

Cúirt

The Cúirt International
Festival of Literature

GALWAY ARTS CENTRE 19 - 25 APRIL 1999



Galway Arts Centre
47, Dominick Street
Galway
Ireland

Tel +353 (0)91 565 886
Fax +353 (0)91 568 642
Email: gac@indigo.ie
www.galwayartscentre.ie

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The Cúirt International Festival of Literature

**Cúirt Box Office Opens
Wednesday 24 March**

Tickets in person or by post from:

**Cúirt Box Office
Town Hall Theatre
Courthouse Square
Galway**

Monday - Saturday
10am - 7.30pm

Information/Bookings
+353 (0)91 569 777

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10% discount for bookings
of 5 events or more

**Cúirt Press Office
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Cúirt ”

GALWAY ARTS CENTRE 19 - 25 APRIL 1999

Cúirt

MONDAY APRIL 19

6pm

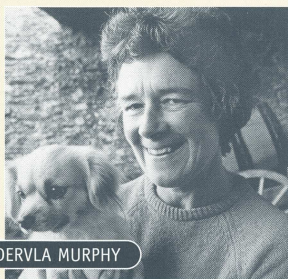
Festival Launch

Galway Arts Centre presents **The 1999 Cúirt International Festival of Literature** which takes place from April 19 - 25 at the Town Hall Theatre. This year's Festival brings together some of today's most outstanding writers from countries as diverse as America, Australia, Bosnia, Canada, England, Jamaica, Malawi, Mexico, Nigeria, The Netherlands, Russia, Scotland, Turkey, Wales and Ireland.

Great Southern Hotel, Eyre Square

8.30pm

An Evening with Dervla Murphy & Ben Kiely

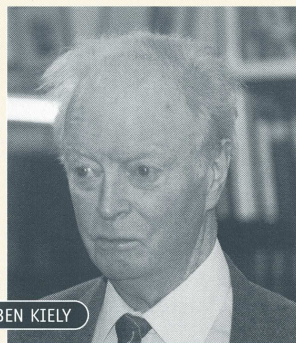


DERVLA MURPHY

Cúirt '99's inaugural event features one of the most distinctive and adventurous talents in travel writing, **Dervla Murphy**. Murphy was born in Waterford and since 1964 has regularly published accounts of her travels, by bicycle and foot, in the more remote areas of four continents. From the Andes to India, Africa to Nepal, an evening with Dervla Murphy is a rare and special event. This evening she will discuss her work and travels with Lelia Doolan followed by a questions and answers session. Her latest book is *Visiting Rwanda*.

The "voice" of Sunday Miscellany and the last of the generation of great Irish short story writers which includes Frank O'Connor and Seán Ó Faoláin, **Ben Kiely** is a master storyteller. Born in Dromore, Co. Tyrone in 1919 he has published a huge number of collections with most recent titles including *God's Own Country - Selected Stories*, *The Waves Behind Us* and to coincide with his 80th birthday this year *Clay & Gods & Men*. He was elected Saoi by members of Aosdána in 1996.

Town Hall Theatre
Admission £6/£5



BEN KIELY

T U E S D A Y A P R I L 2 0

1pm

Thomas McCarthy & Gillian Allnut

Poet and novelist **Thomas McCarthy** has published many collections of prose and poetry. His autobiographical memoir *Garden of Remembrance* was published in 1998. He will read from a new series of poems.

Gillian Allnut was born in London in 1949. She is the author of *Spitting the Pips Out* (Sheba, 1981), *Blackthorn* (Bloodaxe, 1994) and *Nantucket and the Angel* (Bloodaxe, 1994). Formerly poetry editor of *City Limits*, a member of Sheba Publishing Collective and Angels of Fire Poetry Festival, she is a broadcaster and journalist, who currently teaches creative writing in adult education. She lives in Co. Durham.

Town Hall Theatre Studio

Admission £4/£3



GILLIAN ALLNUT

2pm

Rehearsed Reading of *Butter Vouchers 2*
by David A. Murphy

Cúirt, in association with the multi-award winning Druid Theatre Company, presents a rehearsed reading of Dublin playwright **David A. Murphy's** new play *Butter Vouchers 2*, the second of a trilogy. The play, a black comedy, traces the lives and family tensions of three brothers following the death of their mother.

Druid Theatre

Admission £5

4.30pm

Booklaunch- *Bar Irlandes*
Alfonso Lopez Monreal

A unique publication by the Belfast based Mexican artist, **Alfonso Lopez Monreal**, featuring poems by **Ciaran Carson**, **Michael Longley**, **Paul Muldoon** and the late **John Hewitt**. This limited edition volume, (75 copies), also features prints by Monreal with an introduction by the poet **Frank Ormsby**. The painting featured in this year's Cúirt poster, *Echo*, was painted by Monreal.

Kenny's Bookshop & Gallery

Admission Free

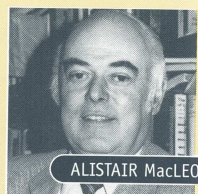


ALFONSO LOPEZ MONREAL

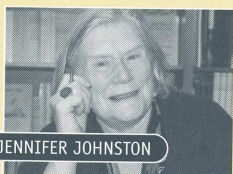
6pm

Alistair MacLeod, Derick Thomson & Jennifer Johnston

Canadian short-story writer Alistair MacLeod is regarded as one of the finest exponents of short story writing. His collection, *The Lost Salt Gift of Blood* was chosen by Publishers Weekly as one of Best Books of 1988. Two of his short stories are currently being adapted for the screen.



