

Cúirt

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE
FÉILE IDRINÁISIÚNTA LITRÍOCHTA

08 - 14 APRIL 2019

www.cuirt.ie

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FRONT AND BACK COVER IMAGES BY JENNIFER CUNNINGHAM.

A Welcome from Programme Director, Emily Cullen



Fáilte is fiche go Cúirt Litríochta na bliana seo. A very warm welcome to the 34th annual Cúirt International Festival of Literature. Cúirt 2019 is one of our most broadly international festivals yet and will see renowned writers from Albania, America, Croatia, England, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Nigeria, Palestine, Ukraine and Slovenia taking part, as well as the very best of Irish authors. In cooperation with our partner festivals in Croatia and Slovenia we are delighted to be launching our pan-European project, 'Read Me I Am Yours' as part of our World Literature Day on Tuesday, 9th April. This day will allow us to hear and share stories from a host of other cultures and will culminate in a special event celebrating world literature in English translation.

Two loose themes this year are 'literature of witness' and 'humanity and technology'. In an age where we seek to resist designations such as 'post-truth' and 'fake news', literature of witness takes on an especially urgent note, founded as it is, upon veracity, testament, common humanity and continuous challenge. We will hear stories of writers who have endured decades of totalitarian censorship, words of poets who are engaging with issues of war and exile, racism and gender, and the account of a professor of Law from Galway who reports to the United Nations on human rights. In terms of human ingenuity, we will hear about the quest to extend mortality using artificial intelligence; we will be transported through the interior landscapes of mathematician, Alan Turing's mind and interrogate how the language of the internet has impacted the contemporary novel.

The unique magic of Cúirt depends upon a small but dedicated team of staff at Galway Arts Centre, a committed board of directors, a voluntary reading panel, and on a small crew of festival ambassadors and volunteers. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each and every one of you for all your hard work, your time and enthusiasm. We also gratefully acknowledge the funders and sponsors who support the festival. Above all, we thank you, the audience, for your interest in Cúirt.

The iconic Town Hall Theatre has a long association with Cúirt and we are honoured that Galway artist, Jennifer Cunningham has designed our beautiful cover image to reflect this enduring connection. The hopscotch leading to the Town Hall Theatre in her imaginative rendering is an invitation to us all to take a curious and playful leap into literary discovery!

Booking Information

BOOK ONLINE AT www.cuirt.ie or www.tht.ie
 BOX OFFICE **Town Hall Theatre**
 Courthouse Square, Galway, Ireland,
 Telephone +353 (0)91 569 777

Stay in Touch

Join the Cúirt conversation online and stay tuned for the latest updates.

@CuirtFestival #cuirt2019

Cúirt International Festival of Literature

CÚIRT LABS

- PAGE TUES 09
- 42 **Aga Grandowicz & Patricia Forde**
Galway Arts Centre
9.30am - 11.25am
- WED 10
- 42 **ER Murray, Melatu Uche Okorie, Pdraig Kenny and Paula Leyden**
Galway Arts Centre
9.30am - 1.45pm
- FRI 12
- 43 **Áine Ní Ghlinn**
Nun's Island Theatre
10am - 11am (Bilingual)
& 11.30am - 12.30pm
(As gaeilge)
- SAT 13
- 43 **Dave Rudden, Maria Karapish & Mot Collins, Mary Watson, Red Bird Youth Collective and Cúirt Young New Writer of the Year**
Galway Arts Centre
11am - 5.30pm

EXHIBITIONS

- OPENING HOURS
MON - SAT 9AM - 5PM
- 39 **The Dance of the Cherry Trees**
The Kenny gallery
9 - 26 APRIL
- 39 **PERMISSION**
Just Art It

LIBRARY EVENTS

- 39 Tuam, Loughrea and Galway City Library

MONDAY 08

- PAGE
- 4 **The Well Review Poetry Surgery**
* Áras na nGael
10am
- 40 **Fact to Fiction: Jumpstarting that Novel**
Galway Arts Centre
11am
- 40 **The Art of Short Fiction**
Galway Arts Centre
11am
- 4 **What Publishers Look For**
Nun's Island Theatre
1pm
- 5 **Writing Across Genres**
Nun's Island Theatre
5pm
- 44 **Paddy Irish Whiskey Fireside Sessions**
* The Dáil 5pm
Busker Brownes 7pm
- 6 **Niamh Boyce Her Kind Launch**
* Bite Club
6pm
- 6 **The Heart Project**
Nun's Island Theatre
8pm

TUESDAY 09

- PAGE
- 7 **Cúirt World Literature Day**
* **Read Me I am Yours Launch**
Nun's Island Theatre
12pm
- 8 **New Poetry from Italy, Poland and Ukraine**
Nun's Island Theatre
1pm
- 12 **Plaque Unveilings**
* The Long Walk
3pm
- 9 **Voices from Albania: Beyond Dictatorship**
Nun's Island Theatre
4pm
- 12 **Ropes launch**
* Town Hall Theatre
5pm
- 44 **Paddy Irish Whiskey Fireside Sessions**
* The Front Door 5pm
Tigh Neachtain 7pm
- 10 **Aifric MacAodha, Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird & Ronan Browne**
* Nun's Island Theatre
6pm
- 11 **World Perspectives**
Nun's Island Theatre
8pm
- 12 **Chatroom - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm
- * **Festival Club**
* The Crane
10pm

WEDNESDAY 10

- PAGE
- 13 **Cúirt/Over the Edge New Writing Showcase**
* Town Hall Theatre
11am
- 40 **Learn to Listen / Listen to Learn**
* Áras na nGael
11.30am
- 14 **Transhumanism: Extending Mortality?**
Nun's Island Theatre
1pm
- 15 **Contemporary Poetry from Japan**
* Nun's Island Theatre
3pm
- 15 **Nora Walking Tour**
* Starts at Tigh Nora
3pm
- 44 **Paddy Irish Whiskey Fireside Sessions**
* Garavan's 5.30pm
Taaffes 7pm
- 16 **Cúirt Festival Official Opening**
* Hotel Meyrick
6pm
- 16 **Novel Approaches to History**
Town Hall Theatre
8pm
- 12 **Chatroom - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm
- * **Festival Club**
* Tigh Nora
10pm

THURSDAY 11

- PAGE
- 41 **Fiction Writing for Young People**
Galway Arts Centre
11am
- 41 **Advanced Poetry**
Galway Arts Centre
11am
- 18 **Human Rights in the Age of Terrorism**
Town Hall Theatre
1pm
- 15 **Nora Walking Tour**
* Starts at Tigh Nora
3pm
- 19 **Traversing Parallels: Literature of Place**
Nun's Island Theatre
4pm
- 44 **Paddy Irish Whiskey Fireside Sessions**
* The King's Head 5pm
Taylor's Bar 7pm
- 20 **Thomas McCarthy & Tess Gallagher**
Town Hall Theatre
6pm
- 20 **Calasactius Launch**
* Oranmore
7pm
- 21 **Gone: A Girl, a Violin, a Life Unstrung**
Town Hall Theatre
8pm
- 12 **Chatroom - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm
- * **Festival Club**
* Tigh Neachtain
10pm

FRIDAY 12

- PAGE
- 22 **Poems for Patience**
* Galway University
Hospital
11am
- 23 **Surveying Short Fiction**
Town Hall Theatre
1pm
- 24 **Moyra Donaldson & John Kelly**
Nun's Island Theatre
4pm
- 24 **Spoken Word at Supermacs**
* Supermacs
4pm
- 44 **Paddy Irish Whiskey Fireside Sessions**
* Tig Coilli 5pm
The Blue Note 7pm
- 25 **Saying and Essaying: the Personal & the Political**
Town Hall Theatre
6pm
- 27 **Patricia Smith & Rafeef Ziadah**
Town Hall Theatre
8pm
- 28 **Oíche Liteartha & Ceoil**
* **Seoladh Leabhair**
* Seanscoil Sailearna
8pm
- 12 **Chatroom - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm
- * **Festival Club**
* The Black Gate
10pm

SATURDAY 13

- PAGE
- 29 **Jessica Traynor, Mark Granier & Ailbhe Darcy**
Town Hall Theatre
11.30am
- 30 **Joshua Cohen & Will Eaves**
Town Hall Theatre
1pm
- 41 **Spoken Word Workshop with Rafeef Ziadah**
Galway Arts Centre
2pm
- 30 **Spoken Word Platform**
Róisín Dubh
3pm
- 31 **Bleachtairí, Coirp agus Ficsean Eolaíochta**
* Town Hall Studio
3pm
- 32 **New Zealand Showcase**
Town Hall Theatre
4pm
- 32 **London Writers' Eclectic Presents...**
* Black Gate Cultural
Centre 5pm
- 12 **Chat Room - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
5pm
- 33 **Debut Irish Voices**
Town Hall Theatre
6pm
- 34 **An Evening with Ben Okri**
Town Hall Theatre
8pm
- 12 **Chat Room - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm
- * **Festival Club**
* The Black Gate
10pm

SUNDAY 14

- PAGE
- 36 **I sing a song of the croissant**
Rouge
12pm
- 36 **#WeAreThePoets**
* Nun's Island Theatre
1pm
- 37 **Catherine Doyle & Dave Rudden**
Nun's Island Theatre
3pm
- 37 **Let Go**
* Nun's Island Theatre
4.15pm
- 38 **Memory in Literature & History**
Nun's Island Theatre
5pm
- 38 **The Sounding**
Nun's Island Theatre
8pm



MIN KYM, p.21



PATRICIA SMITH, p.26 & p.41



BEN OKRI, p.34

For all the latest updates please see cuirt.ie



LULJETA LLESHANAKU, p.9



MARK O'CONNELL, p.14



FIONNUALA NÍ AOLÁIN, p.18

* Consider yourself invited to what promises to be a friendly and relaxing place to chat after a day of Cúirting! The festival club is at various venues from 10pm until late.



POETRY The Well Review Poetry Surgery

MONDAY 8 APRIL 10AM - 4PM
ÁRAS NA nGAEL FREE

A surgery for your poetry emergencies! Please bring one poem and any queries about your piece. Ask *The Well Review's* editor, Sarah Byrne, about their submission policy and poetry publishing in general in these free twenty-minute slots.

Sarah Byrne is a writer and the founding editor of *The Well Review*, an international poetry and visual arts journal based in Cork. Her poetry has been published in *The New Statesman*, *The Irish Times*, *The Irish Examiner*, *Poetry Ireland Review* and elsewhere. She worked as a criminologist for nine years, teaches part-time and is a tutor at The Poetry School and The Oxford School of Poetry.

To book your slot in advance email: bookings@cuirt.ie

What Publishers Look For

MONDAY 8 APRIL 1PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €5
This event is subsidised by Cúirt



What do publishers and commissioning editors look for now, from large publishing houses such as Penguin and Head of Zeus to small, independent presses such as The Stinging Fly? Our experts will discuss strategies for getting published, editing techniques and some of the mistakes authors make when submitting manuscripts. They will also share fascinating stories behind the discovery of acclaimed books.

