

Free! Please Pick Up.

6th Cork International Poetry Festival 2017

FEBRUARY 14TH – 18TH



Drawing by Edward Yen Sang





John Montague 1929-2016

A Small Death

My daughter, Oonagh, wanders
off to play in the forest,
unafraid, her new rag doll
clutched under one arm:
a small fairy queen, trail-
ed by her elderly knight.

At the centre, I find her
beneath black hemlock, red cedar,
halted on a carpet, a compost
of fallen leaves, rusty haws
and snowberries, knobbly chestnuts:
decay's autumnal weft.

She has found a dead bird
which she holds up in her
other hand; eyes, bright beads,
but the long beak spiky, cold,
twig legs crisped inwards.

Why not fly? she demands

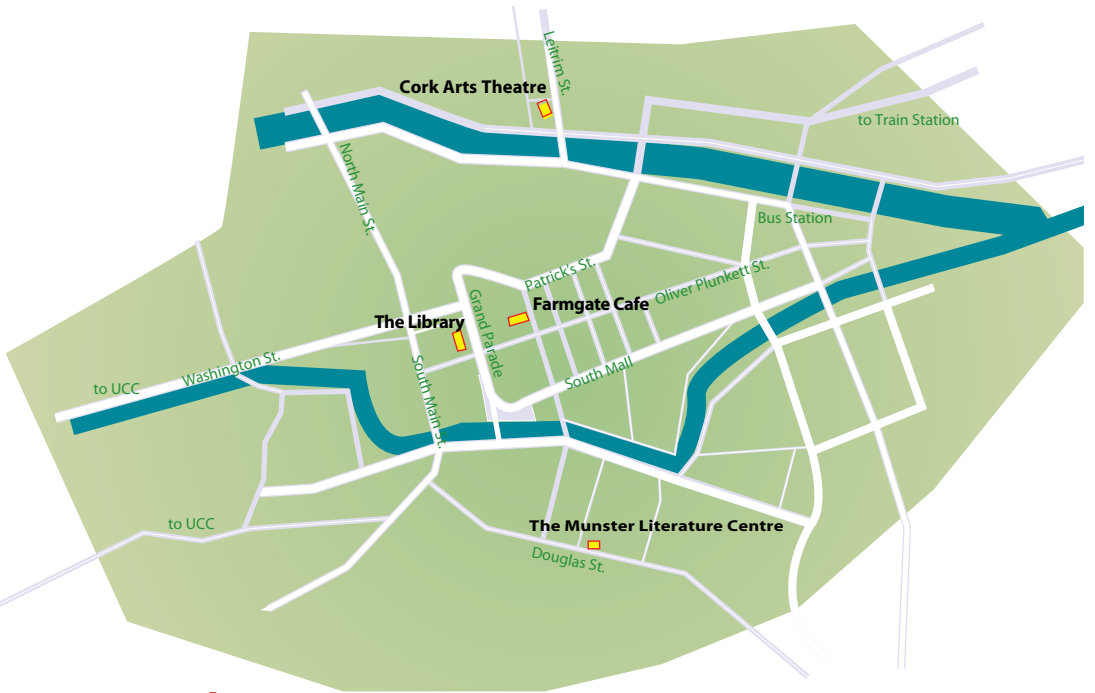
And as I kneel to explain
(taking the retted corpse away)
dead, she repeats, puzzled.
So we bury the scant body
under a mound of damp leaves,
a gnome's pyre, a short barrow:



Her first funeral ceremony.
Home now, I nudge gently,
past the slapping branches,
the shallow Pacific rain pools
she loves ploutring through
in her diminutive wellingtons.

Beyond the tall woods, lights
of Victoria are flickering on:
yellow flares of sodium
under dark coastal clouds
crossing Vancouver Island;
dream cattle swaying home.

Venue Map



Bookings

Bookings can be made by credit card through the website www.corkpoetryfest.net until Sunday 12th February, bookings by post with cheque payments will also be accepted up to this date; thereafter, all purchases must be at the Cork Arts Theatre. Admission may be blocked after an event begins. Refunds will be given only if an event is cancelled.

The Munster Literature Centre | Ionad Litríocht an Deiscirt

Frank O'Connor House, 84 Douglas Street, Cork, Ireland T12X802.

t. + 353 (0)21 4312955

or email info@munsterlit.ie

pay through credit card/Paypal on

www.corkpoetryfest.net

#corkpoetryfest



Workshops Wednesday – Saturday 9.30am - 12.30pm. Participants must have at least two periodical publication credits. See website www.corkpoetryfest.net

Workshop 1 Love and Pain: How do we make sense of the wreckage?

Matthew Dickman, see page 48 for biography. (limited to 15 participants, cost €180)

Deeply felt grief and adult erotic love can seem very far apart. But they have something important in common: they both destroy language. So how does poetry make sense of the rubble? In this workshop we will be generating work in and out of class exploring this subject. We will be creating as we are revising, and looking at modern masters who have created language out of experiences that seem to defy language itself. We will all be leaving with four new poems and a deeper understanding of The Self in compassionate living.

Workshop 2 Form (fear, flaw, flight, fight) and Function.

Brenda Shaughnessy, see page 47 for biography. (limited to 15 participants, cost €180)

In this workshop we will explore how to best turn our deepest lived truths into the strongest and most resilient possible art. This work is about re-learning how to see, how to listen to ourselves. It's about psychologies, trauma, metaphor, formal techniques, imaginative leaps, complex and contradictory feelings, histories personal/political, and about voice: how to find the poetic forms—which are ways—to speak what must be said. How to find the ways to say it powerfully, with as much beauty as we can find. We will start each session by reading provided poems that illuminate the day's topic, then endeavor to workshop everyone's poems daily. There will be generative exercises, discussion on how aesthetic choices are interconstitutive of and with formal choices, and generous, kind, rigorous support for each poet's contribution and work. Preliminary task: Bring a short new poem to introduce your work to the class. Introductory poems will be gently discussed and will orient the class to your style, voice, and form.

Workshop 3 – Four Masters – Four Poems (limited to 8 participants, cost €250) The

high cost of this workshop is down to the fact that it will be a very small class where each participant will have the opportunity to have a different poem scrutinised closely by a different master each of the four days. Participants must submit four poems in advance – each poem nominated for a particular master who will assess the poems before the festival and devote 20 minutes to each of eight poems per day.

Wednesday's Master Thomas McCarthy see page 19 for biography.

Thursday's Master Brian Turner see page 17 for biography.

Friday's Master Natalie Diaz see page 46 for biography.

Saturday's Master Martina Evans see page 44 for biography.

Programme Outline

Tuesday 14th - Saturday 18th February 2015

Tuesday 14th St. Valentine's Day

3pm Cork City Library | Admission free

Anthology Editors Speak

6.30pm The Farmgate Café, The English Market | Admission €5

St Valentine's at the Farmgate

Wednesday 15th

9.30- 12.30pm | Masterclass Workshops

1-2pm | Manuscript Makeover

2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free

Daragh Breen & Maighread Medbh

4pm, Cork City Library | Admission free

The Enchanting Verses journal launch

7pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Katie Donovan & Bernard O'Donoghue

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Steven Heighton & Brian Turner

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Theo Dorgan & Thomas McCarthy

11pm-12.30am, Cork Arts Theatre | *Festival Club*

Thursday 16th

9.30- 12.30pm | Masterclass Workshops

1-2pm | Manuscript Makeover

2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free
Sonnet Mondal & Kerrie O'Brien

4pm, Cork City Library | Admission Free
Eleanor Hooker & Eileen Sheehan

5pm, Cork City Library | Admission Free
The Well Review **launch**

7pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Paddy Bushe & Nikola Madzirov

8.30 pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Maram al-Masri

10pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill & Håkan Sandell

11pm-12.30am, Cork Arts Theatre | *Festival Club*

Friday 17th

9.30- 12.30pm | Masterclass Workshops & Evans Workshop
1-2pm | Manuscript Makeover

2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free
Fool for Poetry Chapbook Launch