Derick Thomson - born in Lewis in 1921. A graduate of Aberdeen and Cambridge Universities he has taught at the Universities of Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen where he is Professor of Celtic Studies. He has initiated many projects concerned with Gaelic, such as Gairm Publications and the Gaelic Books Council. Publications include *An Dealbh Briste*, *Eadar Samhradh is Foghar*, *An Rathad Cian*, *An Introduction to Gaelic Poetry*, *The New Verse in Scottish Gaelic: A Structural Analysis*.



Jennifer Johnston is one of Ireland's foremost writers. Her novels include *The Captains and the Kings*, *How Many Miles To Babylon*, *The Illusionist*, *The Old Jest* (winner of the prestigious Whitbread Prize) and *Shadows on our Skin* which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Several of her works have been successfully adapted for film and television. At Cúirt she will read from her recent novel, *Two Moons*.

Town Hall Theatre
Admission £5/£4

8pm

An Evening of Words & Music

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's birth the Irish bass-baritone, **Conor Biggs**, will present a recital of Goethe-Lieder by composers Schubert, Beethoven and Mussorsky. Actor **Peter Jankowsky** will recite Goethe prose texts. Piano accompaniment by **Pádraic Ó Cuinneagain**.

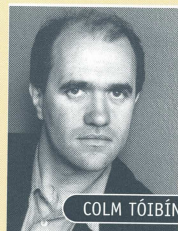
A CO-PRODUCTION WITH THE GOETHE-INSTITUT, DUBLIN.

Galway Arts Centre, 47 Dominick Street
Admission £5/£4

8.30pm

The Irish Times Cúirt Debate - The Modern Library

Bound to be one of the most controversial and prominent publications of the year, *The Modern Library* features the best 200 novels, in English, since 1950, as selected by **Colm Tóibín** and **Carmen Callil**. This event, a discussion on the titles featured in and omitted from the publication, brings together award winning Irish Times journalist and literary critic, **Eileen Battersby**, and **Cormac Kinsella**, editor of the *Waterstone Guide to Irish Books*, along with Callil and Tóibín in a debate to be chaired by **Caroline Walsh**, Literary Editor, *The Irish Times*.

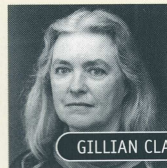


Town Hall Theatre
Admission £6/£5

1pm

Gillian Clarke & Menna Elfynn

Poet, playwright, editor and translator **Gillian Clarke** was awarded a Cholomondeley Award for Poetry in 1997. Born in Cardiff, she published her first collection of poems in 1978 and last year saw the long awaited publication of her *Collected Poems*.



GILLIAN CLARKE



MENNA ELFYNN

Menna Elfynn is a political poet writing with passion for the Welsh language and its identity for which she campaigns. Along with Clarke she is one of the most prolific and significant poets writing in Wales today and her conspicuous moral and political commitments are always underwritten by her prior commitment to her native tongue. She has twice been imprisoned for Welsh language campaigns. She has recently completed a libretto for the New York Metropolitan Opera Millennium Celebrations.

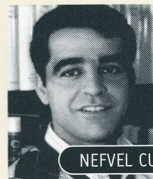
Town Hall Theatre Studio

Admission £4/£3

3pm

Nefvel Cumart

Born in Germany in 1964, poet **Nefvel Cumart** is the son of a Turkish Gastarbeiter or Guestworker. He has published poems and short prose in numerous anthologies as well as articles and essays in specialist publications. His latest collection, *Waves of Time*, was published last year with English translations by Professor Eoin Bourke NUI,G. Professor Bourke will talk on the process and challenge of translating Cumart's work.



NEFVEL CUMART

Town Hall Theatre

Admission Free

4.30pm

Booklaunch - *Corach agus Dánta Eile*

by Louis De Paor

Louis De Paor is one of the leading figures in the recent renaissance of Irish language poetry. Born in Cork and living in Co. Galway, he has twice won the Seán Ó Ríordáin Prize, the premier award for Irish language poetry. *Gubán Cré is Cloch/Sentences of Earth and Stone*(1996) is a bilingual collection and his last volume *Seo. Siúd. Agus Uile* was nominated for an Irish Times Poetry Prize.



LOUIS DE PAOR

Town Hall Theatre

Admission Free



Cúirt

6pm

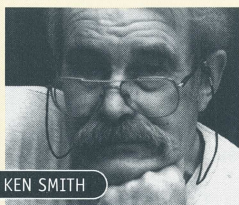
Judi Benson, Biddy Jenkinson & Ken Smith

Judi Benson is an American poet, born in California in 1947. She has lived in Great Britain since 1978. She regularly contributes to BBC Radio and also works as a painter. Benson has published two collections of poetry *Somewhere Else* and *In The Pockets Of Strangers* and has edited collections of poems by contemporary poets including *Klaonica: Poems for Bosnia* with Ken Smith.



