The Playboy of The Western World' was adapted by Diarmuid De Faoite and Justin Mc Carthy and broadcast on RTE in December 2015.

This is a live staging of the radio musical complete with narrator, an ensemble of actors, a six piece band backing singers and lots and lots of live sound effects. It explores the idea of a radio musical as a theatrical event because what you see and what you hear can be very different things.

Rinne Diarmaid de Faoite agus Justin McCarthy oiriúnú ceolmhar ar an dráma "The Playboy of the Western World" le John Millington Synge agus chraolaigh RTÉ é i mí na Nollag, 2015.

Cuirfear beo ar an stáitse é le Scéalaí, Buíon Aisteoirí, Banna ceoil de sheisear, Amhránaithe agus móran imeartas fuaim. Scrúdaíonn sé an brí atá le ceoldráma raidió mar imeacht drámatúil, mar ní hionann gach a bhfeiceann tú is gach a chloiseann tú i gcónaí.

20th Wednesday
 April 20th Wednesday
 Town Hall Theatre
 admission free

Leabhar Na hAthghabhála (Poems of Repossession), edited by Irish-language poet and scholar **Louis de Paor**, is the first comprehensive and critical anthology of modern poetry in Irish with translations to English. It is a sequel to Seán Ó Tuama and Thomas Kinsella's pioneering anthology, *An Duanaire 1600-1900 (Poems of the Dispossessed)*. *Leabhar Na hAthghabhála* continues the 1981 anthology's feat by featuring many more poems that cover the work of twenty-six poets from the past century.

In this new anthology, there are poems by Pádraig Mac Piarais and Liam S. Gógán from the revival period (1893-1939); a generous selection from the work of Máirtín Ó Direáin, Seán Ó Riordáin and Máire Mhac an tSaoi who transformed writing in Irish in the decades following the Second World War; and the *Innti* poets - Michael Davitt, Liam Ó Muirthile, Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill, Cathal Ó Searcaigh, Biddy Jenkinson—and others who developed new possibilities for poetry in Irish in the 1970s and 80s. More recent poetry in Irish is represented by the work of poets such as Colm Breathnach, Gearóid Mac Lochlainn, Micheál Ó Cuaig and Áine Ní Ghlinn. Translations to English complement the Irish, with some coming from Ireland's most distinguished poets and translators including Valentine Iremonger, Michael Hartnett, Paul Muldoon, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, Bernard O'Donoghue, Maurice Riordan, Peter Sirr, David Wheatley and Mary O'Donoghue. Many translations of the poems—some commissioned for this ground-breaking anthology— have not previously been available in English, including Eoghan Ó Tuairisc's anguished response to the bombing of Hiroshima, 'Aifreann na Marbh' (*Mass for the Dead*).

LAUNCH BY
 ANTHOLOGY EDITOR
LOUIS DE PAOR

LEABHAR NA HATHGHABHÁLA POEMS OF REPOSSESSION



Presenting a critical selection of the best poetry written in Irish since 1900, this anthology challenges the extent to which writing in Irish has been underrepresented in collections of modern and contemporary Irish poetry. In his introduction, Louis de Paor argues that Irish language poetry should be evaluated according to its own rigorous aesthetic rather than as a subsidiary of the dominant Anglophone tradition of Irish writing.

Leabhar Na hAthghabhála is published with, and by Cló Iar-Chonnacht.

Highlighting emerging talent in poetry and fiction, The New Writing Showcase features readers and winners from the popular Over the Edge Literary Series in Galway and the 2015 Cúirt New Writing Prize. This event is a firm favourite amongst Cúirt audiences, and one not to be missed. Winners of the 2016 Cúirt New Writing Prize (to be announced on www.cuirt.ie) —buzzing from the joy! —will join the showcase line-up to read their winning entries.

CÚIRT/OVER THE EDGE NEW WRITING SHOWCASE



Michelle Coyne lives in Galway with her husband and two boys, and works with computer software. Michelle has published short stories in *Ropes*, *Crannóg*, *wordlegs* and *Silver Apples*. Her story 'The Sniper' won third place in the 2015 Over The Edge New Writer Competition.



Appalachian born, Dublin-based poet **Erin Fornoff** has performed her poetry at Glastonbury, Electric Picnic, and dozens of other festivals and events across the UK and Ireland. Her work has been published in *Best New English and Irish Poets 2016*, *The Stinging Fly*, *Cyphers*, and her chapbook *Folk Heroes* (Stewed Rhubarb Press) was released in 2015. Erin was selected for the 2014 Poetry Ireland Introductions Series and received a literature bursary for fiction from the Irish Arts Council. She is co-founder and Programme Director for Lingo—Ireland's first spoken word festival. She is working on a novel and a collection of poems.


Aoife Reilly is originally from Laois, but has been living in Galway since 2012. She works as a psychotherapist and teacher and has been attending Kevin Higgins's poetry workshops at Galway Arts Centre since Autumn 2013. Aoife's poetry has been published—amongst others—in *Crannóg*, *Skylight 47*, and on the *Poethead* website.


Accomplished writers, Susan Millar DuMars and Kevin Higgins of Over the Edge organise and facilitate readings, online workshops and classes for writers at all levels of development.

Visit Over The Edge for further information:
<http://overtheedgeliteraryevents.blogspot.ie>.

april
20th wednesday
5pm
TOWN HALL THEATRE
admission free

5pm admission free





JOURNAL LAUNCH
ROPES LITERARY

ROPES (Review of Postgraduate English Studies) is a literary journal produced by students of the Masters in Literature and Publishing at NUI, Galway. The theme for ROPES 2016 is 'Independence' and it commemorates the 1916 Rising. A lush landscape of writing, selected from submissions, explores what is it to lose or gain, reject or sustain independence.

ROPES 2016 will be the journal's 24th volume. All proceeds will benefit the Galway Simon Community who provide housing, support and health care services for people who have become homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless in the West of Ireland.

ROPES is purely a labour of love. It does not form part of the Master students' assessment—it is made by those who are not only passionate about literature, but creativity in all its forms.

april
 20
 5pm

th wednesday
 TOWN HALL THEATRE BAR
 admission free

**POETRY IRELAND
 & CÚIRT BURSARY**



Poetry Ireland and Cúirt are delighted to offer an emerging younger poet the opportunity to visit the festival and immerse themselves in the poetry programme. The bursary includes tickets to all events and workshops, accommodation for five nights, travel costs to Galway and a per diem.

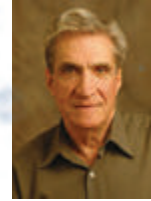
Applications are invited from those aged 35 or under who are based on the island of Ireland. To apply send a short expression of interest statement (no more than a page), outlining why your work would benefit from this support to management@poetryireland.ie by 5pm, Friday 18 March 2016.

