

Cúirt

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE
FÉILE IDIRNÁISIÚNTA LITRÍOCHTA

23 - 29 APRIL 2018

I have SAILED
ACROSS a SEA
of WORDS

con
mountain-like, came rolling astern of us, and plainly bade us expect,
e grace. It took us with such fury, that it overset the boat
ce; and separating us as well from the boat
er, gave us no time to say, "O God!"
for we were all swallowed
up in a mo
y until on the sea
ent labour
tered



www.cuirt.ie

Funding Partners



Programme Partners



Media Partners



Programme Director's Welcome



Fáilte is fiche go Cúirt Litríochta na bliana seo. Welcome to the 33rd annual Cúirt International Festival of Literature. Cúirt is anchored in a strong local and national literary culture while sustaining its outward, international focus. This year we are delighted to have American, Austrian, Canadian, Catalan, English, French, Mexican and Norwegian writers participating, as well as the very best of Irish authors.

The name 'cúirt' refers to the Gaelic tradition of the court of poets; a community of writers exchanging ideas and honing their craft. Founded in the mid 1980s, Cúirt was one of only three literary festivals in Ireland. There are now over fifty such events taking place annually. Cúirt is rising to the challenge of sustaining the loyal enthusiasm of its core support while continuing to nurture new audiences by offering something unique and unexpected that resonates in the contemporary moment.

The idea of literature and the 'Sister Arts' is a loose theme this year and a number of events explore continuities between words, music and image. 'Lyrics of our Lives' invites us to think about the creation of song lyrics as a writing practice; 'Play It Again' integrates Alan Rusbridger's written reflections on world politics with the virtuoso piano of Finghin Collins; Danny Diamond's fiddle converses with the poetry of Tom French in 'What To Bring When We Leave'; our Cúirt guest artist, Sam Winston is inspired by the visuality of words themselves and weaves his art from typography. (Thank you, Sam, for our beautiful festival image). The programme, thus, takes an expansive approach to the primacy of words in our daily lives. While proudly keeping literary values at the core of Cúirt, thinking about language across art forms has also allowed us to enrich our public engagement in exciting collaborations with new partners.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank my colleagues at Galway Arts Centre for their support. I am especially grateful to the Cúirt reading panel for voluntarily contributing their insights. We thank and acknowledge the funders and sponsors who support the festival, and the volunteers who give of their time so generously.

Above all, we thank you for your interest in Cúirt. The girl borne aloft in our festival image invites us to 'sail across a sea of words'. Come join us and find yourself buoyed on a tide of literary discovery!

Dr. Emily Cullen
Programme Director

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

SATURDAY DAY TICKET

€30 (Excludes 8pm events)

FESTIVAL PASS

€130 (Save up to 40%)

(Excludes workshops, Pan Pan's The Importance of Nothing, and Far From Literature)

Stay in Touch

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

  @CuirtFestival #cuirt2018

 Cúirt International Festival of Literature

www.cuirt.ie

2 CÚIRT DAY BY DAY

✧ BI-LINGUAL IRISH/ENGLISH EVENT
✧ FREE EVENT

CÚIRT LABS

PAGE THURS 26 - SAT 28

32 **Caroline Busher**
Realtán Ní Leannáin
Exhibition Workshop
9.30am - 1pm

FRI 27

32 **Siobhán Parkinson**
Caroline Busher
Exhibition Workshop
9.30am - 1pm

SAT 28

33 **Deirdre Sullivan &
Karen Vaughan**
Anna Carey
Sam Winston
Red Bird & CAMHS
Narrative 4
9.30am - 5.30pm

✧ EXHIBITIONS

35 **Extended Reading:**
Writing as a
Visual Art
Galway Arts Centre

36 **Speaking Space**
Galway Arts Centre

36 **Bosom Pals**
NUI Galway Gallery

36 **Engage Experiment**
Just Art It, Dominick St

37 **Blood Horses**
The Kenny Gallery

37 **Mind Has Mountains**
Town Hall Theatre

MONDAY 23

PAGE

31 **Autofiction**
Joanna Walsh
Hotel Meyrick
11am

4 **Getting Published:**
Tramp Press
Office Hours
Galway Arts Centre
12pm

4 **Mindshift:**
The Business
of Writing
Nun's Island Theatre
1pm

34 **Jackie Mac Donncha**
agus Dara Ó Conaola
Áras Éanna, Inis Oíir,
Árainn
2pm

5 **Words Ireland On**
Mentorship & Writing
Nun's Island Theatre
3pm

6 **Eleanor Hooker**
& Joseph Woods
Nun's Island Theatre
5pm

6 **Eva Bourke**
& Joseph Woods
Launch
Biteclub
6:30pm

7 **The Importance**
of Nothing - Pan Pan
Black Box Theatre
8pm

TUESDAY 24

PAGE

8 **Surveying the**
Short Story
Nun's Island Theatre
1pm

9 **Embodied Encounters:**
Digital Cartographies
Nun's Island Theatre
3pm

9 **ROPES Launch**
Town Hall Theatre
5pm

10 **Jane Clarke**
& Michael Coady
Nun's Island Theatre
6pm

10 **Public House**
The Blue Note
8pm

WEDNESDAY 25

PAGE

11 **Cúirt/Over the Edge**
New Writing
Showcase
Town Hall Theatre
11am

11 **Poems for Patience**
with Michael Coady
Galway University
Hospital
11am

12 **After Ireland with**
Declan Kiberd
NUI Galway
1pm

13 **Embodied Encounters**
Poetry In Motion
Nun's Island Theatre
3pm

13 **Imagining Nora**
Tigh Nora
3pm

14 **Salmon Book Launch**
Charlie Byrne's Booksl
4pm

15 **Cúirt Festival**
Official Opening
Hotel Meyrick
6pm

14 **Rabbit - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm

15 **An Evening with**
Bernard MacLavery
Town Hall Theatre
8pm

**** PROGRAMME ****
**** UPDATES ****

11AM WEDNESDAY 25
Poems for Patience
will now take place at
11AM TUESDAY 24

8PM THURSDAY 26
Sebastian Barry
will now appear in place
of Daniel Woodrell

For all the latest updates please see cuiert.ie

Cúirt

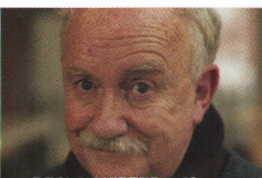
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE
FEILE IDIRNAISIAINTA LITRÍOCHTA



BERNARD MacLAVERTY, p.15



JANE CLARKE, p.10



DECLAN KIBERD, p.12

THURSDAY 26

PAGE

- 16 **Imtiaz Dharker & Pascale Petit**
Town Hall Theatre
1pm
- 16 **Aislingí Grádhá Oídhche Lughnasa**
Nun's Island Theatre
1pm
- 16 **Stinging Fly Stories Launch**
Biteclub
2.30pm
- 13 **Imagining Nora**
Tigh Nora
3pm
- 17 **Danny Denton & Sally Rooney**
Town Hall Theatre
4pm
- 17 **Motherfoclóir with Darach Ó Séaghdha**
Nun's Island Theatre
4pm
- 18 **World Perspectives**
Town Hall Theatre
6pm
- 19 **Lyrics of Our Lives: The Art of Songwriting**
Róisín Dubh
8pm
- 20 **Paul Lynch & Daniel Woodrell**
Town Hall Theatre
8pm
- 14 **Rabbit - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm
- * **Festival Club**
Hotel Meyrick
10pm

FRIDAY 27

PAGE

- 31 **'The Box' Poetry Masterclass with Imtiaz Dharker**
Hotel Meyrick
11am
- 31 **Songwriting in the Classroom Workshop with Paul Linehan**
St. Enda's College
12pm
- 21 **Andrew Meehan & E.M. Reapy**
Town Hall Theatre
1pm
- 22 **Billy O'Callaghan & Kathleen Winter**
Town Hall Theatre
4pm
- 23 **What To Bring When We Leave**
Nun's Island Theatre
5pm
- 24 **Adventures in Ideas: The Essay Now**
Town Hall Theatre
6pm
- 14 **Juan Pablo Villalobos & Patrick McCabe**
Town Hall Theatre
8pm
- 23 **Rabbit - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm
- * **Cúirt Cois Fharraige**
Tigh Pheadair Mhóir, Rossaveal
8.30pm
- * **Festival Club**
Hotel Meyrick
10pm

SATURDAY 28

PAGE

- 25 **Spotlight on New Voices**
Town Hall Theatre
11am
- 25 **Sinéad Morrissey & Daljit Nagra**
Town Hall Theatre
1pm
- 26 **An Focal: Cuisle**
Nun's Island Theatre
2pm
- 26 **Spoken Word Platform**
Róisín Dubh
3pm
- 14 **Rabbit - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
3pm
- 27 **June Caldwell & Kelly Creighton**
Town Hall Theatre
4pm
- 27 **London Writers' Eclective Presents...**
Róisín Dubh upstairs
6pm
- 28 **Play it Again: Conversation in Concert**
Town Hall Theatre
8pm
- 14 **Rabbit - GYT**
Town Hall Studio
8pm
- * **Festival Club**
Hotel Meyrick
10pm

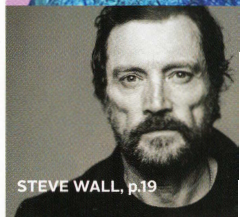
SUNDAY 29

PAGE

- 35 **Visual Art Artist's Talk: Sam Winston**
Galway Arts Centre
1pm
- 29 **Storytelling with Niall de Búrca**
Nun's Island Theatre
3pm
- 29 **The Making of Mollie: Anna Carey**
Nun's Island Theatre
5pm
- 30 **Far From Literature We Were Raised**
Róisín Dubh
8pm



IMTIAZ DHARKER, p.16 & p.31



STEVE WALL, p.19



SALLY ROONEY, p.17

* Consider yourself invited to what promises to be a friendly and relaxing place to chat after a day Cúirting! The Festival Club at Hotel Meyrick will run from Thursday - Saturday from 10pm until late. All are welcome.

Getting Published Tramp Press: Open Office Hours

MONDAY 23 APRIL 12PM
GALWAY ARTS CENTRE FREE



Got a question about publishing, editing, or just looking for some great recommendations? Open Office Hours was created to help open doors around the business of books and to break down perceived barriers between writers, readers, and publishers. We invite you to chat to us about whatever books-related topic you'd like.

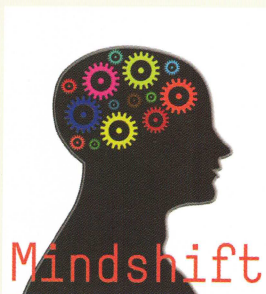
Come say hi, ask about the sector, how the slush pile works, or show us the projects you're working on.

Booking is free, and no questions are off-limits! (Except, of course, legal advice! For any copyright or dispute queries we'll strongly recommend you contact the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency or the Irish Writers' Union respectively. Words Ireland is also a good source of information for writers.)

Sign up online for a 20 minute chat-slot with Sarah Davis-Goff and Lisa Coen. To book email: bookings@cuirt.ie

Mindshift: 'The Business of Writing' with Various Experts

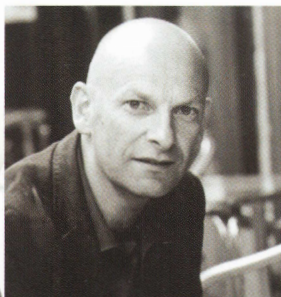
MONDAY 23 APRIL 1PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE FREE



Presented by the Irish Writers Centre, this professional development session is aimed at established and emerging writers and will focus on the business aspect of writing. There will be an examination on the types of funding, opportunities and supports available to writers including residencies, as well as a discussion of how writers can generate alternative sources of income. This session is a must for the enterprising writer as it explores the practicalities of life within the literary industry.

To book visit: www.irishwriterscentre.ie





On Mentorship & Writing

MONDAY 23 APRIL 3PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE FREE

"A fierce and funny novel... Jason's jaunts around town are reminiscent of Francie Brady in *The Butcher Boy* – young bucks who are wonderful mimics of adult mannerisms while simultaneously struggling to understand the intricacies and injustices of the grown-up world."

