

WELCOME

2018 marks our sixth annual poetry festival. We have programmed poetry in festivals at this time of year going back the to 1990s. For decades some of the world's best poets have been coming to Cork in the Spring, but in 2012 we made our Spring literature festival exclusively a poetry festival and we have never looked back. It is now the largest annual poetry festival in Ireland and such is its renown, poets from home and abroad, with international reputations, vie for invitations to come, so many we simply cannot fit them all in. The major beneficiaries of this surfeit of talent and genius making themselves available are our audiences, composed of punters not just from Cork, but from the length of the island and workshop participants from even Britain and North America.

Our festival programme is known not just for its artistic brilliance and versatility but for its inclusivity on so many other levels, nationality, gender, race and linguistic background. Many events are free. As a publicly-funded endeavour the festival is obliged to augment tax-payers sponsorship with funds raised by itself. We do



this by charging a very nominal €6 a ticket for our evening events - cheaper than any theatre or cinema ticket. We price our tickets so low and allow free entry into many events in order to reduce financial disadvantage as a barrier to participation.

We also encourage a fun-caring, non-fussy atmosphere at the festival to dispel any air of elitism. We present poets who will make you laugh, make you cry and make you think. If you have never attended before, we encourage you to take a risk and get involved this year.

Patrick Cotter
for the Munster Literature Centre

Venue Map



Bookings

Tuesday events cannot be prebooked and tickets will be sold only before the events. All other bookings can be made by credit card through the website www.corkpoetryfest.net until Sunday 11th 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.

Early booking advised. Contact administrator@munsterlit.ie

See website www.corkpoetryfest.net for up to date info on availability.

Workshop 1 The Poem as Timeless Cinematography

Brian Turner, see page 19 for biography. (limited to 15 participants, cost €180)

In this 4-session workshop, we'll look at contemporary examples of poems that merge narrative and lyric modes to create an experience of timelessness—and we'll try our hand at infusing our own poems with these gestures toward the sublime, the transcendent. We'll workshop the creative work of each participant throughout the sessions and also generate new material during our time together.

Workshop 2 – Four Masters – Four Poems

(limited to 8 participants, cost €250)

The higher 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 the eight poems per day. **Participants must have at least two periodical publication credits.**

Wednesday's Master Neil Astley see page 14 for biography.

Thursday's Master Ken Babstock see page 36 for biography.

Friday's Master Patricia Smith see page 39 for biography.

Saturday's Master Mary O'Malley see page 38 for biography.

Programme Outline

Tuesday 13th – Saturday 17th February 2018

Tuesday 13th

5.30pm The Farmgate Café, The English Market | Admission €5 or free with book purchase **Michael Coady reading, with complementary food & wine.**

8.30pm Goldie Chapel, Nano Nagle Centre | Admission €5 or free with book purchase

Launch of Leanne O’Sullivan’s *A Quarter of An Hour*

Wednesday 14th St. Valentine's Day

9.30- 12.30pm | Workshops

11am Waterstones, Patrick Street | Admission free

Valentine’s Day Love Poetry Reading

3-5pm | Manuscript Makeover

2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free

Geraldine Mitchell & Mark Roper

4pm, Cork City Library | Admission free

Graham Allen & William Wall

7pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

In Person: World Poets

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Ishion Hutchinson & Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

A.B. Jackson & Brian Turner

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

Thursday 15th

9.30- 12.30pm | Workshops

3-5pm | Manuscript Makeover

2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free

Mary O'Donnell & Jean O'Brien

4pm, Cork City Library | Admission Free

Grey Hen Press Showcase

7pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Rory Waterman & Yang Lian

8.30 pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Silke Scheuermann & Aleš Šteger

10pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6

Aifric Mac Aodha & Medbh McGuckian

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

Friday 16th

9.30- 12.30pm | Workshops

3-5pm | Manuscript Makeover

2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free

Poetry Bus Periodical Showcase

4pm, Cork City Library | Admission free

Annemarie Ní Churreáin & Adam White

7pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
A.K. Blakemore & Elaine Cosgrove

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Ken Babstock & Sina Queyras

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Mary O'Malley & Patricia Smith

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

Saturday 17th

9.30- 12.30pm | Workshops
3-5pm | Manuscript Makeover

2.45pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Readings by Fool for Poetry and Gregory O'Donoghue Prize Winners

4pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Prebooked Poetry Introductions.

7pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Igor Klikovac & Jan Wagner

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
Emily Berry & Fran Lock

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €6
D.A. Powell & Jane Yeh

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



James Harpur has had five poetry collections published by Anvil Press and is a past winner of the UK National Poetry Competition. His latest book, *Angels and Harvesters* (2012), was a PBS Recommendation and shortlisted for the 2013 Irish Times Poetry Now Award. His forthcoming book, *The White Silhouette*, is due out from Carcanet in summer, 2018. www.jamesharpur.com

Another Pair of Eyes!

Refresh your manuscript with James Harpur

Is a poetry collection gathering dust in your top drawer? Are you unsure about your latest batch of poems – line endings, poem titles, clichés, clunky rhythms? Or perhaps you're seeking new directions, or advice about the poetry publishing world?

James will scrutinise your work, write comments on your manuscript, and present sympathetic, insightful and honest feedback to you face to face in a highly focused one-hour session. This is a rare opportunity to receive critical comments 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 (one-and-half line spacing, 12pt type), which includes time spent on them before the sessions. Advance booking is essential – only eight one-hour sessions are available, two per afternoon, 3-5 pm, Wednesday to Saturday. Manuscripts must be sent to James at least two weeks in advance of the festival.