JUDI BENSON

Biddy Jenkinson is perhaps the most stylistically and versatile Irish language poet to emerge in the past decade. She has imposed a partial ban on translation on her work into English. "IT IS A SMALL RUDE GESTURE TO THOSE THAT THINK THAT EVERYTHING CAN BE HARVESTED AND STORED WITHOUT LOSS IN AN ENGLISH SPEAKING IRELAND".



KEN SMITH

Yorkshire poet **Ken Smith** has published over one dozen collections of his work including his most recent volume *Wild Root*. He was also the recipient of the 1997 Lannan Foundation Award for Poetry and a 1998 Cholomondeley Award. He is the author of *Inside Time*, an account of his time in HMP Wormwood Scrubbs as Writer-in-Residence, and *Berlin, Coming in from the Cold*, an eye witness account of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Town Hall Theatre Studio

Admission £5/£4

8.30pm

Patience Agbabi & Labi Siffre

From Hamburg to Jo'burg, Oslo to Soho, Nigerian poet **Patience Agbabi** is pushing the poetry of the future. Influenced by the rap and rave of MTV as well as jazz and the spiritual tone of djembe, a musically inspired poetry is in play. She has performed her work to international audiences at the Glastonbury Festival, Edinburgh Book Festival, Amsterdam's Hip Hop Paradiso, the Ministry of Sound and the Soho Jazz Festival.

English singer, songwriter and poet of huge repute **Labi Siffre** has made an amazing impact on both stage and page through his written and spoken works. His spoken word performances from his political and race related writings including *Nigger* and *Blood on the Page* are charged with a fire burning from within. He is also writer and performer of the song *Something Inside So Strong* which was written for the black community of South Africa under apartheid and for all victims of injustice.

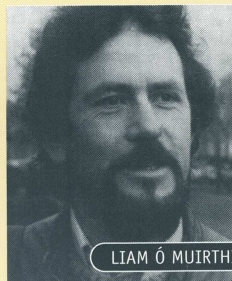
Town Hall Theatre

Admission £6/£5

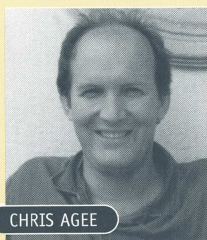
THURSDAY APRIL 22

1pm Liam Ó Muirthile & Chris Agee

Liam Ó Muirthile was born in 1950 in Cork. His first collection of poems, *Tine Cnámh*, was published in 1984; a selection of his weekly Irish Times columns, *An Peann Coitianta*, appeared in 1991. He has worked as a journalist with RTÉ, but now works as a freelance writer and broadcaster. He lives in Co. Dublin.



LIAM Ó MUIRTHILE



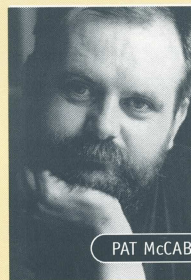
CHRIS AGEE

American poet **Chris Agee** was born in 1956 in San Francisco. His first collection of poems *In The New Hampshire Woods* was published by Dedalus in 1992. A former editor of *Poetry Ireland Review* he is currently the Irish correspondent for *Oslobodjenje*, Sarajevo's independent daily newspaper. He edited *Scar on the Stone - Contemporary Poetry from Bosnia* which was published last year.

Town Hall Theatre Studio
Admission £4/£3

2pm Pat McCabe interviews Gavin Friday & Maurice Seezer

Songwriters and composers **Gavin Friday**, formerly of Virgin Prunes fame, and **Maurice Seezer** discuss their work with the award winning novelist, author of *The Butcher Boy* and *Breakfast on Pluto*, **Pat McCabe**. Friday and Seezer have collaborated on film scores for *The Boxer* and *In the Name of the Father* and also are composers of *Angel* which featured on the soundtrack of Baz Luhrmann's *Romeo & Juliet*. Pat McCabe is Writer-in-Residence in NUI, Galway.



PAT MCCABE

Druid Theatre
Admission £5/£4

4pm The Anne Kennedy Memorial Lecture
The Doubleness of Oscar Wilde by Terry Eagleton

This year's Cúirt Lecture features **Terry Eagleton**, Thomas Wharton Professor of English, St. Catherine's College, Oxford University who will deliver the definitive exposition of the work of Oscar Wilde. Eagleton is the author of a collection of essays on Irish culture, *Crazy John and the Bishop* published in 1997.

Town Hall Theatre
Admission Free. Tickets in Advance



TERRY EAGLETON

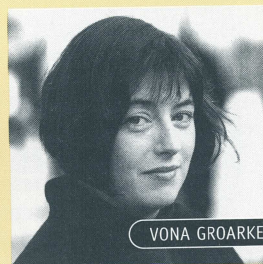
6pm

Mary Dorcey & Vona Groarke

Mary Dorcey was born in Dublin in 1950. She has been active in the women's movement since the 1970s and began to write in the early 1980s. She has given many readings of her work in Ireland, Britain and Europe and her poetry and stories have been published in numerous magazines and anthologies. Her first collection of poems *Kindling* appeared in 1982 followed by *Not Everybody Sees This Night* and *Moving Into The Space Cleared By Our Mothers*. She has published two collections of short stories including *A Noise In The Woodshed* and has also been awarded the prestigious Rooney Prize for Literature.