THE IRISH TIMES ON
ALAN McMONAGLE

"O'Reilly's voice is all his own: intelligent, lyrical and deeply funny."

MARTINA EVANS,
THE IRISH TIMES

"A poet with the whole world in his hip-pocket."

JAMES J MCAULEY
ON JOSEPH WOODS

Cúirt International Festival of Literature in association with Words Ireland is delighted to present this special event – an information session for anybody who is curious about the mentorship process and other supports available for writers. Words Ireland is a collective of seven literature organisations working together on behalf of writers in Ireland. One of its initiatives is the National Mentoring Programme.

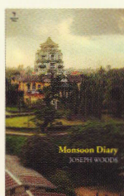
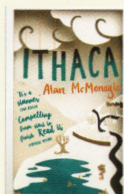
Originally from Co. Galway, **Julie Cruickshank** lives and works in Dublin. She completed the six month *The Stinging Fly* workshop in 2016. Her work will be published in the Spring 2018 issue of *Banshee*.

Alan McMonagle has written for radio, published two collections of short stories, and contributed to many journals in Ireland and North America. *Ithaca*, his first novel, was published by Picador in 2017, and was nominated for the Desmond Elliott Prize for first novels and an Irish Book Award. He lives in Galway.

Sean O'Reilly is the author of the short story collection *Curfew and Other Stories* and the novels *Love and Sleep*, *The Swing of Things* and *Watermark*. His latest collection of stories, *Levitation*, was published last year. He teaches writing at the American College Dublin and leads *The Stinging Fly*'s fiction workshop programme.

Joseph Woods was the Director of Poetry Ireland from 2001 – 2013 and will speak about supports for writers.

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



POETRY

Eleanor Hooker
& Joseph Woods

MONDAY 23 APRIL 5PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8



PHOTO GEORGE HOOKER



"Hooker has a brilliantly nurtured and culturally stretched imagination."

THOMAS MCCARTHY,
POETRY IRELAND REVIEW

"Woods can't help but evince his deep and extensive engagement with contemporary poetry. Wide-ranging but subtle effects suggest there's much held in reserve here; and more to come."

FIONA SAMPSON
THE IRISH TIMES

Eleanor Hooker has published two poetry collections; *A Tug of Blue* (2016) and *The Shadow Owner's Companion* (2012) with Dedalus Press. She holds an MPhil (Distinction) in Creative Writing from Trinity College Dublin. She is working on her third poetry collection and a novel. Her poetry has been published internationally in *Poetry*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *PN Review* and *The Cherry Tree*.

Joseph Woods has authored four poetry collections. His first, *Sailing to Hokkaido* (2001) won the Patrick Kavanagh Award and *Ocean Letters*, translated into Hungarian, was awarded the Irodalmi Jelen Prize in 2013. He was Director of *Poetry Ireland* from 2001 to 2013. Widely travelled, he moved to Myanmar in the years leading up to the democratic elections and now lives in Harare, Zimbabwe with his family.

BOOK LAUNCH

Eva
Bourke
& Joseph
Woods

MON 23 APRIL 6.30PM
BITECLUB FREE

Empathy, historical awareness and a meticulous attention to detail have long been among the trademarks of **Eva Bourke's** poetry. In *Seeing Yellow*, her seventh collection, the German-born Galway resident makes her readers mindful of "the disasters and joys" of the past and of those who face them. Though her poetry cannot be reduced to a function, its power to build connections between here and there, now and then, is everywhere evident in a book of heartfelt and graceful expression.

Joseph Wood's *Monsoon Diary* is bookended by birth and death; the birth of a daughter and the death of parents. Woods seeks to inhabit poetic spaces with a deftness and ingenuity that is both disarming and original. The poems record many partings, witnessing a country transitioning from dictatorship to democracy and reaching middle age but above all, it's a recourse to poetry and a belief in its redemptive and celebratory qualities.

THEATRE

Pan Pan Theatre
presents

The Importance of Nothing

MONDAY 23 APRIL 8PM

BLACK BOX THEATRE €20/€16

"Adding Wilde to the list of canonical authors that Pan Pan have absorbed and radically repurposed, director Gavin Quinn and the ensemble employ a rigorous and wide-ranging understanding of their subject in order to fracture him in so many disarming ways."

THE IRISH TIMES

A comedy about a drama therapy class in an imaginary prison.

Picture an imaginary prison where the drama therapy is twenty four hours a day. Drama therapist, Lady Lancing has dedicated her life to conducting anti-homophobic workshops utilizing the life and works of Oscar Wilde. The prisoner's patience and imaginations are teased to refashion or to completely overhaul Wilde's material and the threads that are interwoven through his works and the social conventions of the past century.

Cast

ANDREW BENNETT
UNA McKEVITT
MARK O'HALLORAN
DYLAN TIGHE
JUDITH RODDY

Director

GAVIN QUINN

Set Design

AEDÍN COSGROVE

Lighting Design

ZIA HOLLY

Music

SI SCHROEDER

Costumes

CATHERINE FAY

"Pain unlike pleasure wears no mask."

OSCAR WILDE





PHOTO HAZEL COONAGH

FICTION

Surveying the Short Story

TUESDAY 24 APRIL 1PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8



PHOTO LAUREN ELKIN

Éilís Ní Dhuibhne writes fiction, drama and non-fiction in Irish and English. She has published over 25 books, including six collections of short stories. She received the Irish Pen Award for an Outstanding Contribution to Irish Literature in 2015, and a Hennessy Hall of Fame Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2016. Her latest book is *Selected Stories*.

Sean O'Reilly is the author of the short story collection *Curfew and Other Stories* and the novels *Love and Sleep*, *The Swing of Things* and *Watermark*. His latest collection of stories, *Levitation*, was published last year. He teaches writing at the American College Dublin and leads the *The Stinging Fly's* fiction workshop programme.

Ger Reidy has published three collections of poetry; *Pictures from a Reservation*, *Drifting Under the Moon*, and his most recent, *Before Rain*, which was shortlisted for the Pigott Poetry Prize at Listowel Writers' Week. His debut collection of short stories *Jobs for a Wet Day* was nominated for the Edge Hill Prize.

Joanna Walsh is the author of *Worlds From the Word's End*, *Vertigo*, *Hotel*, *Grow a Pair*, and *Fractals*. She is also published by Granta, Dalkey, Salt and others. She writes literary criticism, edits at *3:AM* and *Catapult*, and founded @read_women. She was a 2016 Goldsmiths Prize judge and a 2017 Arts Foundation Fellow.

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.

"Ní Dhuibhne is funny but much quieter; she steals up on you."

MARTINA EVANS
THE IRISH TIMES

"O'Reilly's voice is all his own: intelligent, lyrical and deeply funny."

MARTINA EVANS
THE IRISH TIMES

"This is the real thing, a powerful, chiselled collection of short stories which are by turns funny and bleak and compassionate, the truths rings out on every page."

MIKE MCCORMACK

"Walsh's clever, self-parodying stories capture the existential disarrangement of the writer, but also the existential disarrangement of anyone who finds real life strange and, at times quite unreal."

JOANNA KAVENNA
THE GUARDIAN



DIGITAL LITERATURE Embodied Encounters: Digital Cartographies

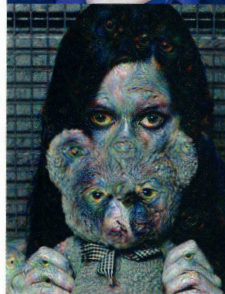
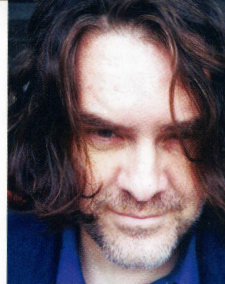
TUESDAY 24 APRIL 3PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE FREE



Featuring works which combine elements of digital literature, non-digital objects and mixed media, these events present creative intersections between the digital and other art forms and materials. The authors performing in these events work across digital and non-digital domains: they engage with a variety of aesthetic objects and use embodied performance to query the borders of the literary. Curators: **Anne Karhio & Justin Tonra.**

J. R. Carpenter, artist, writer, performer, and researcher carries out work in Performance Writing, Digital Literature, and Media Archaeology. In her long-awaited poetry début she transforms the dense, fragmented archive of the North Atlantic into an astonishing sea of fresh new text. Haunting, politically charged and formally innovative, *An Ocean of Static* presents an ever-shifting array of variables.

In *Augmented spaces and narrative interactions*, the works of **Jason Nelson** and **Alinta Krauth** engage with narrative fiction through interaction with objects and non-sentient actors within the surrounding environment. Alinta Krauth's performance addresses issues related to ecology and political injustice by presenting narratives generated from plants through bio-feedback. Jason Nelson's contribution, provisionally titled *Translating the World into Narrative*, will draw on encounters with printed books through augmented reality technologies, thus combining and examining the exchanges between print and digital materiality.



BOOK LAUNCH



TUESDAY 24 APRIL 5PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE BAR
FREE

The 2018 issue of *ROPES*, and 26th publication in the history of this literary and arts journal, is the production and passion project of the students of the Masters in Literature and Publishing at NUI Galway. This year all sales proceeds will go to Jigsaw Galway. Jigsaw is a free and confidential organisation that provides support and guidance to young people aged 15-25 who are going through difficult or distressing times.

The 2018 issue of *ROPES* features short fiction, poetry, and visuals with varied interpretations of the theme 'Sparks' - from exciting new voices and from writers such as Nuala O'Connor, E.R. Murray and Kevin Higgins.



POETRY

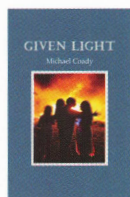
Jane Clarke & Michael Coady

TUESDAY 24 APRIL 6PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8



"Clear, direct, lovely: Jane Clarke's voice slips into the Irish tradition with such ease, it is as though she had always been at the heart of it."
ANNE ENRIGHT

Jane Clarke's first collection, *The River*, was published by Bloodaxe Books in 2015 to both public and critical acclaim. In 2016 she won the Listowel Writers' Week Poem of the Year Award, the Hennessy Literary Award for Poetry and *The River* was shortlisted for the Royal Society of Literature Ondaatje Literary Award.



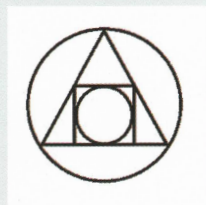
Coady's writing is principally concerned with the mystery of time, transience and continuity, finding its motifs of individual human destiny, community, mortality and memory in an intimately-known anchorage of place – in his case, that of the lower Suir valley.

Michael Coady lives in Carrick-on-Suir, the town of his birth. Writer, photographer and musician, he was elected to Aosdána in 1998. He has received short story prizes, the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award (1979) and the 2004 O'Shaughnessy Poetry Award. His most recent book from Gallery Press is *Given Light* which integrates poetry, prose and photographs.

POETRY

Public House

TUESDAY 24 APRIL 8PM
THE BLUE NOTE FREE



Over time the Public Houses have served their patrons as a place where they can gather together in a sanctuary, removed from the worries of the working world. Where joys and sorrows, losses and little victories are shared, stories told and confessions aired.

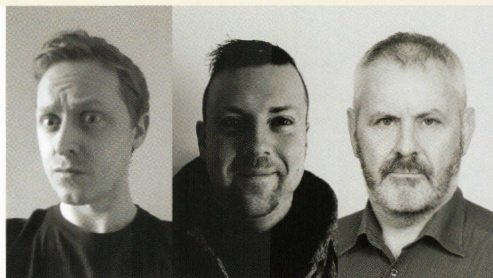
A night of spoken word, poetry and stories from a variety of talents welcoming both the adept and the novice. Not serious but sincere, things that are hard to say and hard to hear. A space where performers can challenge themselves and their audience.

POETRY

Cúirt/Over the Edge
New Writing Showcase

WEDNESDAY 25 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 2018 Cúirt New Writing Prize. This event is a firm favourite amongst Cúirt audiences, and one not to be missed. Winners of the 2018 Cúirt New Writing Prize (Poetry: **Eoin Hegarty** & Short Story: **Eimear O'Callaghan**) will join the showcase line-up to read their winning entries.