Enquire at administrator@munsterlit.ie

“I was delighted with James’s feedback and would recommend this session to any poet, whatever their experience. It’s given me a new focus for my poems and I think I have unlocked the key as to why I didn’t think some of the poems weren’t working”

– Simon Lewis, author of *Jewtown*, winner of the 2015 Hennessy Poetry Prize

Poetry, Refreshments

Michael Coady

Tuesday 13th 5.30.pm **The Farmgate Café**, the English Market

Admission €5 or free with book purchase.



Michael Coady was born in 1939 in Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary. Winner of the Patrick Kavanagh Award for Poetry in 1979 and also of Listowel Writers' Week and RTE Francis McManus short story awards, he has published five collections with The Gallery Press: *Two for a Woman, Three for a Man* (1980), *Oven Lane* (1987, revised 2014), *All Souls* (1997), *One Another* (2003), *Going by Water* (2009) and *Given Light* (2017). He is a member of Aosdána.



“..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



Book Launch

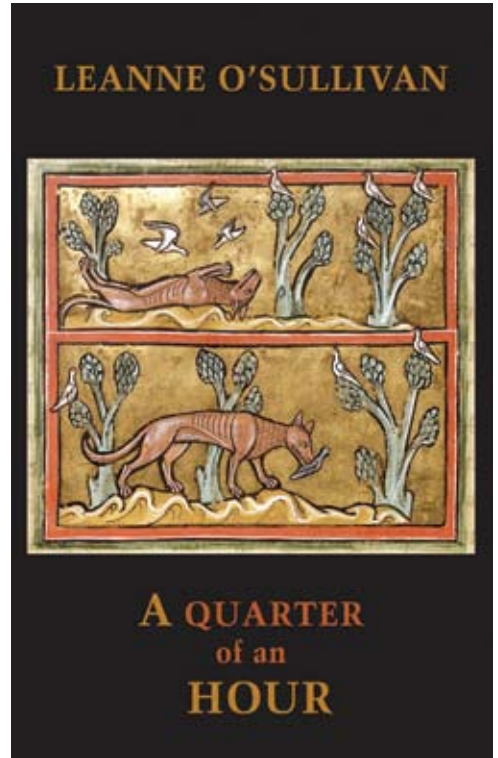
Leanne O'Sullivan

Tuesday 13th 8.30pm **Goldie Chapel, Nano Nagle Place** |

Admission €5 or free with book purchase.



Leanne O'Sullivan comes from the Beara peninsula in West Cork. The winner of several of Ireland's poetry competitions in her early 20s (including the Seacat, Davoren Hanna and RTE Rattlebag Poetry Slam), she has published four collections, all from Bloodaxe. This event marks the launch of *A Quarter of an Hour*. She was given the Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary Award in 2009 and the Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award for Irish Poetry in 2011. She is on the faculty of the Creative Writing dept. in the School of English UCC.



*"A voice that is strong
and true."
– Billy Collins*

Reading & Discussion

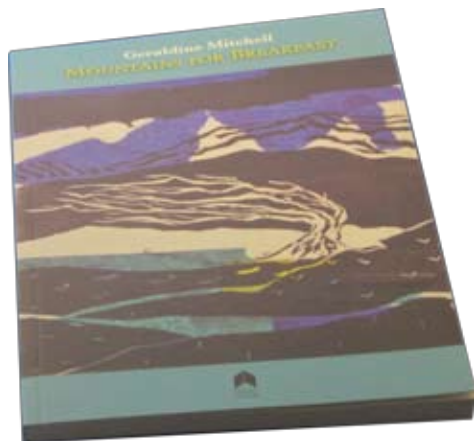
Geraldine Mitchell & Mark Roper

Wednesday 14th 2.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



Geraldine Mitchell's third collection, *Mountains for Breakfast*, was published in 2017. Geraldine is Dublin-born but now lives on the Co. Mayo coast, not far from Louisburgh. She won the Patrick Kavanagh Award in 2008 and her previous collections are *World Without Maps* and *Of Birds and Bones*. She is published by Arlen House.

*“Geraldine Mitchell’s
Mountains for Breakfast is
a complex, honest shipping
forecast of a book – heavy
grief–weather and a
relentless joy wave–wash
these poems in crystalline
language.”*
–Alice Lyons



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



Mark Roper's latest collection *Bindweed*, Dedalus Press. *A Gather of Shadow*, 2012, was shortlisted for The Irish Times Poetry Now Award and won the Michael Hartnett Award in 2014. With photographer Paddy Dwan, he has published *The River Book* and *The Backstrand*. Their book about the Comeragh Mountains will be published in 2018. He has written librettos for two operas composed by Eric Sweeney.

“This book contains so many perfect lyrics as to make any writer jealous.”
 –The North on Even So: New and Selected Poems.



Reading & Discussion

Graham Allen & William Wall

Wednesday 14th 4pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



Graham Allen is Professor of English in University College Cork. His collections *The One That Got Away* (2014) and *The Madhouse System* (2016) were published by New Binary Press. He was the winner of the 2010 Listowel Single Poem Prize and has been shortlisted for The Crashaw Prize, The Strong/Salt Prize, the Listowel First Collection Prize, and the Fool for Poetry Prize. The first ten years of Allen's on going e-poem, *Holes: Decade One*, has just been published by New Binary Press.



“Mordantly funny and erudite, these are poems that take a clear-eyed view of the tarnished world, seeking hope among the asphodels.”
—Jessica Traynor



William Wall is the first European Winner of the Drue Heinz Literature Prize. He has published four collections of poetry, most recently *The Yellow House* (Salmon, 2017) four novels and three collections of short fiction including the multi-prize-winning *The Islands* (University of Pittsburgh Press). His work has been translated into many languages and he translates from Italian.



“William Wall is a genuine literary talent, with a poet’s gift for apposite, wry observation.”
 –The Guardian

Poetry Film & Spoken Introduction.