4pm, Cork City Library | Admission free
Gregory O'Donoghue Prize Reading

4.30pm, Cork City Library | Admission free
Lo Kwa Mei-en

7pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Ulrikka S. Gernes & Karen Solie

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Carolyn Forché & Yusef Komunyakka

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Mark Doty, Michael Symmons Roberts & Jo Shapcott

11pm-1.30am, Cork Arts Theatre | *Festival Club*

Saturday 18th

9.30- 12.30pm | Masterclass Workshops

1-2pm | Manuscript Makeover

2.45pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

New Poets from the North of Ireland - A Blackstaff Anthology

4pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Martina Evans & Hannah Lowe

7pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Natalie Diaz & Brenda Shaughnessy

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Matthew Dickman & Conor O'Callaghan

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Homage to John Montague

11pm-1.30am , Cork Arts Theatre | *Festival Club*

Manuscript Makeover with James Harpur

Two one-hour appointments available each day **The Munster Literature Centre** | Cost €100

LENA CRONIN



Is a poetry collection sizzling away on your back-burner or weighing down your bottom drawer? Are you eager for feedback on your latest crop of poems? Whether you're working towards a first or second collection, or just beginning to find your way through the poetry labyrinth, James Harpur will scrutinise your work and present his findings to you face to face in a highly focused one-hour session. Rhythm and meter, line endings, how to start or finish a poem, whether to add a killer adjective or subtract a lame one, or whether or not you have a distinctive poetic voice – James will give you sympathetic, insightful and honest feedback. He can also advise you on such matters as layout and a publishing strategy. Whether you're a veteran of the verse world or a just setting out on your poetic journey, this is a rare opportunity to get critical feedback in person from an experienced practitioner of the poetic craft.

The cost per session/makeover is €100 for a maximum of 20 poems on a maximum of 20 pages (double-spaced 11pt) which includes time spent on them before the sessions. Advance booking is essential – only eight one-hour sessions are available, two per afternoon, Wednesday

to Saturday. Manuscripts (typed, one-and-half line spacing) must be sent to James at least two weeks in advance of the festival. enquire at administrator@munsterlit.ie

James Harpur has had five poetry collections published by Anvil Press. His latest book, *Angels and Harvesters* (2012), was a PBS Recommendation. *The Dark Age* (2007) won the Michael Hartnett Award; *Oracle Bones* (2001) was a Tablet Book of the Year; *The Monk's Dream* (1996) includes the sonnet sequence that won the British National Poetry Competition.

WORDS IRELAND

Panel Discussion

Anthology Editors Speak

Tuesday 14th 3pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



There are many pressing issues pertaining to the preparation of anthologies. Frequently poets are not even informed by publishers that their work is included in particular publications. Payment is often not extended. This situation is especially acute in the field of poetry. This panel brings together two renowned poets who are also anthologists (**Katie Donovan** and **Matthew Sweeney**) along with Paris based academic and anthologist **Clíodhna Ní Riordan**. It will be held on the day before Cork Spring Festival and so allows for participants to attend – we are sure there will be significant interest in this. The panel will address issues around payment, communication and fair treatment. **Maureen Kennelly**, director of Poetry Ireland will chair the discussion.

WORDS IRELAND

Music, Poetry, Refreshments

St Valentines at The Farmgate

Tuesday 14th 6.30pm **The Farmgate Café** | Admission free but ticketed

The Farmgate Café is the venue for an evening exploring love, lust, jealousy and other emotions connected with our most intimate relations. Songsmiths and poets will serve their visions to you on a plate.

The Farmgate Café has long been a welcome place for artists and writers in Cork. Rebecca Harte has the walls of her eatery decorated with original artworks, photographs and Cork's famous "Great Wall of Poetry" a wonderful collection of framed prints based on handwritten poems which forms a distinctive and unique poetic installation encased in a linear display cabinet suspended along the inside wall of the dining room over punters and patrons.



“..an unexpected treasure: the Farmgate Cafe in the English Market in Cork... The room has queues at the door and the tables are full of families and couples who have come to shop and to eat and to gossip. It's truly soft and generous, honest and delicious. A restaurant rooted in good things and fine tastes, all served with pleasure and good nature.....And if all that wasn't enough, it is garlanded with handwritten poems from Irish writers — they call it the Great Wall of Cork. I was sitting beneath Seamus Heaney.” — A.A. Gill in The Sunday Times

Reading & Discussion

Daragh Breen & Maighread Medbh

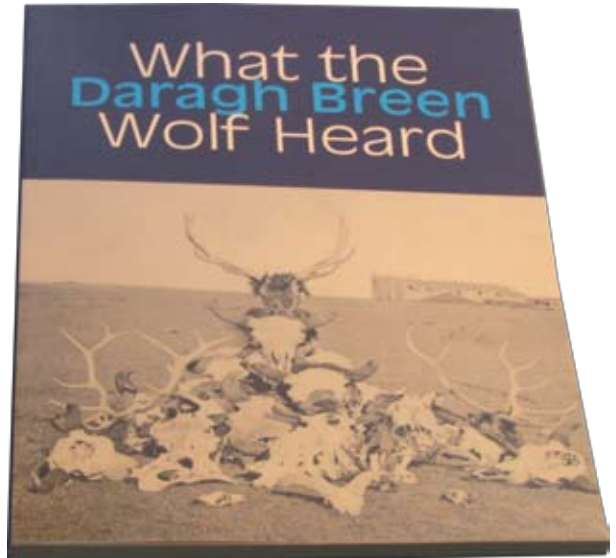
Wednesday 15th 2.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



Daragh Breen was born in Cork in 1970. His most recent collection, *What the Wolf Heard* was published by Shearsman Books in 2016. He has two previous collections, *Across the Sound: shards from the history of an island* (2003) and *Whale* (2010). His poetry has appeared extensively in Irish literary journals, including *The Stinging Fly* and *Poetry Ireland Review* and he was also included in Poetry Ireland's 2015 anthology *Everything to Play For: 99 Poems About Sport* edited by John McAuliffe.

“heartrending, honest, and at times revelatory work of art, one which proves the artistic centrality of the poetry”

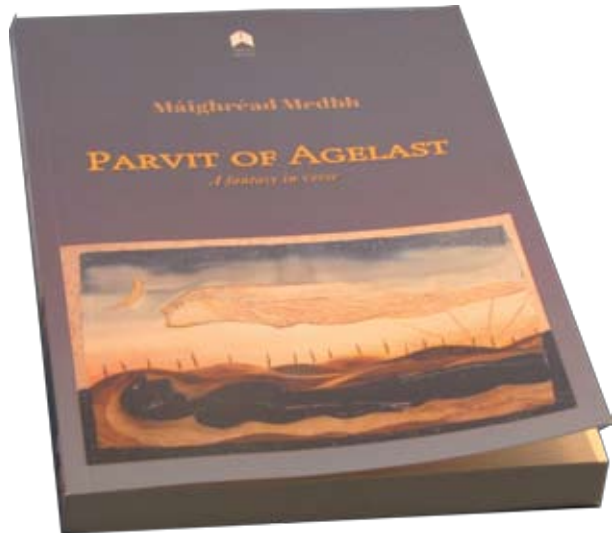
– *Dave Lordan,*
Southword





Maighread Medbh was born in County Limerick. She has published seven poetry collections (Blackstaff Press, Salmon, Arlen House) and is noted for dramatic presentations. In 2013, Dedalus Press published *Savage Solitude*, an aphoristic prose work. Her work has been translated into Galician and German, and appears in many Irish and international anthologies, as well as several academic works. She was 2016 winner of the Listowel Writers' Week Single Poem competition.

“Orwellian, Swiftian in the satiric bite of its allegory, a parable of genetic modification and cosmic meltdown, it bursts and wrests grammar and language to rise to sophisticated effects.”
 –Medbh McGuckian





Periodical Presentation

The Enchanting Verses

Wednesday 15th 4pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free

The Enchanting Verses Literary Review started its journey in March 2008 under the name of *The Enchanting Verses International* with an aim to publish quality poetry and other works related to poetry. Over the past few years the journal has emerged as one of the fine literary magazines of the world with contributors from all over the globe.