For full details please see www.poetryireland.ie or www.cuirt.ie.

april 20th wednesday
8.30pm TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €15/€12

OF THE PEOPLE & FOR THE PEOPLE
**ROBERT PINSKY &
NATASHA TRETHEWEY**

Robert Pinsky's work has earned praise for its graceful and strong style, musicality, diversity and range. "Deciding to remember, and what to remember," Pinsky has written, "is how we decide who we are." Pinsky has published poetry collections for over 40 years, starting with *Sadness and Happiness* in 1975. *The Figured Wheel: New and Collected Poems 1966-1996* was a Pulitzer Prize finalist. He is also the author of several prose titles including: *The Life of David; Democracy, Culture, and the Voice of Poetry* (2002); *The Sounds of Poetry* (1998), and *Poetry and the World* (1988).



Throughout his career, Pinsky has been a vehement advocate for the (re)placing of poetry amongst all its people in innovative ways. As U.S. Poet Laureate, he founded the Favourite Poem Project in which thousands of Americans shared their favourite poem. Its legacy, an anthology *Americans' Favorite Poems* is in its 18th printing. Pinsky has won several prizes including the PEN/Voelcker Award and William Carlos Williams Prize. In 2015, Boston University named him a William Fairfield Warren Distinguished Professor—the highest honour bestowed on senior faculty members actively involved in scholarship, University civic life, and teaching.

Natasha Trethewey—19th U.S. Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize Winner—explores what it is to be citizen, to be dweller, to be human, to be considered 'of' and/or 'not of' a place, to be liminal among the norms of identity. Librarian of Congress James Billington wrote, "Her poems dig beneath the surface of history—personal or communal, from childhood or from a century ago—to explore the human struggles that we all face." She is the author of *Domestic Work* (2000), *Bellocq's Ophelia* (2002), *Native Guard* (2006) and *Thrall* (2012). Her poems have appeared in many journals and anthologies such as *American Poetry Review*, *The Southern Review*, *New England Review*, and several volumes of *Best American Poetry*. Trethewey's honours include fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. She is Robert W. Woodruff Professor of English and Creative Writing at Emory University.



"Trethewey's writing mines the cavernous isolation, brutality, and resilience of African American history, tracing its subterranean echoes to today." — New Yorker

Cúirt
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE
FÉILE IDIRNÁISIÚNTA LITRÍOCHTA
17th - 24th APRIL 2016

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION
JOIN US FOR MUSIC AND REFRESHMENTS ▪ 7:30PM, TOWN HALL THEATRE BAR

INTO THE VOID

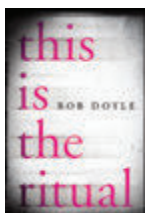
INTO BEING,
INTO FEELING

ROB DOYLE, SARAH MARIA GRIFFIN & THOMAS MORRIS

Cúirt presents a reading by three of Ireland's most exciting fiction authors.

A diverse range of characters populate these author's books; all navigating their urban and/ or small town terrains searching for a way out of the void-like feeling that is as routine as their days.

In many cases, solace comes from the most unexpected circumstances and a sense of being begins to emerge or submerge as a result. A panel discussion follows the readings.



Straight out of Crumlin, **Rob Doyle's** highly acclaimed debut novel *Here Are The Young Men* was published in 2014 by Bloomsbury and Lilliput Press. It was chosen as a book of the year by the *Irish Times*, *Sunday Times*, *Sunday Business Post* and *The Independent*. Rob's writing has appeared in the *Irish Times*, *Guardian*, *Dublin Review*, *Observer*, *Sunday Times*, *Dalkey Archive's Best European Fiction 2016*, and elsewhere. His second book, *This Is The Ritual*, a collection of short stories, was published in January.

Praise for *This Is The Ritual*

'This is the Ritual is a masterpiece in experimental short fiction brimming with ideas, vulgarity and intelligence... Ireland has just gained a cult author of exceptional talent.'

— The Sunday Independent

Sarah Maria Griffin is from Northside Dublin. Having emigrated to San Francisco, Sarah wrote a story of leaving home, *Not Lost* which was published by New Island Press in 2013. She signed a two-book deal with U.S. HarperCollins Imprint Greenwillow Press in 2015. *Spare & Found Parts*— her highly anticipated novel—is due this Autumn.

Praise for *Not Lost*

'A gutsy book about love and friendship for the new emigration generation.'

— Irish Examiner

april **21** st thursday
1pm tickets €8
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE



Thomas Morris published his first collection of short stories, *We Don't Know What We're Doing* with Faber and Faber. In 2014, he commissioned and edited *Dubliners 100*, a collection that comprised 15 'cover stories' of Joyce's original stories from *Dubliners*, published by Tramp Press. He edits *The Stinging Fly* magazine, a space for new Irish and international writing. He is from Caerphilly, Wales and was educated solely through the Welsh language until the age of 18.

Praise for *We Don't Know What We're Doing*

'Morris has a fantastic, near forensic eye for the ordinary details of life in the town... Rather than looming over them as a symbol of greatness lost, Caerphilly Castle becomes a lighthouse over the town, a constant around which these wandering souls oscillate in hope of reaching each other.' — The Telegraph

april **21** st thursday
6.30pm THE KING'S HEAD
 tickets €6

SPOKEN WORD PLATFORM

This high-octane event will showcase both poetry and short fiction. Performers will have up to three minutes to present their piece to a panel of three judges under the watchful eye of MC Pete Mullineaux. The top three participants will go on to perform at the Cúirt Showcase at Electric Picnic in September. Guest performer: Brian MacMahon Gallagher.

Open submissions are invited for the Spoken Word Platform and entry is open to all. Your poem or fiction piece should take up to three minutes to perform.

Please submit to: Spoken Word Platform, Galway Arts Centre, 47 Dominick Street Galway or email petemullineaux@gmail.com before Wednesday 6th April.



april **21** st thursday
4pm **NUN'S ISLAND**
tickets €8



Chairperson:

Paula Shields is a researcher and journalist. She has worked as a journalist in London and Dublin since 1990, and was editor of the *Irish Theatre Handbook* (3rd ed. 2003).

PETINA GAPPAH THE BOOK OF MEMORY

Petina Gappah is a Zimbabwean writer with law degrees from Cambridge, Graz University and the University of Zimbabwe. Her debut story collection, *An Elegy for Easterly*, won *The Guardian* First Book Prize in 2009. *The Book of Memory* was published by Faber and Faber in September 2015.

The Book of Memory:

Memory is an albino woman languishing in Chikurubi Maximum Security Prison. She has been convicted of murder. As part of her appeal her lawyer insists that she write down what happened as she remembers it. The death penalty is a mandatory sentence for murder, and Memory is, both literally and metaphorically, writing for her life.