Neil Belton was born and educated in North Dublin before attending UCD. His book *The Good Listener* won the Irish Times Literature Prize. His novel *Games With Sharpened Knives* was published in 2005. He co-wrote *The Railway Man* by Eric Lomax. He has been a publisher at Cape, Granta, Faber and Head of Zeus.

Fiona Murphy began her publishing career in the UK at Transworld, Vintage and Quercus working with authors Rachel Kushner, Sheila Heti, Laurent Binet, Sarah Knight and Karl Ove Knausgaard. She now acquires literary fiction and narrative non-fiction for Doubleday Ireland, and commercial fiction and quirky non-fiction for Transworld Ireland. Her authors include Donal Ryan, Rosita Boland, Jan Carson, Conor O'Callaghan, Colm O'Regan and *TwistedDoodles* illustrator Maria Boyle.

This event will be chaired by **Declan Meade**, publisher and founding editor of *The Stinging Fly* magazine and press.



Writing Across Genres

MONDAY 8 APRIL 5PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €8/€5
This event is subsidised

"A taut and
absorbing thriller."
DONAL RYAN ON
THE BRANCHMAN

"Extraordinary...
Orchid & the Wasp
is a mesmeric,
immersive, often
hilarious reading
experience..."
IRISH INDEPENDENT

"Dark, dramatic,
bold and striking,
the pitch-black
Jacobean tone of
Perry's poetic shines
with clarity and
intensity."
POETRY IRELAND
REVIEW

What does it feel like to try crime writing when your usual medium is poetry? Are there easy ways to transition from short stories to a full length novel or from poetry to screenwriting? Join our experts to discuss vital tips and approaches to writing across genres.

Nessa O'Mahony has published four books of poetry. She produces and presents a monthly podcast for writers called *The Attic Sessions*. Her debut crime novel, *The Branchman*, was published by Arlen House in 2018. Her fifth poetry collection, *The Hollow Woman and the Island*, is forthcoming from Salmon Poetry in 2019.

Caoilinn Hughes' debut novel *Orchid & the Wasp* (Oneworld) was a finalist for the 2018 Butler Literary Award. Her poetry collection *Gathering Evidence* (Carcenet, 2014) won the Irish Times Shine/Strong Award. Her writing has appeared in *Granta*, *The Irish Times*, *Tin House*, *POETRY* and elsewhere.

Paul Perry is the award-winning and critically acclaimed author of several books of poetry and prose. A winner of the Hennessy Prize for Irish Literature, he is a poet, novelist, and screenwriter. Paul lives in Dublin, Ireland, where he directs the Creative Writing programme at University College Dublin.

This event will be chaired by **Dr. John Kenny**, founding director of the BA with Creative Writing programme at NUI Galway, where he is now director of the MA in Writing.



BOOK LAUNCH

Her Kind (Penguin)
by Niamh BoyceMONDAY 8 APRIL 6PM
BITECLUB FREE

“Shines a light on women who have all too often been silenced by history.”
LOUISE O'NEILL

The eagerly awaited new novel from the award-winning author of No 1 bestseller, *The Herbalist*. Inspired by the true story of Alice Kytler, *Her Kind* is a tense, moving and atmospheric re-imagining of the events leading up to the Kilkenny witch trial of 1324.

Niamh's critically acclaimed debut novel was nominated for an IMPAC award and won Debut of the Year at the Irish Book Awards. She was Hennessy XO New Irish Writer Of The Year in 2012.

THEATRE

Fregoli Theatre
presents

The Heart Project

MONDAY 8 APRIL 8PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8

Fregoli Theatre are delighted to present the first performance of *The Fregoli Heart Project* at Cúirt 2019. In an era of borders, marginalization, and mass attempts to inspire hate and difference, Fregoli wishes to return to what is quintessential to life; love. This is a performance in development created from public stories of love in all its forms. The creative team includes a visual artist, composer, performers, dancers from the Eglinton Galway, and the Bohermore Teen Drama Group.

Our World Literature Day offers a pan-European feast of contemporary writing from Albania, Croatia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Slovenia and Ukraine. Featuring a sparkling array of international award-winning authors, this day of readings begins with the launch of a two-year European project *Read Me I am Yours* and culminates in our 'World Perspectives' event which celebrates foreign literature in English translation.



LAUNCH

Read Me I am Yours

TUESDAY 9 APRIL 12PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE FREE

The *Read Me I am Yours* project sees Cúirt partner with Vilenica International Literary Festival, Slovenia and the Festival of World Literature, Croatia. This partnership aims to create opportunities to promote cross-cultural understanding and to encourage intercultural dialogue with a special focus on literature from lesser known linguistic regions. The project aims to facilitate greater access to literature and spoken word in minority languages and dialects by creating an online portal to share work produced as a result of authors' exchanges, discussions, colloquiums and literary readings that will take place throughout 2019 and 2020.

Musician **Ronan Browne** will be accompanied by a selection of our European guests to officially launch the project.

Cúirt 2019
Ceoltóir Chónaitheach
Musician-in-residence

Le tacaíocht ó Foras na Gaeilge, tá áthas ar Chúirt go bhfuil Ceoltóir Chónaitheach ag an bhFéile i mbliana. Tá an píobaire clúiteach, **Ronan Browne**, chun a pháobá uilleann a chasadh agus tá sé mar aidhm ag Cúirt fuaim suntasach na bpíobá a chur i láthair ag imeachtaí áirithe le linn na féile agus chun luachanna speisialta cheoil a chur lenár gclár liteartha. Tá na píobá uilleann aitheanta ag UNESCO mar shiombal tábhachtach i ndúchas na hÉireann.

This year Cúirt, in association with Foras na Gaeilge, is proud to support a musician-in-residence for the festival week. The aim of the residency is to showcase the distinctive sound of one of our national instruments, the uilleann pipes, and to complement and enhance our literary programme. Na píobá uilleann have been recognised by UNESCO as an important symbol of Ireland's heritage. One of the finest exponents of uilleann piping, **Ronan Browne**, will introduce the instrument and perform at a number of events during the festival. Ronan will also hold a special free workshop on the appreciation of Irish Music: 'Learn to Listen/ Listen to Learn', at 11.30am Wednesday 10th April, at Áras na nGael.



POETRY

New poetry from Italy,
Poland and Ukraine

TUESDAY 9 APRIL 1PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8

Antonella Bukovaz is originally from Topolò, a village on the Italian-Slovenian border, in the Natisone valleys. Poetry collections include *Tatuaggi* (LietoColle, 2006) and *Storia di una donna che guarda al dissolversi di un paesaggio*, which won the Antonio Delfini Award in 2009. Bukovaz is interested in the interactions between word, sound and image producing videopoesia and video-audio installation. Bukovaz was the Crystal Vilenica award winner in 2017.

Bogusia Wardein is from Poland. Her first published piece of poetry was nominated for the Forward Prize in 2013. Since then fifty of her poems have appeared in publications internationally, including the anthology *Hallelujah for 50ft Women* (Bloodaxe, 2015), described as a "great collection of poems from some of the best women writing today." In 2018 she won the New Zealand Poetry Society competition and performed her work at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Kateryna Kalytko is an award-winning writer and translator, and PEN Ukraine member. Kalytko is considered one of the most powerful voices of the Ukrainian younger literary generation. She is the author of nine books, including seven poetry volumes. Her latest collection *Bunar* has been highly praised by critics and was named among the ten most important books of 2018 in Ukraine.

This event will be introduced by **Lorna Shaughnessy**, a poet and translator who lectures in Hispanic Studies in NUI Galway. She has published three collections of poetry (*Torching the Brown River*, *Witness Trees* and *Anchored*) with Salmon Poetry and is working on her fourth collection.

POETRY

Voices from Albania: Beyond Dictatorship

TUESDAY 9 APRIL 4PM

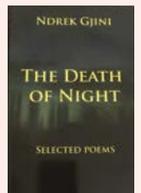
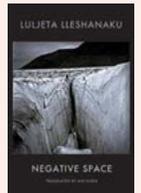
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8



As part of our 'literature of witness' focus this year, Cúirt is delighted to present English PEN award-winner, **Luljeta Lleshanaku** and Galway-based Albanian poet, **Ndrek Gjini**.

An upsurge in Albanian writing followed the collapse of Enver Hoxha's dictatorship in 1990 as poets and writers were given complete freedom to write, almost overnight. Though ready to attack it, some found Socialist Realism hard to break away from. It was apparent, though, that this new writing was very original because the poets had experienced virtually no contact with the literature of the outside world. Able to transcend time and culture, **Luljeta Lleshanaku** is a pioneer of Albanian poetry. Born in 1968, she was 17 when Enver Hoxha died in 1985 and quickly established herself as a powerful poetic voice.

Galway-based Albanian poet, **Ndrek Gjini**, is a well-known figure in the local arts and literature scene and a founder of *The Galway Review*. His first collection in the English language, *The Death of Night*, was published in 2011 by EMAL. He also happens to be a friend of Luljeta's for many years. Join two poets and old friends as they share a stage and enlighten us about the fraught and gripping history of Albania and its literature.





POETRY & MUSIC/FILÍOCHT & CEOL

This is a bilingual event in Irish & English

Aifric MacAodha, Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird & Ronan Browne

TUESDAY 9 APRIL 6PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8

Cuireann duanaire *Calling Cards* (The Gallery Press, 2018) glúin nua na bhfilí óga atá ag scríobh i nGaeilge, le haistriúcháin ar fáil i mBéarla, i láthair do lucht léitheoireachta níos leithne. Tá áthas ar Chúirt beirt fhilí le saothar sa chuasach seo, **Aifric Mac Aodha** agus **Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird**, a chur i láthair. Léifidh siad a gcuid filíochta i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla i gcuideachta cheolmhar ár gCeoltóir Chónaitheach na Féile, an píobaire cáiliúil, **Ronan Browne**.

The *Calling Cards* anthology of younger poets writing in Irish, with translations into English, (The Gallery Press, 2018) introduced a new generation of Irish-language poets to a wider audience. Cúirt is delighted to present two of these poets, **Aifric Mac Aodha** and **Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird**, who will read their work as Gaeilge and in translation, in collaboration with Cúirt musician-in-residence, renowned uilleann piper, **Ronan Browne**.

Rugadh **Aifric Mac Aodha** i nGaillimh i 1979. D'fhoilsigh An Sagart an chéad chnuasach filíochta léi, *Gabháil Syrinx*, i 2010. D'fhoilsigh The Gallery Press an chéad chnuasach dátheangach léi sa bhliain 2017 (David Wheatley a d'aistrigh). Sa bhliain 2018, chuir sí féin agus Peter Fallon *Calling Cards* in eagar, cnuasach dátheangach ina bhfuil bundánta Gaeilge ó pheann deichniúr filí den ghlúin nua mar aon le haistriúcháin ó fhilí aitheanta as Éirinn.

Aifric Mac Aodha was born in Galway in 1979. Her first collection, *Gabháil Syrinx*, was published by An Sagart in 2010. *Foreign News* (with translations by David Wheatley) was published by The Gallery Press in 2017. In 2018 she co-edited *Calling Cards*, a bilingual anthology of younger Irish-language poets.