The Enchanting Verses has some of the most eminent names in the realms of contemporary poetry in the list of its contributors along with fresh voices. Each issue is partly edited by a guest editor and partly by the permanent staff of the journal.

ON THIS OCCASION A SPECIAL IRISH ISSUE WITH A MISCELLANY OF ESTABLISHED, OLDER POETS IS LAUNCHED - A SELECTION OF THE CONTRIBUTORS WILL READ.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

SVP, Ozanam House, 2 Tuckey St, Cork Tel: 021-4270444

Email: info@svpcork.ie www.svp.ie

HOW WE CAN HELP

If you need support with any of the following please do not hesitate to contact the Society of St Vincent de Paul we may be able to help

Visitation: Home; Hospital;

Prison

Budgeting

Resource Centres

Holiday Breaks

Education Grants

After School Projects

Breakfast Clubs

Youth Clubs

Hostels

Social Housing Projects

Outreach Work

Job Assistance

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Volunteer: Home Visitation,
Event Volunteering
SVP Shops

Fundraise: Donate: Online at svp.ie
Cheque
Direct Debit
Gift Certificates

Run an Event

Set up your own Fundraising Page on www.svp.ie



Reading & Discussion

Katie Donovan & Bernard O'Donoghue

Wednesday 15th 7pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Katie Donovan was born in 1962, she spent her childhood on a farm in Co. Wexford before moving to Dun Laoghaire, a suburb of Dublin where she still lives. She has published five books of poetry, all with Bloodaxe Books: *Watermelon Man* (1993), *Entering the Mare* (1997), *Day of the Dead* (2002) and *Rootling: New & Selected Poems* (2010) and *Off Duty* (2016). She is the author of *Irish Women Writers: Marginalised by Whom?* (Raven Arts Press, 1988), and has co-edited two anthologies.

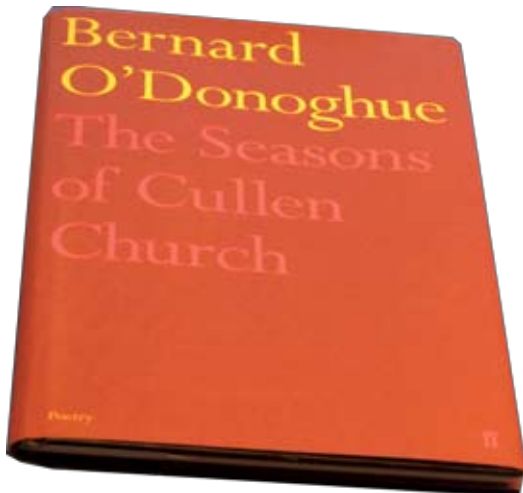
“The new writing describes the birth and early years of her daughter and son with an impressive clarity and lightness. These are personal, touching and accessible pieces... full of struggles and delights.”
– The Guardian





This event is made possible with the support of Poetry Ireland
 Thug Éigse Éireann tacaíocht don imeacht seo

Bernard O'Donoghue was born in Cullen, Co Cork in 1945. He is an Emeritus Fellow of Wadham College, where he taught Medieval English and Modern Irish Poetry. He has published six collections of poetry, including *Gunpowder*, winner of the 1995 Whitbread Prize for Poetry, and *Farmers Cross* (2011). His *Selected Poems* was published by Faber in 2008. He has published a verse translation of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (Penguin Classics 2006) *The Seasons of Cullen's Church* was published last year.



“I’m fascinated by O’Donoghue’s wry vision, his infinitely gentle manner of displacing our more predictable reactions to things as they are so that we glimpse their underlying tragedy”
 – Tom Paulin

Reading & Discussion

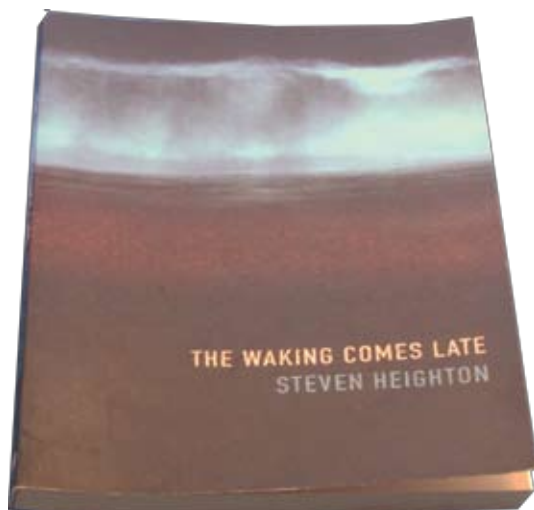
Steve Heighon & Brian Turner

Wednesday 15th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



*“Simply the most exciting
book of poetry to be
published this year.”*
– Globe and Mail

Steven Heighon is a poet and fiction writer, as well as a reviewer for the *New York Times Book Review*. His poems and stories have appeared in the *LRB*, *London Magazine*, *Poetry* (Chicago), *Best American Poetry*, *TLR*, *Best English Stories*, *Revue Europe*, and *The Independent*. His novel *Afterlands* (Penguin, 2007) was cited on “best of year” lists in ten publications in the UK, the USA, and Canada, where he lives. His latest book is a poetry collection, *The Waking Comes Late*.





**Canada Council
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du Canada**

Brian Turner is the author of two poetry collections, *Here, Bullet* which won the 2005 Beatrice Hawley Award, the New York Times “Editor’s Choice” selection, the 2006 PEN Center USA “Best in the West” award, and the 2007 Poets Prize, among others; and *Phantom Noise*, which was shortlisted for the 2010 T.S. Eliot Prize in Poetry. He is also the author of a memoir, *My Life as a Foreign Country*.



*“his poetic gifts detonated
into a spray of lyric force
that will mark what is
possible for years to come”
– Carolyn Forché*

Reading & Discussion

Theo Dorgan & Thomas McCarthy

Wednesday 15th 10pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6

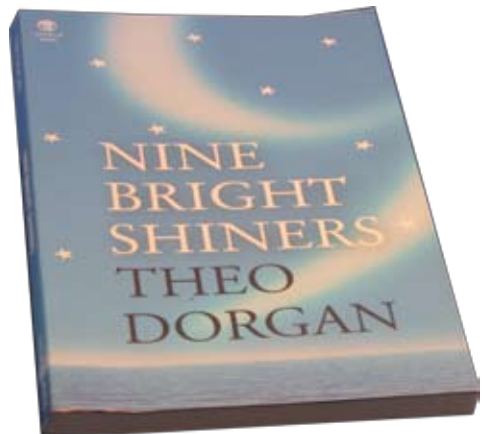


Theo Dorgan was born in Cork. He is a poet, novelist, non-fiction prose writer, editor, translator, broadcaster, librettist and documentary scriptwriter. He has published five books of poetry. His most recent collections are *Greek* (Dedalus 2012) and *Nine Bright Shiners* (Dedalus 2014). He has published two prose accounts of sailing journeys *Sailing for Home* (Penguin) and *Time on the Ocean* (New Island 2013). He published *Making Way*, a novel, in 2013, issued by Salmon Publishing. He is a member of Aosdána.



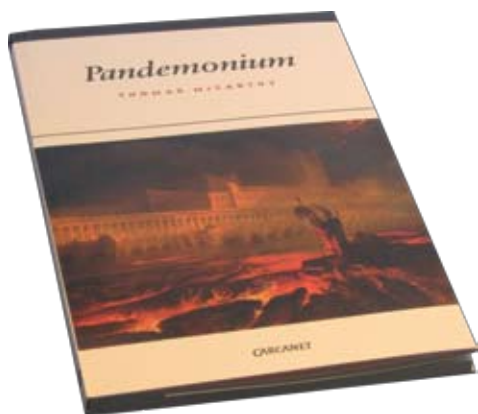
“While Nine Bright Shiners contains many elegies then, it also contains some of the most moving and beautiful love poems written by any poet writing in English over the last few decades.”