Moving between the townships of the poor and the suburbs of the rich, and between the past and the present, *Memory* weaves a compelling tale of love, obsession, the relentlessness of fate and the treachery of memory.

"Petina Gappah powerfully probes the tricky nature of memory and brilliantly exposes the gulf between rich and poor . . . The novel is startlingly vivid . . . This moving novel about memory unfolds into one about forgiveness, and a passionate paean to the powers of language." - ANITA SETHI, *The Observer*

april 21 st thursday
6.30pm TOWN HALL
THEATRE tickets €10

Join two of our most charming guests for readings and chats about motherhood and fatherhood.

SIMON VAN BOOY & HOLLIE McNISH

Hollie McNish is a published UK poet based between London, Cambridge and Glasgow. She has two poetry collections *Cherry Pie* and *Papers* and an album, *Versus*, which made her the first poet to record at Abbey Road Studios, London. *No-body Told Me: A Memoir of Parenthood*, was published in February 2016.

No-body Told Me:

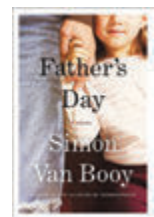
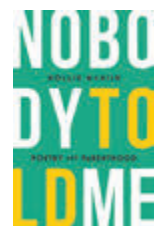
There were many things that Hollie didn't know before she was pregnant. How her family and friends would react; that Mr Whippy would be off the menu; how quickly ice can melt on a stomach. These were on top of the many other things she didn't know about babies: how to stand while holding one; how to do a poetry gig with your baby as a member of the audience; how drum'n'bass can make a great lullaby. And that's before you even start on toddlers: how to answer a question like 'is the world a jigsaw?'; dealing with a ten-hour train ride together; and how children can be caregivers too. Hollie learned. And she's still learning, slowly.

"The things no one tells you before you have a baby are numerous - Hollie McNish turns them into epic poems about the transformation of your body and Mr Whippy vans. You'll learn a lot." - Grazia

Simon Van Booy is the author of *The Secret Lives of People in Love*, *Love Begins in Winter*, *Everything Beautiful Began After*, and *The Illusion of Separateness*. His latest collection of stories, *Tales of Accidental Genius*, was published in November 2015, and a new novel, *Father's Day*, was released in February 2016. Simon's work has been translated into fourteen languages. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife and daughter.

Father's Day:

"The moving account of a unique relationship between a parent and child, thrust together under the worst of circumstances. With fine, nuanced prose and much tenderness, Booy guides this unlikely father-daughter pair into a beautiful maturity, showing us with great heart what it really means to be a family." — Elizabeth Crane, author of *The History of Great Things*



Chairperson: Paula Shields

Paula Shields is a researcher and journalist. She has worked in London and Dublin since 1990, and was editor of the *Irish Theatre Handbook* (3rd ed. 2003).

april
21
st
thursday

AN EVENING WITH TOBIAS WOLFF

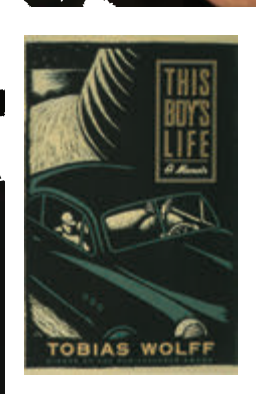
Join **Tobias Wolff**, one of America's most iconic fiction writers, for a special evening of reflections and reading. Tobias will discuss his life's work, and the theme of 'memory'.

Tobias Wolff's books include the memoirs *This Boy's Life* and *In Pharaoh's Army: Memories of the Lost War*; the short novel *The Barracks Thief*; the novel *Old School*, and four collections of short stories, *In the Garden of the North American Martyrs*, *Back in the World*, *The Night in Question*, and, most recently, *Our Story Begins: New and Selected Stories*. Tobias has also edited several anthologies, among them *Best American Short Stories*, *A Doctor's Visit: The Short Stories of Anton Chekhov*, and *The Vintage Book of Contemporary American Short Stories*. His work is translated widely and has received numerous awards, including the PEN/Faulkner Award, *The Los Angeles Times* Book Prize, both the PEN/Malamud and the Rea Award for Excellence in the Short Story, the Story Prize, and the Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. A Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Letters, he is the Ward W. and Priscilla B. Woods Professor of English at Stanford. In 2015 he received the National Medal of Arts from President Barack Obama.

"Wolff reminds you just how close the short-story writer's art is to that of the magician. His stories leave the reader reeling no matter how many times they are reread." - Olivia Laing, *The Observer*

"Gentle, reserved, graceful. . . . Wolff is a writer of the highest order: part storyteller, part philosopher, someone deeply engaged in asking hard questions."

— Los Angeles Times



april
21
st
thursday
TOWN HALL THEATRE
8.30pm
tickets €15/€12

LAUNCH
GRANTA IRELAND



Join us for the launch of *Granta 135: New Irish Writing*, edited by Sigrid Rausing.

Granta will host a party to celebrate the 135th issue of Granta magazine, which has been described as 'a stunning contribution to contemporary literature' (*Newsweek*). The theme of this issue is the riches of contemporary Irish writing with a particular focus on fiction. There will be readings from some of the stars of today and tomorrow, including Kevin Barry, Sara Baume, Colin Barrett, and Sally Rooney.

April 21st Thursday
9.30pm admission free
HOTEL MEYRICK, OYSTER BAR

GRANTA



LAUNCH
**POEMS FOR
PATIENCE**

SELECTED BY
COLETTE BRYCE

Poems for Patience is a long-running programme established by Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust in which poems are displayed on the Arts Corridor of the hospital and also displayed in waiting areas throughout the hospital and associated hospital units.

In the past, the series has featured poems by leading Irish and international poets such as Seamus Heaney, Philip Schultz, Michael Longley, Vona Groarke, Jane Hirschfield and Tess Gallagher. This year's selection has been kindly chosen by Colette Bryce, and includes the winning poem of the GUH Arts Trust annual poetry competition, judged by Kevin Higgins.