In Person: World Poets

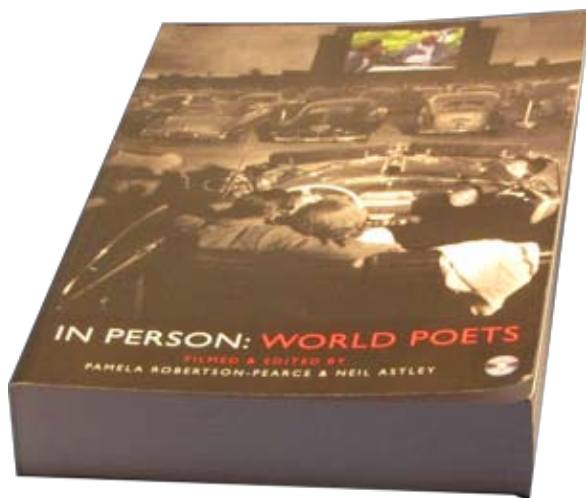
Wednesday 14th 7pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6

In Person: World Poets is an international collaboration between Bloodaxe Books and award-winning film-maker Pamela Robertson-Pearce, who worked with Bloodaxe editor Neil Astley on this sequel to *In Person: 30 Poets* (2008), the world's first poetry DVD-anthology. Her style of filming combines directness and simplicity, sensitivity and warmth – the perfect combination for the intimate readings by poets from around the world included in this highlights film. It's as if the poets were sitting in a room with you, giving informal, one-to-one readings to you in person.

This hour-long film features a selection from the 14 hours of footage in *In Person: World Poets*, all the poems in which are included in the book, which comes with four DVDs. The

project covers poets from many parts of the world, including America, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, India, Italy, Jamaica, Korea, Kurdistan, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malawi, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, Romania and Sweden, as well as from Britain and Ireland.

Pamela Robertson-Pearce's films include *IMAGO: Meret Oppenheim* (1996), winner of the Swiss Film Board's Prize for Outstanding Quality and the Gold Apple Award at the National Educational Film and Video Festival in America. Bloodaxe editor and founder Neil Astley's many books include the *Staying Alive* trilogy of anthologies.



Reading & Discussion

Ishion Hutchinson & Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh

Wednesday 14th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Ishion Hutchinson from Port Antonio, Jamaica, teaches on the graduate writing program at Cornell University, USA. His poetry collections include *Far District* (Peepal Tree Press, 2010) and *House of Lords and Commons* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2016, Faber 2017). He is the recipient of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry, a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Whiting Writers Award among others.

"..the fact of their abundant, generous, choral presence on these pages tells us that we have in Hutchinson a major talent."

– Ilya Kaminsky



Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh was born in Kerry and studied at NUI Galway. She now teaches at University College Cork. She has published two collections in Irish *Péacadh* (Coiscéim 2008) and *Tost agus Allagar* (Coiscéim 2016). A bilingual selection *The Coast Road* was published by the Gallery Press in 2017 with translations by leading Irish poets such as Paul Muldoon, Vona Groarke, Alan Gillis, Medbh McGuckian and others.



“a feast for the eye and the ear and a consolation for the heart... wit and playfulness with language is obvious throughout the whole collection.”
 – Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill
 The Irish Times

Reading & Discussion

A.B. Jackson & Brian Turner

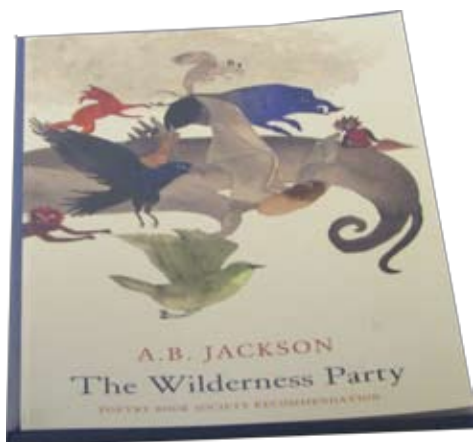
Wednesday 14th 10pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



A.B. Jackson won the Forward Prize for Best First Collection with *Fire Stations* (Anvil, 2003), and his most recent collection, *The Wilderness Party* (Bloodaxe 2015), is a Poetry Book Society Recommendation. His forthcoming third collection is a version of the legend of St Brendan and his sea voyage.

“With its ethical weight, aesthetic rigour and comic panache Jackson’s work is essential reading.”

— *Abren Warner*, editor
Poetry London





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 for Poetry. He is also the author of a memoir, *My Life as a Foreign Country*. He is the inaugural John Montague International Poetry Fellow.



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

Reading & Discussion

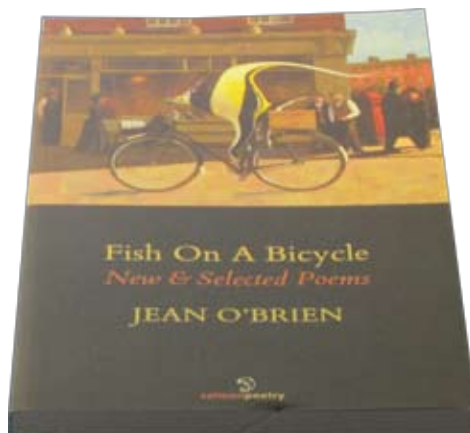
Jean O'Brien & Mary O'Donnell

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



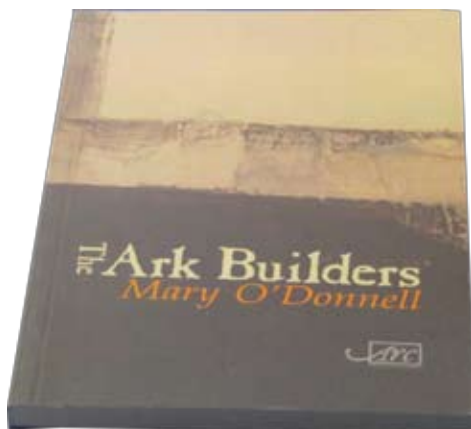
Jean O'Brien's fifth collection *Fish on a Bicycle, New & Selected* was published by Salmon Poetry in 2016. Winner of the Arvon International Poetry Prize and the Fish International Poetry Prize amongst others, her work is widely published and broadcast. She holds an M.Phil in Creative Writing from TCD and tutors in creative writing.