— Philip Coleman, Dublin Review of Books





Thomas McCarthy was born in Co. Waterford in 1954. He is the author of several collections of poetry, most notably *The Sorrow Garden* (1981), *The Lost Province* (1996) and *Merchant Prince* (2005), as well as two novels and a collection of essays and diaries. He has won the Patrick Kavanagh Award, the Alice Hunt Bartlett Prize, the Ireland Funds Annual Literary Award and the O'Shaughnessy Poetry Prize (Minnesota). He lives in Cork. His most recent collection is *Pandemonium* from Carcanet (2016). He is a member of Aosdána.



“McCarthy shines his torch on subtle, difficult and almost unclassifiable areas of experience and thought, almost in the same way that Andrew Motion does but with an additional and indefinable musical quality.”
 – Ian McMillan

Reading & Discussion

Sonnet Mondal & Kerrie O'Brien

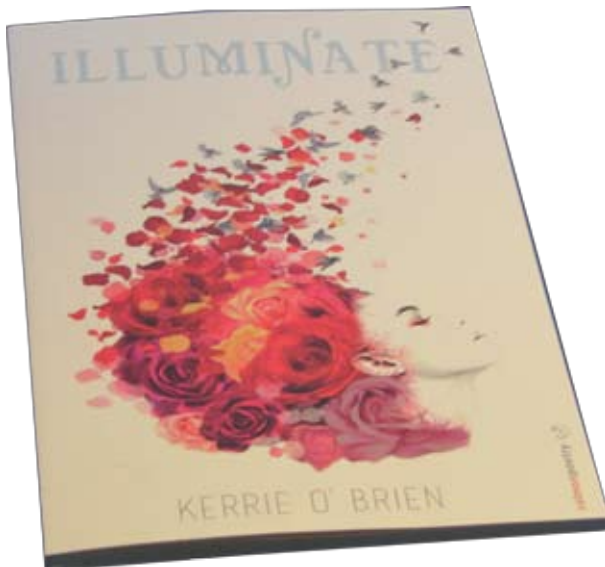
Thursday 16th 2.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



Sonnet Mondal lives in Kolkata and is the founder of *The Enchanting Verses Literary Review*. He has read at Struga Poetry Evenings, 2014, Uskudar International Poetry Festival, Istanbul, 2015, International Poetry Festival of Granada, Nicaragua, 2016 and Ars Poetica International Poetry Festival, Slovakia, 2016. He has been a featured writer at IWP, University of IOWA and his latest works have appeared in *The Mcneese Review*, *Sheepshead Review*, *The Fieldstone Review*, *Indian Literature* (Sahitya Academi) and *Two Thirds North*.
www.sonnetmondal.com



Kerrie O'Brien is a poet from Dublin. Her debut collection *Illuminate* was published by Salmon Poetry in October 2016 and made possible by a literature bursary from the Arts Council of Ireland. She has received multiple awards for her poetry and is currently writing her first novel. She is the editor of *Looking at the Stars*, an anthology of Irish writing which has raised €20,000 for the Dublin Simon Community.



“With economy, with precision, with inspired and exact gratitude for being alive, O’Brien draws from each poem here a crafted epiphany”
 – Theo Dorgan

Reading & Discussion

Eleanor Hooker & Eileen Sheehan

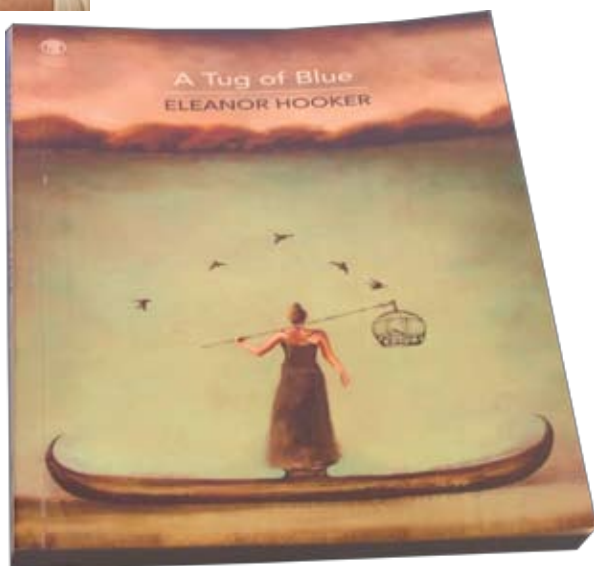
Thursday 16th 4pm **Cork City Library** | Admission Free



Eleanor Hooker lives in county Tipperary. She has published two poetry collections with Dedalus. *A Tug of Blue* was published in October 2016. Her poems have been published in literary journals, including: *Poetry*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *PN Review*, *Agenda*, *The Stinging Fly* and in *The Irish Times* and *Irish Examiner*. She is currently working on a novel. eleanorhooker.com

“[a book] teeming with both major and minor poems of really notable excellence and quirky intelligence.”

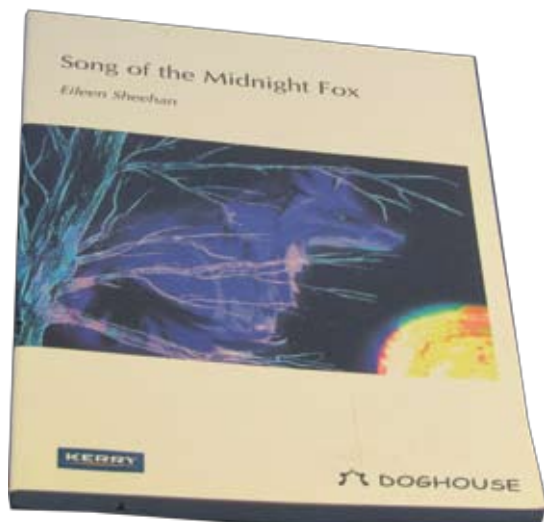
– Thomas McCarthy





This event is made possible with the support of Poetry Ireland
Thug Éigse Éireann tacaíocht don imeacht seo

Eileen Sheehan lives in county Kerry. Anthology publications include *Best Loved Poems: Favourite Poems from the South of Ireland* (Ed Gabriel Fitzmaurice/ Curragh Press); *The Poetry of Sex* (Ed. Sophie Hannah/ Penguin); *The Watchful Heart: A New Generation of Irish Poets* (Ed. Joan McBreen/ Salmon), and *TEXT: A Transition Year English Reader* (Ed Niall MacMonagle/ The Celtic Press). Her work is featured on Poetry International Web. Her third collection, *The Narrow Way of Souls*, is forthcoming.



*“Sheehan’s voice is the voice
of a true poet.”*
– Niall MacMonagle

Readings & Magazine Presentation

The Well Review

Thursday 16th 5pm **Cork City Library** | Admission Free



The Well Review is a new international poetry journal, and is named after the neighbourhood of Sunday's Well in Cork City. The journal will publish original poetry, poetry in translation, book and chapbook reviews and interviews. It will also feature artwork from Irish and international visual artists. The debut issue will include new work by Ellen Bass, Matthew Dickman, Nick Laird, Sinéad Morrissey, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, Leanne O'Sullivan, Maggie Smith and many more Irish and international poets.

FOOL FOR POETRY CHAPBOOK COMPETITION 2017



Two winners will each have their manuscript published. First prize winner receives €1000 in cash and fifty complimentary copies of their chapbook. Second Prize winner receives €500 and fifty complimentary copies of their chapbook.

The competition is open to new, emerging and established poets from any country BUT at least one of the winners will be a debutant (with no chapbook or book published previously). 25-50 other entrants will be publicly listed as “highly commended”.

Manuscripts must be sixteen to twenty pages in length, in the English language and the sole work of the entrant with no pastiches, translations or ‘versions’. The poems can be in verse or prose. Each chapbook is guaranteed a review in Southword Online.

The winning chapbooks will be published in February 2018 and will be offered for sale internationally through our own website, Amazon and selected independent book sellers. The winning poets will be considered for the 2018 Cork International Poetry Festival programme and have their chapbooks entered for the Poetry Book Society’s pamphlet choice programme. An entrance fee of €25 will be charged for each manuscript of 16-20 pages. Entrants may enter more than one manuscript. **For full details consult www.munsterlit.ie in February.** The winners will be selected by a panel chosen by the management board of Southword Editions. Deadline: May 31st 2017.