Vona Groarke made a remarkable debut on the literary scene with her first collection of poetry in 1994, *Shale*. She has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Hennessy Award for Poetry, the Brendan Behan Memorial Prize and The Sunday Tribune Best New Irish Writer of the Year 1994. *Other People's Houses*, her new collection, will be published in April this year.

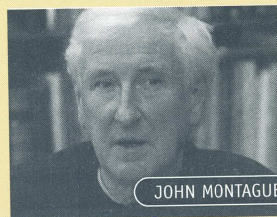
Town Hall Theatre Studio
Admission £5/£4



VONA GROARKE

8.30pm John Montague, Jack Mapanje & Jimmy Boyle

One of the greatest Irish poets and currently holder of the Ireland Chair of Poetry, **John Montague** makes his long awaited Cúirt debut. Born in Brooklyn in 1929 he spent his formative years in Co. Tyrone. He edited *The Faber Book of Irish Verse* in 1974 and *Bitter Harvest* in 1989. Works of fiction include *Death of a Chieftain and Other Stories* 1964 and *The Lost Notebook* 1987 and he has published several collections of poetry including *The Rough Field* and *The Dead Kingdom*.



JOHN MONTAGUE

Poet and political prisoner **Jack Mapanje** from Malawi was arrested and held captive for his anti-government stance during the Hastings Banda regime for four years during the 1980s. News of Mapanje's arrest was released to the world's media through an Irish priest and following an international campaign Mapanje was released in 1984. *The Chattering Wagtails of Mikuyu Prison*, *Of Chameleons and Gods* and his latest collection *Skipping with Ropes* are just three of his volumes of poetry. He is currently writer-in-residence at NUI, Cork.



Writer and sculptor **Jimmy Boyle** whose compelling debut novel, *Hero of the Underworld*, has just been published to stunning reviews and is already tipped as a Booker Prize nominee. *A Sense of Freedom*, his gripping 1977 autobiography was written during his time in prison in Scotland. He is best known for his sculpture and he sells to private collectors and galleries all over the world.

Thursday April 22
Admission £6/£5

JIMMY BOYLE

FRIDAY APRIL 23

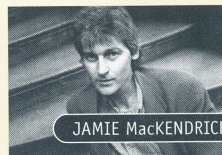
11am Student Reading

The Cúirt Writers-in-Schools Programme is one of the most exciting elements of the Cúirt Education Programme and, this year, two writers will conduct a four week series of creative writing workshops prior to and during Cúirt. **Máire Holmes**, poet, playwright and broadcaster, and **Louis De Paor**, one of the leading figures in the renaissance of Irish language poetry, will lead these workshops designed to encourage participation in all forms of writing among young people. This event will feature the work of this year's programme.

Town Hall Theatre
Admission Free

1pm Jamie MacKendrick & Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin

Winner of the Forward Prize for his outstanding 1997 collection, *Marble Fly*, **Jamie MacKendrick** has received superb critical acclaim for each of his three volumes of poetry. "ONE OF OUR MOST EXCITING YOUNG POETS" **INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY**, "CLEVER, WRY, RICH AND LYRICAL - A WONDERFUL POET ALREADY AND A MAJOR ONE IN THE MAKING" **WILLIAM BOYD**. MacKendrick is the current writer in residence at Hertford College, Oxford.



JAMIE MACKENDRICK



EILÉAN NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN

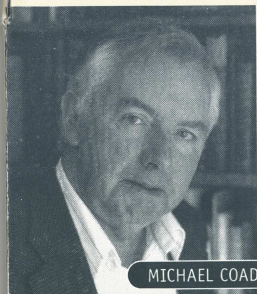
Born in Cork in 1942 **Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin** has been recipient of the 1966 Irish Times Award for Poetry and the 1972 Patrick Kavanagh Award and since then has published several collections of critically acclaimed poetry including *The Second Voyage*, Cork with drawings by Brendan Lawlor, *The Rose Geranium* and *Magdalene Sermon*. She is a founder editor of *Cyphers* and editor of *Irish Women: Image and Achievement*. She lectures in Medieval and Renaissance English in Trinity College Dublin. "A STRIKING CONSISTENCY OF THEME AND TECHNIQUE" **TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT**.

Town Hall Theatre Studio
Admission £4/£3

2.30pm Cúirt Trip to Annaghdown with Michael Coady, Guest Singers & Musicians

One of the most enjoyable afternoons of the festival. A literary excursion, by boat, along the River Corrib to Annaghdown Pier featuring music and song with a reading by award winning poet **Michael Coady** at the village schoolhouse. Winner of the Patrick Kavanagh Award and the RTÉ Radio Francis MacManus Short Story Award, Michael Coady's most recent collection *All Souls* was published by Gallery Press. In 1998 he was elected a member of Aosdána.

Tickets £10/£8. Refreshments Included
Departure from Waterside, Woodquay



MICHAEL COADY

Cúirt

3pm

Poets' Platform

Poets' Platform showcases some of the best writing from Irish writers' groups and is now established as one of the Festival's regular highpoints. It bears eloquent testimony to the depth of talent among the unpublished voices of Irish poetry.