Is as Árann Mhór i dTír Chonaill do **Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird**. Bhain sé duaiseanna dá chuid filíochta ag Féile Idirnáisiúnta Bhéal na mBuillí, Comórtas an Choirnéal Uí Néill agus Oireachtas na Gaeilge. Ba é *Bealach na Mine Bui* an cnuasach filíochta ba dhéanaí uaidh. Foilsíodh úrscéal úr dá chuid *Tairngreacht* i mí Eanáir.

Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird is from Árann Mhór in the Donegal Gaeltacht. He has won prizes for poetry at the Stokestown Poetry Festival, The Colonel O'Neill Prize and the Oireachtas na Gaeilge poetry competition. His most recent collection is *Bealach na Mine Bui*. His latest novel *Tairngreacht* was published in January.



PHOTO DENIS ROUVRE



PHOTO MATTHIAS & SEITZ



PHOTO VELJKA HASANBEGOVIC



PHOTO MAJ-PAVCEK

FICTION

World Perspectives

TUESDAY 9 APRIL 8PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €15/€13

Our popular event celebrating world literature in English translation returns with a diverse collection of storytellers and award-winning voices from France, Germany, Slovenia & Croatia. Each author will give a short reading and discuss their work and inspiration.

Sylvain Prudhomme is one of the most exciting contemporary novelists in France. In 2015, he was awarded the prestigious Prix Littéraire de la Porte Dorée for his novel *Les Grands/The Greats*, which also won the Prix Georges-Brassens in 2014.

Esther Kinsky grew up by the river Rhine and lived in London for twelve years. She is the author of three volumes of poetry and two novels (*Summer Resort*, *Banatsko* and *River*). *River* won many awards including the Adelbert von Chamisso Prize 2016, the Franz Hessel Prize 2014, and was longlisted for the German Book Prize 2014.

Igor Štikl was born in Sarajevo and has lived in Zagreb, Paris, Chicago, Edinburgh and Belgrade. His first novel, *A Castle in Romagna*, won the Slavić prize for best first novel in Croatia. His novel *The Judgment of Richard Richter* (Amazon Crossing, 2017), originally published as *Elijah's Chair* has been translated into fifteen languages.

Jasmin B. Frelih studied Comparative Literature and History at the University of Ljubljana's Faculty of Arts. His first novel *Na/pol (In/Half)* was published in 2013 and received the EU Prize for Literature, the Best Literary Debut award, was shortlisted for the Slovenian novel of the year, and has been translated into English (Oneworld, 2018) and Dutch (De Geus, 2017).

This event will be chaired by Dr. **Kate Quinn**, Head of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at NUI Galway.

This event is dedicated to the memory of the late Eileen Battersby who tragically passed away in late 2018. One of our foremost literary critics, Eileen championed world literature in translation and called our attention to the work of many international writers.



In association with the French Embassy of Ireland.

Plaque Unveilings

For many years, as part of Cúirt, plaques have been unveiled at locations around Galway city with special literary associations. The prose and poetry cast onto bronze or carved into stone provide 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 at the Long Walk at 3pm on Tuesday, 9th April:

The first, from "A Town tormented by the Sea" by poet, Mary Davenport O'Neill.

The second, from *The Guards* by author, Ken Bruen.

TUESDAY 9 APRIL 3PM
THE LONG WALK FREE

BOOK LAUNCH



TUESDAY 9 APRIL 5PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE
FREE

This year marks the 27th iteration of *ROPES*, a literary journal produced annually by the students of the MA in Literature and Publishing at NUI Galway. Titled 'Unearthed', *ROPES 2019* comprises a range of fiction and poetry that seek to uncover and explore the nuances of human existence. Alongside fresh, up-and-coming voices are established writers such as Marissa Crane, Khalisa Rae, Kevin Higgins and Nuala O'Connor. Proceeds from the sale of *ROPES 2019* are in aid of Galway Simon Community, a charity which provides invaluable support to the most vulnerable members of our society. **Melatu Uche Okorie**, author of *This Hostel Life*, will be the guest speaker at this event.



THEATRE
Galway Youth Theatre
presents

Enda Walsh's
Chatroom

TUES 09 - SAT 13 APRIL 8PM
MATINEE SAT 5PM
TOWN HALL STUDIO €14/€12

A group of bored and restless teenagers spend their time deconstructing children's literature and the messages in modern pop music. But when a new member, Jim, joins to share his depression and thoughts of suicide, the conversation takes a dark turn. The group is torn between those who want to help and those who see this as a chance to create a martyr for the teenage population.



POETRY/FICTION Cúirt/Over the Edge Showcase

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 11AM
TOWN HALL THEATRE FREE

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 2019 Cúirt New Writing Prize. This event is a firm favourite amongst Cúirt audiences, and one not to be missed. Winners of the 2019 Cúirt New Writing Prize (Poetry: **Jeremy Haworth** & Short Fiction: **Shannon Savvas**) will join the showcase line-up to read their winning entries.

John D. Kelly lives in Co. Fermanagh. Since he began writing creatively in 2011, his work has been commended in many competitions and published in various literary publications. He was highly commended in the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award 2016, awarded joint silver in the International Dermot Healy Poetry Competition in both 2015 and 2014, and won first prize in Hungry Hill 'Poets Meet Painters' 2014. John was a Featured Reader at the February 2018 Over The Edge: Open Reading.

Jessamine O'Connor has won the iYeats, the Francis Ledwidge, and the Poetry Ireland Butlers Café poetry competitions, and was shortlisted for the Hennessy, Over The Edge, Cúirt New Writing, Galway Hospital Poems For Patience, Bradshaw Books, Leaf Books and Red Line Book Festival competitions. She is currently promoting her fifth chapbook *Pact*, and her first full collection of poems is coming out with Salmon in early 2020. Jessamine was a Featured Reader at the May 2018 Over The Edge: Open Reading.

Daniel McBrearty is a writer of both poetry and prose. The Donegal native's poetry has been published in *A New Ulster*, and his fiction was chosen as the winner in the Ulster Male category in the Hot Press Write Here Write Now Competition. A student of creative writing at NUI Galway, Danny's writing deals with being young in an irrational world. Danny was a Featured Reader at the December 2018 Over The Edge: Open Reading.

With thanks to our esteemed Cúirt New Writing Prize judges Thomas McCarthy (poetry) and Antony Farrell (short fiction).

NON-FICTION

Transhumanism: Extending Mortality?

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 1PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8

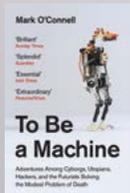
In our quest to extend life expectancy, just how far can humanity accommodate technology? Award-winning writer, **Mark O'Connell** reads from, and discusses the fascinating themes of his provocative book, *To Be a Machine*, with Lecturer **Justin Tonra**.

Mark O'Connell is a non-fiction writer from Dublin. His book *To Be a Machine* was awarded the 2018 Wellcome Book Prize, was shortlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize and the Royal Society Science Book Prize, and has been translated into fifteen languages. He is a contributor to various publications, including *The New York Times Magazine*, *Slate*, *The Guardian*, and *The Dublin Review*.

Justin Tonra is a Lecturer in English at NUI Galway. His interests are broadly in the areas of intersection between literature and technology.

"By exposing the ludicrous yet terrifyingly serious ideologies behind transhumanism, *To Be a Machine* is an important book, as well as a seriously funny one."

SUNDAY TIMES



POETRY

Contemporary Poetry from Japan

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 3PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE FREE



To mark and celebrate the publication of Sasaki's new poetry collection in English translation, *Sky Navigation Homeward: New and Selected Poems*, Mr. Mikiro Sasaki, Dr. Mitsuko Ohno and Prof. Nobuaki Tochigi are joining Cúirt 2019 to offer a bilingual presentation of poetry through reading and talk.

Mikiro Sasaki, born in Nara in 1947, was Poet in Residence at Oakland University in Michigan, and part-time lecturer in music literature at Tokyo University of the Arts, Graduate School of Music. Since his first collection *The Whiplash of the Dead* (1970), he has published *Searching for Wild Honey* (Takami Jun Prize), *Tomorrow* (Hagiwara Sakutarō Prize), and other works. His essays and critical collections include *Nakahara Chuya* (Suntory Arts Award), *Asian Sea-route Travel* (Yomiuri Prize for Literature) and many other titles.

Mitsuko Ohno, Ph.D. and Professor Emerita of Aichi Shukutoku University, is the author of *Yeats and the Tradition of Anglo-Irish Literature* (1999) and *Women's Ireland* (1998), written in Japanese. Her translations include *Pharaoh's Daughter*, *Selected Poems in Irish by Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill* (2001) and *On Two Shores, New and Selected Poems by Mutsuo Takahashi* (2006).

Nobuaki Tochigi is Professor of English at Waseda University. His Japanese books include *From the Irish Pub: Explorations in Irish Oral Culture* (1998), *Poets Personate: Essays on Contemporary Poets* (2010), and *Travels in Ireland: from Joyce to U2* (2012). He has translated books by J. M. Synge, William Trevor, Ciaran Carson, Colm Tóibín, Bruce Chatwin and Colum McCann. He received the Yomiuri Prize for Literature for *Whispers of Irish Memorabilia* (2013).

POETRY

Nora Walking Tour

WEDNESDAY 10 &
THURSDAY 11 APRIL 3PM
STARTS AND CONCLUDES
AT TIGH NORA
(DURATION 40 MINS) FREE

Nora Barnacle is probably best known as the wife and inspiration of James Joyce. Although sometimes overshadowed by the genius of Joyce she was a strong and independent woman in her own right. After a quarrel with her uncle, Nora ran away from Galway to work in Dublin, where on the 16th June 1904 she met James. This meeting is now celebrated every year as Bloomsday. The Nora walking tour will tell the story of the houses where she stayed, the bar that is named after her (Tigh Nora), and the place where she grew up.

Official Opening

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 6PM
HOTEL MEYRICK FREE

Join us at the Hotel Meyrick, Eyre Square, for music and refreshments as we officially open Cúirt International Festival of Literature 2019.

FICTION Novel Approaches to History



The nineteenth century is enjoying a moment in contemporary literature, inspiring a diversity of fresh stories and new perspectives. Join Joseph O'Connor and Nuala O'Connor whose new novels recreate the worlds of historical figures and new author, Paraic O'Donnell whose Victorian detective novel weaves in an irresistible Gothic note.

Joseph O'Connor was born in Dublin. His books include the bestselling *Star of the Sea*, *Redemption Falls*, *Ghost Light* and *The Thrill of it All*. His fiction has been translated into forty languages. He received the 2012 Irish PEN Award for outstanding achievement in literature and in 2014 he was appointed Frank McCourt Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Limerick.