Reading & Discussion

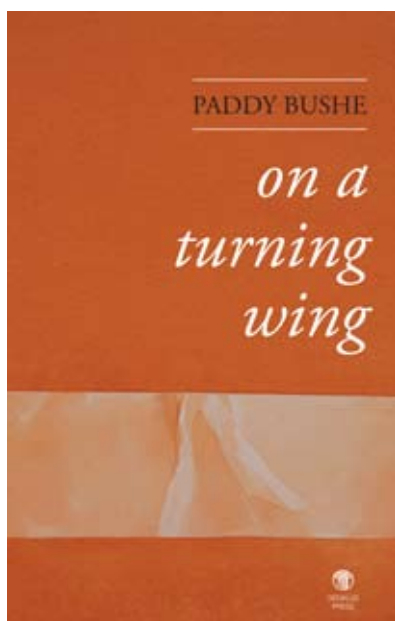
Paddy Bushe & Nikola Madzirov

Thursday 16th 7pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6

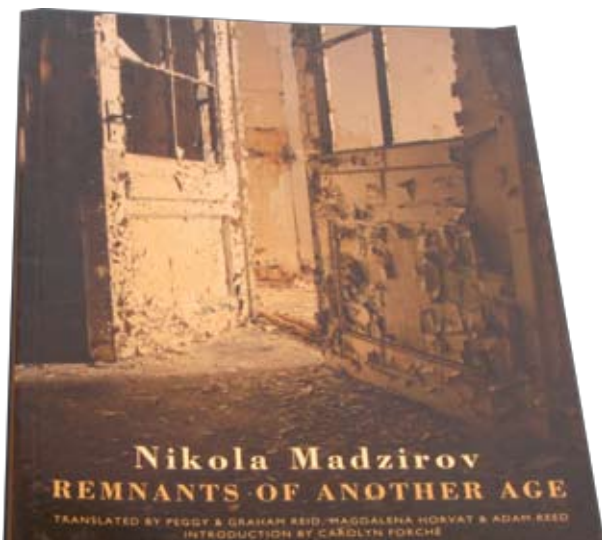


Paddy Bushe is a poet, editor and translator, and a member of Aosdána. He has published ten collections of poetry, eight in English and two in Irish, as well as four books of translations. He edited *Voices at the World's Edge: Irish Poets on Skellig Michael* (Dedalus 2010), and has translated the collected poems of Sorley MacLean into Irish. His recent collection is *On A Turning Wing* (Dedalus 2016).

“The leading poet writing in both Irish and English”
– Bernard O’Donoghue



Nikola Madzirov was born in 1973 in Yugoslavia, in what is now Macedonia. He is the author of several books including *Relocated Stone* (2007), which received the Hubert Burda European Award. He won the Miladinov Brothers Award at the Struga Poetry Evenings and was granted the International Writing Program (IWP) fellowship at the University of Iowa, the DAAD fellowship in Berlin, and the Marguerite Yourcenar fellowship in France. Madzirov's work has been translated into 40 languages.

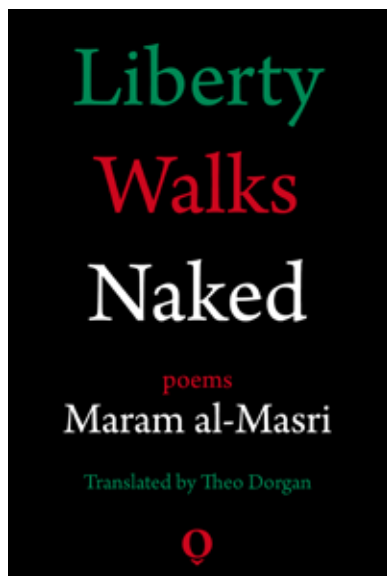


“He is a truly exceptional poet of great lyrical depth, purity, insight and originality. I am certain he is one of the great European poets of our generation.”
 – *Kapka Kassabova*

Reading & Discussion

Maram al-Masri

Thursday 16th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



“Masri’s poetry vividly encapsulates the frailty of our human condition in a brutal society. It can flay you at first reading. It is fair to see Masri as a love poet whose verse spares no truth of love’s joys and mercilessness, to whose work war then came, as it tore her native Syria apart, and overwhelmed it, and her.”

— Ed Vulliamy, *THE GUARDIAN*

Maram al-Masri is from Lattakia in Syria, and is now settled in Paris. She studied English Literature at Damascus University before starting publishing her poetry in Arab magazines in the 1970s. Today she is considered one of the most renowned and captivating feminine voices of her generation. Thus far her work has been translated into eight languages. She has been awarded the “Adonis Prize” of the Lebanese Cultural Forum for the best creative work in Arabic in 1998, the “Premio Citta di Calopezzati” for the section “Poesie de la Mediterranee” and the “Prix d’Automne 2007” of the Société des gens de lettres. Her poetry collections include *Red Cherry on the White Floor* and *I look at you*. She has published in English, *Barefoot Souls* (Arc 2015) also translated by Theo Dorgan.



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Reading & Discussion

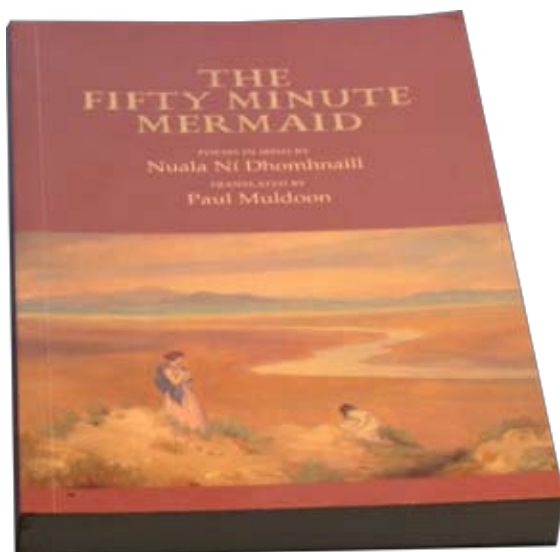
Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill & Håkan Sandell

Thursday 16th 10pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill was born in 1952 and grew up in the Irish-speaking areas of West Kerry and in Tipperary. She now lives in Dublin. She is the first Irish-language poet to win a worldwide reputation though her bilingual collections published by The Gallery Press: *Pharaoh's Daughter* (various translators), *The Water Horse* (trans Medbh McGuckian and Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin), *The Astrakhan Cloak* and *The Fifty Minute Mermaid* (both trans Paul Muldoon). A member of Aosdána, she was Ireland Professor of Poetry (2001-2004).

*“Ní Dhomhnaill
has written such an
extraordinary book”*
– The Guardian



THE
GALLERY
PRESS

*Nuala Ni Dhombnaill appears courtesy of Gallery Goes,
a Gallery Press initiative funded by the Arts Council Touring Grant*

SWEDISH ARTSCOUNCIL



Håkan Sandell was born in 1962 in Malmö, in southern Sweden, but has lived abroad most of his adult life, in Denmark, Ireland, and Norway. He debuted at the age of 19, and has since published eighteen collections or pamphlets of poetry, most recently *Ode till Demiurgen* (Ode to the Demiurge, 2013). He is also a translator and critic, and a cofounder of the artistic movement known as Retrogardism. He has received several major Swedish awards for his poetry and essays, and selections of his poetry have appeared in German, Hungarian and now, English.