Colette Bryce was born in Derry in 1970. She was a Creative Writing Fellow at the University of Dundee (2003-05) and held the North East Literary Fellowship in Newcastle from 2005-07. She divides her time between London and Newcastle upon Tyne, working as a freelance teacher, and editor at Poetry London. Colette won The Eric Gregory Award in 1995, and published her first collection, *The Heel of Bernadette*, in 2000. She won the National Poetry Competition in 2003 with 'The Full Indian Rope Trick', which was voted a favourite poem in a poll to celebrate 30 years of the National Poetry Competition - it became the title poem of her second collection, *The Full Indian Rope Trick* (2004). Self-portrait in the Dark, her third collection from Picador, was published in 2008. Colette was awarded a special prize in memory of Seamus Heaney as part of the the 2015 Christopher Ewart-Biggs Prize for her collection *The Whole and Rain-domed Universe*.

april
22
11am
and friday
ARTS CORRIDOR,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL,
GALWAY admission free

KIRSTY LOGAN & JOANNA WALSH

The tradition of telling a tale, the passing-down of it to others with iterative moral insight, the making of lore, intricacies of coded messages and their implications—are re-imagined in Kirsty Logan and Joanna Walsh’s work. Both authors explore through precise—and sometimes telegram-like prose—life’s geometry that can eerily broadcast itself from objects, structures, and bodies and take to and from our relationship with our being, and greater movement through emotional journeys such as grief, uncertainty and loneliness.

Kirsty Logan lives in Glasgow and has a semicolon tattooed on her toe. *The Rental Heart & Other Fairytales* won the Polari First Book Prize in 2015. Another collection, *A Portable Shelter* was published later in 2015. Kirsty is a book reviewer, writing mentor for WoMentoring and the Scottish Book Trust, and also writes The X-Files for The Female Gaze. Kirsty’s debut novel, *The Gracekeepers*—selected for the BBC Radio 2 Book Club—was republished in 2016 by Penguin U.K. Say ‘Hello’ at: kirstylogan.com

Praise for *The Gatekeepers*

“Beautiful and bewitching; read it and be swept away on a magical wave of love and language” — The Bookseller

Joanna Walsh is a British writer and illustrator. Her writing has appeared in *Granta*, *The Stinging Fly*, *Gorse*, Dalkey Archive Press’s Best European Fiction 2015, Salt Best British Short Stories, and elsewhere. *Fractals*, was published in the UK in 2013, and her memoir *Hotel* was published in 2015. She writes literary and cultural criticism for *The Guardian*, *TLS*, *The New Statesman*, and *The National*, and is fiction editor at *3:am Magazine*. Joanna created and runs the Twitter hashtag #readwomen, heralded by the *New York Times* as ‘a rallying cry for equal treatment for women writers.’ *Vertigo* (2016) is published in Ireland by Tramp Press.

Praise for *Vertigo*

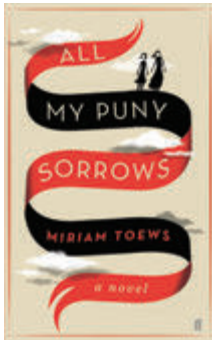
“Supple, floating stories that unfold like memories almost too painful to recall in an affectless voice that can be digressive or disarmingly direct but which is ultimately devastating.” - The Believer

april
2pm
and friday
TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €10



Chair for this event will be **Anna Carey** who is a freelance journalist from Drumcondra in Dublin. She has written for the *Irish Times*, *Irish Independent* and many other publications. El Diablo, a band Anna plays in, have released two albums and toured Ireland. She is editor and co-founder of the popular blog: The Anti-Room.

april 22nd friday
4pm TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €8



Chairperson:
Paula Shields is a researcher and journalist. She has worked as a journalist in London and Dublin since 1990, and was editor of the Irish Theatre Handbook (3rd ed. 2003).

MIRIAM TOEWS

Miriam Toews was born in 1964 in the small Mennonite town of Steinbach, Manitoba. She has published five novels and a memoir of her father, and is the recipient of numerous literary awards including the Governor General's Award, the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize.

All My Puny Sorrows:

Elf and Yoli are two smart, loving sisters. Elf is a world-renowned pianist, glamorous, wealthy, happily married. Yoli is divorced, broke, sleeping with the wrong men. Both were raised in a Mennonite community and share the hardship of Elf's wish to take her own life. When Elf's latest suicide attempt leaves her hospitalised weeks before her highly anticipated world tour, Yoli must quickly determine how to keep her family from falling apart, how to keep her own heart from breaking, and what it means to love someone who wants to die.

"The novel she has written - so exquisitely that you'll want to savour every word - reads as if it has been wrenched from her heart." - Christina Patterson, Sunday Times

"Toews takes her place alongside Alice Munro, Robertson Davies, Margaret Atwood and Mordicai Richler as the loveliest quintet of Canadian writing." - Los Angeles Times

DÓNAL RYAN & CHARLES BOCK

Donal Ryan's debut novel, *The Spinning Heart*, was a number one bestseller in Ireland and a Boston Globe bestseller in the US. Donal won Best Newcomer and overall Book of the Year at the 2012 Irish Book Awards, the 2013 Guardian First Book Award, and the 2015 European Union Prize for Literature. *The Spinning Heart* was long-listed for the Man Booker Prize and the Desmond Elliott Prize, and was a finalist for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award.

Donal's second novel, *The Thing About December*, was also a number one bestseller. It was shortlisted for Novel of the Year at the 2013 Irish Book Awards and the 2014 Kerry Group Novel of the Year, and was nominated for the 2015 IMPAC Dublin Literary Award.

His first short story collection, *A Slanting of the Sun*, was published worldwide by Penguin Random House in September 2015. The title story won Short Story of the Year at the 2015 Irish Book Awards. Donal holds a fellowship at the University of Limerick, where, with Joseph O'Connor, Giles Foden and Mary O'Malley, he teaches Creative Writing.

"Donal Ryan is among the great contemporary chroniclers of grief, loss and bewilderment."
— The Independent

"Donal Ryan is a master of the magnetic first line. . . His faithful subject is rural despair; the poetry of adversity, the baffling fortitude of intrinsically decent people. . . Each unit of language has been scrupulously positioned, though the overall effect is of effortlessness. . . This collection shows Ryan adding his own elastic yet distinctive voice to [Irish writer Frank] O'Connor's impeccable tradition."
— The Guardian

Charles Bock is the author of the novel *Beautiful Children*, which was a *New York Times* bestseller and Notable Book, and which won the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Harper's*, *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *Slate*, as well as in numerous anthologies. His new novel *Alice & Oliver* is published by Random House.