*“effortless writing, graceful
and exact as any pirouette
in its insight.”*
– Fiona Sampson
The Irish Times





Mary O'Donnell's seventh poetry collection, *Those April Fevers*, was published in 2015 (Arc Publications). She has written two collections of short stories, including *Storm Over Belfast* (2008) as well as four novels, among them the highly praised *Where They Lie* (2014). Her best-selling debut novel *The Light Makers* was recently reissued by 451 Editions. A full critical volume of essays on her work, *Giving Shape to the Moment: the Art of Mary O'Donnell, Poet, Short-story writer, Novelist*, will be published in 2018. She is a member of Aosdána



*“thoughtful and sensuous,
sometimes dashing and
vibrant, her rhythms are
those of life itself.”*
– Derek Mahon

Reading & Anthology Showcase

Grey Hen Press

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

EXTRAORDINARY FORMS



Some wonders of the natural world

Edited by Joy Howard

Illustrated by Sue Hardy-Dawson

“the poems are, as ever with Grey Hen Press feisty and fearless, questioning, and approaching their topics from all sides.” – Anne Stewart.”

Grey Hen Press is an independent press that showcases the work of women over 50. Collecting poems in themed anthologies they publish well-known poets alongside the unfamiliar. The press is based in Cumbria.

Julia Deakin, Angela Kirby, Joy Howard and Char March will read their work at this event.

Joy Howard, founder of Grey Hen Press, has lived all over the UK, but has now settled for Cumbria. She has edited eight full length Grey Hen anthologies and a series of chapbooks and though rather alarmed at finding herself nearer 80 than 70, isn't running out of steam just yet. The latest of her three collections is *Foraging* (Arachne Press 2106).



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

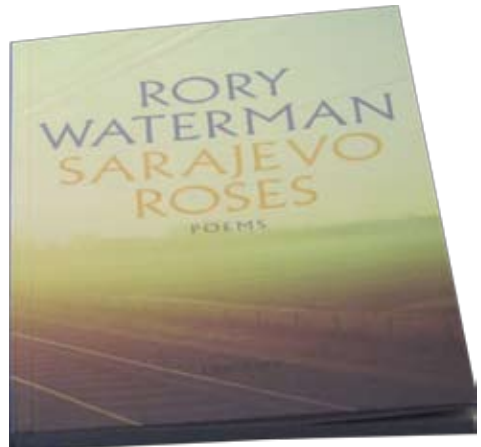
Rory Waterman & Yang Lian

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



Rory Waterman's second poetry collection, *Sarajevo Roses*, has just been published by Carcanet. His debut, *Tonight the Summer's Over* (Carcanet, 2013), was a PBS Recommendation and was shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Prize. He also co-runs New Walk Editions, and writes for the *TLS* and other publications. He is senior lecturer in English at Nottingham Trent University.

“By just picking his words with an almost scientific exactitude he makes a poem that is meditative and unforced.”
– The Irish Examiner





*“like MacDiarmid meets
Rilke with Samurai sword
drawn!” — W.N. Herbert,*

Yang Lian was one of the original Misty Poets who reacted against the strictures of the Cultural Revolution. Translations of his poetry include four collections with Bloodaxe, *Where the Sea Stands Still* (1999), *Concentric Circles* (2005), *Lee Valley Poems* (2009) and *Narrative Poem* (2017). He is co-editor with W.N. Herbert of *Jade Ladder: Contemporary Chinese Poetry* (Bloodaxe Books, 2012), and was awarded the International Nonino Prize in 2012.



Reading & Discussion

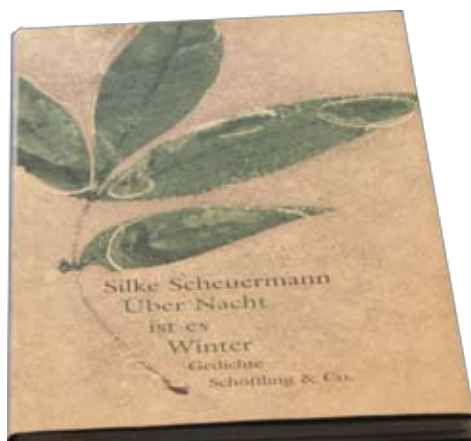
Silke Scheuermann & Aleš Šteger

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



Silke Scheuermann was born in 1973 and lives near Frankfurt am Main. She studied Drama and Literature in Frankfurt, Leipzig and Paris. Her poems, short stories and novels have won her a number of scholarships and awards and her work has been translated into various languages. She has held a Poetics lectureship in Wiesbaden.

“Scheuermann’s language possesses an astonishing descriptive power, an artfully condensed vision of the present, as with the best poetry always.”
— Die Welt





Aleš Šteger is one of Slovenia's leading poets. The Bavarian Academy of Arts awarded him in 2016 with the International Bienek Prize for poetry calling him 'one of the most original European poets writing today'. Among other prizes and honours his English translation of *Knjiga reči* (*The Book of Things*, BOA Editions, 2010) won two major U.S. translation awards (BTBA award and AATSEL). He received the title Chevalier des Artes et Lettres from the French state and is a member of the Berlin Academy of Arts.