“He’s a modern metaphysical poet, a lover of the world who, while praising it, never stops probing it with his formidable poetic intelligence.”
—Gwyneth Lewis



Reading

Fool for Poetry Chapbook Launch

Friday 17th 2.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission Free



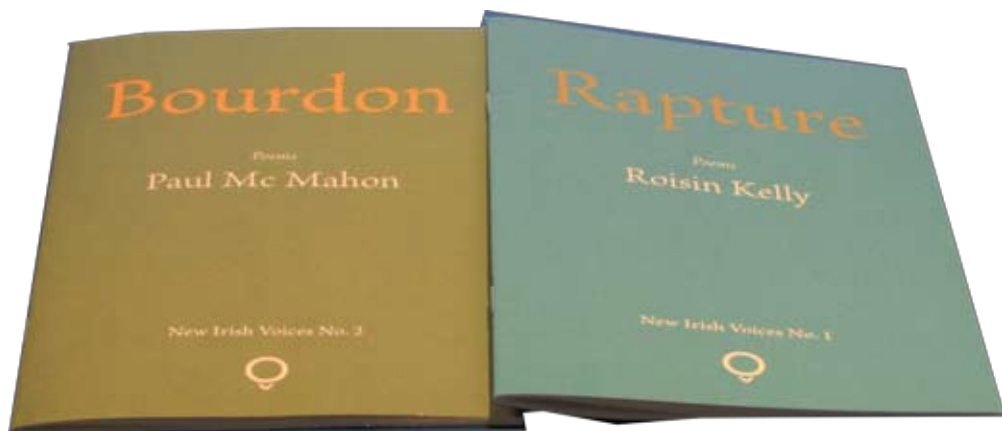
John Mee won the Patrick Kavanagh Award in 2015. His poems have been published in *The Rialto*, *Prelude*, *The SHOP*, *Big Wide Words*, *Poetry on the Buses* (London), *Cyphers*, *Southword* and *The Cork Literary Review*. He was born in Canada and has lived in Cork since he was seven years old. He is a professor in the Law School at University College Cork.



Maya Catherine Popa is a 2015 Ruth Lilly finalist and a recipient of the Editor's Award from the Poetry Foundation. Her writing appears in *Poetry*, *Tin House*, *the TLS*, and elsewhere. She holds degrees from Barnard College, Oxford University, and New York University. She lives and teaches in New York City.



NEW IRISH VOICES A CHAPBOOK SERIES



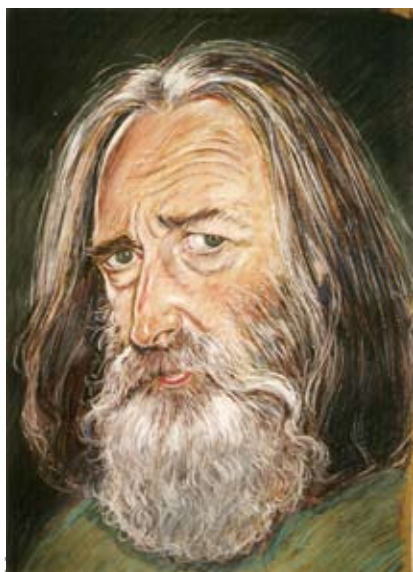
32 PAGE COLLECTIONS
INTRODUCING THE BEST IN
IRISH POETRY DEBUTS
€5 EACH
from www.munsterlit.ie

Reading & Prize-giving

Gregory O'Donoghue Prize

Friday 17th 4.00pm **Cork City Library** | Admission Free

At this event the winner of the **Gregory O'Donoghue International Poetry Competition** will receive the prize and have the opportunity to read from a selection of their poems. If the winning poet cannot attend, the winning poem will be read by an appointee of the festival director.



This event is made possible, by support from
The Tyrone Guthrie Centre

Reading & Discussion

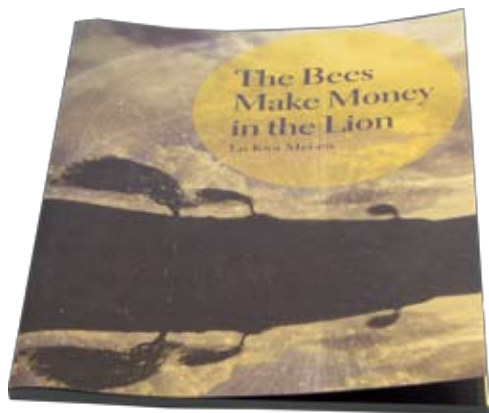
Lo Kwa Mei-en

Friday 17th 4.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission Free



Lo Kwa Mei-en is the author of *Yearling* (Alice James Books) and *The Bees Make Money in the Lion* (Cleveland State University Poetry Center), as well as two chapbooks, *The Romances* (Lettered Streets Press) and *Two Tales* (Bloom Books). She has received a fellowship from Kundiman, and was a 2016 finalist for the Ruth Lilly Fellowship. She is from Singapore and Ohio, where she lives and works in Cincinnati.

“Defiant and unrecognisable, Lo Kwa Mei-en’s Yearling, with its teeming species, battles and passions, reads like an illuminated manuscript. Hers are some of the most enviable poems I have ever read and herald Mei-en as the new standard bearer for innovative structure, terrifying acknowledgement, ecstatic statement and, I daresay, beauty.” – Kathy Fagan



Reading & Discussion

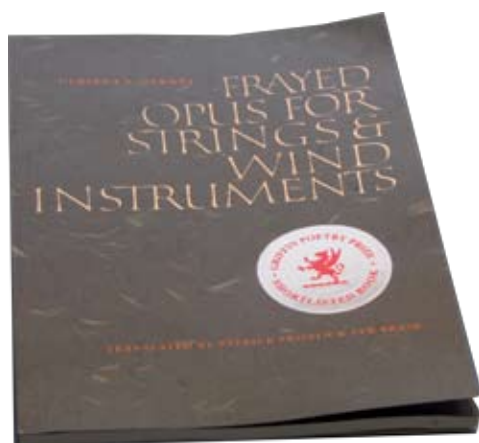
Ulrikka S. Gernes & Karen Solie

Friday 17th 7.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Ulrikka S. Gernes was born in Sweden to Danish parents. She has published eleven collections of poetry since her first at the age of eighteen. In English, Brick Books of Canada has published *A Sudden Sky*, *Selected Poems* (2001) and *Frayed Opus for Strings & Wind Instruments* which was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize in 2016. She lives in Copenhagen.

“These poems were written with the very tips of the fingers and the innermost threads of life. Sometimes, the writing is so blindingly beautiful that it is almost unbearable.”
– Berlingske Tidende





THE GRIFFIN TRUST
For Excellence In Poetry



Karen Solie was born in Moose Jaw, and grew up in southwest Saskatchewan, Canada. She is the author of four poetry collections: *Short Haul Engine*, *Modern and Normal*, *Pigeon* and her latest, *The Road In Is Not the Same Road Out*, which won the Pat Lowther Award, the Trillium Poetry Prize, and the Griffin Poetry Prize. Her *The Living Option: Selected Poems* was published by Bloodaxe Books in 2013. She received the 2015 Writers Trust Latner Poetry Prize, and the 2016 Canada Council Victor Martyn Lynch-Staunton Award for an artist in mid-career. Solie has taught for writing programmes and universities across Canada, and is an associate director for the Banff Centre’s Writing Studio. She lives in Toronto.

“The vision here is powerful, philosophical, intelligent, especially adept at pulling great wisdom from the ordinary. . .”
– Griffin Poetry Prize judges citation.



Reading & Discussion

Carolyn Forché & Yusef Komunyakaa

Friday 17th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Carolyn Forché was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1950. Her first collection, *Gathering the Tribes* (1976), was selected for the Yale Series of Younger Poets by Stanley Kunitz. Her second book, *The Country Between Us* (1981), drew on her experiences in El Salvador during the civil war, and won the Poetry Society of America's Alice Fay di Castagnola Award, and was the Lamont Poetry Selection of the Academy of American Poets. Her later collections include: *The Angel of History* (Bloodaxe, 1994), and *Blue Hour* (Bloodaxe, 2003). *In the Lateness of the World* is forthcoming.

“The poignant cri de cœur of this singular work must affect all who have an integrity still possible in this painfully despairing time. Carolyn Forché makes a complex voice for all the mute victims of our destructive world as the killing goes on and the patterns of our lives continue our committed self-destruction. Hers is the heroism which still cares”
– Robert Creeley.



