

Welcome



The Cork International Poetry Festival is Ireland's largest, dedicated poetry festival. In all the festivals, in all the countries of this Celtic Archipelago we invite more poets from abroad than any other, while ensuring our own poets, living in Ireland are also well represented. We have poets writing in six different languages, born in four different continents providing diverse voices to appeal to diverse tastes. Poetry is as various as music, anyone who might not be a Country and Western fan might enjoy Jazz or Trad, anyone whose taste is not covered by those genres can be attracted to Classical or Rock or Hip-Hop. You might know what your musical tastes are but do you know what your poetry tastes could be? This festival is your opportunity to find out. Here you'll discover poetry written across generations, languages, countries, classes, faiths, poetry of different aesthetic tastes, poetry treating wildly different subject matter. *There is something for everyone.*

The Cork poet Victoria Kennefick and American Heather Treseler will perform together poems which explore birth and rebirth, real and metaphorical. Poets David McLoughlin and Majella Kelly will read from their recent collections which explore the culpability of Irish institutions. The multi gendered Queer experience, Irish and American, is explored through the work of many poets participating throughout the programme, including debut collections by Irish poets Mícheál McCann and Mark Ward. Politics touches on all writing, resistance against racist and gendered oppression is featured in the work of Fatimah Asghar and Sally Wen Mao among others on the programme. Questions of violent conflict and Nationalism are at the core of the work of Tom Sleight and André Naffis-Sahely. John F. Deane and Aidan Mathews will share their work on Christian belief and doubt. Nature lovers are not ignored either. The density of fauna and flora in the natural world and the material they supply for reflections on human existence is highlighted in the work of the Estonian poet Triin Paja; and the transection point of the struggle of being a woman with domestic interspecies suffering is explored in the work of Breda Spaight. The American poet Donika Kelly has written poems featuring beasts which astonish and perplex. Close human relations are explored through the verbally intricate work of Australian poet Sarah Holland-Batt and major British poet David Harsent. For those who like their poets to be famous we have Paul Muldoon and British Poet Laureate Simon Armitage and that's only the half of it. I haven't touched on the humour and laughter you should encounter. Explore this readable catalogue, not just of times and venues but information on books, poets' portraits and much else.

Last year we saw a turning of the corner on Covid's detrimental effect on audiences, figures were up and the number of audience members who had travelled the length of the country and from further afield was again remarkable. We are dedicated to making poetry accessible to the economically underprivileged by providing many events which are free and charging no more than €5 for most tickets, all while ensuring our performing poets are remunerated and made comfortable. State funding for the arts is crucial to enabling us to fulfil this aim. Strong, dedicated support from the Arts Council of Ireland and Cork City Arts Office do the heavy lifting, supplemented by small business sponsorship, the European Union and various foreign governmental support.

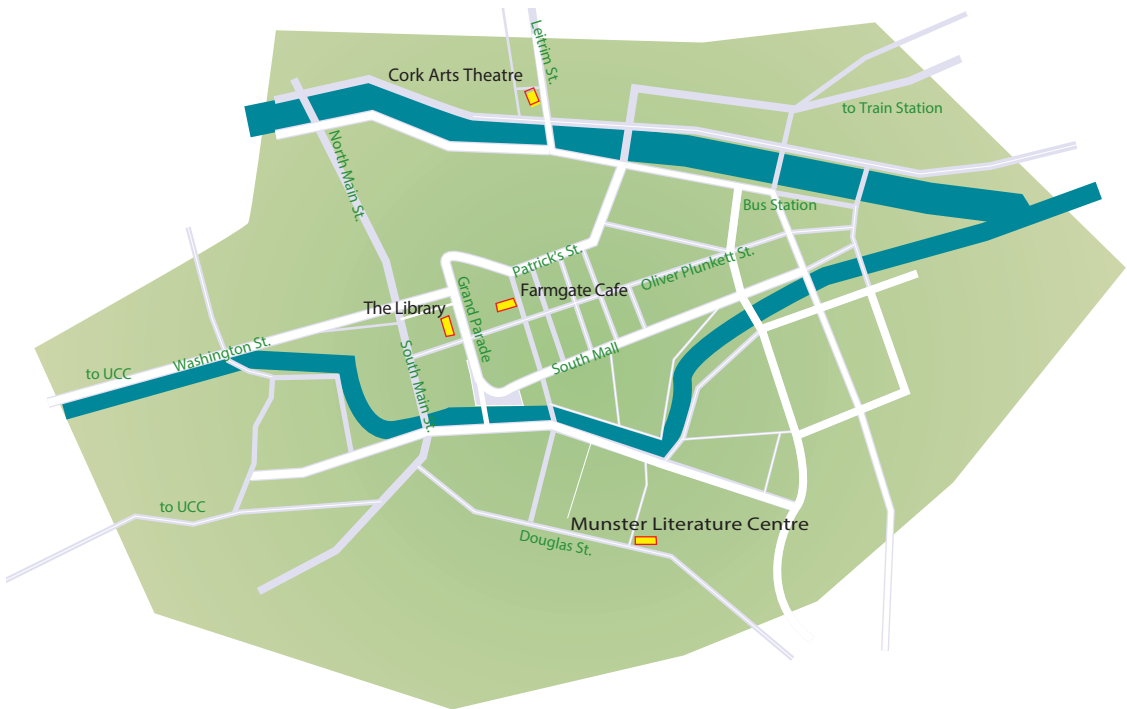
I encourage you to book events early to avoid disappointment and where you can afford it, to buy the poets' books and/or pressure your local library to supply them for you.