Praise for *Alice & Oliver*:

"I was amazed that such a heartbreaking narrative could also affirm, on every page, why we love this frustrating world and why we hold on to it for as long as we can. Alice Culvert is a character of such fight and such spirit, such thrumming aliveness, that she takes on an epic dimension. Charles Bock has stared down life's most difficult questions to write a truly revelatory, truly great book."
— Joshua Ferris

Praise for *Beautiful Children*:

"An anxious, angry, honest first novel filled with compassion and clarity . . . The language has a rhythm wholly its own—at moments it is stunning, near genius." — A. M. Homes



april 22nd friday
6.30pm TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €10

MISE RAIFTEARAÍ AN FÍODÓIR FOCAL I AM RAFTERY THE WORD-WEAVER

april **22**nd friday
8pm **AN TAIBHDHEARC**
tickets €12



Ceann de na liricí is fearr aithne sa Ghaeilge ná 'Mise Raifteirí an File', dáinín a chuirtear i láthair mar phársa beatháisnéisiúil, cur síos íogair ó fhile aislingeach a bhí socair sásta ann féin, in ainneoin an saol a bheith roinnt deacair air. Creidtear anois gur deoraí Gaillimheach a chum an dán i Meiriceá, blianta maithe i ndiaidh bhás an fhile a bhfuil trácht sa dán air. Is mór idir an glór caoin atá ar fáil ann agus Raiftearaí na fírinne – an fear achranach, an cumadóir paiseanta, an bolscaire neamhbhalbh ar son na gcúiseanna ar creid sé iontu. File é a chuaigh i gcion go mór ar chumadóirí Gaeilge a tháinig ina dhiaidh. Bhí tionchar chomh maith aige ar lucht na hAthbheochana Angla Éireannaí, rud nach féidir le mórán scríbhneoirí Gaeilge a mhaíomh.

Sé Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin, ar bronnadh Gradam Uí Shúilleabháin 2015 ar a shaothar beathaisnéise Mise Raiftearaí an Fíodóir Focal a chuirfidh an seisiún i láthair. Úsáidfeadh idir amhráin, dánta, scéalta, tráchttaireacht agus míreanna scannán le saol agus saothar an fhile a chur in iúl. I gcuideachta Thaidhg beidh beirt de na fonnadóirí sean-nóis is aitheanta i gConamara – Caitlín Ní Chualáin as Indreabhán, agus as Carna aniar, Amhránaí na Bliana TG4, Pól Ó Ceannabháin.

One of the best-known lyrics in the Irish language is the apparently autobiographical 'Mise Raifteirí an File', describing a poet full of hope and love, with eyes without light, with silence without torment. Now believed to have been written in America by an emigrant language enthusiast, the poem has promoted an image of the early 19th century Antaine Ó Reachtabhra that is far from the truth. A fearless, tempestuous, passionate figure, Raiftearaí's tender love songs are still sung to this day in the sean-nós song repertoire of Conamara. Less known are his political songs, his religious verse, his humorous poems or his epic history of Ireland in rhyme. His work was collected and edited by Douglas Hyde, revered by Lady Gregory, studied by WB Yeats and name-checked in Joyce's Ulysses.

Weaving song, story, commentary and atmospheric film elements, Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin, whose biography of the poet, Mise Raiftearaí an Fíodóir Focal was awarded Gradam Uí Shúilleabháin, Irish-language book of the year award for 2015 presents this evening of the life, times and words of Raiftearaí. He is joined by award-winning Conamara sean-nós singers, Caitlín Ní Chualáin and TG4 Traditional Singer of the Year 2016, Pól Ó Ceannabháin.

KEVIN BARRY & PATRICK DEWITT

april 22nd TO
8.30pm tic

Kevin Barry is the author of the novels *Beatlebone* and *City Of Bohane* and the story collections *Dark Lies The Island* and *There Are Little Kingdoms*. His awards include the IMPAC Dublin City Literary Award, the Goldsmith's Prize, and the Sunday Times EFG Short Story Prize. His work has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *Granta*, *the Stingin Fly*, and many other journals. He also writes screenplays, stage plays and radio plays. He lives in County Sligo.

Praise for *Beatlebone*:

"Beatlebone is a novel that takes its reader to the edge—of the Western world, of sanity, of fame, of words. But it also takes us to the very edge of the novel form, where it meets its notorious doppelgänger, autobiography. Its compulsive narrative of one of the last century's great musicians and pop icons gradually, and without a hint of contrivance, becomes a startling and original meditation on the uncanny relationship of a writer to his character." — Josh Cohen, Chair of Judges, Goldsmiths Prize 2015



Patrick DeWitt's writing has appeared in several US magazines and anthologies. His first novel, *Ablutions*, was published by Granta Books in 2009. He had previously published a short book of random writings and bad advice, *Help Yourself Help Yourself*. His second novel, *The Sisters Brothers* won the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, the Governor General Literary Award and was shortlisted for the 2011 Man Booker Prize. His most recent novel, *Under Major Domo Minor* is published by Granta. Patrick lives in Portland, Oregon

Praise for *Under Major Domo Minor*:

"An electrifying adventure, both tender and profane, nervy, hilarious and utterly unpredictable, Patrick deWitt has served up another dazzler." - Maria Semple, author of *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?*



Chairperson: Jim Carroll
Jim Carroll is the producer and host of *Banter*, a series of well-travelled public discussions and interviews which have taken place at venues and festivals in Ireland and the UK since 2009. Jim is an arts and music journalist and contributes regularly to *The Irish Times*.

april 22nd friday
8.30pm TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €15/€12

Friday 11th April



ATHENA FARROKHZAD, SELINA NWULU, & REBECCA PERRY

"Belonging is like a mirror. If it breaks, you can fix it./ My mother said: But in the reflection you can see a chip" - From *Vitsvit* (White Blight)

Identity, nostalgia, belonging, loss, revolution, war, migration and racism, regeneration and strength is common to the work of **Athena Farrokhzad, Selina Nwulu** and **Rebecca Perry**.

Swedish poet, **Athena Farrokhzad**, is a playwright, translator, literary critic and tutor. She was born in Iran and grew up in Gothenburg. After many collaborative poetry projects and international literary work, she published her first volume of poetry *Vitsvit* (White Blight) in 2013. A translation of *Vitsvit* by Jennifer Hayashida—recipient of a PEN/Heim Translation Fund—was published in 2015. *Vitsvit* received several literary awards and is being translated to Danish, Norwegian, Romanian, Spanish, and Arabic. Her second volume of poetry, *Trado*, written with the Romanian poet Svetlana Carstean, was published last year.

Selina Nwulu is a writer, poet and performer. She is 2016 Young Poet Laureate for London. Her work has been published by the RSA (2015), Lunar Poetry (2015) and Emma Press (2014). Selina has written for The Guardian, Red Pepper, the Free Word Centre and Sable litmag. In 2015 she performed at Glastonbury, and Edinburgh Fringe. In 2014 she was part of the emerging artists programme at Battersea Arts Centre London, responding to the theme, 'The artist as an activist'. Her first pamphlet, *The Secrets I Let Slip* (Burning Eye Books) was published in 2015 and selected as a 2016 Poetry Book Society Pamphlet Choice.