Fiction writer **Dara Ó Foghlú** graduated from the Writing MA in NUI Galway in 2008. He has published his fiction in *ROPES* and in three collections of short stories with The Atlantis Collective. He has been a freelance editor for seven years, and has recently returned from Vietnam where he was editing state propaganda for the Communists. Dara was a Featured Reader at the September 2017 Over The Edge: Open Reading.

Poet **Vinny Steed**'s poems have featured in the *Galway Review*, *Headstuff*, *Skylight 47*, *Crannóg* and *Into the Void*. He has been long listed for the Over The Edge New Writer of The Year competition and short listed for the 2016 Doolin poetry competition. One of his poems was nominated by *Into the Void* for the Pushcart Prize. Vinny was a Featured Reader at the January 2017 Over The Edge: Open Reading.

Paul Denby has been in Galway since 2005, having previously lived in England and Germany. He studied Mathematics and Economics, and works as a Software Engineer. Paul participates in poetry workshops at Galway Arts Centre and was shortlisted for the 2017 Over the Edge New Writer of the Year Competition. Paul was a Featured Reader at the September 2017 Over The Edge: Open Reading.

LAUNCH

Poems for
Patience

WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 11AM

GALWAY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

FREE

Poems for Patience is a long-running programme established by Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust. Poems are displayed on the Arts Corridor of the hospital and also displayed in waiting areas throughout the hospital and associated hospital units. In the past, the series has featured poems by leading Irish and international poets such as Seamus Heaney, Philip Schultz, Yrsa Daley-Ward, Vona Groarke, Jane Hirschfield and Tess Gallagher. This year's selection has been kindly chosen by Michael Coady.

Michael Coady has received short story prizes, the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award (1979) and the 2004 O'Shaughnessy Poetry Award. His most recent book from Gallery Press is *Given Light* which integrates poetry, prose and photographs.

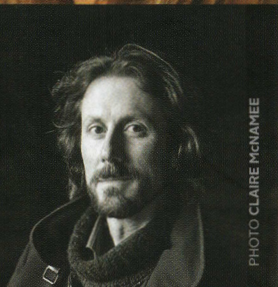


PHOTO CLAIRE MCNAMEE



BOOK LAUNCH

Salmon Book Launch

WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 4PM

CHARLIE BYRNE'S BOOKSHOP FREE

Originally from West Clare, **Anne Casey** lives in Sydney, Australia. Anne is co-editor of *Other Terrain* and *Backstory* literary journals. Her writing and poetry rank as most-read pieces in *The Irish Times*. In 2017 Salmon Poetry published her debut poetry collection *where the lost things go*. She won the Glen Phillips Novice Writer Award in Australia and has been shortlisted for many international competitions.

Paul Kingsnorth is the author of two novels: *The Wake*, longlisted for the 2014 Man Booker Prize, and *Beast*, published in 2016 by Faber and Faber. He has also written three non-fiction books, and is co-founder of the Dark Mountain project, an international network of writers and artists. His debut poetry collection *Kidland and other poems* was published by Salmon in 2011. He lives in County Galway.

Out of the Ordinary is Galway-based writer **Moya Roddy's** debut poetry collection. She was shortlisted in 2017 for the Hennessy Award and her collection of short stories *Other People* was long-listed for the Frank O'Connor Award. Her work has been broadcast on Channel 4 and on RTÉ television and radio and she has received commissions from the British Film Institute and Scottish Television.

THEATRE

Drama and Theatre Studies
at NUI Galway & Galway Arts
Centre *present*

NINA RAINE'S

Rabbit

WED 25 - SAT 28 APRIL 8PM

MATINEE SAT 3PM

TOWN HALL STUDIO €14/€12

It's Bella's 25th birthday. Friends and former lovers meet for a drink to celebrate. But as the Bloody Marys flow, the bar becomes a battlefield...

In the uncivil war between the sexes, what happens when the females have the real fire-power- stockpiles of testosterone, lethal wit and explosive attitude? And what happens when patriarchy gets personal; when it's your own father who is tragic and terminal? When the only man you really love is dying?

Nina Raine's debut play, *Rabbit*, transferred for a West End run, won the Evening Standard and Critics Circle awards for most promising play.

Directed by Andrew Flynn

Official Opening

WEDNESDAY 25 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 2018.

FICTION

An Evening with Bernard MacLaverty

WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 8PM

TOWN HALL THEATRE €14/€12

Bernard MacLaverty is a Northern Irish writer based in Glasgow. He has written five collections of stories and five novels, all critically acclaimed. His fifth novel, *Midwinter Break* won the 'Irish Novel of the Year' Award at the 2017 Bord Gáis Irish Book Awards.

Bernard MacLaverty is a master storyteller, and *Midwinter Break* is the essential MacLaverty novel: accurate, compassionate observation, effortlessly elegant writing and a tender, intimate, heart-rending story – but it is also a profound examination of human love and how we live together, a chamber piece of real resonance and power. Forty years on from his first book, Bernard MacLaverty has written his masterpiece.

In conversation with **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.

"MacLaverty is an exhilarating, tender, humorous writer...who can set a scene and create a character with Chekhovian delicacy and economy... He reminds us that although life is a dangerous, painful business, we should never despair."

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

This event has kindly been sponsored by Tigh Nora.



POETRY

Imtiaz Dharker & Pascale Petit

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 1PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8



*"Reading her, one feels that
were there to be a World
Laureate, Imtiaz Dharker
would be the only candidate."*

CAROL ANN DUFFY

Imtiaz Dharker is a poet, artist and documentary film-maker. Awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in 2014, she has six collections including *Postcards from god*, *The Terrorist at my Table*, *Over the Moon* and the latest, *Luck Is the Hook*, all published by Bloodaxe Books UK.

*"This is a major literary feat,
and this a brilliant sequence
of poems. It burns in its own
supranatural light."*

TIM LIARDET & VONA
GROARKE, POETRY BOOK
SOCIETY BULLETIN ON
MAMA AMAZONICA

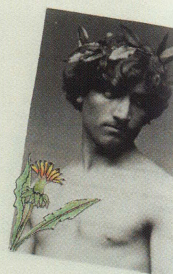
Pascale Petit was born in Paris and lives in Cornwall. Her seventh collection, *Mama Amazonica* (Bloodaxe, 2017) was a Poetry Book Society Choice. Her sixth, *Fauverie*, was her fourth to be shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize and five poems from it won the Manchester Poetry Prize. In 2015 she received a Cholmondeley Award and in 2018 she won a RSL Literature Matters Award.



THEATRE

Aislingí Grádha Oídhche Lughnasa

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 1PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE FREE



Reading and dramatic enactments from the newly published play by Mick Óg McGee, (written in conjunction with Beartla M. Ó Flatharta and Tom Sailí ó Flaithearta). / Léiriú ar mhíreanna ón ndráma nua-scríofa le Micheál Óg Mac Aoidh, (scríofa i gcomhar le Beartla M. Ó Flatharta agus Tom Sailí ó Flaithearta). Leis na haisteoirí Fionnuala Ní Fhlatharta, Seán Mistéal agus Eoin Mac Diarmada.

BOOK LAUNCH

Stinging Fly Stories

Celebrating 20 years of *The Stinging Fly* Magazine

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 2.30PM
BITECLUB FREE

Edited by Sarah Gilmartin and Declan Meade, *Stinging Fly Stories* includes work by some of the most highly acclaimed writers to have emerged over the past two decades.

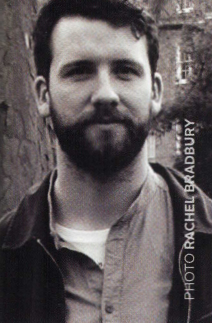


PHOTO RACHEL BAADBURY

FICTION

Danny Denton & Sally Rooney

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 4PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8

Danny Denton is from Cork and is currently the writer-in-residence for Cork County Library. *The Earlie King & The Kid In Yellow* is his first novel.

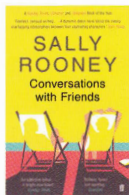
Sally Rooney's work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *The White Review*, *The Dublin Review* and other publications. In 2017 she won *The Sunday Times* PFD Young Writer of the Year award and was shortlisted for *The Sunday Times* EFG Short Story Award for 'Mr Salary'. *Conversations with Friends* is her first novel.

Chaired by **Alan McMonagle** whose first novel *Ithaca* was nominated for the Desmond Elliott Prize for first novels and an Irish Book Award.



"This is a blast, this book. It's a gangster ballad, a love story, a dystopian vision of a flooded Ireland stalked by Mister Violence. It's full of extraordinary poetry, myth and dark hearted theatre."

MAX PORTER



"Truman Capote (with his sharpest scalpel) reborn, with more than a dash of the high intelligence of Elizabeth Bowen."

SEBASTIAN BARRY, THE GUARDIAN



PHOTO JONNY L DAVIES

NON-FICTION

Motherfoclóir

with Darach Ó Séaghdha

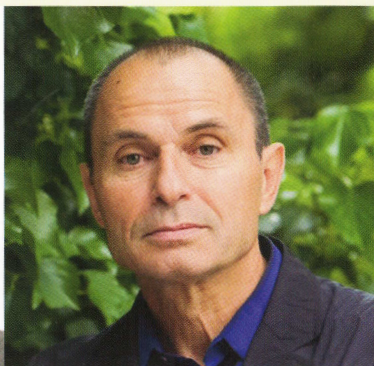
THURSDAY 26 APRIL 4PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €6

This event, mainly in English with use of some Irish words, will include a lively discussion about the work of Flann O'Brien and will be recorded live for the *Motherfoclóir* podcast.

Darach Ó Séaghdha is the author of *Motherfoclóir: Dispatches From A Not-So Dead Language* (published by Head of Zeus) and the presenter of the *Motherfoclóir* podcast (produced by the Headstuff Podcast Network). Both of these projects were initiated in response to the popularity of his Twitter account, @theirishfor, which shares new and old Irish words of interest. As a fellow writer-civil servant hybrid, he is a huge fan of Flann O'Brien/Myles na gCopaleen/Brian O'Nolan.

Darach's second book is expected in September 2018.





FICTION World Perspectives

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 6PM

TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8

Eduard Marquéz is a Catalan writer and the author of poetry books, children's stories, tales and novels. He lives in Barcelona and is professor of Creative Writing at the Escola d'Esriptura de l'Ateneu Barcelonès. *Brandes' Decision* won three awards (2005 Octavi Pellissa Prize, 2006 Catalan Critics Prize and 2007 Qwerty Prize).

Norbert Gstrein, was born in the Tyrol, Austria, in 1961. He studied mathematics in Innsbruck and at Stanford, California. He is the author of the novels *The English Years*, *Winters in the South* and *A Sense of the Beginning*. His novels have been translated into more than a dozen languages. He lives in Hamburg, Germany.

Hédi Kaddour is a French novelist and teaches creative writing at the Gallimard literary workshop in Paris. His first novel *Waltenberg* (Gallimard, 2005) was awarded the Prix Goncourt du Premier Roman and his last *Les Prépondérants* (Gallimard, 2015) the Grand Prix du Roman de l'Académie-Française.

To be chaired by **Dr. Kate Quinn**, Lecturer with the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at NUI Galway.

"This novel resonates with detail and wonder; art, history and human experience as well as shafts of recognition exciting the senses and emotions."

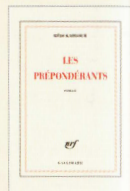
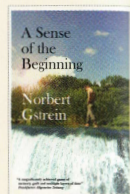
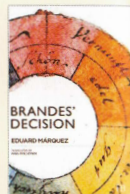
EILEEN BATTERSBY,
THE IRISH TIMES

"One of the foremost novelists not only of German, but of European literature"

FRANKFURTER
ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG

"Brilliant scene-setting and resonant ideas make this a thinking reader's espionage blockbuster that - in David Coward's luminous translation - stimulates and grips."