Nuala O'Connor lives in Co. Galway. Her short story "Gooseen" won the UK's 2018 Short Fiction Prize. It was published in *Granta* and was shortlisted for Story of the Year at the Irish Book Awards. Her third novel, *Miss Emily*, was shortlisted for the Eason Book Club Novel of the Year 2015 and longlisted for the 2017 International DUBLIN Literary Award. Her fourth novel, *Becoming Belle*, was published to critical acclaim in September 2018.

Paraic O'Donnell is a novelist and critic. His essays and reviews have appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Spectator*, *The Irish Times* and elsewhere. His first novel, *The Maker of Swans*, was named the Amazon Rising Stars Debut of the Month for February 2016, and was shortlisted for the Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book Awards in the Newcomer of the Year category. His most recent novel, *The House on Vesper Sands*, was a *Guardian* and *Observer* book of the year for 2018.

This event will be chaired by **Edel Coffey**, broadcaster and journalist.

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 8PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €15/€13



"There are few living writers who can take us back in time so assuredly, with such sensual density, through such gorgeous sentences. Joseph O'Connor is a wonder, and *Shadowplay* is a triumph."

PETER CAREY

"*Becoming Belle* is rich with authentic, nuanced depictions of Victorian London and it is clear that O'Connor has undertaken meticulous research."

THE IRISH TIMES

"The most vivid and compelling portrait of late Victorian London since *The Crimson Petal and the White*."

SARAH PERRY, BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
THE ESSEX SERPENT

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TALK

CÚIRT KEYNOTE

Fionnuala Ní Aoláin: Human Rights in the Age of Terrorism: Perspectives and Reflections

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 1PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8

For the past two decades, democracies have made counter-terrorism efforts a foreign policy priority. This has coincided with the growth of human rights narratives as a fundamental feature of such democracies. However, a number of counterterrorism measures have raised serious human rights concerns. How do states ensure strong national security while protecting the fundamental human rights they claim as the bedrock of their society?

Galway native, Professor **Fionnuala Ní Aoláin** is United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights while Countering Terrorism. Her book *On the Frontlines: Gender, War and the Post Conflict Process* was published by Oxford University Press (2011). She recently edited the *Oxford Handbook on Gender and Conflict* (2017).

Chaired by **Siobhán Mullally**, Professor of Human Rights Law and Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights at NUI Galway.



NON-FICTION

Traversing Parallels: Literature of Place Malachy Tallack & Manchán Magan

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 4PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8

"Malachy Tallack is the real deal... not just a vibrant new voice, but a wise, questioning and highly sophisticated talent."

JOHN BURNSIDE

The sixtieth parallel marks a borderland between the northern and southern worlds. It also passes through Shetland, where **Malachy Tallack** has spent most of his life. In *Sixty Degrees North*, (chosen as a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week) Malachy travels westward, exploring the landscapes of the parallel and the ways that people have interacted with those landscapes, highlighting themes of wildness and community, isolation and engagement, exile and memory.

This event will be chaired by writer and documentary-maker **Manchán Magan**. Manchán has written books about his travels to Africa, India and South America and two novels. He writes occasionally for *The Irish Times*, reports on travel for various radio programmes, and has presented dozens of documentaries on issues of world culture. He lives in his oak forest in a self-made hovel in Westmeath.

Join two fine exponents of travel writing as they discuss the literature of place.



POETRY

Thomas McCarthy & Tess Gallagher

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 6PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8



Thomas McCarthy has published many collections of poetry, including *The First Convention*, *The Sorrow Garden*, *Lost Province*, *Merchant Prince* and *The Last Geraldine Officer*. *Pandemonium* (2016) was shortlisted for the Irish Times Poetry Now Award. His new collection, *Prophecy*, will be published in April 2019. He has won the Patrick Kavanagh Award, the Alice Hunt Bartlett Prize, the O'Shaughnessy Prize for Poetry and the Ireland Funds Annual Literary Award.

Tess Gallagher's twelfth volume of poetry, *Is, Is Not*, will be published by Graywolf Press in 2019. *Midnight Lantern: New and Selected Poems*, is her presently most complete volume of poetry from Bloodaxe Press. Other poetry includes *Dear Ghosts*, *Moon Crossing Bridge*, *Amplitude*, *The Man from Kinvara: Selected Stories* and *Barnacle Soup—Stories from the West of Ireland*, a collaboration with the Sligo storyteller Josie Gray.

BOOK LAUNCH Calasanctius College

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 7PM
NANO NAGLE HALL, CALASANCTIUS COLLEGE,
ORANMORE FREE



Art. Words. Profundity. Performance. Teenagers? You might not think these would normally go hand-in-hand. Well, prepare to be surprised. On Thursday 11th April, we will be putting all these things in the launch of *The Book*, our 7th annual collection of art and writing by the students of Calasanctius College, Oranmore. This is not just a book by students of a school; this is a book by young writers and artists with immense talent and fresh perspectives. All are welcome for an evening of music, art exhibition, spoken word, performance and refreshments.

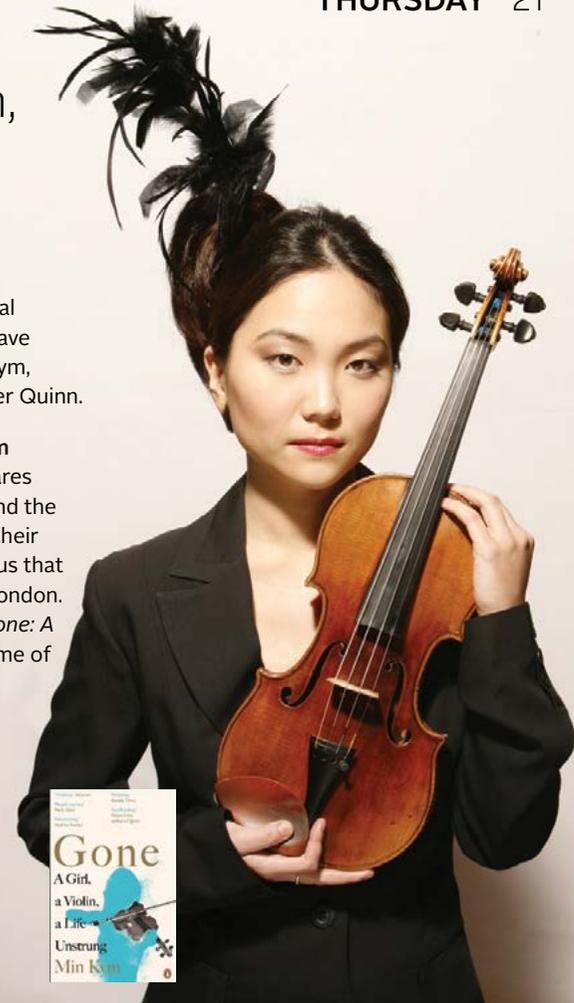
NON-FICTION/MUSIC Gone: A Girl, A Violin, A Life Unstrung

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 8PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €20/€18/€6

Continuing our partnership, Cúirt International Festival of Literature and Music for Galway have co-curated this unique event featuring Min Kym, author and violinist in conversation with Toner Quinn.

Korean-born, London-raised violinist **Min Kym** talks about growing up as a child prodigy, shares insights into the world of a budding soloist and the special relationship a violinist develops with their instrument, in this case a priceless Stradivarius that was dramatically stolen from her in central London. She will read from her bestselling memoir, *Gone: A Girl, a Violin, a Life Unstrung* and perform some of the works mentioned in the book.

This event will be chaired by **Toner Quinn**, musician, editor of online magazine *The Journal of Music* and Lecturer in Publishing at NUI Galway.



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LAUNCH Poems for Patience

FRIDAY 12 APRIL 11AM
GALWAY UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL FREE



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, in waiting areas throughout the hospital and in associated hospital units. In the past, the series has featured poems by leading Irish and international poets such as Seamus Heaney, Philip Schultz, Yrsa Daley-Ward, Vona Groarke, Jane Hirschfield, Tess Gallagher and Michael Coady. This year's selection has been kindly chosen by Ailbhe Darcy.

Ailbhe Darcy's most recent collection of poetry, *Insistence* (Bloodaxe, 2018), was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize and her first collection *Imaginary Menagerie* (Bloodaxe, 2011) was shortlisted for the dlr-Strong Award.



FICTION Surveying Short Fiction

FRIDAY 12 APRIL 1PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €12/€10



Four expert storytellers, emerging and established, will read from their exciting new work and discuss the art of short fiction.

David Hayden's fiction has appeared in *The Stinging Fly*, *Granta* online and *Zoetrope: All Story*, and has been broadcast on RTÉ and BBC radio. His debut collection of short stories *Darker With the Lights On* was published in 2017 and featured in *The Irish Times* choice of Books of the Year.

Nicole Flattery's stories have been published in *The Irish Times*, *The Dublin Review*, *The White Review*, *Winter Papers*, *The Letters Page* and *The Stinging Fly*. She is a recipient of the Next Generation Artists' Award from the Arts Council and the White Review short story prize. She lives in Galway. *Show Them A Good Time* is her first book.

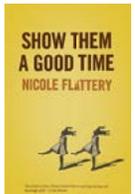
Mary O'Donnell is one of Ireland's best known contemporary authors. Her seven poetry collections include *Spiderwoman's Third Avenue Rhapsody* (1993) *Unlegendary Heroes* (1998) both with Salmon Poetry, and *Those April Fevers* (Ark Publications, 2015). Four novels include *Where They Lie* (2014) and her best-selling debut novel *The Light Makers*, reissued last year by 451 Editions. Her new fiction collection, *Empire*, was published by Arlen House in 2018. She teaches and lectures, most recently at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. She is a member of Aosdána.

This event will be chaired by author **Lucy Caldwell**. She is editor of *Being Various: New Irish Short Stories* which has just been published by Faber & Faber.

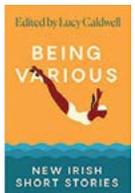
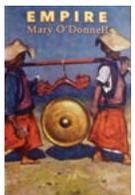
"Quietly innovative, subtle of tone, full of feeling—this is a superb debut."
KEVIN BARRY



"Smart as a whip, unusual, and very very funny, Flattery's distinctive prose is a real treat."
CLAIRE-LOUISE BENNETT



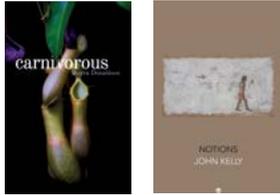
"A fine collection that confirms Mary O'Donnell's standing as a fiction writer of real substance."
THE IRISH TIMES





POETRY Moyra Donaldson & John Kelly

FRIDAY 12 APRIL 4PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8



"In these searching, intimate, sometimes harrowing poems, she recognizes the capacity of language to transform ourselves, to chart a region where 'Rivers and land and self and time/ flow through each other.'"
CIARAN CARSON

"These are very remarkable and compelling poems. With strong narratives and events, vivid and surprising language, and a marvellous square-on exactness."
BERNARD O'DONOGHUE

Carnivorous is the eighth collection of poetry from **Moyra Donaldson**, whose awards include the National Women's Poetry Competition, the Allingham Festival Poetry Competition, the Cúirt New Writing Prize and the North West Words Poetry Prize. In 2018 a collaboration with Wexford artist Paddy Lennon culminated in *Blood Horses*, a limited edition publication of artworks and poems. Based in Co. Down, Moyra is also a creative writing facilitator and mentor.