"Nwulu's poems have a skill and subtlety that lift them well out of the ordinary. They work on the page and she performs them with confidence and conviction." - Selection Panel for Young Poet Laureate London

Rebecca Perry's pamphlet, *little armoured*, (Seren, 2012) won the Poetry Wales Purple Moose Prize and was a Poetry Book Society Choice. Her debut collection, *Beauty/Beauty* (Bloodaxe, 2015) is a Poetry Book Society Recommendation, and was shortlisted for the Fenton Aldeburgh Prize for Best First Collection, and the T S Eliot Prize. She co-edits the online journal *Poems In Which* and will be Writer Fellow at Manchester University in 2016.

"A mural of tiles, each etched carefully with the different, daily eyes, hearts, fins and scales of ghostly others - Beauty/Beauty is an unmissable and energetic collection." - Lucy Mercer, Oxford Poetry

april
11th
2016
rd
saturday
TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €8





LESLIE JAMISON

IN CONVERSATION WITH
SINÉAD GLEESON

Leslie Jamison is the author of *The Empathy Exams*, a *New York Times* bestselling essay collection, and a novel, *The Gin Closet*, a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* First Fiction Award. Her work has appeared in *Harper's*, *Oxford American*, *A Public Space*, *Boston Review*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *The Believer*, and the *New York Times*, where she is a regular columnist for the Sunday Book Review. She lives in Brooklyn and is an assistant professor at Columbia University.

The Empathy Exams:

Beginning with her experience as a medical actor who was paid to act out symptoms for medical students to diagnose, Leslie Jamison's visceral and revealing essays ask essential questions about our basic understanding of others: How should we care about each other? How can we feel another's pain, especially when pain can be assumed, distorted, or performed? By confronting pain, real and imagined, her own and others', Jamison uncovers a personal and cultural urgency to feel.

She draws from her own experiences of illness to engage in an exploration that extends far beyond her life, spanning a wide-ranging territory, from poverty tourism to phantom diseases, street violence to reality television, illness to incarceration.

"Extraordinary and exacting. . . It's not surprising that Jamison is drawing comparisons to Sontag. . . It's hard to imagine a stronger, more thoughtful voice emerging this year." - The New York Times Book Review

Sinéad Gleeson is a journalist and broadcaster, who presents *The Book Show* on RTE Radio 1. She writes about arts and culture for *The Irish Times*, and reviews books for both *The Irish Times* and *The Guardian*. In 2012, she edited the anthology, *Silver Threads of Hope*, and in 2015 she edited an anthology of Irish short stories by women, *The Long Gaze Back*, published by New Island.

april 23rd saturday
12noon tickets €8
april 23rd saturday
12noon tickets €8
NUNS ISLAND THEATRE

april
23
1pm
rd saturday
TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €10

JOSHUA FERRIS & LISA McINERNEY

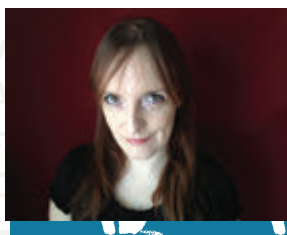


Joshua Ferris is the bestselling author of three novels, *Then We Came to the End*, *The Unnamed* and *To Rise Again at a Decent Hour*. *To Rise Again at a Decent Hour* was shortlisted for the 2014 Man Booker Prize and won the International Dylan Thomas Prize. *Then We Came to the End*, was a finalist for the National Book Award and received the 2007 PEN/Hemingway Award. He has been named one of *The New Yorker's* "20 Under 40" writers. His fiction has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, and *Best American Short Stories*. He lives in New York.

"Ferris's writing is so fresh and mordant—a comedian's sense of timing mixed with a social critic's knack for shaking the bushes." - **Interview Magazine**

"This is fiction with the force of an avalanche."
- **San Francisco Chronicle**

Chairperson: Edel Coffey is an arts journalist and broadcaster. She is the books editor for the *Irish Independent*, and is a regular contributor to RTE Radio 1's arts programme, *Arena*.

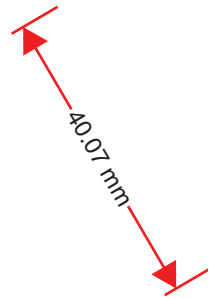


Lisa McInerney was born in 1981 and just about grew up to be a writer of contemporary fiction. *The Glorious Heresies*, for which she was shortlisted for Best Newcomer at the Irish Book Awards, is her first novel. Her short stories have featured on BBC Radio 4 and in the anthologies *The Long Gaze Back*, edited by Sinéad Gleeson, and *Town and Country*, edited by Kevin Barry.

"A spectacular debut . . . Tough and tender, gothic and lyrical, it is a head-spinning, stomach-churning state-of-the-nation novel about a nation falling apart . . . full of cracking lines and singular characters." - **The Telegraph**

"A punchy, edgy, sexy, fizzing feast of a debut novel." - **Joseph O'Connor**

"McInerney has talent to burn." - **The Guardian**



LOUISE O'NEILL & RACHEL B. GLASER

Louise O' Neill is from Clonakilty, west Cork. She studied English at Trinity College Dublin. Her novel *Asking For It*, won book of the year at the Irish Book Awards 2015. Now a bestselling novel, and set for T.V. and film adaptations, this story about the life-shattering impact of sexual assault has marked O'Neill out as a powerful new voice in Irish literature.

Praise for *Asking For It*:

"A soul-shattering novel that will leave your emotions raw. This story will haunt me forever. Everyone should read it." - The Guardian



Rachel B. Glaser is an American writer, poet and artist. In 2013, she received the McSweeney's Amanda Davis Fiction Award. Her novel *Paulina and Fran* is published with Granta (January 2016).

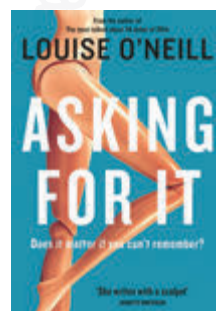
Praise for *Paulina and Fran*:

"A book also of the intensity of friendship and emotion in young adulthood, and of the difficulty of changing our lives."
- Asylum



"An astute and witty portrayal of coming of age." - Sarah Gilmartin, The Irish Times

april
23rd saturday
5pm
TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €10



Chairperson:

Sinéad Gleeson is a journalist and broadcaster, who presents The Book Show on RTE Radio 1. In 2012, she edited the anthology, *Silver Threads of Hope*, and in 2015 she edited an anthology of Irish short stories by women, *The Long Gaze Back*.