BOYD TONKIN,
THE INDEPENDENT
ON WALTEMBERG



NON-FICTION/MUSIC

Lyrics of Our Lives: The Art of Songwriting

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 8PM

RÓISÍN DUBH €18/€16

This unique event explores the art of composing lyrics as a writing practice by uncovering the inspiration, the anecdotes and the craft behind some of our favourite songs.

Julie Feeney performs as a one woman show, with ensemble, with choirs or with full orchestra; and she composes, arranges and orchestrates all of her own music and words. Her three albums have been widely critically acclaimed internationally, receiving numerous awards.

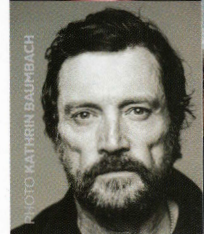
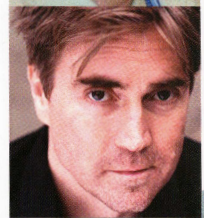
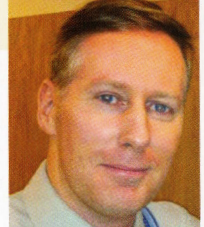
Paul Linehan is the lead singer and songwriter with the Frank and Walters. He has been writing songs with the band for nearly 30 years. The band, who have recorded seven albums had a top 20 hit with "After All". Their latest album *Songs For The Walking Wounded* received critical acclaim.

Brendan Murphy from Newry, Northern Ireland is the singer and principal songwriter with The 4 of Us who have notched up an enviable catalogue of timeless songs, including six top 20 Irish charting albums. Their latest album *Sugar Island* tells tales of growing up in the North in the 1970s.

Steve Wall is an Irish musician, actor and lead singer and songwriter with legendary Irish bands The Walls and The Stunning. Known for roles in "Vikings", "Silent Witness", "Moone Boy", "Rebellion" and "An Klondike", his latest project is playing the jazz musician Chet Baker in *My Foolish Heart*, due out this year. The Stunning's new album is *Twice Around the World*.

Sharon Vaughn is an undisputed living legend in the world of songwriting, having composed hits for a diversity of artists such as Willie Nelson, Randy Travis, Dolly Parton, Kenny Rogers, Boyzone and Agnes to mention but a few. In 2017 Sharon was honoured by the Country Music Hall of Fame with the 'Poets and Prophets, Legendary Songwriter' award.

Chaired by **Tony Clayton-Lea**, an award-winning freelance journalist who writes about music, pop culture, film and travel.



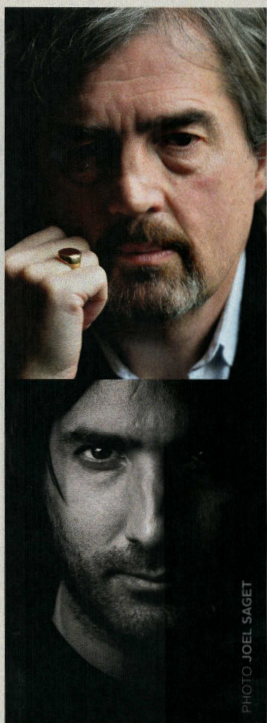
This event has kindly been sponsored by Róisín Dubh.

FICTION

Sebastian Barry & Paul Lynch

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 8PM

TOWN HALL THEATRE €14/€12

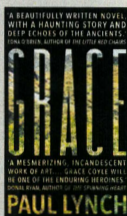
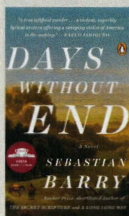


Cúirt International Festival of Literature is delighted to welcome award-winning author and new Laureate for Irish Fiction, **Sebastian Barry**, to this year's festival. He will join acclaimed Irish novelist, Paul Lynch.

Sebastian Barry was born in Dublin in 1955. His novels and plays have won numerous awards, including the Kerry Group Irish Fiction Prize, Costa Book of the Year award, Irish Book Awards Best Novel, Independent Booksellers Prize, Walter Scott Prize and James Tait Black Memorial Prize. Two consecutive novels, *A Long Long Way* (2005) and *The Secret Scripture* (2008), were shortlisted for the MAN Booker Prize. His most recent novel *Days Without End* was published in 2016 and won the Costa Book of the Year Award and The Walter Scott Prize, and was longlisted for the Booker Prize. In 2018, Sebastian Barry was named Ireland's **Laureate for Irish Fiction, 2018 – 2021**. He has three grown children and lives in Wicklow with his wife Alison.

Paul Lynch is the internationally-acclaimed, prize-winning author of *Grace*, *The Black Snow* and *Red Sky in Morning*. He won the French booksellers' prize Prix Libr'à Nous for Best Foreign Novel and was a finalist for the Prix du Meilleur Livre Étranger (Best Foreign Book Prize). US author Ron Rash has called Paul, "one of his generation's very finest novelists".

Chaired by Edel Coffey, broadcaster and journalist.



"Pitch perfect, the outstanding novel of the year."

THE OBSERVER ON DAYS WITHOUT END

"The Irish writer's third novel raises timeless questions about suffering and survival through the story of two children expelled from their impoverished home in the midst of the Great Famine. When you're starving, Lynch seems to be asking, are you truly alive?"

THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW ON GRACE

PLEASE NOTE: Unfortunately due to ill-health, Daniel Woodrell is unable to attend. Sebastian Barry will now join Paul Lynch in his place.

This event has kindly been sponsored by Charlie Byrne's Bookshop.



Charlie Byrne's
BOOKSHOP



FICTION

Young, Irish, Displaced

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 1PM

TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8

"Mesmerising, inventive, heart-wrenching, and brilliantly realised. The most interesting début of 2017."

THE IRISH EXAMINER

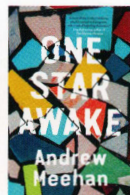
"Red Dirt is timely in its subject matter – the migration of Ireland's young generation – inventively narrated in three voices ('Me', 'You' and 'Them'), and displays a sure footed mastery of the novel form."

JONATHAN WILLIAMS

Andrew Meehan's first short story won the Cúirt New Writing Prize in 2010, while other work was anthologised in *Town and Country: The Faber Book of New Irish Stories* and *Winter Papers*. In 2017 his first novel *One Star Awake* was published to great acclaim by New Island Books.

E.M. Reapy is from Mayo and has an MA in Creative Writing from Queen's University, Belfast. In 2016 her début novel *Red Dirt* was published by Head of Zeus. It won Newcomer of the Year at the 2016 Irish Book Awards and the 2017 Rooney Prize for Irish Literature.

This event will be chaired by **Mike McCormack**, award-winning novelist and short story writer from Mayo. In 2016 he won the Goldsmiths Prize and the Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book Award for best novel for *Solar Bones*.

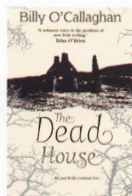


FICTION

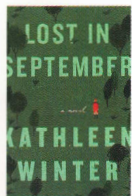
Novel Approaches to History

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 4PM

TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8



Billy O'Callaghan, from Cork, has written three short story collections: *In Exile*, *In Too Deep*, and *The Things We Lose*, *the Things We Leave Behind* (awarded the 2013 Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book Award for the short story); and a novel, *The Dead House* which fuses contemporary and pre-Famine history in a compelling modern ghost story. *My Coney Island Baby* will be published by Jonathan Cape in February 2019.



Kathleen Winter is the internationally renowned Canadian author of the novel *Annabel*, the memoir *Boundless* and story collections *boYs* and *The Freedom in American Songs*. Her novel *Lost in September*, based on letters of General James Wolfe to his mother, was short-listed for the 2017 Governor General's Award.

"Winter's *Lost in September* is evocative, humane and totally original."

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

MUSIC/POETRY
What To Bring
When We Leave

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 5PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8
DURATION: APPROX. 40 MINUTES



Cúirt in association with Solstice Arts Centre

"French's ability in each of his books, is to find a way into such places, where the "beautifully executed wounds" are shown for what they are"
JOHN McAULIFFE
(ON TOM FRENCH).

"Seldom does a musician utterly inhabit a tradition while still expressing him or herself with such originality"
SIOBHAN LONG,
THE IRISH TIMES
(ON DANNY DIAMOND).

What To Bring When We Leave is a collaborative commission culminating in a unique continuous live performance by poet **Tom French** (word) and music **Danny Diamond** (fiddle). Each artist stretches the other's narratives in spoken and unspoken airs, finding solace in the unexpected places between. Tom French's poetry draws on the traditional arts, folklore and rural Irish life; he writes vividly about traditional music, the people who play(ed) it, and the context in which it lives. As a traditional fiddle player, music archivist and researcher, Danny Diamond's compositions bring a corresponding unconventional sensitivity to a similar sphere that informs French's work. A unique *What To Bring When We Leave* publication of photography, poetry and music will accompany the tour. *What To Bring When We Leave* is a Solstice Arts Centre commission creatively produced by Belinda Quirke.



NON-FICTION

Adventures in Ideas: the Essay Now

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 6PM

TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8

Kevin Breathnach is a writer from Dublin. His essays have appeared in the *Dublin Review*, *The White Review*, *Granta* (online), *gorse*, *The New Inquiry*, *The Tangerine* and elsewhere. His first book - a sequence of critical essays and personal essays about internalized homophobia, misogyny and racism - is forthcoming in January 2019.

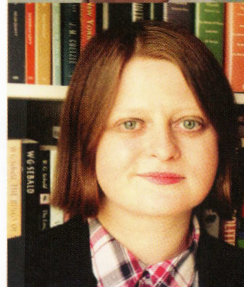
Brian Dillon was born in Dublin in 1969. His books include *Essayism*, *The Great Explosion*, *Sanctuary*, *Tormented Hope: Nine Hypochondriac Lives* and *In the Dark Room*, which won the Irish Book Award for non-fiction. His writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *London Review of Books* and *The Times Literary Supplement*. He is UK editor of *Cabinet* magazine, and teaches at the Royal College of Art, London.

Susan Tomaselli is founder and editor of *Gorse* journal, and editor at Gorse Editions. She is former co-editor of *3:AM Magazine* and editor at 3:AM Press. Her essays have been published in *The Guardian*, *The Irish Times*, *The Stinging Fly* and elsewhere. Her introduction for a new edition of Mervyn Wall's *Leaves For the Burning* will be published by Swan River Press later this year. She is currently working on a novel in essays.

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



PHOTO CHRIS DIXON

POETRY/FILÍOCHT
Cúirt Cois Fharraige

DÉ hAOINE 27 AIBREÁIN /

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 8.30PM

TIGH PHEADAIR MHÓIR, ROS A MHÍL SAOR/FREE

As Conamara ó dhúchas, tá **Áine Durkin** ina cónaí in Inis Eoghain ó 1980. Scríobhann sí filíocht agus amhráin, agus is blagálaí í. Bhain sí duais liteartha ag Oireachtas na Samhna 2010 dá blag, *Mise Áine*. Bhuaigh a hamhrán 'Le Do Thaobh' an Comórtas Amhrán Náisiúnta ag an bhFéile Pan Cheilteach i 2013; agus bhuaigh 'Féile na Nollag' comórtas amhránaíochta a d'eagraigh Ros na Rún/Raidió na Gaeltachta.

I Loch Con Aortha, Conamara a rugadh **Paddy Mhéime Ó Súilleabháin** i 1944. Tá cáil bainte amach ag a chuid dánta go mór mór, a foilsíodh ar an iliomad irisí. Tá duaiseanna bronnta air ag féile i gConamara, ag Oireachtas na Gaeilge, agus Oireachtas Cheanada. D'fhoilsigh Coiscéim a chéad chnuasach filíochta, *Fuaim na Gaoithe Aniar*, mar aon le dírbheathaisnéis a shaol oibre: *Seachrán Deoraí thar trí mhór-roinn*.