Town Hall Theatre

Admission Free

3.30pm

Seán MacMathúna & Ita Daly

Seán MacMathúna, born in Kerry, has worked as a teacher at both second and third levels in Dublin where he now lives. Widely admired for the energy, style and sharp wit of his writing in the Irish language he has enjoyed a virtual cult following since the publication of his collection, *Ding agus Scéalta Eile*. He translates his own work discovering a rich and textured vein of English that is very much his own. *The Atheist* was his first collection published in English.



SEÁN MacMATHÚNA

Winner of the Hennessy Award and The Irish Times Short Story Competition **Ita Daly** has published several titles to date including *Lady With The Red Shoes*, *Ellen*, *A Singular Attraction*, *Dangerous Fictions*, *All Fall Down* and *Unholy Ghosts*. Her work has featured in many anthologies and has been translated into several languages.

"ITA DALY DEPICTS IN AN EXCITING WAY THE RURAL ROOTS WHICH LIE COILED AND CONGEALED UNDER THE URBAN VEGETATION" **PAUL DURCAN**

Town Hall Theatre Studio

Admission £4/£3

6pm

Vojka Djikic, Marko Vesovic & Semezdin Mehmedinovic

Writing with a political slant features strongly at this year's Cúirt. This event sees three of most respected Bosnian poets Marko Vesovic, Vojka Djikic and Semezdin Mehmedinovic, all of whom experienced the siege of Sarajevo and kept the flame of resistance alive through their writing, read at what will surely be one the highlights of the festival.

Vojka Djikic was born in Mrkonjic Grad in northern Bosnia. She was poetry editor for Sarajevo radio and tv from 1973 to the outbreak of war and works as a translator of French and Algerian literature. Her collections include *The Weaver of the Winds* and *Ash-Wednesday*.

A highly respected critic and novelist **Marko Vesovic** was born in Pape, Montenegro and has lived in Sarajevo since the 1960s. His essays and articles in the journal *Slobodna Bosnia* (Free Bosnia) appeared to much acclaim throughout the siege. Other publications include *The Forth Genius*, *The Founder* and *The King and the Wreck*.

Born in 1960 in Kiseljak, near Tuzla, **Semezdin Mehmedinovic** edited a remarkable wartime magazine *Fantom Slobode* (Phantom of Liberty), and was chosen to represent Bosnian writers at the 1994 Frankfurt Bookfair. One of the most outstanding poets of his generation he also wrote and directed (with Benjamin Filipovic) the film *Mizaldo or the End of Theatre* which featured in the 1994 Berlin Film Festival.

Town Hall Theatre

Admission £5/£4

8.30pm

Simon Armitage & David Leavitt

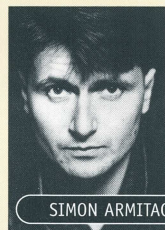
One of the most popular English poets to read at Cúirt, **Simon Armitage** returns for Cúirt '99 to showcase his new collection of essays and observations *All Points North*. Born in Huddersfield in 1963, he has produced several titles including *Zoom*, *Kid*, *Book of Matches* and *The Dead Sea*. Twice shortlisted for the Whitbread Prize he was The Sunday Times 1993 choice as Young Writer of the Year. He is also a respected broadcaster.

One of America's most eminent short story writers and novelists **David Leavitt** was firmly established as one of the most outstanding writers of his generation by the age of 30. He has earned astonishing critical acclaim for his many titles including *Arkansas*, *The Lost Language of the Cranes*, *Family Dancing* and *The Page Turner*.

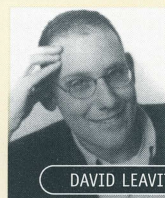
"ONE OF THE FINEST VOICES IN AMERICAN FICTION" **TIME OUT**

Town Hall Theatre

Admission £6/£5



SIMON ARMITAGE



DAVID LEAVITT

10.30pm

**John Cooper Clarke with music and song
from Martin Stephenson & Brendan O'Reagan**

John Cooper Clarke stormed into popular cultural consciousness in the early 1980s with the albums *Zip Style Method* and *Snap, Crackle & Bop*, a volatile cocktail of rock and poetry. In the summer of 1979 he was already on the front cover of NME. Twenty years later he is still going strong. Clarke has often been unfairly pigeon holed as a punk poet and although his poems do describe a similar inner city landscape, his importance as a writer and performer stretches far beyond the finite boundaries of 70's New Wave. One of his best known books, *Ten Years in an Open Necked Shirt*, first published in 1983, remains a masterful slim volume featuring such classics as *Kung Fu International* and *I Married a Monster from Outer Space*.

"AN INSTINCTIVE ENTERTAINER WHO CAN COMMAND AND ENCHANT HIS AUDIENCES" **THE GUARDIAN**

Martin Stephenson, a singer/songwriter from the North East of England, has developed a huge following throughout Ireland and Britain. He was formerly a member of **The Daintees**.

Traditional musician, producer and composer **Brendan O'Reagan** is one the most respected musicians working in Ireland today. He has recently composed the score for Druid Theatre Company's production of Shakespeare's *As You Like It*.