John Kelly was born in Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. His poetry has been published in numerous journals and anthologies. His novel *From Out of The City* was shortlisted for Novel of the Year at the Bord Gáis Book Awards in 2014, and a radio play *The Pipes* was broadcast by RTÉ. His first collection *Notions* was published in 2018 by Dedalus Press.

SPOKEN WORD Spoken Word at Supermacs

FRIDAY 12 APRIL 4PM
SUPERMACS, CROSS STREET
FREE



Red Bird Youth Collective will take over one of Galway's iconic buildings in the heart of the city centre for an afternoon of spoken word, rhymes and rap. This original partnership is a unique celebration of a new generation of spoken word poets and musicians. The young performers have emerged from the regular spoken word events organised by the Red Bird youth arts collective at Galway Arts centre. This is the next step for many of these writers who have developed their writing talent & creativity through the annual Cúirt Labs.

NON-FICTION Saying and Essaying: The Personal & The Political

FRIDAY 12 APRIL 6PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €12/€10

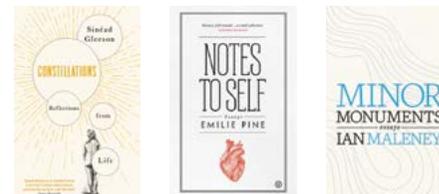
Can the example of the individual touch the multitudes to change how we think as a society? The transformative space of the personal essay is opening up debate about a range of issues. Join three renowned essayists as they read from their work and explore the possibilities of this vibrant form.

Sinéad Gleeson's essays have appeared in *Granta*, *Winter Papers* and *gorse*. Her short stories have been published in various anthologies including *Repeal the 8th* and Faber's *Being Various: New Irish Writing*. She is the editor of three short anthologies, including *The Long Gaze Back: an Anthology of Irish Women Writers* (2015). Her essay collection *Constellations: Reflections from Life* was published by Picador in 2019 and focuses on the body, illness, motherhood and art.

Emilie Pine is Associate Professor of Modern Drama at the School of English, Drama and Film, University College Dublin. Emilie has been published widely as an academic and critic. Her first collection of personal essays *Notes to Self* was published in 2018 by Tramp Press, and won the Butler Literary Award and Newcomer of the Year at the An Post Irish Book Awards.

Ian Maleney is a writer based in Dublin. Born and raised in Co. Offaly, he works as a freelance arts journalist, primarily for *The Irish Times*, and as the online editor at *The Stinging Fly*. His essays have been published by *Winter Papers*, *gorse* and *The Dublin Review*. He is the founder of Fallow Media, an interdisciplinary publication for music, photography, and long-form writing on the internet.

This event will be chaired by **Dr. Rebecca Barr**, Director of the MA in Literature & Publishing at NUI Galway.



"Constellations is a glitteringly brilliant book; daring in its voice, beautiful in its forms, challenging in its subjects. It dazzled me with its adventure and ambition."
ROBERT MacFARLANE

"Do not read this book in public: it will make you cry."
ANNE ENRIGHT

"Ian Maleney writes with both a poetic serenity and a startling immediacy, a combination as rare as it is absorbing. His is an original voice."
FINTAN O'TOOLE



POETRY Patricia Smith & Rafeef Ziadah

FRIDAY 12 APRIL 8PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €15/€13

Continuing our 'Literature of witness' theme, Cúirt is proud to present two highly energetic, provocative and compelling voices on the international contemporary spoken word stage.



"Her work is always timely, powerful, necessary, and at turns heartbreaking."
NATASHA TRETWEWEY

Patricia Smith is a poet, teacher, and performance artist. She is the author of *Incendiary Art*, winner of the 2018 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award and the 2017 Los Angeles Times Book Award in poetry; *Shoulda Been Jimi Savannah*, winner of the 2013 Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize from the Academy of American Poets, given for the most outstanding book of poetry published in the United States each year; *Blood Dazzler* which was a finalist for the 2008 National Book Award; *Teahouse of the Almighty*, a 2005 National Poetry Series selection; *Close to Death*; *Big Towns*; *Big Talk* which won the Carl Sandburg Literary Award; and *Life According to Motown*.

Smith is a four-time individual champion of the National Poetry Slam and her work has appeared in *The Best American Poetry*, *The Best American Essays* and *The Best American Mystery Stories*. Smith is a professor of creative writing at the City University of New York/ College of Staten Island.



"The words that she says with such beauty and grace hit you right in the heart. They are more powerful than any weapon."
ANGELA DAVIS, SCHOLAR AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Rafeef Ziadah is a Palestinian spoken word artist and human rights activist based in London, UK. Her performance of poems like "We Teach Life, Sir" and "Shades of Anger" went viral within days of their release. Her live readings offer a moving blend of poetry and music. Since releasing her first album, *Hadeel*, she has headlined prestigious performance venues across several countries with powerful readings on war, exile, gender and racism.

This event will be chaired by renowned journalist and broadcaster **Olivia O'Leary** and recorded live for RTÉ Radio One's *The Poetry Programme*.

SEOLADH LEABHAIR/BOOK LAUNCH Oiche Liteartha & Ceoil

FRIDAY 12 APRIL 8PM
SEANSCOIL SAILEARNA FREE



Seolfar an chéad cnuasach filíochta le **Pauline Mhic Chonaonaigh**, *Tadhall* (Cló Iar-Chonnachta) ina bhfuil grianghrafanna le Simon Boyle, ag tráthnóna speisialta filíochta agus ceoil. Is í **Máire Ní Neachtain** a bheas ina bean an tí, agus beidh dánta á n-aithris ag **Deirdre Nic Chonaonaigh**, **Síle Nic Chonaonaigh** agus **Maidhc P. Ó Conaola**, le ceol sainiúil ó **Johnny Óg Connolly**. Fáilte romh chách.

Join us for a special evening of new poetry and Irish music when the debut collection by **Pauline Mhic Chonaonaigh**, *Tadhall* (Cló Iar-Chonnachta) will be officially launched. The book includes photographs by Simon Boyle. The evening will be presented by **Máire Ní Neachtain** with readings by **Síle Nic Chonaonaigh**, **Deirdre Nic Chonaonaigh** and **Maidhc P. Ó Conaola**, accompanied by the distinctive music of **Johnny Óg Connolly**. All welcome.

Is le blianta beaga anuas a thosaigh Pauline Nic Chonaonaigh ag scríobh, a hionsparáid ag teacht ó na míorúiltí beaga a fheiceann sí sa domhan timpeall uirthi: fáinleoga ar a dturas, solas na gealaí i gcomhrac leis na néalta, nó an chodarsnacht sin idir duairceas an dorchadais agus ardú meanma is éadroime an tsolais, idir oll-chiúnas an dúlra agus réabadh fíochmhaire na stoirme.

Pauline Nic Chonaonaigh began writing in recent years, her inspiration coming from the small miracles she sees in the world around her: swallows on their journey, the light of the moon piercing clouds or the contrast between the palpable intensity of stillness and the ripping ferocity of a storm.

Le tacaíocht ó Ealaín na Gaeltachta Teo: Comhpháirtíocht idir Údarás na Gaeltachta agus An Chomhairle Ealaíon – Ag forbairt na nEalaíon dúchasacha agus comhaimseartha sa Ghaeltacht.



POETRY

Jessica Traynor, Mark Granier & Ailbhe Darcy

SATURDAY 13 APRIL 11.30AM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8



Jessica Traynor's debut collection, *Liffey Swim* (Dedalus Press, 2014), was shortlisted for the Strong/Shine Award. She won the 2011 Listowel Poetry Prize, was named Hennessy New Irish Writer of the Year in 2013, and received the 2014 Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary. Commissions include 'An Island Sings' with composer Elaine Agnew for Poetry Ireland and Chamber Choir Ireland, and a libretto for Galway 2020. Her latest collection is *The Quick*.

Mark Granier is a Dublin-based writer and photographer. He has published five poetry collections including: *Haunt* (Salmon Poetry, 2015), *Fade Street* (Salt, 2010), *The Sky Road* (Salmon Poetry, 2007) and *Airborne* (Salmon Poetry, 2001). Prizes and awards include a number of Arts Council bursaries, The Vincent Buckley Poetry Prize and Patrick and Katherine Kavanagh Fellowships in 2011 and 2017. Mark Granier's fifth collection, *Ghostlight: New & Selected Poems*, was published by Salmon Poetry in 2017. A selection of images from Mark's 2018 photographic exhibition, also called 'Ghostlight', is on display in the downstairs gallery of the Town Hall Theatre, in the Charlie Byrnes bookshop.

Ailbhe Darcy's most recent collection of poetry, *Insistence* (Bloodaxe, 2018), was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize. Her first collection *Imaginary Menagerie* (Bloodaxe, 2011) was shortlisted for the dlr-Strong Award, and she has also published *Subcritical Tests* (Gorse Editions, 2017) in collaboration with S.J. Fowler. Ailbhe now lives in Wales, where she lectures in creative writing at Cardiff University.

"In *The Quick*, even the grotesque is rendered with subtle delicacy... These poems will give you goose-bumps."

HELEN MORT

"Granier is a meditative observer, offering us moments of suffused, painterly stillness. [His work] is resolutely detached, has wit, is visually acute, verbally precise, finely tuned and formally in control, yet you can feel his keen mind at work."

LIAM Ó MUIRTHILE, FROM HIS INTRODUCTION TO *GHOSTLIGHT: NEW & SELECTED POEMS*

"In *Darcy's* fierce, word-shifting hands the future of poetry seems certain, even if nothing else is."

MARIA JOHNSTON, *BODYLIT*



FICTION

Joshua Cohen
& Will EavesSATURDAY 13 APRIL 1PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €12/€10

Join two internationally acclaimed young novelists, both formally and thematically daring, as they read from, and discuss their work.

Joshua Cohen was born in 1980 in Atlantic City. He has written novels *Moving Kings* and *Book of Numbers*. In 2017 he was named one of *Granta's* Best of Young American Novelists. He lives in New York City.

Will Eaves is the author of five novels and two books of poetry. *Murmur*, a story inspired by the life and research of the computer-science pioneer Alan Turing, was shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize 2018. It was a Book of the Year in the *New Scientist*, the *TLS* and *The Guardian*.

This event will be chaired by Dublin based writer and freelance journalist **Ian Maleney**. His essays have been published by *Winter Papers*, *gorse* and *The Dublin Review*.



If curiosity is a writer's greatest innate gift, Joshua Cohen may be America's greatest living writer.
THE WASHINGTON POST

"Scrupulous, humane, sad and strange, this fifth novel by Will Eaves is as bracingly intelligent as it is brave."
THE GUARDIAN

"Of all the poetry I read, it is lines and images carved by this brilliant woman that stay with me and that I find myself quoting to friends whenever I'm allowed to talk poetry!"
HOLLIE McNISH

POETRY/FICTION
Spoken Word PlatformSATURDAY 13 APRIL 3PM
RÓISÍN DUBH €6

This high-energy event showcases both poetry and short fiction. Performers have up to three minutes to present their piece to a panel of three judges with MC **Pete Mullineaux** overseeing proceedings. The top three participants will go on to perform at the Cúirt Showcase at Electric Picnic in September.