She had magnificent long hair, fine as spun gold, and when she heard the sound of the book she understood that she understood it. The book was the book of the shadow, a book that had been the last of the



PHOTO: RITA PLATTS



FICTION

Juan Pablo Villalobos
& Patrick McCabe

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 8PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €14/€12

Juan Pablo Villalobos was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 1973. He is the author of *Down the Rabbit Hole*, *Quesadillas*, and *I'll Sell You a Dog*, all published by And Other Stories, and translated into many languages. He writes for several Spanish and English-language publications, and translates Brazilian literature into Spanish. He lives in Barcelona and is married with two Mexican-Brazilian-Italian-Catalan children.

Patrick McCabe was born in Clones, Co. Monaghan in 1955. His many published novels include *The Dead School* and *The Butcher Boy*. The director and novelist Neil Jordan has adapted two of his novels *The Butcher Boy* and *Breakfast on Pluto* into films. His novel *Heartland* which he describes as an "outlaw country song" and "electric hillbilly opera" is due from New Island in April.

Chaired by freelance journalist and critic,
JP O'Malley.

"One of the wittiest, most whimsical, most enjoyable novels to have been published in Spanish for a long time"
ALBERTO MANGUEL
THE GUARDIAN ON I'LL SELL YOU A DOG

"McCabe is a true original."
JOHN BANVILLE



GALWAY CULTURAL INSTITUTE

This event has kindly been sponsored by Galway Business School and Galway Cultural Institute.

POETRY

Spotlight on New Voices

SATURDAY 28 APRIL 11AM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8



Rachel Coventry's poetry has appeared in journals including *Poetry Ireland Review*. Her début collection *Afternoon Drinking in the Jolly Butchers* is published by Salmon poetry.

Annemarie Ní Churreáin has been awarded three literary fellowships and in 2016 received a Next Generation Artists Award. Her début collection of poetry *BLOODROOT* is published by Doire Press.

Liz Quirke's poetry has appeared in many publications, including *New Irish Writing* in *The Irish Times*. Her poem "Directions for Use" was nominated for the Forward Prize for Best Single Poem in 2013 by The Poetry Bus.

As part of the **Cúirt Poetry Mentorship programme in memory of Anne Kennedy**, renowned local poet **Mary Madec** has been mentoring two young writers who will also have an opportunity to read at this event. **Mary Madec's** third collection, *The Egret Lands With News From other Parts* is in press.

The début collection draws on quantum mechanics, myth, religion and philosophy to fragment its perspective and to tell and retell stories of memory and loss.

"Among the strongest debut collections of the decade."

DOIREANN NÍ GHRÍOFA

"An assured and distinctive voice, balancing intelligence and feeling in a series of moving and deep reflections on motherhood."

MARTINA EVANS

POETRY

Sinéad Morrissey
& Daljit Nagra

SATURDAY 28 APRIL 1PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8



Sinéad Morrissey has published six collections of poetry, the most recent of which is *On Balance*, which was awarded the Forward Prize in 2017. She has served as Belfast Poet Laureate (2013-2014) and is currently Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University.

Daljit Nagra's first collection of poetry, *Look We Have Coming to Dover!* won the Forward Prize for Best First Collection in 2007. His subsequent two collections, *Tippoo Sultan's Incredible White-Man Eating Tiger-Toy Machine!!!* and his version of the *Ramayana* were nominated for the TS Eliot Prize. His latest collection is *British Museum* (2017).

"Poet Sinéad Morrissey gains power with each collection."

HILARY MANTEL

"To anyone experiencing the sinking feeling that poetry in Britain is becoming depoliticised, Nagra's work is a tonic."

SEAN O'BRIEN



IRISH LANGUAGE An Focal: Cuisle

DÉ SATHAIRN 28 AIBREÁN/
SATURDAY 28 APRIL 2PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €10/€8



Ceiliúradh ar an bhfocal scríofa agus labhartha, i bhfoirm filíochta, ceoil, amhránaíochta agus sprae le triúr ealaíontóirí den scoth. Don ócáid speisialta seo, glacfaidh an triúr ealaíontóirí leis an bhfocal 'cuisle' mar ábhar spreagtha and inspioráide. /A celebration of the written and spoken word in poetry, music, song and craic with three of the finest contemporary Irish-language artists. Each writer will respond imaginatively to the word 'pulse' as a loose focus for their presentation.

Chaith **Marcus Mac Conghail** bliain ar scoil i Ros an Mhíl nuair a bhí sé 6. Rinne sé rince nú-rómánsach ag an dioscó ar an gCeathrú Rua nuair a bhí sé 15. Thairfead sé popamhrán i stiúideo ar an Spidéal nuair a bhí sé 30. Sin roinnt de na chuimhní Gaillimheacha. Tá sé ag súil cur leo ag Cúirt.

Roghnaíodh 'Filleadh ar an gCathair' leis an bhfile **Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh** mar Dhán Uachtaránta an Aontais Eorpaigh in 2013 agus bhain sé áit amach ar ghearrliosta RTÉ, 'A Poem for Ireland'. D'fhoilsigh Coiscéim na cnuasaigh *Péacadh* (2008) agus *Tost agus Allagar* (2016) agus d'fhoilsigh Gallery Press a cnuasach dátheangach, *The Coast Road* (2016).

Tá trí leabhar filíochta Gaeilge foilsithe ag **Simon Ó Faoláin**. I measc na ngradam atá buaite aige Duais Glen Dimplex, Duais Strong, Duais Bhaitéar Uí Mhaicín, Duais Cholm Cille agus Duais Foras Gaeilge.

Cúirt i gcomhpháirt le Oireachtas na Gaeilge



"I've been coming here for weeks but you've finally made me feel!!"

A STRANGER AT ST. PATRICK'S
MENTAL HEALTH HOSPITAL
ON FELISPEAKS



PHOTO PETER BRADLEY

POETRY/FICTION Spoken Word Platform

SATURDAY 28 APRIL 3PM
RÓISÍN DUBH €6

This high-energy event will showcase both poetry and short fiction. Performers will have up to three minutes to present their piece to a panel of three judges 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 **Felispeaks** (aka Felicia Olusanya) is a young Nigerian-Irish spoken word performance artist and writer who is becoming one of the most exciting and in demand poets in Ireland.

Open submissions are invited for the Spoken Word Platform and entry is open to all. Your poem or fiction piece should take up to three minutes to perform. **Please submit via email to petemullineaux@gmail.com by Friday 6 April.**



Kelly Creighton is a novelist, short story writer and poet. Her books include *Bank Holiday Hurricane*, *The Bones of It* and *Three Primes*. Kelly's work has been noted in many competitions. She founded and edits *The Incubator* literary journal, which showcases the contemporary Irish short story. She is a recipient of the 2018 Arts Council of Northern Ireland ACES scheme.

June Caldwell worked for many years as a freelance journalist and now writes fiction. *Room Little Darker*, her acclaimed collection of short stories, is published by New Island Books and forthcoming from Head of Zeus. Her story 'SOMAT' was published in the award-winning anthology *The Long Gaze Back*, and was chosen as a favourite by *The Sunday Times*. June's first novel, *Little Town Moone*, is forthcoming from John Murray.

Chaired by **Celeste Augé**, author of *Fireproof and Other Stories* and poetry collections *Skip Diving* and *The Essential Guide to Flight*.

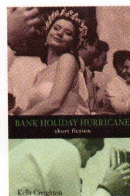
FICTION

June Caldwell & Kelly Creighton

SATURDAY 28 APRIL 4PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €10/€8

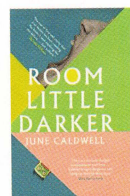
"Distinctive, powerful and filled, at times, with an electric high-wire tension, they contain a lyricism that comes at you sideways and will knock the wind right out of you."

BERNIE MCGILL



"The book amounts to an unsparing portrait of a city and a nation, with a singular voice heard throughout, lost in grief and longing, interrogating every motive and intention. It is banshee bold."

IAN SANSOM, THE GUARDIAN ON *ROOM LITTLE DARKER*.



POETRY/FICTION

London Writers' Eclective Presents...

SATURDAY 28 APRIL 6PM
RÓISÍN DUBH FREE



London's Premier Spoken Word Event at the Róisín Dubh.

A caboodle of writers and performers from across London to charm, amuse & occasionally bewilder with their storytelling, comedy and dramatic flair.

Host: Conor Montague

Full bar facilities.

28 SATURDAY



NON-FICTION/MUSIC Play it Again: Conversation in Concert

SATURDAY 28 APRIL 8PM
TOWN HALL THEATRE €20/€18



Cúirt International Festival of Literature and Music for Galway have co-curated this unique event featuring **Alan Rusbridger**, author of *Play It Again* (Vintage, 2014) and former editor-in-chief of *The Guardian* and Irish international pianist, **Finghin Collins** in a unique night of music, readings and lively discussion.

When Alan Rusbridger, editor-in-chief of *The Guardian*, decided to master Chopin's First Ballade Op 23, he chronicled his journey in *Play It Again*, which was published to critical acclaim in 2014.

Internationally renowned Irish pianist **Finghin Collins** was busy travelling from Wuhan, China to Santa Fe, USA performing as soloist and chamber musician in the most prestigious concert halls of the world when he decided to record a CD of his favourite Chopin music.

Follow the two as they discuss music, writing, politics and stage fright and get to hear the haunting piano of Chopin, including his fiendishly difficult First Ballade, interspersed with readings and lively conversation.

Play It Again – Conversation in Concert will be moderated by **Toner Quinn**, musician and Editor of online magazine *The Journal of Music*.

This event has kindly been sponsored by Tigh Neachtain's.

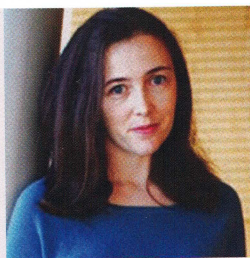
Tigh Neachtain
Galway



CÚIRT FAMILY EVENTS STORYTELLING Niall de Búrca

SUNDAY 29 APRIL 3PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €6

Raised on the west coast of Ireland now living in Dublin, **Niall de Búrca** is one of Ireland's finest traditional storytellers. At home he has featured in theatre, radio and at many festivals including Féile Earraí, the CS Lewis Festival, and The National Children's Book Festival. Abroad he has performed and held workshops in countries as diverse as Poland, Argentina, Italy and The Netherlands.



YA FICTION *The Making of Mollie:* Anna Carey

SUNDAY 29 APRIL 5PM
NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €6

Anna Carey is a journalist and author from Dublin who has written for *The Irish Times*, *The Irish Independent* and many other publications. Anna's first book, *The Real Rebecca*, was published in 2011, and went on to win the Senior Children's Book prize at the Irish Book Awards. *The Making of Mollie* (2016) was her first historical novel.

The Making of Mollie (The O'Brien Press) brings you back in time to Dublin in 1912 where fourteen-year-old Mollie Carberry finds out that her sister, Phyllis, is a secret suffragette. Mollie decides she wants to join the movement too, but how far will she and her friend Nora go to stand up for their rights?



PHOTO LAUREN ELMIN

Autofiction with Joanna Walsh

MONDAY 23 APRIL 11AM
HOTEL MEYRICK €25

Have you ever wanted to write about personal events that don't easily fit into fiction or autobiography? Joanna Walsh, author of the autofictional works *Hotel* and *Break.up*, will introduce you to this exciting and flexible mode of writing, and will workshop some of the varied techniques you can use to tell your own story.

'The Box' Poetry Masterclass with Imtiaz Dharker

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 11AM
HOTEL MEYRICK €25

Don't miss this opportunity to learn from **Imtiaz Dharker**, poet, artist and documentary film-maker. Awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in 2014, she has published six collections of poetry including *Postcards from god*, *The Terrorist at my Table*, *Over the Moon* and the latest, *Luck Is the Hook*, all published by Bloodaxe Books UK.



PHOTO AVESHA DHARKER TAYLOR

Lyrics of Our Lives: Songwriting in the Classroom

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 12PM – 3PM
ST. ENDA'S COLLEGE FREE

In a unique outreach project as part of Cuirt 2018, **Paul Linehan**, lead singer of The Frank and Walters, will lead a workshop on songwriting with a group of transition year students from St. Enda's College. Paul, who has been facilitating song writing workshops in schools for many years, will work with the students on lyric and music composition with the goal of producing a song.

This event is kindly supported by Creative Ireland.