“The international reach of his work seems appropriate considering its international concerns and refusal to acknowledge limits to, or boundaries of, art, thought, even genre.”
— Brian Henry

Reading & Discussion

Aifric Mac Aodha & Medbh McGuckian

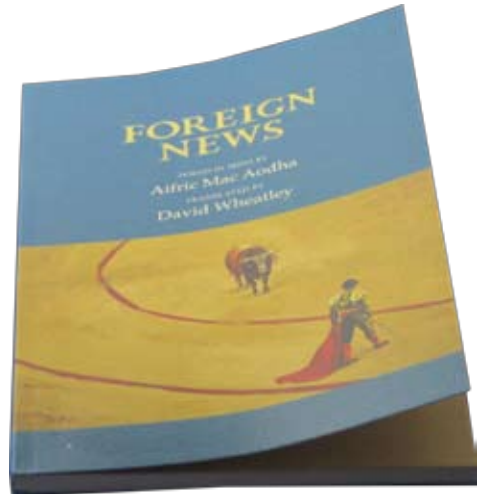
Thursday 15th 10pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Aifric Mac Aodha was born in 1979. Her first collection, *Gabháil Syrinx*, was published in 2010. She has taught in St Petersburg, New York and Canada and has lectured in old and modern Irish at UCD. *Foreign News* is Aifric Mac Aodha's first collection with The Gallery Press (translations by David Wheatley, 2017).

“Her carefully wrought lyrics are intuitive, compelling and insightful.”

— Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh



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



Medbh McGuckian was born in Belfast. She has won the National Poetry Competition, The Cheltenham Award, The Rooney Prize, the Bass Ireland Award for Literature, the Denis Devlin Award, the Alice Hunt Bartlett Prize, and, in 2002, The Forward Prize for Best Poem. She has had books published by Oxford University Press, The Gallery Press and most recently *Love, The Magician* with Arlen House.

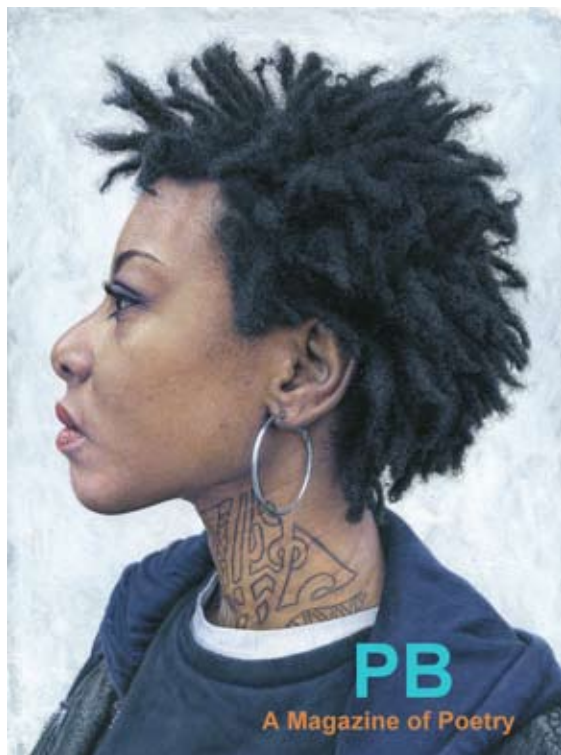
“Much of McGuckian’s work is characterised by sensuously associative imagery her poetry is bound up with pushing the imaginative boundaries of the English language toward new possibilities.”
– The Irish Times



Magazine Showcase

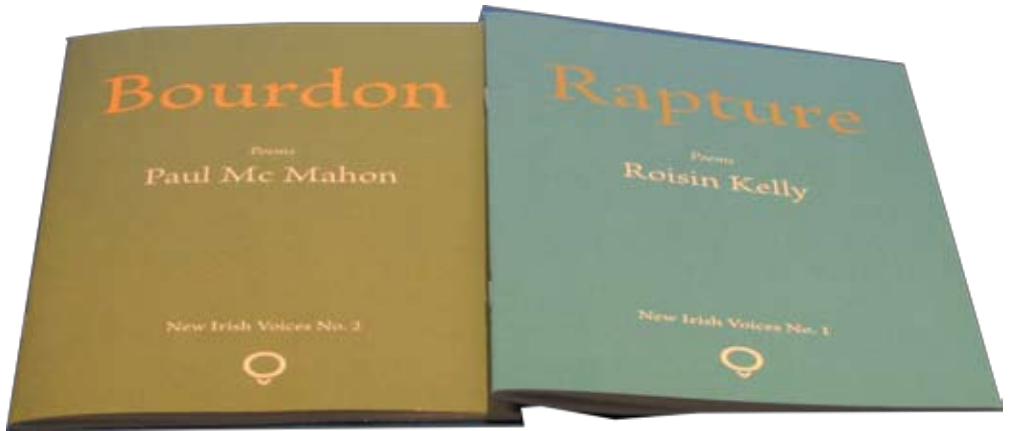
The Poetry Bus

Friday 16th 2.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission Free



Poetry Bus is edited by a woman and a man, one a poet the other a reader. Our aim is to provide a high quality vibrant showcase for new and more established poets and artists alike from across the world. Now in its eighth year, PB began as a weekly online exercise which proved so popular that it just had to be turned into a real magazine. Equality and inclusivity are what we strive for. We demand quality poems that have something to say, and say it well. Come and join us!