Town Hall Theatre

Admission £10/£8



JOHN COOPER CLARKE

SATURDAY APRIL 24

11am

Anne Egan, Collette Ní Aodh & Katie Hayes

This reading features three of the strongest emerging voices writing in Ireland today. Kildare poet **Anne Egan**, three times winner of the Listowel Writers' Week Competition, Irish language poet **Collette Ní Aodh** from Co. Mayo whose first collection appeared this year, and Dublin novelist **Katie Hayes** come together to read from their latest works.

Town Hall Theatre Studio

Admission £4/£3



ANNE EGAN

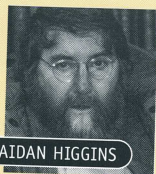


KATIE HAYES

1pm

Gerald Dawe & Aidan Higgins

Gerald Dawe's first collection of poems, *Sheltering Places*, was published in 1978. The Gallery Press published *The Lundys Letter* (1985), for which he was awarded the Macauley Fellowship in Literature, and *Sunday School* (1991). He has also received a Hawthorn International Writer's Fellowship. His most recent publication *The Rest is History* was published in 1998. He teaches at Trinity College Dublin and is also editor of *Krino: The Review*.



AIDAN HIGGINS

Aidan Higgins' novels include *Langrishe Go Down* (1966), which won the James Tait Memorial Prize and Irish Academy of Letters Award, which was subsequently filmed for television with a screenplay by **Harold Pinter**, *Balcony of Europe* which was shortlisted for the 1972 Booker Prize and *Bornholm Night Ferry*. He has also published collections of stories and travel writings. He lives in Co. Cork.

"TEXT HARDLY COMES MORE REAL THAN THIS" THE IRISH TIMES

Town Hall Theatre Studio

Admission £4/£3

2pm

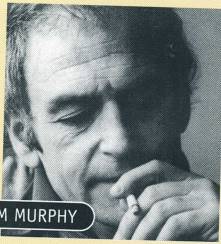
Pat McCabe interviews playwright Tom Murphy

Born in Tuam in 1935 **Tom Murphy** is one of the finest Irish playwrights. For over three decades his plays have been among the most important written in Ireland. From early works such as *On the Outside* and *A Whistle in the Dark* to major works like *The Gigli Concert*, *Conversations on a Homecoming* and *Bailegangáire* his plays have been constantly challenging and often controversial.

Pat McCabe, author of *The Butcher Boy* is currently Writer-in-Residence at NUI, Galway.

Druid Theatre Company

Admission £5/£4



TOM MURPHY

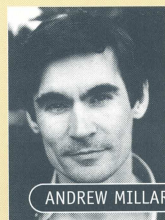
3pm

Hugo Hamilton, Antonia Logue &
Andrew Millar

Three of the most interesting contemporary authors: Irish writers **Hugo Hamilton**, author of five novels and one screen play, **Antonia Logue**, whose debut novel *Shadow-box* is probably one of the most awaited novels of the 1990s, along with English novelist **Andrew Millar** whose debut novel, *Ingenious Pain*, received rapturous international acclaim, feature in this reading.

Town Hall Theatre

Admission £4/£3

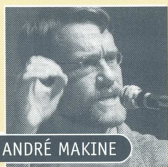


ANDREW MILLAR

6pm

Seamus Deane, André Makine & Amos Oz

Seamus Deane was born in Derry in 1940. A poet, playwright and critic he was also editor of the *Field Day Anthology of Irish writing*. His novel *Reading in the Dark*, nominated for the Booker Prize, was one of the most exceptional and brilliant books of recent years.



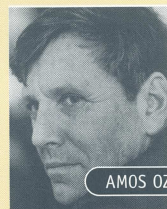
ANDRÉ MAKINE

One of Russia's most outstanding authors **André Makine** achieved the unprecedented feat of winning France's two most prestigious literary prizes - the Prix Goncourt and the Prix Médicis - simultaneously, for his superb 1995 novel *Le Testament Français*. Makine, who writes in both Russian and French, will be joined by his award winning translator **Jeffrey Strachan**.

Israel's foremost living writer **Amos Oz** is one of the most critical and controversial voices writing in Israel today. He has published several titles of fiction including *Elsewhere*, *Perhaps*, *Where the Jackals Howl*, *Unto Death* and *Don't Call It Night* and non-fiction titles including *In the Land of Israel*, *The Slopes of Lebanon and Israel*, and *Palestine & Peace*.

Town Hall Theatre

Admission £6/£5

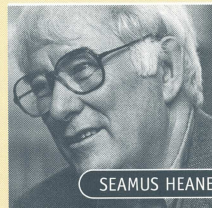


AMOS OZ

9pm

Seamus Heaney, Pura Lopez Colomé &
Hans Van De Waarsenburg

To celebrate the publication of his new limited edition collection of poetry, *The Light of the Leaves*, one of the highlights of this year's festival is a reading by Ireland's Nobel Laureate **Seamus Heaney**. The edition features Spanish and Dutch translations with accompanying original prints by the Dutch artist **Jan Hendrix**. Heaney has won numerous awards including the Somerset Maugham Award (1968), the Whitbread Award (1987) for *The Haw Lantern*, The Whitbread Prize and the T.S. Eliot Poetry Prize for *The Spirit Level* and in October 1995 the Nobel Prize for Literature. He will be joined by his Spanish translator and editor, the Mexican poet **Pura Lopez Colomé** and Dutch translator and editor, the poet **Hans Van De Waarsenburg**.