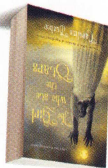


EDUCATION Cúirt Labs

THURSDAY 26, FRIDAY 27 & SATURDAY 28 APRIL

GALWAY ARTS CENTRE

A series of workshops and talks for children and teenagers.



THURSDAY 26 APRIL

9.30AM - 1PM

1ST - 3RD CLASS

GROUP BOOKINGS ONLY

EMAIL: BOOKINGS@CUIRT.IE

€5 PER CHILD

PLEASE BRING LUNCH!

Join **Caroline Busher** to find out more about her new book *The Book of the Day*. Caroline, who usually writes tales of magic and mystery, has brought her trademark colour and excitement to Strongbow's adventures. Afterwards pupils will participate in a creative workshop as *Gaeilge* with award-winning writer **Réaltán Ní Leannáin**. The multi-talented Réaltán is known for poetry, fiction and drama and is also an experienced and engaging teacher of languages. This workshop is ideal for children attending gaeltscoil or a scoil in the Gaeltacht. Pupils will finish their day with an art making exhibition in Galway Arts Centre by artist and illustrator Sam Winston.*



FRIDAY 27 APRIL

9.30AM - 1PM

4TH - 6TH CLASS

GROUP BOOKINGS ONLY

EMAIL: BOOKINGS@CUIRT.IE

€5 PER CHILD

PLEASE BRING LUNCH!

Cúirt Labs is excited to have multi-award winning writer and editor **Siobhán Parkinson** this year. Siobhán will read from her latest book *Rocking the System* which celebrates fearless Irish women who made history, including Gráinne Ní Mháille, Mary Robinson and Sonia O'Sullivan. The book also includes Lady Gregory, Garry Hynes and Lella Doolan, all synonymous with Galway. Pupils will then join **Caroline Busher** for a writing workshop focusing on magic, mystery, ghost stories and mythical worlds. Pupils will finish their day with an art making exhibition in Galway Arts Centre by artist and illustrator Sam Winston.*

*Workshops will be delivered by Galway Arts Centre's visual art team Judith Bernhardt and Maeve Mulrennan

IRISH LANGUAGE Cúirt Cois Fharraige

Cúirt International Festival of Literature in association with Ealaín na Gaeltachta and Poetry Writers in Schools is delighted to present 'Cúirt Cois Fharraige' - a number of special Irish-language events that support contemporary writing by local Gaeltacht writers and foster writing skills among young Irish-language authors of the future. Events include a poetry reading by **Aine Durkin** and **Paddy Mhème Ó Súilleabháin** in Ros a Mhíl, a fiction reading by **Jackie Mac Donncha** and **Conaola** on Inis Oírr and three sessions on the craft of writing in classrooms on the Aran Islands.

During Cúirt Festival week, distinguished Irish-language authors **Darach Mac Con Iomaire**, **Réaltán Ní Leannáin** and **Jackie Mac Donncha** will conduct a writer-in-school visit to secondary schools on Inis Mór, Inis Meáin and Inis Oírr respectively.

Ealaín na Gaeltachta Teo: Comhpháirtíocht idir Udarás na Gaeltachta agus An Chomhairle Ealaíon - Ag forbairt na nEalaíon dúchasacha agus comhaimseartha sa Ghaeilteacht.

Writers in Schools is run by Poetry Ireland and funded by the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon, and supports visits by writers to primary and post-primary schools across the island of Ireland.



Jackie Mac Donncha agus Dara Ó Conaola

ARAS ÉANNA, INIS OÍRR, ÁRAINN
DE LUAIN 23U AIBREÁIN MONDAY 23 APRIL 2PM



Léamh Am Lóin leis na húdair,
Jackie Mac Donncha agus
Dara Ó Conaola.

Lunchtime reading with
authors, **Jackie Mac Donncha**
agus **Dara Ó Conaola.**

Tuilleadh eolais/Further
Information ó Aras Éanna
099-755150

Poetry Ireland Bursary

Poetry Ireland and Cúirt International Festival of Literature are delighted to offer the Poetry Ireland Access Cúirt 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 be immersed in the poetry programme. The bursary includes tickets to all events and workshops, accommodation for nights, travel costs to Galway and a per diem.

Applications are invited from poets from minority ethnic, 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 (info@poetryireland.ie by 5pm on Friday 30 March).

For full details please see

www.poetryireland.ie or www.cuirt.ie



Cúirt Poetry Mentorship Programme

Now into the second year of this new initiative, Cúirt supports young writers by pairing a new, up-and-coming with an experienced, widely published writer. This year Madec is mentoring two young poets (**Grace O'Doherty** and **Eoin Rogers**) who will be given an opportunity to read at the 'Spotlight on New Voices' event (see page 25).

IWC/Cúirt Young Writer Delegates Programme

We invite 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 four 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 platform. See irishwriterscentre/blogs/news for further information.

WED 25 - SAT 28 APRIL





CULTUREFOX.IE

Culture Fox

NEVER MISS OUT



CULTUREFOX

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



CÚIRT FAMILY EVENTS

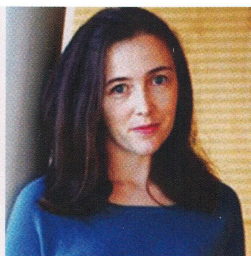
STORYTELLING

Niall de Búrca

SUNDAY 29 APRIL 3PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €6

Raised on the west coast of Ireland now living in Dublin, **Niall de Búrca** is one of Ireland's finest traditional storytellers. At home he has featured in theatre, radio and at many festivals including Féile Earraai, the CS Lewis Festival, and The National Children's Book Festival. Abroad he has performed and held workshops in countries as diverse as Poland, Argentina, Italy and The Netherlands.



YA FICTION

The Making of Mollie: Anna Carey

SUNDAY 29 APRIL 5PM

NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE €6

Anna Carey is a journalist and author from Dublin who has written for *The Irish Times*, *The Irish Independent* and many other publications. Anna's first book, *The Real Rebecca*, was published in 2011, and went on to win the Senior Children's Book prize at the Irish Book Awards. *The Making of Mollie* (2016) was her first historical novel.

The Making of Mollie (The O'Brien Press) brings you back in time to Dublin in 1912 where fourteen-year-old Mollie Carberry finds out that her sister, Phyllis, is a secret suffragette. Mollie decides she wants to join the movement too, but how far will she and her friend Nora go to stand up for their rights?

30 SUNDAY

Far From Literature We Were Raised

SUNDAY 29 APRIL 8PM

RÓISÍN DUBH €10 (ALL PROCEEDS TO CANCER CARE WEST)



A night of spoken word, poetry and song in aid of Cancer Care West.

Gerry Hanberry, Paul David Murphy and Conor Montague introduce a fantastic array of literary, comedic and musical talent across three stages.

Guests include:

Mary McGill, Alan McMonagle, Sarah O'Toole, Bobbie Sparrow, George Shiels, Pat Collins, Cathal Johnson, Claire Mangan, Brian Coughlan, Lorna Shaughnessy, Gerry Hanberry, Ria Collins, Hugh Seale, Páraic Breathnach, Nicole Blue, Justin McCarthy, Seamus Ruttledge, Aideen Henry, Richard Brennan, Mick Donnellan, Pat O'Connor, Dara O'Foghlú, Sean Sheridan, Martin Beanz Warde, Ruth Sweeney, Johannes Evans, Bob Hennigan, Cathal Holden, Adrian Lavelle, Luke Morgan, Anthony Daly, Trish Bourke, Al Orme, John Conneely Inc, and surprise guests from the festival.

Tickets available at www.roisindubh.net and www.tht.ie

Library Events

FREE

Cúirt will continue its successful partnership with Galway City and County Libraries. Distinguished visiting writers will read from their work at special events in Westside, Ballybane and Gort libraries. For full details see cúirt.ie.



Autofiction with Joanna Walsh

MONDAY 23 APRIL 11AM

HOTEL MEYRICK €25

Have you ever wanted to write about personal events that don't easily fit into fiction or autobiography? Joanna Walsh, author of the autofictional works *Hotel* and *Break.up*, will introduce you to this exciting and flexible mode of writing, and will workshop some of the varied techniques you can use to tell your own story.

'The Box' Poetry Masterclass with Imtiaz Dharker

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 11AM

HOTEL MEYRICK €25

Don't miss this opportunity to learn from **Imtiaz Dharker**, poet, artist and documentary film-maker. Awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in 2014, she has published six collections of poetry including *Postcards from god*, *The Terrorist at my Table*, *Over the Moon* and the latest, *Luck Is the Hook*, all published by Bloodaxe Books UK.



Lyrics of Our Lives: Songwriting in the Classroom

FRIDAY 27 APRIL 12PM – 3PM

ST. ENDA'S COLLEGE FREE

In a unique outreach project as part of Cuirt 2018, **Paul Linehan**, lead singer of The Frank and Walters, will lead a workshop on songwriting with a group of transition year students from St. Enda's College. Paul, who has been facilitating song writing workshops in schools for many years, will work with the students on lyric and music composition with the goal of producing a song.

This event is kindly supported by Creative Ireland.



EDUCATION

Cúirt Labs

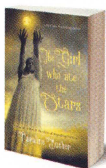
THURSDAY 26, FRIDAY 27 & SATURDAY 28 APRIL

GALWAY ARTS CENTRE

A series of workshops and talks for children and teenagers.



Join **Caroline Busher** to find out more about Strongbow with tales of invasions, power struggles and the legacy of this Norman lord. Caroline, who usually writes tales of magic and mystery, has brought her trademark colour and excitement to Strongbow's adventures. Afterwards pupils will participate in a creative workshop as *Gaeilge* with award-winning writer **Réaltán Ní Leannáin**. The multi-talented Réaltán is known for poetry, fiction and drama and is also an experienced and engaging teacher of languages. This workshop is ideal for children attending gaelscoil or a scoil in the Gaeltacht.



THURSDAY 26 APRIL

9.30AM - 1PM

1ST - 3RD CLASS

GROUP BOOKINGS ONLY

EMAIL: BOOKINGS@CUIRT.IE

€5 PER CHILD

PLEASE BRING LUNCH!

Pupils will finish their day with an art making workshop in response to the beautiful exhibition in Galway Arts Centre by artist and illustrator Sam Winston.*



FRIDAY 27 APRIL

9.30AM - 1PM

4TH - 6TH CLASS

GROUP BOOKINGS ONLY

EMAIL: BOOKINGS@CUIRT.IE

€5 PER CHILD

PLEASE BRING LUNCH!

Cúirt Labs is excited to have multi-award winning writer and editor **Siobhán Parkinson** this year. Siobhán will read from her latest book *Rocking the System* which celebrates fearless Irish women who made history, including Gráinne Ní Mháille, Mary Robinson and Sonia O'Sullivan. The book also includes Lady Gregory, Garry Hynes and Lelia Doolan, all synonymous with Galway.

Pupils will then join **Caroline Busher** for a writing workshop focusing on magic, mystery, ghost stories and mythical worlds.

Pupils will finish their day with an art making workshop in response to the beautiful exhibition in Galway Arts Centre by artist and illustrator Sam Winston.*

*Workshops will be delivered by Galway Arts Centre's visual art team Judith Bernhardt and Maeve Mulrennan.



SATURDAY 28 APRIL
9.30AM - 5.30PM
12 - 17 YEARS
€15
INCLUDES LUNCH

This full day of workshops, readings and discussions is ideal for young people with a passion for literature or art - or both!

The day will begin with a joint workshop by writer **Deirdre Sullivan** and illustrator **Karen Vaughan** who will talk about working together on Sullivan's latest book *Tangleweed and Brine*, and will then lead individual workshops in writing and illustration.

Writer, journalist and podcaster **Anna Carey** will then talk about creating a podcast and creating online content, and will answer your questions on how to be a professional writer.

Sam Winston, artist and illustrator behind this year's Cúirt programme cover and Galway Arts Centre exhibition, will give a workshop based on the process behind his work.