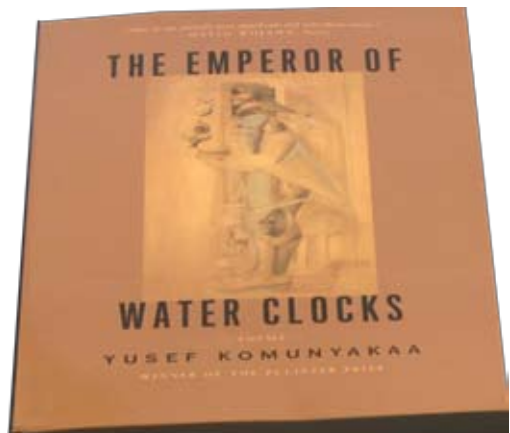


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For Excellence In Poetry



Yusef Komunyakaa's numerous collections of poetry include *Taboo*, *Dien Cai Dau* (based on his experiences in Vietnam), *Neon Vernacular*, for which he received the Pulitzer Prize, *Warhorses*, and most recently *The Emperor of Water Clocks*. He has been the recipient of awards including the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, the Kingsley Tufts Award for Poetry, and the Wallace Stevens Award. Komunyakaa is also the author of several plays, performance works, and libretti, which have been performed internationally. He is currently the Poet Laureate of New York State and he teaches at New York University.

“Komunyakaa’s poems sway with jazz-paced rhythms. Short lines and percussive inner rhymes combine with seriously stepped enjambment to give a strongly musical movement.
— The Times Literary Supplement



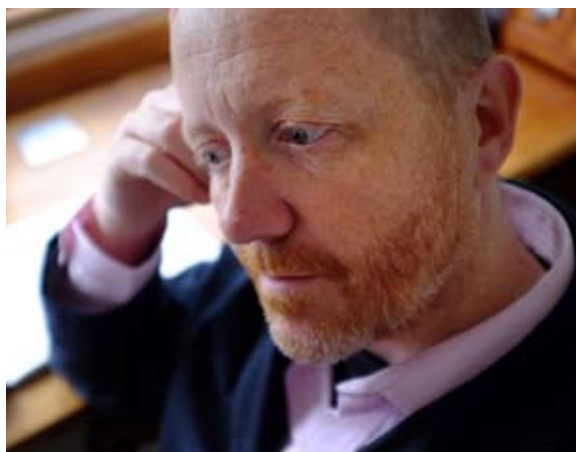
Reading & Discussion

**Mark Doty, Michael Symmons Roberts
& Jo Shapcott**

Friday 17th 10.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



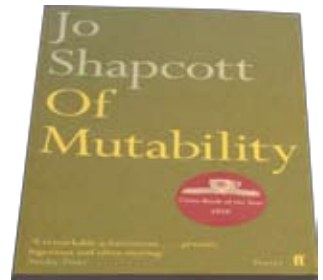
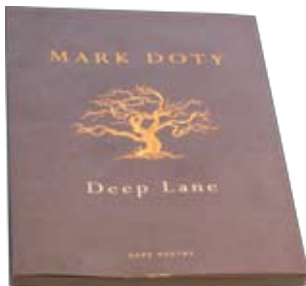
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Mark Doty is the author of nine books of poems, including *Fire to Fire: New and Selected Poems*, and *Deep Lane*, which was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize in 2015. He has also published five volumes of nonfiction prose. He is the first American poet to have won the T.S. Eliot Prize in the U.K. and his work has been honoured by the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, a Whiting Writers Award, two Lambda Literary Awards and the PEN/Martha Albrand Award for First Nonfiction. He teaches at Rutgers University and lives in New York City.

Michael Symmons Roberts was born in 1963 in Preston, Lancashire, UK. He has published six collections of poetry which have garnered the Forward Prize, the Costa Poetry Prize and the Whitbread Poetry Award, and been shortlisted for the Griffin International Poetry Prize and the T.S. Eliot Prize. His continuing collaboration with composer James MacMillan has led to two BBC Proms choral commissions, song cycles, music theatre works and operas. He has published two novels, and is Professor of Poetry at Manchester Metropolitan University. His *Selected Poems* appeared in 2016.

Jo Shapcott was born in London. Poems from her three award-winning collections, *Electroplating the Baby* (1988), *Phrase Book* (1992) and *My Life Asleep* (1998) are gathered in a selected poems, *Her Book* (2000). She has won a number of literary prizes including the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Collection, the Forward Prize for Best Collection and the National Poetry Competition (twice). *Tender Taxes*, her versions of Rilke, was published in 2001; *Of Mutability* won the Costa Book Award in 2010.



Reading & Discussion

New Poets from the North of Ireland

Saturday 18th 2.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6

**Paula Cunningham, Manuela Moser,
Padraig Regan and Stephen Sexton**

will read a selection of their work
from this landmark anthology.

“Sinéad Morrissey and Stephen Connolly’s edited collection The future always makes me so thirsty: New Poets from the North of Ireland is one of the most heartening and uplifting books of the year for the energy and talent it shows at work in poetry in Northern Ireland.”
— Colin Graham

“the most impressive aspect of this anthology is how finished the work is as a whole, how high the bar has been set for inclusion”
— The Irish Times



Interactive Digital Display

The Great Book of Ireland

Regular opening hours February 6th - 18th. **Cork City Library** | Admission free



The Great Book of Ireland, a gallery and anthology of modern Irish art and poetry, was a project which began in 1989. A huge volume of 250 pages of (510 by 360 by 110mm), the book brings together the work of 121 artists, 143 poets and 9 composers who painted, drew and wrote directly on the vellum. Calligraphy by Denis Brown serves to unify the book. Gene Lambert of Clashganna Mills Trust and Theo Dorgan of Poetry Ireland, initiated the project in 1989. All the contributors worked directly onto the large vellum pages, handmade by Joe Katz, and their work was unified by a calligrapher, Denis Brown, aided by design consultant Trevor Scott S.D.I. The Book is bound by Anthony Cains and housed in a box by Eric Pearce with a silver clasp by Brian Clarke. The book was published in 1991 and in January 2013 it was acquired by University College Cork. During the festival, an interactive digital display will be available to the public at Cork City Library, courtesy of University College Cork Library.

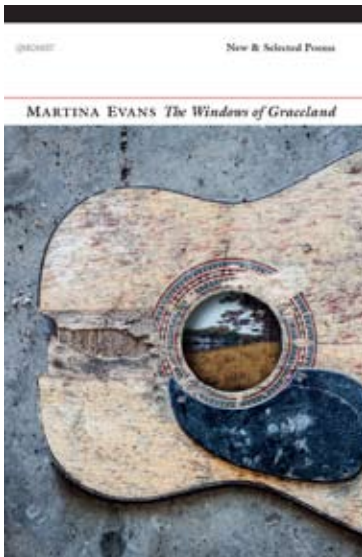
Reading & Discussion

Hannah Lowe & Martina Evans

Saturday 18th 4pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Martina Evans was born in 1961 and grew up in County Cork. Her first collection of poems, *The Inniscarra Bar and Cycle Rest*, appeared in 1995 and was followed by three further collections, *All Alcoholics are Charmers* (1998), *Can Dentists Be Trusted?* (2004) and *Facing the Public* (2009). She teaches Creative Writing at the City Literary Institute and Birkbeck College. She is also the author of three novels and the prose-poem/novella *Petrol* (2012). She lives in London with her daughter.

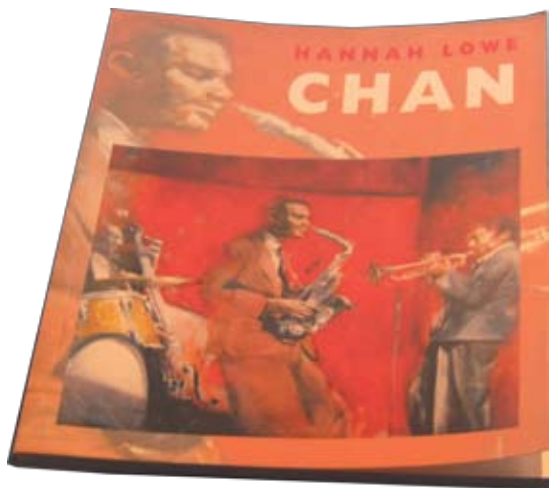


“Evans’s great skill is in knowing how much to put into a poem. She has a talent for selecting only the most resonant memories, for not over-icing the cake of sentiment. [...] Above all, Evans puts the right words in the right order, a dictum whose simple phrasing embodies its demand”

– PN Review



Hannah Lowe's first poetry collection *Chick* won the Michael Murphy Memorial Award for Best First Collection and was short-listed for the Forward, Aldeburgh and Seamus Heaney Best First Collection Prizes. In September 2014, she was named as one of 20 Next Generation poets. She has also published three chapbooks, and a memoir *Long Time No See*. Her latest poetry collection is *Chan*.