JENNIFER JOHNSTON & BELINDA McKEON

Belinda McKeon's first novel, *Solace*, won the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize, the *Sunday Independent* Best Newcomer Award and was named Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book of the Year in 2011, as well as being shortlisted for the James Tait Black Memorial Prize. Her essays and journalism have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Paris Review*, and *The Guardian*. She grew up in rural Ireland and now lives in New York, where she teaches at Rutgers University. *Tender* (Picador, 2015) is her second novel.



april **23** rd saturday
4.30pm TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €10



Jennifer Johnston was born in Dublin in 1930 and is one of our foremost Irish writers. Her fifteen novels include *The Old Jest*, winner of the Whitbread Prize, *The Captains and the Kings*, winner of *The Evening Standard* Best First Novel Award and *The Yorkshire Post* Award for Best Book of the Year and *Shadows on Our Skin* which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Her next novel *Naming the Stars*, will be published in June 2016.

Chairperson: Nuala Ní Chonchúir is a fiction writer and poet. She has published three novels, four collections of short fiction, a chapbook of flash fiction and three full poetry collections.

RITA ANN HIGGINS, COLETTE BRYCE, KAREN SOLIE

Unpretentious—they call a spade a spade—witty, dark, dry, self-mocking humour; work which has a serious engagement with the ‘salt of the earth’ people, and is conscientious and caring. Stunning—at times disturbing—descriptions and images of the urban and the rural, the industrial, destruction and decay, improvement and development. Here are three poets of outstanding quality, and a thrilling opportunity to hear them read their work.



Rita Ann Higgins was born in 1955 in Galway, where she still lives. One of 13 children, she left school at 14, and was in her late 20s when she started writing poetry. She has since published nine books of poetry, including *Sunny Side Plucked* (Poetry Book Society Recommendation) (1996), *An Awful Racket* (2001), *Throw in the Vowels: New & Selected Poems* (2005) and *Ireland Is Changing Mother* (2011) from Bloodaxe, and *Hurting God: Prose & Poems* (2010) from Salmon. *Throw in the Vowels* was reissued in 2010 with an audio CD of her reading her poems. Her new collection, *Tongulish*, has just been published by Bloodaxe.

ril 23rd saturday
6.30pm TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €10
ril 23rd saturday
6.30pm TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €xx

Colette Bryce was born in Derry in 1970. She was a Creative Writing Fellow at the University of Dundee (2003-05) and held the North East Literary Fellowship in Newcastle from 2005-07. She divides her time between London and Newcastle upon Tyne, working as a freelance teacher, and editor at Poetry London. Colette won The Eric Gregory Award in 1995, and published her first collection, *The Heel of Bernadette*, in 2000. She won the National Poetry Competition in 2003 with 'The Full Indian Rope Trick', which was voted a favourite poem in a poll to celebrate 30 years of the National Poetry Competition - it became the title poem of her second collection, *The Full Indian Rope Trick* (2004). *Self-portrait in the Dark*, her third collection from Picador, was published in 2008. Colette was awarded a special prize in memory of Seamus Heaney as part of the the 2015 Christopher Ewart-Biggs Prize for her collection *The Whole and Rain-domed Universe*.



RITA ANN HIGGINS, COLETTE BRYCE, KAREN SOLIE



From Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada, **Karen Solie** now lives in Toronto. She initially wanted a career as a vet but dropped that plan to pursue her writing. Her first collection *Short Haul Engine* came out in 2011, and was awarded the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize. In 2005 she published *Modern and Normal*, which was shortlisted for the Trillium Book Award for Poetry. *Pigeon*, published by Anansi in 2009, won her the Canadian Griffin Poetry Prize, Pat Lowther Award and Trillium Book Award for Poetry. Her poems have been published across Canada, in the US, UK, and Europe, and have been translated into French, German, Korean and Dutch. *The Living Option: Selected Poems*, was published by Bloodaxe Books in 2013—new poems in the Bloodaxe UK edition have been published in Canada in *The Road In Is Not The Same Road Out* (Anansi, 2015). Karen Solie is Associate Director for the Banff Centre's Writing Studio program in Banff, Alberta.

23rd saturday
TOWN HALL
THEATRE
7pm.

MIKE McCORMACK & JOHN BANVILLE

april
8.30pm



april **23**rd saturday
8.30pm TOWN HALL THEATRE
tickets €15/€12



Mike McCormack is an award-winning novelist and short-story writer from Mayo. In 1996 he was awarded the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature and in 2007 he was awarded a Civitella Ranieri Fellowship. He has published three books, *Getting it in the Head*, 1996 - a collection of short stories - and two novels *Crowe's Requiem*, 1998 and *Notes from a Coma*, 2005. His new novel, *Solar Bones*, will be published by Tramp Press in May.

"Unabashedly macabre, McCormack's obsessions at times converge with those explored by Ian McEwan, Will Self and J.G. Ballard, but his clever ideas and fluid, gracefully morbid style are all his own." — GQ

John Banville was born in Wexford, Ireland, in 1945. He has been the recipient of the James Tait Black Memorial Prize (1976), *The Guardian* Fiction Prize (1981), the Guinness Peat Aviation Book Award (1989), and the Lannan Literary Award for Fiction (1997). He has been both short-listed for the Booker Prize (1989) and awarded the Man Booker Prize (2005) as well as nominated for the Man Booker International Prize (2007). Other awards include the Franz Kafka Prize (2011), the Austrian State Prize for European Literature (2013), and the Prince of Asturias Award for Literature (2014). His most recent novel *The Blue Guitar*, was published in 2015.

"He is a master, and his prose gives continuous, sensual delight." — Martin Amis



MNÁ 2016 AT CÚIRT

MNÁ 2016 is a programme of ideas and events organised by a group of women living in Galway, as a way of calling attention to what has been happening for women in Ireland, north and south, during the last hundred years, and looking forward to the next hundred. There are plenty of unsung activists and heroines today and we are not short of inspiring ancestors: Constance and Eva Gore-Booth painted and wrote, as well as being soldiers, prisoners and suffragettes. Molly Childers and Mary Spring-Rice were diarists, sailors and gun-runners; Sophie Pierce was a pioneering aviator and athlete who successfully presented the case for women to be allowed to compete in the Olympic Games. Eileen Barnes was a skilled botanical illustrator.

There have been notable achievements for women in many walks of life and there are still immense challenges ahead. Mná 2016 joins Cúirt, festival of novel and inventive creativity, of breaking rules and seeing visions, on the hundredth anniversary of the actual date of the 1916 Rising, to which Irish women, from all the arts, from farms and shops, barracks and hospitals, from country towns and villages, tenements and big houses gave their lives over to the exhilarating and demanding pursuit of freedom. They disrupted, rocked the cradle, changed the course of history. They are on the same mission today.

Time to join up, time to think and to laugh, time to change what we can, time to name what we can't yet change, time to dream and fly, time to leave a legacy.