After lunch, participants will have a guided tour of **Red Bird Youth Arts Collective's** exhibition in Gallery 3, made in collaboration with **CAMHS**, Merlin Park Hospital. They will lead a discussion on claiming public space and activism through the arts.

The day will finish with a story exchange workshop facilitated by **Narrative 4**. The story exchange works on a simple idea: If I can hear your story deeply enough to retell it in my own words, as if it happened to me – and you can do the same for my story – then we will have seen the world through each other's eyes.

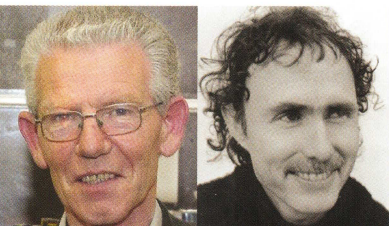
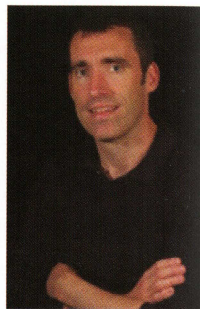
IRISH LANGUAGE Cúirt Cois Fharraige

Cúirt International Festival of Literature in association with Ealaín na Gaeltachta and Poetry Ireland Writers in Schools is delighted to present 'Cúirt Cois Fharraige' - a number of special Irish-language events that support contemporary writing by local Gaeltacht writers and foster writing skills in young Irish-language authors of the future. Events include a poetry reading by **Aine Durkin** and **Paddy Mhéme Ó Súilleabháin** in Ros a Mhíl, a fiction reading by **Jackie Mac Donncha** and **Dara Ó Conaola** on Inis Oírr and three sessions on the craft of writing in classrooms on the Aran Islands.

During Cúirt Festival week, distinguished Irish-language authors **Darach Mac Con Iomaire**, **Réaltán Ní Leannáin** and **Jackie Mac Donncha** will conduct a writer-in-school visit to secondary schools on Inis Mór, Inis Meáin and Inis Oírr respectively.

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

Writers in Schools is run by Poetry Ireland and funded by the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon, and supports visits by writers to primary and post-primary schools across the island of Ireland.



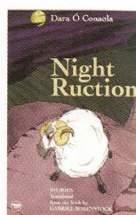
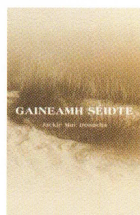
Jackie Mac Donncha agus Dara Ó Conaola

ÁRAS ÉANNA, INIS OÍRR, ÁRAINN
DE LUAIN 23Ú AIBREÁIN MONDAY 23 APRIL 2PM

Léamh Am Lóin leis na húdair,
Jackie Mac Donncha agus
Dara Ó Conaola.

Lunchtime reading with
authors, **Jackie Mac Donncha**
agus **Dara Ó Conaola**.

Tuilleadh eolais/Further
Information ó Áras Éanna
099-755150



EXHIBITION

Extended Reading: Writing as a Visual Art

GALWAY ARTS CENTRE

MON 23 - SUN 29 APRIL

10AM - 5.30PM (SAT & SUN 12PM - 5PM)

FREE

An exhibition of prints and works by **Sam Winston**, including his award-winning project with Oliver Jeffers, *A Child of Books*. Combining the rich landscapes of children's literature with intricately detailed typographic art, this exhibition looks to celebrate the power of classic stories through letterform and the art of the book.

Operating at the intersections of where visual culture and literature meet, Winston's art is concerned with language not only as a carrier of messages but also as a visual form in and of itself.

We are delighted to feature one of Sam's illustrations from *A Child of Books* (by Sam Winston and Oliver Jeffers, Walker Books) on this year's programme cover.



ARTIST'S TALK

Sam Winston

GALWAY ARTS CENTRE

SUNDAY 29 APRIL 1PM FREE

Award-winning artist and writer **Sam Winston** will be talking about his collaboration with Oliver Jeffers about their *New York Times* bestselling book *A Child of Books*. Winston will be discussing the joys and pitfalls of collaboration, how they found new approaches to storytelling and why writing is a visual art.

Age 10 and above.

Speaking Space

GALLERY 3, GALWAY ARTS CENTRE
MON 23 - SUN 29 APRIL
10AM - 5.30PM (SAT & SUN 12PM - 5PM)
FREE



Red Bird Youth Collective is a visual art group for young people. The group create youth-led projects in collaboration with professional artists involving a diverse range of media. Red Bird will give a tour and reading from their latest project in collaboration with CAMHS Merlin Park Hospital and facilitator Javier Gimenez. The project investigates how young people interact in public social spaces throughout the city, allowing the group an avenue to create individual pieces within a larger collaborative context.

The tour and reading will take place on Saturday, 28 April at 2.15pm.

Bosom Pals

NUI GALWAY GALLERY
MON 23 - SUN 29 APRIL FREE



NUI Galway Arts Office in association with Cúirt proudly presents this new exhibition of *Bosom Pals*.

An exhibition featuring eight women poets' experiences of breast cancer: Lorna Shaughnessy, Mari Maxwell, Marie Cadden, Mari Cox, Susan Lindsay, Mary Madec, Mary Hanlon, Robyn Rowland. Drawings by Ruth Cadden.

Editor Marie Cadden (RIP) hoped the book would raise awareness and put a human face on living with breast cancer. This exhibition initiated by her, honours her life and work.

Engage Experiment

JUST ART IT,
DOMINICK STREET
SAT 14 - SAT 28 APRIL
FREE

Engage Art Studios invited Danny Deane, author of *The Earlie King & The Kid in Yellow* to engage in an experiment. Provide the studios' visual artists with an excerpt of text from his new novel, nothing else, and see how they respond. This exhibition will open in Just Art It, Dominick Street on April 14th and will continue until April 28th.

Blood Horses

THE KENNY GALLERY, LIOSBAUN
FRI 20 APRIL - FRI 18 MAY
MON - SAT 9AM - 5PM
FREE



Blood Horses is an exciting collaboration between artist Paddy Lennon and poet Moyra Donaldson culminating in an exhibition and publication of images and poems.

Blood Horses tells the stories of The Byerley Turk, Darley Arabian and Godolphin Barb, the three founding stallions of the thoroughbred horse. Horses are an integral part of both artists' lives. Their profound knowledge of their subject is evident in the work. The results of this exciting partnership may be seen at an exhibition at The Kenny Gallery, opening on April 20th at 6pm, where we will also enjoy readings from 'Blood Horses' by Moyra Donaldson.

Mind Has Mountains

TOWN HALL THEATRE
SAT 21 - SUN 29 APRIL
MON - SAT 10AM - 7.30PM
FREE

Mayo poet **Geraldine Mitchell's** landscapes inhabit her latest collection, *Mountains for Breakfast*, in a chorus of sea, sky, hills, rain and wind. In this exhibition artists **Aoife Casby, Mags Duffy, Lisa Molina and Jane Williams** respond, each in her own idiom, to the emotional weather of the poems' exploration of grief, loss and human resilience.



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 **5pm on Friday 30 March**.

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



Cúirt Poetry Mentorship Programme

Now into the second year of this new initiative, Cúirt supports young writers by pairing a new, up-and-coming poet with an experienced, widely published writer. This year **Mary Madec** is mentoring two young poets (**Grace O'Doherty** and **Eoin Rogers**) who will be given an opportunity to read as part of the 'Spotlight on New Voices' event (see page 25).

IWC/Cúirt Young Writer Delegates Programme

WED 25 - SAT 28 APRIL
INCLUSIVE

We invite 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 four 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/blogs/news for further information.



DECADENT **SHORT**
COMEDY THEATRE
COMPANY

PAT SHORTT in A SKULL IN CONNEMARA

by the acclaimed writer & director of
Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

MARTIN MCDONAGH

"EARTHY & ETHEREAL AS A TIM BURTON MOVIE" *Irish Times*



TOWN HALL THEATRE

Mon 25 - Sat 30 June, 8pm

Previews Thurs 21- Sat 23 June

Matinee Sat 30 June, 3pm

Booking 091 569777, www.tht.ie

SHERIDANS

CHEESEMONGERS



Our Galway shop is located
on the lovely St. Nicholas's
Church square in the centre of
the city where a farmers
market is held every Saturday.

Our Wine Shop & Bar is
situated Upstairs above the
shop

For Winebar enquiries Email:
winebar@sheridans.ie

All other enquires email:
galway@sheridans.ie

14-16 Churchyard Street/
091-564829

ROUGE



Rouge Restaurant offers a unique dining
experience in a traditional French style cuisine
where customers come to enjoy quality wines
from small producers with a selection of three
main dishes in a spacious restaurant full of
character & in a relaxing atmosphere with live
music every night.

Rouge is open 7 days a week from 6pm til
Midnight every day of the year!

TACO THURSDAYS



SOL

ANY OF OUR TACOS AND
A BOTTLE OF SOL WITH FRESH LIME €15

URBAN THURSDAYS AT MASSIMO
HOSTED BY REGGAETON CLUB

€5 COCKTAILS FROM 9PM

 **massimo**
DISCOVERIES & DATE 2014

 **GALWAY'S
WESTEND**

TARTARE

café + wine bar

Tartare is a new café and wine bar, from the owners of Cava & Aniar, located on Tur Dominick St in Galway's Westend.



56 Lower Dominick St, Galway city.
tel: 091 567 803 food@tartaregalway.ie
www.tartaregalway.ie f tartaregalway
@tartaregalway tartare_cafe

The KING'S HEAD

since 1649



A medieval pub with a modern attitude

15 High Street Galway, Ireland
(091) - 563 757
info@thekingshead.ie


McGINN'S
HOP HOUSE
BARR AN CHALADH
GAILLIMH

KILLER PIZZAS + REALLY GREAT BEERS



19 Woodquay, Galway, Ireland

091 374 412

mccinnshophouse@gmail.com

Ádh Mór do chuide dhuine a bhfuil baint acu
le Cúirt, ar súil ó McGinn's Hop House



Charlie Byrne's -BOOKSHOP-

The Cornstore, Middle St., Galway

Charlie Byrne's Bookshop



TEL. (091) 561 766

www.charliebyrne.com | info@charliebyrne.com

V

IL VICOLO

restaurant & bācaro

The Bridgemills, O'brian's Bridge, Galway

(091) 530 515

bookings@ilvicolo.ie



OPENING HOURS: Tues - Thurs: 5 - 10pm

Fri: 5 - 11pm / Sat: 12 - 4pm & 5 - 11pm

Sun: 12 - 4pm & 5 - 10pm / Monday: Closed



O'LEARY

. INSURANCE GROUP .

. Insurance Brokers & Consultants . Est. 1961 .

WISHING YOU EVERY SUCCESS
IN THE CÚIRT LITERARY FESTIVAL

O'LEARY INSURANCES (GALWAY) LTD.
IS REGULATED BY THE
CENTRAL BANK OF IRELAND

THE KASBAH WINE BAR

at Tigh Neachtain



Located in the heart of Latin Quarter in Galway, The Kasbah is the perfect spot to relax over seasonal & fresh, tapas - style food to share with friends with a choice of fine international wines, beers, gin, & whiskey

N.2 Quay Street above Tigh Neachtains,
Galway

To take your reservation
0857340164 - kbwinebar@gmail.com
www.kasbahwinebar.ie

Tigh Neachtain

Galway

Cosy, all-wood pub with food
from a stylish restaurant upstairs,
open fireplaces & live music



17 Cross Street, Galway City

(091) 568 820

www.tighneachtain.com

THE DÁIL BAR



A WELCOMING AMBIANCE

DELICIOUS FOOD, AWARD WINNING
COCKTAILS, EXCLUSIVE WHISKEY
SELECTION, LATE BAR & ENTERTAINMENT
7 NIGHT'S A WEEK

42 Middle St. Galway
(091) 563 777
www.thedailbar.com

BRASSERIE

ON THE CORNER



Specialists in Seafood & Steak,
Boutique Wines, Craft Cocktails & Rare
Whiskies. Menus to suit all tastes & all
dietary requirements catered for.

25 Eglinton Street, Galway, Ireland
(091) - 530 333
www.brasseriegalway.com

Tigh Nora

Galway's First & Only
Dedicated Gin Bar with almost
200 different types of Gin!