“an outstanding, unputdownable first collection.”
 – John Glenday

Reading & Discussion

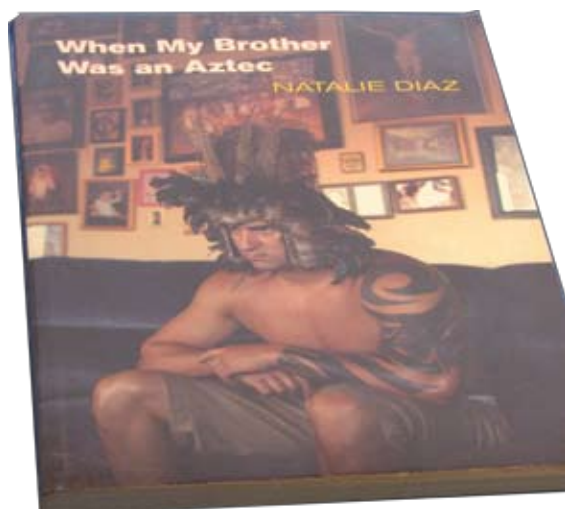
Natalie Diaz & Brenda Shaughnessy

Saturday 18th 7pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Natalie Diaz is a Mojave American poet, language activist, and educator. She is the author of the poetry collection *When My Brother Was an Aztec* (2012). Her honors and awards include the Nimrod/Hardman Pablo Neruda Prize for Poetry, the Louis Untermeyer Scholarship in Poetry from Bread Loaf, the *Narrative* Poetry Prize, and a Lannan Literary Fellowship.

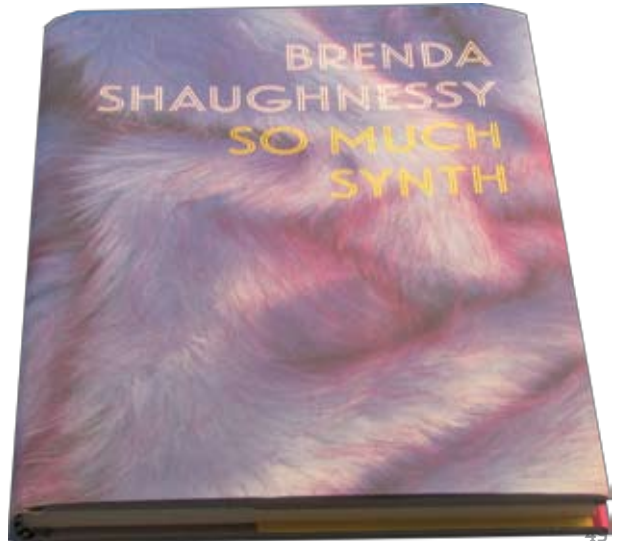
“the bigness of her poems serves her well: Diaz’s debut is a formidable, impressive collection.”
– The Rumpus





Brenda Shaughnessy is the author of *Our Andromeda* (one of the New York Times' 100 Notable Nooks of 2013, *Human Dark with Sugar*, *Interior with Joy* and most recently, *So Much Synth*. She has been a Guggenheim Foundation Fellow and is currently associate professor of English and creative writing at Rutgers University. She lives in Verona, New Jersey, with her family.

*"the result is a book
that should be read
now because it is a
collection whose song
will endure."*
– The New York
Times Book Review



Reading & Discussion

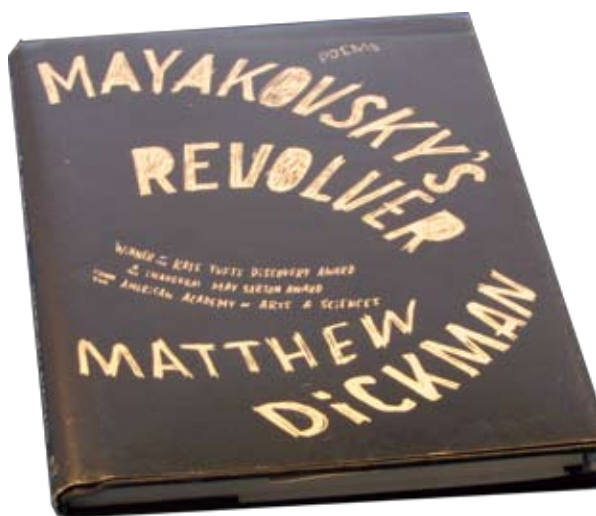
Matthew Dickman & Conor O'Callaghan

Saturday 18th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



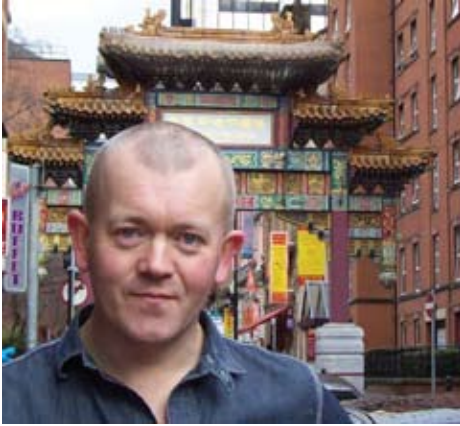
Matthew Dickman is the author of *All-American Poem* (American Poetry Review/ Copper Canyon Press, 2008), *50 American Plays* (co-written with his twin brother Michael Dickman, Copper Canyon Press, 2012), *Mayakovsky's Revolver* (W.W. Norton & Co, 2012), *Wish You Were Here* (Spork Press, 2013), *24 HOURS* (One Star Press, Paris, France, 2014), *Brother* (Faber&Faber UK, 2016), and the forthcoming poetry collection *Wonderland* (W.W. Norton & Co). He lives in Berlin, Germany.

“Wow, someone has broken into the Academy of American Poetry and opened a big window called Matthew Dickman...Already American poetry seems like a healthier place to live; a place with better light, more love, more oxygen and honesty”.
— Tony Hoagland



Conor O'Callaghan appears courtesy of Gallery Goes,
A Gallery Press initiative, funded by the Arts Council Touring Grant

THE
GALLERY
PRESS



Conor O'Callaghan was born in 1968 and grew up in Dundalk. The Gallery Press has published his four collections. *The History of Rain*, shortlisted for the Forward 'Best First Collection' Prize and winner of the Patrick Kavanagh Award, *Seatown, Fiction* (a Poetry Book Society Recommendation) and *The Sun King* (2013). After holding visiting posts at Villanova University and Wake Forest University in the US, he currently teaches at both Sheffield Hallam University and on the distance learning MA at Lancaster University. *Nothing on Earth*, a novel, was published in 2016.

"O'Callaghan's poetry is marvellously his own."
— The Times Literary Supplement.



A Homage

John Montague 1929-2016

Saturday 18th 10pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Indubitably and indisputably **John Montague** was one of Ireland's greatest poets. For an event which was originally scheduled to be a reading by Montague himself on the publication of his latest book, we have instead a homage to him with readings by his daughters, the actor **Oonagh** and the visual artist **Sibyl** and by a selection of former students at UCC – individuals who went on to distinguish themselves as poets, inspired by Montague's example.

The Students Patrick Cotter, Theo Dorgan, Greg Delanty, John Fitzgerald, Thomas McCarthy, Gerry Murphy, Liz O'Donoghue, William Wall.

This event happens courtesy of Gallery Goes,
A Gallery Press initiative, funded by the Arts Council Touring Grant

**THE
GALLERY
PRESS**

SECOND CHILDHOOD

John Montague



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