SEAMUS HEANEY

Town Hall Theatre

Admission £6/£5

Cúirt '99

SUNDAY APRIL 25

12 noon Bardic Breakfast with Valerie Bloom & Friends!

This year's Bardic Breakfast features **Valerie Bloom** a popular poet and performer from Jamaica. Her work varies from comic monologues to tragic narratives all demonstrating a palpable delight in Jamaican pathos. Her latest recording of selected spoken works, *Yuh Hear Bout*, features 35 of her new and best known poems with special guest vocal appearance by Jean 'Binta' Breeze. Also featured at this year's breakfast are **Pat Bracken** and puppets, singer/songwriters **Helen Lane** and **John Spillane** and Galway's much loved **Little John Nee** as MC. Not to be missed!

Brennan's Yard Hotel

Admission £10

3pm Alla Mikhalevich

Russian poet **Alla Mikhalevich** is a member of the St. Petersburg Writers' Union. A widely published poet in her own country, Mikhalevich makes her Irish debut reading at this year's Cúirt. The Word of Mouth Women's Writer from Northern Ireland will read translations of her work.

Galway Arts Centre

Admission Free

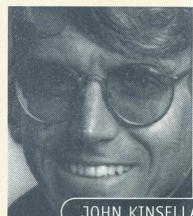
4pm John Kinsella with music and song from Mhuighe Seóla

John Kinsella is the most original Australian poet of his generation. Born in 1963 he has been unashamedly prolific, having published a dozen collections while still in his 30s. Unafraid to take on a wide range of styles, subjects and poetic challenges, Kinsella has attracted critical flak in Australia as well as admiration for his achievement and risk-taking.

Amhráin Mhuighe Seóla features traditional early 20th century songs from north Co. Galway & Co. Mayo as collected by song collector and social activist **Eileen Costello**.

Drimcong House, Moycullen, Co. Galway

£7 including refreshments



JOHN KINSELLA

9pm The Final Fling

Survivors of Cúirt '99 are invited to Brennan's Yard Hotel for a finale of music, conversation and craic.

Children's Events

TUES 20 APRIL

11am

Storyteller, Billy Teare

Acclaimed storyteller and jester, **Billy Teare** has captivated audiences throughout Great Britain, the United States and Canada. He has worked extensively in Ireland offering a feast of folk and fairy tales, myths and legends, songs and chants specialising in mysterious tales of Ireland and Scotland.

Galway City Library

Admission Free. Tickets in Advance

WED 21 APRIL

10am & 11am

Brianóg Brady Dawson

One of the most popular writers on the O'Brien Press Pandas Reading for Beginners Series, **Brianóg Brady Dawson** will read from her bestselling book *Granny's Teeth* which proved to be one of the great successes in children's publications last year. She has two new stories which will be published later this year.

Galway City Library

Admission Free. Tickets in Advance

THURS 22 APRIL

11am

Seán MacMathúna

Short story and screenplay writer **Seán MacMathúna** has written an endless number of stories for children. During this reading he will tell the story of his latest film

project *A Horse Called Mermaid*. A valuable racehorse is washed away to sea and gives birth to a foal on a desert island where there is no food or water. Faced with the prospect of death how will she manage to protect her foal and escape from her terrible situation? MacMathúna is a master of his craft and one of the most popular writers with children today.

Galway City Library

Admission Free. Tickets in Advance

FRI 23 APRIL

11am

Gerard Whelan &
Larry O'Loughlin

To celebrate World Book Day Cúirt, in association with Easons, present a special event for children with two of Ireland's premier children's writers. **Gerard Whelan** won the Eilis Dillon Bisto Award in 1997 for his first book *The Guns of Easter* and the overall Bisto Award in 1998 for his highly acclaimed *Dream Invader*. His stories are much loved by children of all ages for their well-crafted and fast moving plots. *A Winter of Spies*, a sequel to his first book, has recently been published.

Writer and storyteller **Larry O'Loughlin** has written five books including the very popular *An Gobán Saor*. Larry's new book *Is Anybody Listening* is a brilliant and controversial read for older children which tells the story of child labour in the carpet sheds of India and the street children of Brazil, as seen through the eyes of a young girl.

Galway City Library

Admission Free. Tickets in Advance

Special Events

EXHIBITIONS

New Paintings by **Brian Bourke**

An exhibition of new paintings by one of Ireland's foremost painters, **Brian Bourke**. Bourke has exhibited widely in Ireland and throughout the world. He lives and works in Co. Galway.

**Galway Arts Centre,
47 Dominick Street
10am - 5.30pm Mon - Sat**

The Golden Bough & In the Light of Leaves by Jan Hendrix

Jan Hendrix is a Dutch artist based in Mexico City. The work in featured in this exhibition is from the two limited edition volumes of poetry by **Seamus Heaney** with accompanying prints by Hendrix.