Guest performer **Erin Fornoff** has performed her poetry at hundreds of festivals and events across Ireland, UK, and the USA. Her debut collection *Hymn to the Reckless* (Dedalus Press, 2017) was shortlisted for the Shine/Strong Award. She was co-founder and Programme Director for Lingo, Ireland's first ever spoken word festival.

Open submissions are invited for the Spoken Word Platform and entry is open to all. Please submit via email to petemullineaux@gmail.com



PHOTO PETER BRADLEY

FICTION/IRISH LANGUAGE

Bleachtairí, Coirp agus Ficsean Eolaíochta:
Nua-scríbhneoireacht na GaeilgeSATURDAY 13 APRIL 3PM
TOWN HALL STUDIO €10/€8

Téann scríbhneoireacht chomhaimseartha na Gaeilge i ngleic le neart téamaí agus réimsí leathan, ficsean bleachtairíochta and eolaíochta ina measc. Léifidh údair, **Alan Titley** agus **Dave Duggan** as a n-úrscéalta nua (*Lámh, Lámh Eile* agus *Makaronik*) agus pléifidh siad nua-scríbhneoireacht chorrathach na Gaeilge le **Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin**, atá i mbun a chéad úrscéal féin a scríobh, *Bean an Oileáin*, le bheith foilsithe i 2020. Is trí Ghaeilge atá an imeacht seo ach fáilteofar le cheisteanna i mBéarla.

Contemporary Irish-language fiction is engaging with an exciting range of styles and themes, including detective and science fiction genres. Join authors **Alan Titley** and **Dave Duggan** as they read from their latest novels, (*Lámh, Lámh Eile* and *Makaronik*) and discuss new writing in the Irish language with author and publisher, **Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin**, who is currently working on his first novel, *Bean an Oileáin*, to be published in 2020. This event in through Irish. Questions in English are welcome during the Q&A.

Iriseoir, criticeoir, úrscéalaí, gearrscéalaí agus drámadóir é **Alan Titley** agus is iomaí duais scríbhneoireachta atá buaite aige. Tá Alan ina Ollamh le Ghaeilge Chomhaimseartha in Ollscoil na hEireann, Corcaigh. / **Alan Titley** is an award-winning journalist, critic, novelist, short story writer and playwright. He is Professor of Modern Irish in University College, Cork.

Is úrscéalaí agus drámadóir as Doire é **Dave Duggan**. An dráma, le snag-cheol, is déanaí uaidh ná *Chezzie's Chance* (Blue Eagle Productions, 2018). Scríobh sé *Gruagairí* (2007), a bhuaigh gradam ón Stewart Parker Trust, agus *Makaronik* (2014) d'Aisling Ghéar. / **Dave Duggan** is a novelist and playwright and lives in Derry. His latest play, which features jazz music, is *Chezzie's Chance* (Blue Eagle Productions, 2018). He wrote *Gruagairí* (2007), which won an award from the Stewart Parker Trust, and *Makaronik* (2014) for the Aisling Ghéar theatre company.

Scríbhneoir agus foilsitheoir é **Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin**, buaiteoir Ghradam Uí Shúilleabháin 2015 dá shaothar beathaisnéise *Mise Raiftearaí an Fíodóir Focal*, agus Gradam Réics Carló, 2018 don chnuasach Bliain na nAmhrán. / An award-winning writer for adults and children, **Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin's** background in genre includes the teen TV comedy drama, *Aifric*.



FICTION New Zealand Showcase

SATURDAY 13 APRIL 4PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €12/€10

In a new partnership with Creative New Zealand, Cúirt is delighted to present two leading novelists.

David Coventry's first novel *The Invisible Mile* - described by *The New York Times Review of Books* as a "gorgeous... psychological thriller" and *The Guardian* as "a literary novel of the highest order" - has been translated into five languages. His new work *Dance Prone* is in the final stages of completion. The novel is set in the USA and North Africa and examines the nihilism, violence and intellectualism of 1980s post-punk and hardcore.

Kirsty Gunn was born in New Zealand and has links to the literary community there via her work and writing about Katherine Mansfield, a writer who felt both far away from and also irresistibly connected to the place of her birth. Kirsty's novel *The Big Music*, set in the Highlands of Scotland, won the 2013 New Zealand Book of the Year Award. She now lives in Scotland and London.

This event will be chaired by **Paula Shields**; reader, researcher, interviewer and arts journalist

"Bruising, beautiful and ultimately transcendent. I loved *The Invisible Mile* because it felt how writing feels, and it shows us something great and long-past without a trace of nostalgia."

MARKUS ZUSAK

"Gunn displays virtuosic mastery of the novel form, while making the story sparkle at every turn. It is a dazzling performance..."

ROSEMARY GORING,
SCOTTISH REVIEW
OF BOOKS



POETRY/FICTION London Writers' Eclective Presents...

SATURDAY 13 APRIL 5PM
BLACK GATE CULTURAL CENTRE
FREE



London's premier spoken word event comes to The Black Gate Cultural Centre as part of Cúirt.

London Writers' Eclective Presents... a caboodle of writers & performers from across London. Joining guest writer Alan McMonagle will be Rose Van Orden, Jonny Anderson, Melanie Johnson, Vince Love, Lindsay Taylor, Fiona Neary, Lisa Walsh, Aileen O' Farrell, Mick Durham, Sanya Sharma, Blanca Acevedo and surprise guests from the festival.

Host: Conor Montague
Admission free, full bar, all welcome.

FICTION Debut Irish Voices

SATURDAY 13 APRIL 6PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €12/€10



PHOTO BRID O'DONOVAN

Three fresh, diverse voices in Irish fiction share a common focus on strong, isolated characters struggling to forge their own journeys.

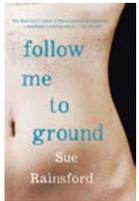
What are the roots of the Emergency that has destroyed Ireland? *Last Ones Left Alive* (Tinder Press) is well-known Tramp Press co-founder, **Sarah Davis-Goff's** gripping first novel.

Sue Rainsford's debut, *Follow Me To Ground* (New Island) is a beautifully controlled, sinister tale that questions our preconceptions of predator and prey and the consequences of unchecked desire.

Well-known Galway poet and short story writer, **Aoibheann McCann** has penned her debut novel. *Marina* (Wordsonthestreet) is a moving account of its eponymous central character's solitary existence.

This event will be chaired by **Danny Denton**, a novelist from Cork. *The Earlie King & The Kid In Yellow* was published by Granta Books in 2018 and was shortlisted for 'Newcomer of the Year' at the Irish Book Awards. Denton is also the guest editor of *The Stinging Fly* (Summer 2019).

"Stark, poetic, shocking and quite beautiful, this short novel has an echo of Steinbeck about it, if Steinbeck had written dark, mysterious fairy tales."
SUNDAY INDEPENDENT



"A debut novel of jaw-dropping skill and immense power, a shimmering dystopian vision but also a lucid meditation on tenderness, intimacy and courage. From the get-go it gripped me, and since the last page I've been haunted."
JOSEPH O'CONNOR



"A cautionary tale and modern-day fable; a cri-de-coeur on behalf of a purer state of being, and return thereto; a story about existing in the world, and how difficult existing in the world can be."
ALAN McMONAGLE

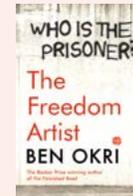


FICTION

An Evening with Ben Okri

SATURDAY 13 APRIL 8PM

TOWN HALL THEATRE €15/€13



"Fiction's master enchanter stares down a real horror, and without blinking or flinching, produces a work of beauty, grace and uncommon power."

MARLON JAMES

Man Booker-winner, **Ben Okri's** powerful new novel, *The Freedom Artist* is an impassioned plea for justice and a penetrating examination of how freedom is threatened in a post-truth society.

Join Ben in conversation with Vincent Woods as they discuss freedom, the role of the artist, the inspiration behind Ben's novels and traditions of storytelling in Nigeria and Ireland.

Do you sleep well at night?

In the world of *The Freedom Artist* nobody sleeps well, not those who scream without knowing why or those who listen to them. It's a world where oppression stalks the streets and people disappear. And at the heart of it lies the terrible prison.

Ben Okri was born in Minna, Nigeria. His childhood was divided between Nigeria, where he saw first hand the consequences of war, and London. He has won many prizes over the years for his fiction including the Man Booker Prize for *The Famished Road* (1991), and is also an acclaimed essayist, playwright, and poet.

This event will be chaired by Poet and playwright **Vincent Woods** who worked as a journalist with RTÉ, presenting on *Morning Ireland*, until 1989 when he began writing full-time. His plays include *John Hughdy/Tom John*, *At the Black Pig's Dyke*, *Song of the Yellow Bittern*, *Fontamara*, and for radio, *The Leitrim Hotel*. His poetry collections include *The Colour of Language*.

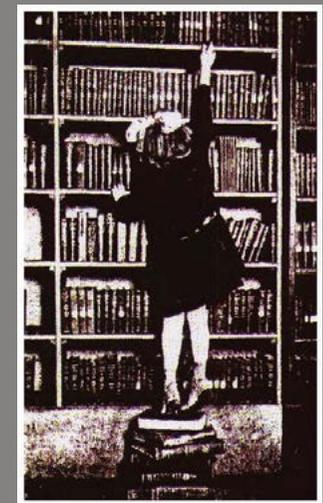


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POETRY/FICTION

I sing a song of the croissant:
breakfast of troubadoursSUNDAY 14 APRIL 12PM
ROUGE €15

Our popular 'bardic brunch' is back with a Gallic twist as we take a break from the hearty fry-up to embrace the croissant! With a sparkling line up of Galway-based writers including **Rita Ann Higgins**, **Aoife Casby**, **Pete Mullineux** and **Ruth Quinlan** and with music from our MC, **Gerry Hanberry** and **Pat Collins**, playing some gypsy jazz and songs from their current band 'Gazlight'. There will also be music from **Gerry Savage** and his **Galway Ukulele Ensemble** (otherwise known as 'the Galway Ukers'). This is a petit déjeuner you won't want to miss!

Rita Ann Higgins' new collection, *Our Killer City* has just been published by Salmon. Her first five poetry collections were also published by Salmon, and Bloodaxe Books published her following five books. **Aoife Casby** writes fiction and poetry and also works as an editor and visual artist. **Pete Mullineux** has published four collections, most recently *How to Bake a Planet* (Salmon, 2016). **Ruth Quinlan** won the 2018 Galway University Hospital Arts Trust Poems for Patience competition, the 2018 Blue Nib Summer Chapbook competition, the 2014 Over the Edge New Writer of the Year Award and the 2012 Hennessy Literary Award for First Fiction.