NEW IRISH VOICES A CHAPBOOK SERIES



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

No 1 *Rapture* by Roisin Kelly

No 2 *Bourdon* by Paul McMahan

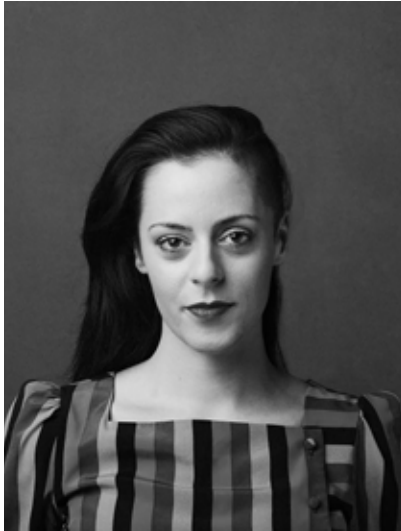
No 3 *First Cut* by John Fitzgerald

No 4 *There Are Monsters In This House* by James O'Leary (forthcoming)

Reading & Discussion

Annemarie Ní Churreáin & Adam White

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



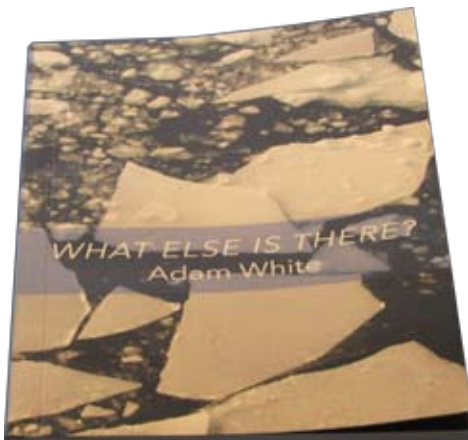
Annemarie Ní Churreáin is from North West Donegal. She has been awarded fellowships by Akademie Schloss Solitude, Jack Kerouac House and Hawthornden Castle. She received a New Generation Artists Award from the Arts Council and is on the Writers-in-Prison panel. Her first book *Bloodroot* was published by Doire Press in 2017

“Her harrowing sense of family and personal destiny pushes language to its most extreme. – Thomas McCarthy





Adam White is from Youghal in County Cork, where he served his time as a carpenter before travelling to Brittany to work and learn French on the building sites. He later read English and French at NUI Galway and started to write poetry. His debut collection, *Accurate Measurements*, published in 2013 by Doire Press, was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best First Collection. In recent years he returned to live in France and works there at present as a secondary school English teacher. Doire Press published *What Else Is There?* in 2017.



“His poems ring with truth from the first line. His particular strength is in the surprise of his detail: a familiar thing made new; an unfamiliar thing made intimate.”
– Afric McGlinchey

Reading & Discussion

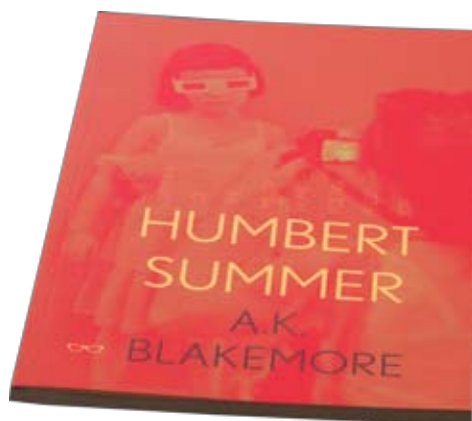
A.K. Blakemore & Elaine Cosgrove

Friday 16th 7.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



A.K. Blakemore's first collection, *Humbert Summer*, was released in 2015, and her second, *Fondue*, is forthcoming from Offord Road Books. She has been widely published, with her work appearing in magazines including *Poetry London*, *Poetry Review* and *Ambit*. She lives and works in London.

“the very opposite of boring, it is thrilling, punchy and occasionally frightening. Humbert Summer is written in a style that screams hello, kicks you in the shin and steals your biscuits”
– Stride Magazine





Elaine Cosgrove was born in Sligo, Ireland. Her work has been published in *The Stinging Fly*, *The Penny Dreadful* and *New Binary Press*. Elaine was selected for the *2017 Fifty Best New British & Irish Poets Anthology* (Eyewear Publishing). She has performed and participated at many festivals and events across Ireland. *Transmissions*, her debut collection of poems, is published by the Dedalus Press.

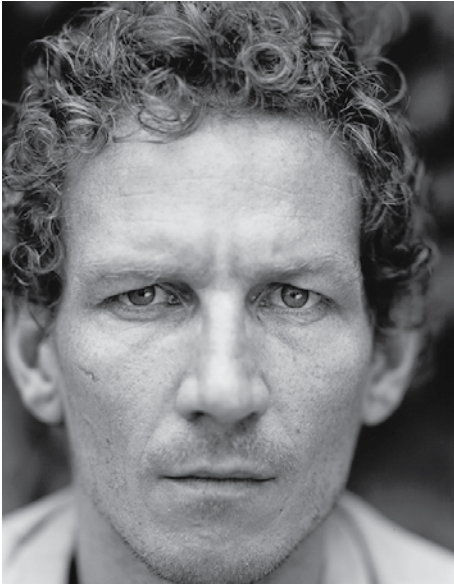
“The poems in Transmission are swift and agile and gleefully accomplished. They will leave you dazed in a grateful way.” – Colin Barrett



Reading & Discussion

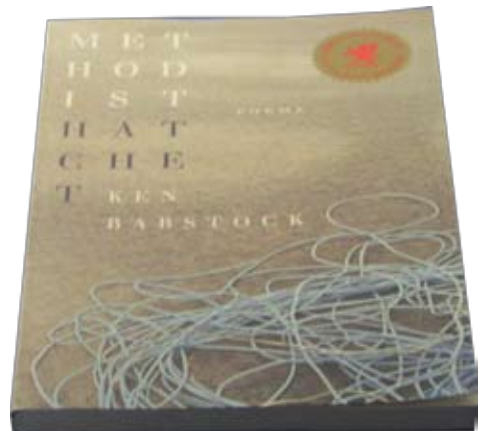
Ken Babstock & Sina Queyras

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



Ken Babstock is the author of five collections of poetry, most recently *Methodist Hatchet* and *On Malice*. The inaugural winner of the Latner Prize for Poetry for a poet in mid-career, Babstock has also won The Griffin Prize, The Trillium Prize for Poetry, and The Atlantic Poetry Prize. An editor, teacher, and freelancer, Babstock lives with his son, Samuel, in Toronto, Canada.