Patrick Cotter
poet, festival director

  /munsterliteraturecentre
X/munlitcentre
#CorkPoetryFest



Those with symptoms of a respiratory illness are required to wear a mask. If you are displaying respiratory symptoms and don't have a mask, for the protection of the vulnerable we may ask you to leave the venue.



Bookings

Bookings can be made by credit card through the website www.corkpoetryfest.net until Monday 29th April. Bookings by cheque to the Munster Literature Centre will also be accepted up to this date. Thereafter, all purchases must be made at the Cork Arts Theatre in person, by phone (021 450 5624) or online (www.corkartstheatre.com). The Cork Arts Theatre no longer issues physical tickets, so we advise arriving early to events to have your name checked off a list. Admission may be blocked after an event begins. Refunds will be given only if an event is cancelled.

Munster Literature Centre | Ionad Litríocht an Deiscirt

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

Phone: +353 (0)21 4322396

Email: info@munsterlit.ie

Pay through credit card/PayPal at

www.corkpoetryfest.net



MUNSTER LITERATURE CENTRE
Ionad Litríochta an Deisceart

Manuscript Feedback

Early booking is advised. Contact info@munsterlit.ie for booking enquiries and visit www.corkpoetryfest.net for the most up-to-date information on availability.

Manuscript Makeover with James Harpur

Two one-hour appointments available each day

3 – 5 pm Wednesday 15th – Saturday 18th May

Munster Literature Centre, 84 Douglas Street | Cost €120 | Limited to 8 individual appointments

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 €120 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 – 4 pm and 4 – 5 pm Wednesday to Saturday). Manuscripts must be sent to James by 2nd April.

James Harpur has published eight books of poetry and has won many prizes and awards, including the Michael Hartnett Prize, the Vincent Buckley Prize and the UK National Poetry Competition. His *The White Silhouette* was an *Irish Times* Book of the Year, and his debut novel, *The Pathless Country*, won the JG Farrell Award and was shortlisted for the John McGahern Prize. He was the 2023 Oscar Wilde Writer Fellow at Trinity College Dublin and gives talks and seminars on creative writing.

Workshops

Early booking is advised. Contact info@munsterlit.ie for booking enquiries and visit www.corkpoetryfest.net for the most up-to-date information on availability.



The cost is €200 for all four masterclasses or €75 individually. If you sign up for an individual masterclass, you will be put on a waiting list as priority will be given to those who sign up for all four. Priority will be given to those who have at least two poem publication credits. Each participant will have the opportunity to have one of their poems (of up to forty lines) discussed in a very small class where each person's work will receive much individual attention. They will submit their poem in advance.