POETRY/YA

#WeAreThePoets Showcase:
Claddagh NS with poet, Terry McDonaghSUNDAY 14 APRIL 1PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE FREE

Cuir in association with Laureate na nÓg, **Sarah Crossan** and Claddagh National School are delighted to present a showcase of poetry by the children of Claddagh National School who have been working on this special project with poets, **Geraldine Mills** and **Terry McDonagh**.

Claddagh National School has a proud history of leading the way in innovative and inclusive education for children of all backgrounds and abilities. In 2017, the school launched the Claddagh Festival of Children's Books, which takes place each November. With #WeAreThePoets, Claddagh N.S. continues its mission of helping children in Galway experience, make and enjoy the wonderful world of words.



"Once you say the words 'I am a poet' or 'we are the poets' then young people will start to believe and start to write poetry. I really think poetry and the arts can transform lives. And no one should be excluded from that."

SARAH CROSSAN,
LAUREATE NA NÓG, 2018-2020

YA FICTION

Catherine Doyle
& Dave RuddenSUNDAY 14 APRIL 3PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8

Catherine Doyle grew up beside the Atlantic Ocean in the west of Ireland. *The Storm Keeper's Island* was her debut novel, inspired by her real-life ancestral home of Arranmore Island, for which she won the Books Are My Bag Readers Award and was shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards. *The Lost Tide Warriors*, book two in the *Storm Keeper* Quartet will be published in July 2019. *The Storm Keeper's Island* has been selected for One Book One Galway.

Dave Rudden is the author of the award-winning *Knights of the Borrowed Dark* trilogy as well as the *Doctor Who* anthology *Twelve Angels Weeping*. He has taught over four hundred and fifty workshops on three continents in the last two years and enjoys cats, good beard maintenance and being cruel to fictional teenagers.

This event will be chaired by **Dr Kate Harvey**, Lecturer in Children's Studies and Director of the BA Connect with Children's Studies in NUI Galway.

FILM
Let Go

Running time c. 6 minutes

SUNDAY 14 APRIL 4.15PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE FREE

Red Bird Youth Collective have been working in collaboration with poet **Colm Keegan** and visual artist **Gabrielle Drimalovski** to create a video piece where poetry, moving image and sound work together to create one ambitious, original artwork. The result of this project is the beautiful short film *Let Go*. **Maeve Mulrennan** will give a short introduction to this film.



NON-FICTION

Cúirt Conversations: Memory in Literature & History, the Writer and Historian



Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh in conversation with Mary O'Malley

SUNDAY 14 APRIL 5PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8

Writer Mary O'Malley will engage Professor Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh in a conversation on memory. They will explore some of the different ways in which the historian and the writer view, exploit and explore memory, referring to landscape, place lore, song and oral history, as well as the historical record. This promises to be a lively and informative event, with Professor Ó Tuathaigh's eloquent sweep of both local and international history, and his peerless grasp of the part language plays in how history is recorded and by whom.

Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh is Professor Emeritus in History and a former Vice-President at NUI, Galway. He has published widely, in both English and Irish, principally on various aspects of modern Irish history and on the relationship between History and other disciplines within the humanities.

Mary O'Malley has published seven books of poetry including her latest, *Playing The Octopus*, published last year by Carcanet. Her new collection, *Gaudent Angeli*, is due from Carcanet in the Autumn of 2019.

FILM

The Sounding

Directed by **Catherine Eaton**

Written by **Catherine Eaton** and **Bryan Delaney**

93 mins

SUNDAY 14 APRIL 8PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €14/€12



On a remote island off the coast of Maine, after years of silence, Liv begins to weave a language out of Shakespeare's words. A driven neurologist, brought to the island to protect her, commits her to a psychiatric hospital. She becomes a full-blown rebel in the hospital as she fights for her voice and her freedom. What happens to someone who has the immense courage to willingly choose individual authenticity over society's demands? This is a powerful story about otherness and being one's authentic self, at a time when we desperately need to connect and include the marginalized.

Cúirt is delighted that co-writer and producer, **Bryan Delaney** will give a short introduction to *The Sounding* and will be 'in conversation' for a brief post-screening discussion with **Kernan Andrews**, Arts Editor & Political Correspondent at *The Galway Advertiser*.

VISUAL ART PERMISSION

TUESDAY 9 APRIL

PREVIEW SATURDAY 6 APRIL 7PM

EXHIBITION CONTINUES TO APRIL 26

JUST ART IT FREE

This exhibition brings together the response of Engage Art Studios' artists to an excerpt of text provided by Emilie Pine, author of the ground-breaking collection of personal essays, *Notes to Self* (Tramp Press, 2018).

On Saturday April 13th at 7:30pm, **Emilie Pine** will respond to the exhibition in conversation with Engage Art Studios' artists. All welcome.



VISUAL ART

The Dance of the Cherry Trees

FROM SATURDAY 6 APRIL FOR 4 WEEKS

THE KENNY GALLERY

FREE

Artist Jim McKee makes a welcome return to the Kenny Gallery after a break of a decade, with a solo show entitled and celebrating *The Dance of the Cherry Trees*. A true renaissance man from Co. Tyrone, McKee paints distinctive, expressive, and most attractive works. The exhibition will be officially opened by musician John Spillane, who may well sing his own "Dance of the Cherry Tree"!

Library Events

FREE

Cúirt will continue its successful partnership with Galway City and County Libraries. Distinguished visiting writers, including **Ben Okri** and **David Coventry**, will read from their work at special events in **Loughrea**, **Tuam** and the **City Centre**. For full details see cuirt.ie.

Fact to Fiction: Jumpstarting That Novel with Niamh Boyce



MONDAY 08 11AM
GALWAY ARTS CENTRE €25

Do you have a story you want to tell? Something that really happened but you don't know how to handle the material? This workshop will explore how true stories can inspire a work of fiction. Participants will look at character, voice, first draft, research and explore that central question - how much truth, how much fiction will I include?

The course is suitable for both beginners and those who have been writing for a while. All you need is a pen and notebook.

The Art of Short Fiction with Caoilinn Hughes

MONDAY 08 APRIL 11AM
GALWAY ARTS CENTRE €25



In this two-hour short story workshop, **Caoilinn Hughes** (author of *Orchid & the Wasp* and *Gathering Evidence*) will help aspiring and emerging fiction writers follow through on a short story -- helping writers to turn their abandoned stories, false starts and fragments into fully realised stories. Ideal for writers who have some experience writing fiction. Participants are asked to submit in advance (by April 5th) a story opening or piece of flash fiction of up to 1200 words. Email: info@cuirt.ie



Learn to Listen / Listen to Learn with Ronan Browne

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 11.30AM
ÁRAS NA nGAEL FREE

This is essentially a music appreciation class. Listening to both modern and archive/field recordings, gain an insight into Irish music, history, personalities and styles, both regional and individual. Recordings are interpreted by way of group discussions in an easy-going relaxed atmosphere.



Writing for Young People with E.R. Murray

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 11AM
GALWAY ARTS CENTRE €25

Join award-winning writer **E.R. Murray** for a fun and exciting workshop that will introduce you to the craft of writing for young people. Through practical writing exercises and discussion, you will explore a range of topics including developing characters, setting, and plot, finding your own voice, building believable worlds, and creating authentic dialogue. Suitable for anyone interested in writing for children and young adults, bring your notebook and pen and an open mind.

Advanced Poetry with Patricia Smith

THURSDAY 11 APRIL 11AM
GALWAY ARTS CENTRE €25

Don't miss this opportunity to learn from multi-award winning poet, teacher and performance artist **Patricia Smith**. Author of eight books of poetry, Patricia is also a four-time individual champion of the National Poetry Slam and her work has appeared in *The Best American Poetry*, *The Best American Essays* and *The Best American Mystery Stories*. Smith is a professor of creative writing at the City University of New York/College of Staten Island.



Spoken Word Workshop with Rafeef Ziadah

SATURDAY 13 APRIL 2PM
GALWAY ARTS CENTRE €25

Join **Rafeef Ziadah** for this very special Spoken Word Masterclass exploring citizenship and activism. Rafeef is a Palestinian spoken word artist and human rights activist based in London. Her performance of poems like "We Teach Life, Sir" and "Shades of Anger" went viral within days of their release. Her live readings offer a moving blend of poetry and music. Since releasing her first album, *Hadeel*, she has headlined prestigious performance venues across several countries with powerful readings on war, exile, gender and racism.



1st - 3rd CLASSES

Aga Grandowicz and Patricia Forde

TUESDAY 9 APRIL
9.30AM - 11.25AM

€5 PER CHILD
GROUP BOOKINGS ONLY
PLEASE BRING LUNCH!

As a child, **Aga Grandowicz** always wanted to be a vet or an ichthyologist (a scientist who studies fish), but changed her plans and became an award-winning art director and graphic designer instead. She's the owner of a boutique graphic design agency in Dublin (agrand.ie). Aga will be holding a workshop inspired by her first book, *Dr Hibernica Finch's Compelling Compendium of Irish Animals*.

Pupils will also participate in a fast moving and fun writing workshop with **Patricia Forde**, an award-winning author of books in English and in Irish for children. Her latest book *The Private Diary of Bumpfizzle the Best* is the Dublin Unesco City of Literature children's choice for 2019.



4th - 6th CLASSES

ER Murray, Melatu Uche Okorie, Pádraig Kenny and Paula Leyden

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL
9.30AM - 1.45PM

€5 PER CHILD
GROUP BOOKINGS ONLY
PLEASE BRING LUNCH!

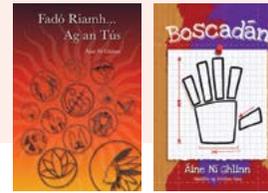
Join Cúirt Labs for four very different workshops with four amazing writers. This jam-packed day includes workshops with some of Ireland's leading writers.

Elizabeth Rose Murray will facilitate a workshop inspired by the gripping *Nine Lives* trilogy, which includes *The Book of Learning*, *The Book of Shadows* and *The Book of Revenge*. Elizabeth has also written a separate contemporary novel, *Caramel Hearts*.

Melatu-Uche Okorie was born in Enugu, Nigeria and has been living in Ireland for twelve years. Her debut collection, *This Hostel Life*, was published in May, 2018. Melatu will lead a workshop based on *This Hostel Life*, her critically acclaimed book based on her own observations and experiences.

Pádraig Kenny, a creator of a world full of robotics and governed by the laws of mechanics, will work with pupils to develop their writing skills. Pádraig's debut novel *Tin* was shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards and his second novel *Pog* will be published in April 2019.

Paula Leyden started writing for children when she moved to Ireland from Africa. She is the author of the award-winning *The Butterfly Heart* and *The Sleeping Baobab Tree*, both set in Zambia. Her most recent novel, *Keepsake*, is about the connection between a boy and his horse.

POST-PRIMARY
JUNIOR CYCLE

Áine Ní Ghlinn

FRIDAY 12 APRIL
10AM - 11PM (Bilingual)
11.30AM - 12.30PM (*As gaeilge*,
this event is in Irish only, ideal for
students of gael choláiste)

€5 PER TEENAGER
TEACHERS FREE
GROUP BOOKINGS ONLY

This new addition to Cúirt labs is ideal for post primary students in 1st-3rd year. This is a great opportunity for young people to engage in contemporary Irish poetry and fiction and in turn create their own work.