“Surely one of the most versatile, switched-on, and linguistically savvy poets of our time.”
– *Simon Armitage.*





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Sina Queyras is the author of the poetry collections, *My Ariel*, *MxT*, *Expressway* and *Lemon Hound*, all from Coach House. Her work has been nominated for a Governor General's Award and won The Friends of Poetry Award from *Poetry* magazine, The AM Klein Award for Poetry, a Lambda, the Pat Lowther Award, a Pushcart Prize and Gold in the National Magazine Award. Her first novel, *Autobiography of Childhood* was nominated for the Amazon.ca First Novel Award. In 2005 she edited *Open Field: 30 Contemporary Canadian Poets*, for Persea Books. She is founding editor of *Lemon Hound*. She resides in Montreal.

“Lines such as these disconcert even as they invite in the reader with tender irony. Queyras deliberately maximizes our discomfort and, like Plath, employs aggressive rhymes to increase the drama.” — The Globe & Mail



Reading & Discussion

Mary O'Malley & Patricia Smith

Friday 16th 10.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Mary O'Malley was born in Connemara in Ireland, and educated at University College Galway. She has published seven books of poetry, including *Valparaiso* arising out of her residency on the national marine research ship. *Playing The Octopus* is her latest book of poems, published by Carcanet. She is working on a memoir of childhood, as well as essays on place. She is a member of Aosdána and has won a number of awards for her poetry. She taught on the MA programmes for Writing and Education in the Arts at NUI Galway for ten years.



“O'Malley is a true artist in sketching the beautiful, small details.” — Eavan Boland

“One of Ireland’s most radical and respected poets.”
— Paula Meehan



Patricia Smith is a poet, teacher, performance artist and author. She is the author of *Incendiary Art* (Northwestern University Press, 2017); *Shoulda Been* Jimi Savannah (Coffee House Press, 2012), winner of the 2013 Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize and four other volumes. She is a four-time individual champion of the (USA) National Poetry Slam. She is a faculty member of Sierra Nevada College M.F.A. programme.



“Smith exhibits razor-sharp linguistic sensibilities that give her scenes a cinematic flair and her lines a momentum that buoys their emotional weight. Smith’s urgent collection lives up to its title, burning bright and urgent as a bonfire.”

— Publisher’s Weekly

Reading & Award Presentation

Readings by winners of Fool for Poetry and Gregory O'Donoghue Competitions.

Saturday 17th 2.45pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6

“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. As we go to press the winner is not yet known. The winner receives a cash prize of €1,000, a travel stipend to the festival, publication of their winning poem in *Southword* and the chance of a week’s retreat at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre.

Also at this event the winning chapbooks in the latest Fool for Poetry Competition will be launched with readings by the poets. Both poets will receive a cash prize, and 50 copies of their published chapbooks.



THE Tyrone Guthrie Centre
AT ANNAGHMAKERRIG



Molly Minturn lives in Charlottesville, Virginia. Her poems and essays have appeared or are forthcoming in *Boston Review*, *the Iowa Review*, *Sycamore Review*, *Bennington Review*, *the Toast*, *Indiana Review*, *Longreads*, and elsewhere. She is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and the University of Virginia. She won first place in the Fool for Poetry Chapbook Competition with her manuscript *Not in Heaven* which will be her debut publication.



Bernadette McCarthy lives in Kilmichael near Macroom and has a PhD in early medieval archaeology from UCC. Her poems have been published in journals including *The Penny Dreadful*, *Agenda*, *Causeway*, *Crannóg*, *The Lake*, and *The Linnet's Wings*, and also in *the Irish Examiner* and the anthology *On the Banks* (ed. A. Hopkins, Collins Press 2016). She was highly commended in the 2015 Ó Bhéal Five Words Competition. Her Manuscript *Bog Arabic* took second place in the Fool for Poetry Chapbook Competition and will be her debut publication.



Reading

Prebooked Poetry Introductions

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

The Prebooked Poetry Introductions will involve six individuals who have yet to publish a full-length collection of poems. Each poet will have the opportunity to read three poems in an eight minute reading slot, in many cases availing of their first opportunity to give a reading in a professional setting. All the poets are either Irish citizens or permanent residents in Ireland. Poets who partook in this event in previous years, who have since gone on to publish full collections, include Simon Lewis and Kerrie O'Brien. Two former participants, Elaine Cosgrove and Annemarie Ní Churreáin return to the festival this year as featured poets.

The poets have been selected from an open call and the line-up of chosen poets will be published on www.corkpoetryfest.net on February 1st.



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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.

Reading & Discussion

Igor Klikovac & Jan Wagner

Saturday 17th 7pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6

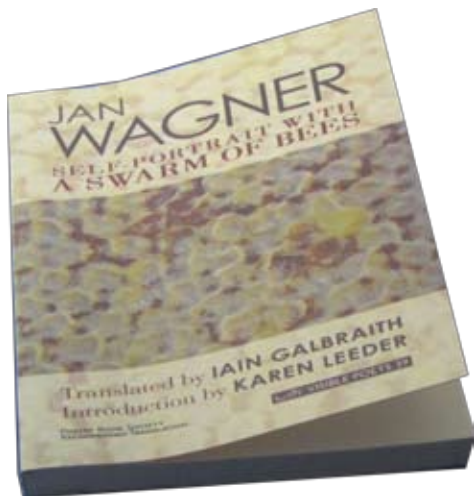


Igor Klikovac is a Bosnian poet living in London since 1993. His work is published in Bosnia, countries of former Yugoslavia, Britain and elsewhere. He is working on the translation of his first full volume in English with Irish poet John Mcauliffe.