Café Bar



Gins & Wines



8 Cross Street Lower, Galway
(091) - 563 757
www.tighnoralgalway.com

THE FRONT DOOR

A GREAT NIGHT STARTS HERE!



At the heart of Galway's social
scene, **The Front Door Pub** is one
of the city's most popular bars!

23 High St. Galway, H91 XD7H
(091) - 563 757
www.frontdoorpub.com

MMXV

TRIBETON

• GALVIA •



1-3 Merchants Rd. Galway
(091) 421 600



Warm cosy Irish restaurant in the heart of Galway serving delicious food with excellent service

19 Middle Street, Galway City

(091) 561 610

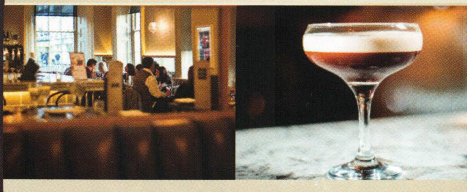
info@vinamara.com



GASLIGHT

BAR & BRASSERIE

Ideal for your Pre-Event
Dining or Cocktails



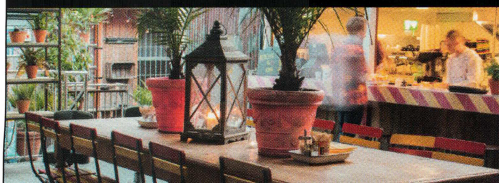
Gaslight at Hotel Meyrick, Eyre Square

(091) 564 041



Biteclub

Street-food, liquors, Entertainment
& Dancing all under one roof.



36, Upper Abbeygate Street, Galway

(091) 569 824

info@electricgalway.com

www.biteclub.com

Open Mon-Sun from 12pm

Supporting the arts, supporting communities.



RTÉ supports over 100 arts events nationwide every year, in addition to arts, music and cultural output on our 25 television, radio, online and mobile services.

Find out more at www.rte.ie/about/supportingthearts and follow #rtesupportingthearts via @rte on Twitter.



CULTUREFOX.IE

Culture Fox

NEVER MISS OUT

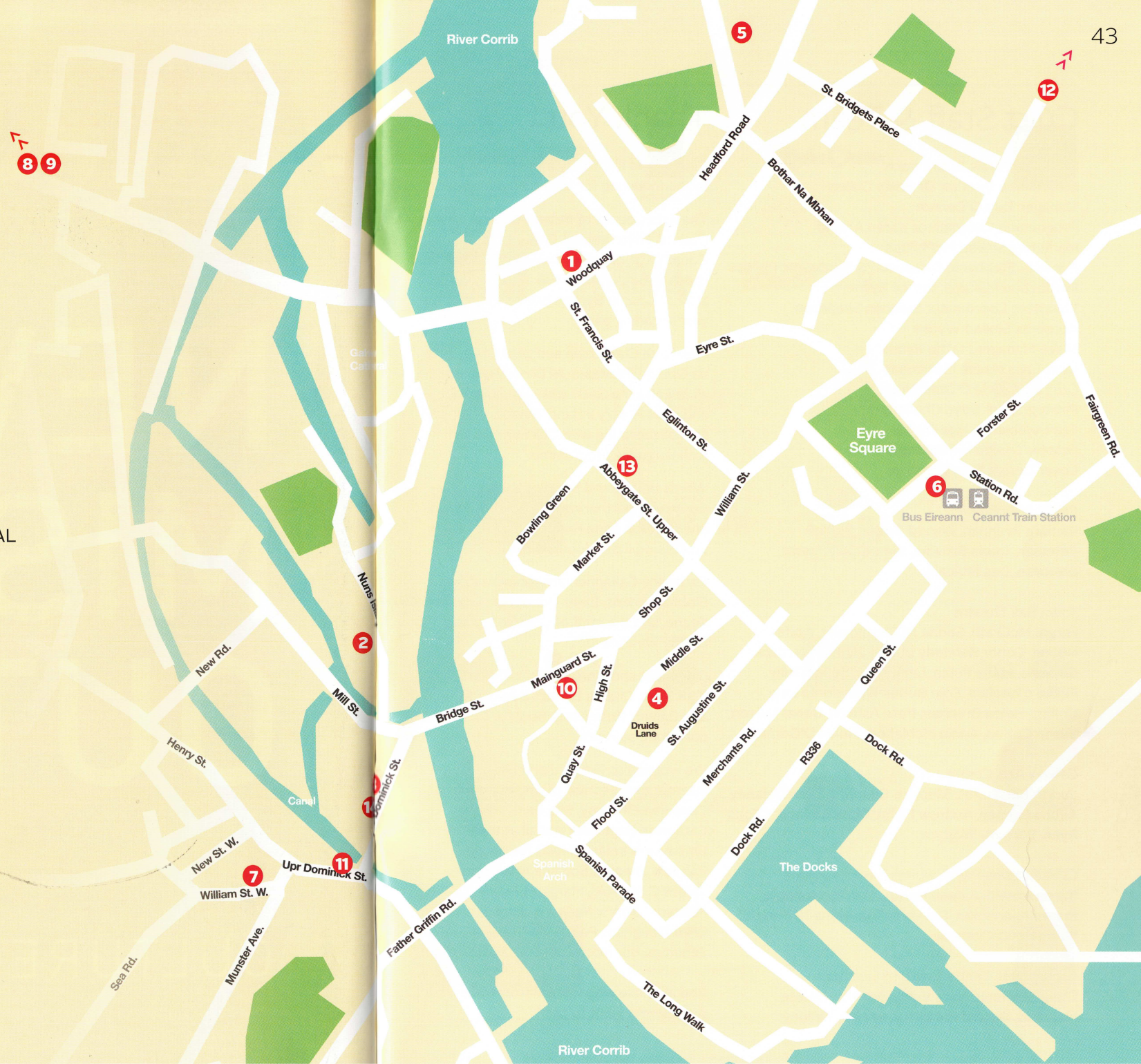


CULTUREFOX

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

Venues

- 1** TOWN HALL THEATRE
- 2** NUN'S ISLAND THEATRE
- 3** GALWAY ARTS CENTRE
- 4** CHARLIE BYRNES
- 5** BLACK BOX THEATRE
- 6** HOTEL MEYRICK
- 7** THE BLUE NOTE
- 8** GALWAY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
- 9** NUI GALWAY
- 10** TIGH NORA
- 11** RÓISÍN DUBH
- 12** THE KENNY GALLERY
- 13** BITECLUB
- 14** JUST ART IT



Cúirt Staff & Team

Producer **Páraic Breathnach**
 Programme Director **Dr Emily Cullen**
 Manager **Tara O'Connor**
 Programme Coordinator **Karen Arnold**
 Marketing **Sinéad McPhillips**
 Publicity **Stephanie Dickenson & Sinead Mc Phillips**
 Production Manager **Derval Byrne**
 Volunteer Coordinator **Siobhán Singleton**
 Accounts **Sinéad Wynne**
 Stage Manager **Mattie Hynes**
 Cúirt Labs **Maeve Mulrennan**
 Cúirt Labs **Órla O'Donoghue**
 Photographer **Boyd Challenger**
 Cúirt Website **Happi Digital**
 Graphic Design **Íde Deloughry**
 Cover Design **Sam Winston**

Production Crew

Richard Brennan, Gerard Butler, Patrick Coleman, Denis Browne, Simon Daly, David Donovan, Des Mulcahy

Town Hall Theatre

Fergal McGrath, Seóna Ní Chonghaile, Aoife Noone, Conor Kennedy Burke, Jill Murray, Jack Gibbons, Marie Folan, Lucy Kelly, Seóna Tully, Féilim o'hAolain, Eoin Butler Thornton, Fiona Collins, Helen Brennan, Pete Ashton, Donal Nelson, Susan Collins, Annie McMahon, Finian O'Gorman

Galway Arts Centre

Judith Bernhardt, Stephen Cuniffe, Liam Delaney, Ailbhe Feeney, Andrew Flynn, Clare Lennon, Cliona Ryan, Barbara Wojtyra

Cúirt Reading Panel

Karen Arnold, Aideen Henry, Alan McMonagle, Maeve Mulrennan, David Muñoz, Ríona Ní Fhrighil, Muireann O Cinneide

Galway Arts Centre Board of Directors

Craig Steven (Chair), Vinny Browne, Louise Manifold, Gerard Hanberry, Imelda Tierney

Thank You

Cúirt would like to say a sincere thank you to the following for their help and support:

The Arts Council of Ireland, Galway City Council, Fáilte Ireland, Galway County Council, the board of Galway Arts Centre, the staff of the Town Hall Theatre, the staff of Charlie Byrne's bookshop, and this year's reading panel.

Majella Ní Chríocháin and all at Oireachtas na Gaeilge, Muireann Ní Dhroighneáin and all at Ealaín na Gaeltachta, Anna Bonner and all at Poetry Ireland Writers in Schools for collaborating with Cúirt on this year's Irish language programme.

Words Ireland and the Irish Writers Centre for partnering with Cúirt to extend and develop Anne Kennedy's Writers' professional development day.

Catherine Gallagher, Josephine Vahey, Siobhán Arkins, Emer Donoghue, Elizabeth Keane, and the staff of Galway city and county libraries.

Our event sponsors Tigh Neachtain's, Tigh Nora, Charlie Byrne's Bookshop and Galway Business School for their continued support.

We would also like to thank the International Festival of Authors and the Canadian Embassy, Stephanie Muchint, Catherine Gagneaux and all at the French Embassy in Ireland, Music for Galway, Pan Pan Theatre, Solstice Arts Centre, James C. Harrold, Margaret Flannery, John Mannion, Jimmy McGuire, Jim Fennell, Chris Coughlan, Paul Grealish, Ollie Jennings, our interns and our volunteers.

And all those who helped after this programme went to print.

Business Partners



Accommodation Partners

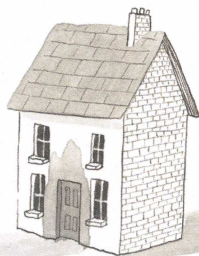


Cúirt

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE
FÉILE IDIRNÁISIÚNTA LITRÍOCHTA

23 - 29 APRIL 2018

cúirt.ie | #cúirt2018



those being very the seamen spied
not be proper, for some half a cable's length of the ship
but the wind was so strong, that
were driven directly upon it, and
tely split. *Gulliver's Travels* Six of t
were the boat into the sea, having le
a crew, of whom I was one, having t
t down the boat and the rock. W
hif to get clear the ship and the rock
e rowed, by my computation, about three
ues, till we were able to work no longer, bei
ng already spent with labour while we were i
of the waves, and in about half an hour the boat
overset by a sudden flurry from the north. What be
of my companions in the vessel, I cannot tell; b
ut conclude they were all lost. For my own part, I swam as f
ap on the rock, were pushed forward by wind and tide. I often let
my legs drop, and felt no bottom; but renewed distress, for the many days
une directed me, and returned light as often brought but renewed distress, for the many days
able to struggle no longer, I found myself within my depth; and by this
me the storm was much abated. *The Swiss Family Robinson* For many days
t terrific scene, and returning light as often brought but renewed distress, for the many days
direction, and the water, which rushed in, gained upon us rapidly. Instead of reckless oaths, the sea
rows, to be performed should deliverance be granted. Every man on board alternately commended his
' peril; if not, let us calmly yield our lives into His hand, and think of the joy and blessedness of finding
my weeping wife looked bravely up, and, as the boys clustered round her, she began to cheer and
d deliverance for his dear parents and brothers; as though quite forgetting himself. Our four young sons were overpowered
f our situation seemed less overwhelming. "Ah," thought I, "the Lord will hear our
asked the little old woman. The water is very rough and we're afraid he w
of him across the ocean. A poor old father lost his only son so
d then gave a sharp cry: "It's my father!" Meanwhile, the
s. And Pinocchio, standing on a high rock, tired
nd that he would come back if he
ly a huge wave came and the
be fisher folk on the sh
-1. Turning ar
-1!"