**Town Hall Theatre
10am - 7pm**

TUES 20 APRIL

9pm

Seán Tyrell

Seán Tyrell is one of Galway's most accomplished singer/songwriters. In the last few years he has released two albums, the acclaimed *Cry of a Dreamer* album and *The Orchard*, he has also written a musical version of *The Midnight Court*, which was successfully staged by Druid.

**Róisín Dubh, Dominick Street
Admission £7**

WED 21 APRIL

8pm

Lecture - Nora Barnacle **Jackie Uí Chionna**

A LECTURE IN ASSOCIATION WITH GALWAY CIVIC TRUST. **Jackie Uí Chionna** delivers this lecture on the life of Nora Barnacle who was born and lived in Galway, was wife and muse of one of Ireland's literary geniuses, James Joyce.

**Galway Arts Centre,
47 Dominick Street
Admission £4/£3**

3.30pm

Maguire & McBride

For their 10th Cúirt Show, satirists **Conor Maguire** and **Charlie McBride** cast their cold, bloodshot eyes on life and death, love and divorce in a poetic orgy of envy, malice and spite. A ritual culling of sacred cows from the bardic herd in which no holds are barred, prisoners taken or regulations spared.

**The King's Head
Admission £5**

THURS 22 APRIL

4.30pm

Ropes Journal Launch by Pat McCabe

Ropes is an annual Journal featuring the writings of postgraduate students of NUI, Galway.

**New Board Room (A114)
National University of Ireland, Galway**

F R I 2 3 A P R I L

10.30am - 12.30pm

Performing Poems with Max Hafler

A two hour workshop, with award winning poet, playwright and actor **Max Hafler**, for up to 20 participants selected to read at the Poet's Platform. The workshop will cover sight-reading, engaging with an audience, voice projection, etc. Hafler was nominated for the 1998 Stewart Parker Award.

**Galway Arts Centre,
47 Dominick Street
Fee £10**

S A T 2 4 A P R I L

10am - 12pm & 2pm - 4.30pm

Short Story Workshop with Ita Daly

Applicants are requested to submit a short story to Galway Arts Centre to arrive no later than April 9. Those accepted for the workshop will be notified by April 16.

**Galway Arts Centre,
47 Dominick Street
Fee £30. Limited to 12 places**

10am - 12pm & 2 - 4.30pm

Poetry Workshop with Jamie MacKendrick

Applicants are requested to submit three poems to Galway Arts Centre to arrive no later than April 9. Those accepted for the workshop will be notified by April 16.

**Galway Arts Centre,
47 Dominick Street
Fee £30. Limited to 12 places**

S A T 2 4 &

S U N 2 5 A P R I L

10.30am - 12.30pm

Poems in Public with Max Hafler

An open workshop over two days dealing with performance skills for poets. Basic voice work, relaxation exercises, sight reading, script annotation, and interpretation. Max Hafler was designated Best New Performance Poet of the Year in England in 1994. This workshop offers essential training for writers who wish to read their work in public. Places are limited to 20.

**Nun's Island Theatre
Fee £20**

Festival Club

Each evening throughout the Festival there will be an informal gathering of participants and audience at Brennan's Yard Hotel, New Dock Street.

Admission Free. All Welcome

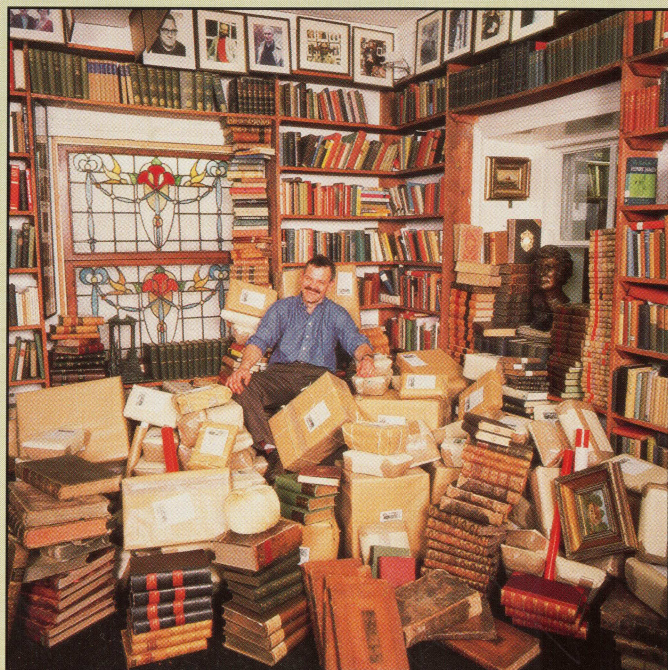
Festival Bookshop

Books by writers reading at this year's Festival will be available throughout the week at the Festival Bookshop at the Town Hall Theatre.



Kenny's Book Hampers

A unique gift for booklovers everywhere.



Gifts for that special occasion are no longer a problem. Outline the recipient's interests (e.g. poetry!) and we will compile a personalised selection of books to a budget specified by you. Based on our experience and knowledge of Irish books, we will select just the right package.

Each Book Hamper will be hand-picked by Des Kenny and the customised selection will be gift wrapped in traditional brown paper and twine. Book Hampers are delivered directly - anywhere in the world.

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