“Wagner’s combination of wit, irony, lyrical genius and philosophical legerdemain illumine and renew our world in the most surprising ways. Wagner...one of Europe’s finest poets, a true magus of language.”
– John Burnside

Jan Wagner was born 1971 in Hamburg and has been living in Berlin since 1995. A poet, essayist and translator (Charles Simic, Simon Armitage, Matthew Sweeney, Robin Robertson and others), he has published six poetry collections. A selection in English (*Self-Portrait With a Swarm of Bees*, translated by Iain Galbraith) was published in 2015 by Arc. He has received various awards, among others the Leipzig Bookfair Award (2015) and the Georg-Büchner-Award (2017).



Reading & Discussion

Emily Berry & Fran Lock

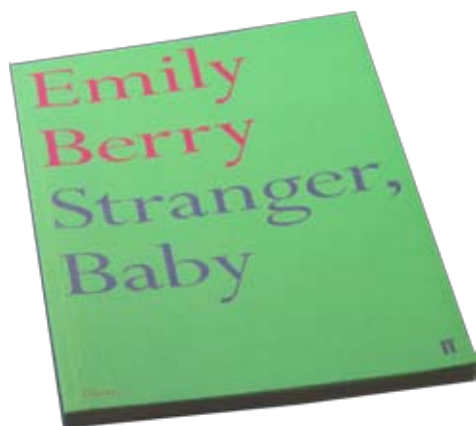
Saturday 17th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



Emily Berry's debut book of poems, *Dear Boy* (Faber & Faber, 2013), won the Forward Prize for Best First Collection and the Hawthornden Prize. Her second book *Stranger, Baby* was published in 2017. She is a featured poet in the *Penguin Modern Poets* series. Berry is the current editor of *Poetry Review*.

“These poems, with the carefully curated metaphorical vocabulary and taut adherence to form, are a way of managing the chaos of loss; ... they are highly intelligent, deeply moving poems that provide a new lens through which to consider grief.”

— The Guardian





Fran Lock is the author of three poetry collections, *Flatrock* (Little Episodes, 2011), *The Mystic and the Pig Thief* (Salt, 2014) and *Dogtooth* (Out Spoken Press, 2017), as well as *Laudanum Chapbook Anthology: Volume Two* (Laudanum, 2017) with Abigail Parry and Kim Campanello. *Muses and Bruises*, a poetry pamphlet in collaboration with collage artist Steev Burgess (Manifesto Press) also appeared in 2017.

“One of those electrifying poets both on the page and the stage.”

— proletarianpoetry.com

“Goes swaggering through town like a vivid old-time circus, commandeering all five senses till they start to fuse with each other.”

— Glyn Maxwell



Reading & Discussion

D.A. Powell & Jane Yeh

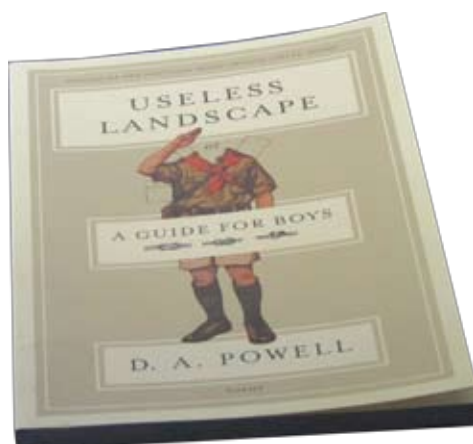
Saturday 17th 10pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €6



D.A. Powell's books include *Repast* (Graywolf, 2014) and *Useless Landscape, or A Guide for Boys* (Graywolf, 2012) which received the National Book Critics Circle Award in Poetry. His honors include the Shelley Memorial Award from the Poetry Society of America and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation. He teaches at the University of San Francisco.

“Powell has a perfect ear. His great subject is passion, in all its manifestations: passion sought, spent, relived in the mind, played out in language.”

— The New Yorker

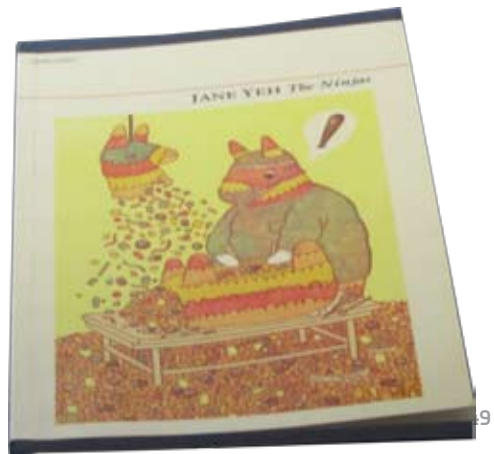




Jane Yeh's first collection of poems, *Marabou* (Carcanet, 2005), was shortlisted for the Whitbread, Forward, and Aldeburgh poetry prizes. She was named a Next Generation poet by the Poetry Book Society for her second collection, *The Ninjas* (Carcanet 2012). She is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at the Open University and has lived in the UK since 2001.

“The Ninjas is profound, funny and sad, reminding us that humans and androids are lonely and need love, and that attention to detail and kindness to animals can make a better world. This quirky and wise collection has outstanding originality and poise.”

— The Guardian



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