Áine Ní Ghlinn is a poet, children's writer, workshop facilitator and part-time lecturer. She has written 31 books to date and has won a range of awards for both poetry and fiction. Her most recent books are *Fadó Riamh – Ag an Tús* (2018) - a collection of creation mythology from around the world - and a children's novel *Boscadán* (2019).

File, léirmheastóir, scríbhneoir do pháistí agus léachtóir páirtaimseartha í **Áine Ní Ghlinn**. Tá 31 leabhar foilsithe aici agus go leor duaiseanna buaite aici is iad na leabhair is déanaí dá cuid ná *Fadó Riamh – Ag an Tús* (2018) agus *Boscadán* (2019).



4th - 6th CLASSES

Dave Rudden, Maria Karapish & Mot Collins, Mary Watson, Red Bird Youth Collective and Cúirt Young New Writer of the Year

SATURDAY 13 APRIL 11AM - 5.30PM
€15 INCLUDING LUNCH

A full day of workshops, readings, talks and a film screening for 12-17 year olds, ideal for young people with a passion for literature or art.

The day will begin with a reading and workshop from **Mary Watson**, writer of *The Wren Hunt*, described by the Guardian as "a magical YA debut... two factions battle for survival in this complex and slippery tale of ancient spells cast in contemporary Ireland".

Dave Rudden, author of the award-winning *Knights of the Borrowed Dark* trilogy as well as the *Doctor Who* anthology *Twelve Angels Weeping*, will follow with a speculative fiction workshop based on *Twelve Angels Weeping*.

After lunch **Red Bird Youth Collective** will be screening their film *Let Go* and holding a discussion based on the themes of inclusion and bullying that arise in the film. This will be followed by a reading from the **Cúirt Young New Writer of the Year**.

Finally, join local illustrators and zinestresses **Mot Collins** and **Maria Karapish** for a workshop focusing on the history, culture and creation of the zine.

Paddy Irish Whiskey Fireside Sessions

Cúirt International Festival of Literature in association with Paddy Irish Whiskey are presenting an impromptu/pop up programme of stories, poems and music in public houses in the Latin Quarter and Galway City. These will be hospitable and entertaining gatherings, a coming together to share stories, yarns and songs. The sessions are free to the public and will feature Galway's artists and special guests appearing at Cúirt. Each event will be unique and further details will be announced on the Cúirt website and on the host pubs social media in the lead up to the festival.

The atmosphere for the sessions will be warm and friendly, reminiscent of a visit to the fireside of a story teller's house and there will be a chance for the audience to join in and share their story too!



MONDAY 8 APRIL
 5PM THE DÁIL, 42 MIDDLE STREET
 7PM BUSKER BROWNES, 5 CROSS STREET UPPER

TUESDAY 9 APRIL
 5PM THE FRONT DOOR, 8 CROSS STREET UPPER
 7PM TIGH NEACHTAIN, 17 CROSS STREET

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL
 5.30PM GARAVAN'S, 46 WILLIAM STREET
 7PM TAAFFES, 19 SHOP STREET

THURSDAY 11 APRIL
 5PM THE KING'S HEAD, 15 HIGH STREET
 7PM TAYLOR'S BAR, 7 DOMINICK STREET UPPER

FRIDAY 12 APRIL
 5PM TIG COILI, MAINGUARD STREET
 7PM THE BLUE NOTE, 3 WILLIAM STREET WEST

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THE FRONT DOOR
LAUGH • SING • DANCE

Tigh Neachtain
Galway

GARAVAN'S
Galway

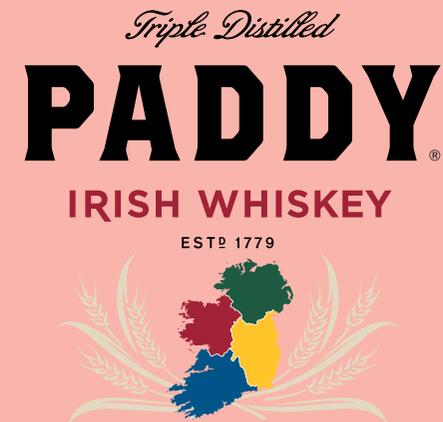
TAAFFES

The KING'S HEAD

TAYLOR'S BAR

TIG COILI

BN
THE BLUE NOTE
 WILLIAM STREET WEST GALWAY



Kindly sponsored by Paddy Irish Whiskey

Poetry Ireland Bursary

Poetry Ireland and Cúirt International Festival of Literature are delighted to offer the Poetry Ireland Access Cúirt Bursary this spring. This will provide an emerging poet from a background that is currently statistically underrepresented in Irish poetry the opportunity to visit the festival and become immersed 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 poets from minority ethnic and socio economically disadvantaged backgrounds, poets with disabilities, and poets who identify as LGBTQI+. This bursary is only open to poets who are currently based on the island of Ireland.

To apply please send a short expression of interest statement (no more than a page) in an attached Word document, outlining why your work would benefit from this support to info@poetryireland.ie by 5.00pm on Friday 15 March.

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



IWC/Cúirt Young Writer Delegates Programme

WED 10 - SAT 13 APRIL INCLUSIVE

We invited ambitious young writers aged 18-26 to apply for this extraordinary opportunity to attend and contribute to Cúirt as inaugural Young Writer Delegates. The selected young writers will be given festival passes and accommodation for four days of full literary immersion. Supported by an Irish Writers Centre facilitator and local writer mentor they will reflect on the festival and share their views via Cúirt and the IWC's social media platforms. See irishwriterscentre.com/blogs/news for further information.



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Directed by **ANDREW FLYNN**

TOWN HALL THEATRE

Thurs 13 - Sat 22 June, 8pm Previews Thurs 13 - Sat 15 June Tickets €22*/€20* Preview €16*

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- 10 JUST ART IT
- 11 ÁRAS NA nGAEL
- 12 THE DÁIL BAR
- 13 BUSKER BROWNES
- 14 THE FRONT DOOR
- 15 TIGH NEACHTAIN
- 16 GARAVAN'S BAR
- 17 TAAFFES BAR
- 18 THE KING'S HEAD
- 19 TAYLOR'S BAR
- 20 TIG COILI
- 21 THE BLUE NOTE



Cúirt Staff & Team

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 Manager **Tara O'Connor**
 Programme Coordinator **Karen Arnold**
 Marketing & Publicity **Tracey Ferguson**
 Production Manager **Derval Byrne**
 Volunteer Coordinator **Siobhán Singleton**
 Accounts **Sinéad Wynne**
 Stage Manager **Mattie Hynes & Naomi Cantwell**
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 Technicians **Mark Byrne & Alex Fernie**
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Town Hall Theatre

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Galway Arts Centre

Stephen Cunniffe, Liam Delaney, Tony Eggit Andrew Flynn, Clare Lennon, Clair O'Brien, Órla O'Donoghue, Andy Robinson, Cliona Ryan, Tatjana Tserkassova

Cúirt Reading Panel

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Galway Arts Centre Board of Directors

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Thank You

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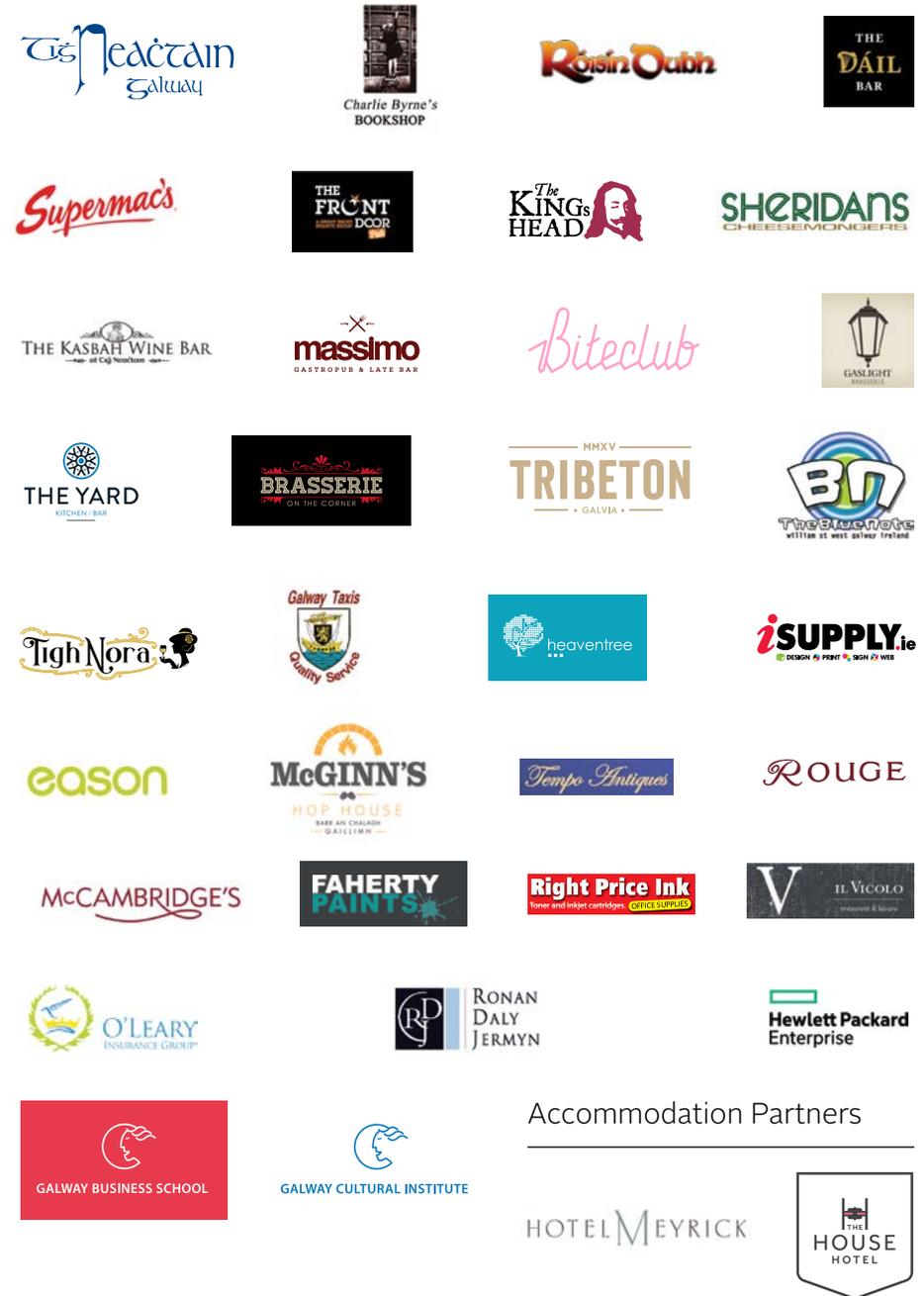
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