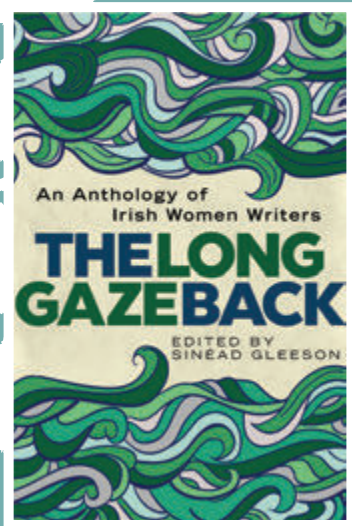
april 24th sunday
THE KING'S HEAD
tickets €12
12noon - 1.30pm

BARDESSES AT BRUNCH

Music & Song, Poetry and Performance with:
Drumming troupe - The Ragáirí, Elaine Feeney, Áine Ni Shioradain,
Eleanor Tiernan, My Fellow Sponges and Ailbhe Smyth.

PANEL DISCUSSION

THE LONG GAZE BACK



Cúirt Director Dani Gill chairs a panel discussion with Sinéad Gleeson, Editor of *The Long Gaze Back*, and contributors to the anthology, Belinda McKeon and Nuala Ní Chonchúir.

The Long Gaze Back, edited by Sinéad Gleeson, is an anthology of thirty short stories by women writers past and present including: Maeve Brennan, Mary Costello, Maria Edgeworth, Anne Enright, Mary Lavin, Eimear McBride, Lisa McLnerney, Belinda McKeon, and Nuala Ní Chonchúir. Spanning four centuries, *The Long Gaze Back* features eight rare stories from deceased luminaries and forerunners, and twenty new stories by some of the most talented Irish women writers working today.

april 24th sunday
TOWN HALL THEATRE
2pm tickets €12
*Includes Women Objects event 3.15pm

"The Long Gaze Back is a substantial harvest, a seriously comprehensive and celebratory volume." – The Irish Times

4th sunday
TOWN HALL THEATRE
april 24th sunday tickets €12
TOWN HALL THEATRE
3.15pm tickets €12
*Includes Long Gaze Back panel at 2pm

WOMEN OBJECTS

LEADING THE DISRUPTIONS, INSPIRATIONS, ASPIRATIONS

INTRODUCED BY **EITHNE VERLING**
MODERATED BY **JANE DALY**

Women leaders and followers in the realms of business, the arts, security, politics, farming, sporting life and young women, similar in age to many of those who took part in the events surrounding 1916, will bring an object which inspired or disrupted their lives and talk of it and of the issues they see facing women in the next hundred years. Audience members are welcome to bring an object and to join in.

Among the speakers:

Micheline Sheehy Skeffington, Rita Ann Higgins, Louise Ni Fhiannachta, Cepta Byrne, Myrn Devaney, Sarah Rubereza, Medb Kiely-Cuddy, Helen Murphy, Anne Byrne, Iseult Murphy.

Tea and sandwiches after event in the Town Hall Bar.





28th GALWAY FILM FLEADH

5th – 10th July 2016

The Galway Film Fleadh

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Cúirt

www.galwayfilmfleadh.com



FAR FROM LITERATURE WE WERE REARED

A fantastic array of literary, comedic and musical talent, performing across three stages, in the Roisin Dubh will bring a night of shenanigans to audiences—all in aid of Galway Rape Crisis Centre.

Guests include: Gerry Hanberry, Elaine Feeney, Seamus Ruttledge, Páraic Breathnach, Stephen Watt, Sarah Clancy, Aindrias de Staic, Aideen Henry, Olaf Tyaransen, Órfhlaith Foyle, The Atlantic Rhythm Section, Paul McMahon, Charlie Adley, Emma Comerford, Alan McMonagle, Lorna Shaughnessy, Hugo Seale, Sarah O'Toole, Kernan Andrews, Paul David Murphy, Galway Actors Workshop and the ever-indignant John Donnellan.

Hosts for the evening will be Aoibheann McCann, Conor Montague, and Mark Kennedy.

april 24th sunday
8pm ROISIN DUBH
doors tickets €10
all proceeds to GRCC
show commences 8.30pm

april
doors

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Cúirt event (post-6pm)
€90



Booking at Galway Arts Centre at 091 565 886 / info@galwayartscentre.ie

BOOKING INFORMATION

BOOK ONLINE AT:

www.cuirt.ie

or

Town Hall Theatre Galway
Town Hall Theatre,
Courthouse Square,
Galway, Ireland.

Email: thtsales@galwaycity.ie

Box Office: **091-569777**



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FESTIVAL 9 - 25 JULY 2016

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+353 91 564041

The Western Hotel
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Thanks

Cúirt would like to thank the following people for their help and support:

Marilyn Gaughan, James C. Harrold, Liz Powell, Sarah Bannan and all of the Arts Council staff, the board of the Galway Arts Centre, the staff of the Town Hall Theatre, Fiona Monaghan, Josephine Vahey, Jimmy Maguire, Bernard Kirk, Biggley Byrne, Margaret Flannery, Chris Coughlan, Elaine Cosgrove, Cora Gunter, Siobhán Arkins, Ciarán Doyle and the staff of The Bish, Tomás MacPháidín and Davnet McEllin, Galway Water, our interns and our volunteers.

Cúirt would like to extend a very sincere thanks to our anonymous donors who gave so generously to the festival this year.



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FÉILE IDIRNÁISIÚNTA LITRÍOCHTA
17th - 24th APRIL 2016

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THE WOMEN OF 1916

'the state recognises that by her life within the home'
article 41.2.1. The Irish Constitution

Years before the offending article
was even conjured up by De Valera
and the very Reverend John Charles McQuaid
with the help of a pack of Jesuits -
the plan was set in train
to banish these biddies
back to their kitchen sinks.

The banishing tool of choice
was the airbrush.
The women of 1916
did not sit back
and wait in the wings of history
with tricolor dribblers to mop
the runny eggs
from the chins of the rebels.

These unmanageables,
were there from the start.

They could knit
a thirty two county Ireland
in plain and purl,
with their eyes closed
and never drop a stitch,
while rearing seven sons
and as many daughters.

The rifles they held
were not for showing
but for using.

The handgun could nestle on a hip
or be tucked into a petticoat.
Webley, Colt, Smith and Wesson.
Winnie (with the Webley) Carney
was one of the last people out of the GPO,
revolver in one hand, typewriter in the other.

I write it out in a verse-
Lily O' Brennan, Constance Markievicz,
Helena Moloney, Ellen'Nellie' Gifford
May Moore , Rosie Hackett, Dr. Kathleen Lynn
Margaret Skinnider, Rose McNamara
Nell Ryan, Lizzie Mulhall, Kathleen' Kitty' Fleming...

Whenever green dresses are worn,
some tricolor dribblers spill scorn.

RITA ANN HIGGINS

Front cover quote from Toni Morrison