Victoria Kennefick Masterclass (biographical note page 32)

9.30am to 12.30pm Wednesday 15th May

Sarah Holland-Batt Masterclass (biographical note page 43)

9.30am to 12.30pm Thursday 16th May

André Naffis-Sahely Masterclass (biographical note page 38)

9.30am to 12.30pm Friday 17th May

Tom Sleigh Masterclass (biographical note page 39)

9.30am to 12.30pm Saturday 18th May

Programme Outline

Tuesday 14th - Saturday 18th May

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#CorkPoetryFest

Monday 13th

These Monday Fringe Events (not managed or produced by the Munster Literature Center) are events that we are delighted to draw attention to

6.30pm, Waterstones | Fringe Event

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Launch of *The Blue in the Blue Marble* by John Mee

8.30pm, Hayloft Bar | Fringe Event

page 12

Ó Bheal

(Poetry films, Five Word Challenge, guest poets & open-mic)

Tuesday 14th

6.30pm, Farmgate Café | Free but ticketed (Eventbrite)

page 13

The Farmgate Café National Poetry Award

Only €70 when you book tickets to all events (22% discount)

Bookstall sales will be by card only (we cannot accept cash)

**For the latest news regarding workshop
availability visit www.corkpoetryfest.net**

Wednesday 15th

2.30pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 14

Daragh Breen & Lani O'Hanlon

(moderated by Afric McGlinchey)

4.00pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 16

Mícheál McCann & Mark Ward

(moderated by Patrick Holloway)

7.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 18

Majella Kelly & David McLoughlin

(moderated by Lauren O'Donovan)

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 20

Patrick Deeley & John Ennis

(moderated by Matthew Geden)

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 22

Katie Donovan & Michelle O'Sullivan

(moderated by Cliona Ní Riordáin)

Programme Outline

Tuesday 14th - Saturday 18th May

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Thursday 16th

2.30pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed

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Trudie Gorman & Marie Iljašenko

(moderated by James O'Leary)

4.00pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed

page 26

Triin Paja & Breda Spaight

(moderated by Róisín Legget Bohan)

7.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5

page 28

Jenny Mitchell & Gustav Parker Hibbett

(moderated by Kimberly Reyes)

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5

page 30

John F. Deane & Aidan Mathews

(moderated by James Harpur)

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5

page 32

Victoria Kennefick & Heather Treseler

(moderated by Cliona Ní Ríordáin)

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**For the latest news regarding workshop
availability visit www.corkpoetryfest.net**

Friday 17th

2.30pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 34

Prebooked Poetry Introductions

(moderated by James O'Leary)

4.00pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 36

Mererid Hopwood & Mikael Vogel

(moderated by Lucy Holme)

7.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 38

André Naffis-Sahely & Tom Sleight

(moderated by Patrick Cotter)

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 40

Donika Kelly & Dante Micheaux

(moderated by Kimberly Reyes)

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 42

David Harsent & Sarah Holland-Batt

(moderated by Patrick Cotter)

Programme Outline

Tuesday 14th - Saturday 18th May

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Saturday 18th

3.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 44

Fool for Poetry & Gregory O'Donoghue Prize Readings

(moderated by Patrick Cotter)

4.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 46

Simon Ó Faoláin & Gabriel Rosenstock

(moderated by Paul Casey)

7.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 48

Fatimah Asghar & Sally Wen Mao

(moderated by Patrick Cotter)

8.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €15 page 50

Paul Muldoon

(moderated by Thomas McCarthy)

10.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €15 page 52

Simon Armitage

(moderated by Matthew Geden)

Only €70 when you book tickets to all events (22% discount)

Bookstall sales will be by card only (we cannot accept cash)

Fringe Event

Launch of *The Blue in the Blue Marble* by John Mee

Monday 13th 6.30pm **Waterstones** | Admission free

These Monday Fringe Events (not managed or produced by the Munster Literature Center) are events that we are delighted to draw attention to

The Blue in the Blue Marble by John Mee, winner of the Straid Collection Award 2023, will be launched at Waterstones, Cork at 6.30pm.

John Mee won the Patrick Kavanagh Award in 2015 and the Fool for Poetry International Chapbook Competition in 2016. He has published poetry in magazines such as *The Rialto*, *Bad Lilies*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *Magma*, *The London Magazine* and *The North*. His pamphlet, *From the Extinct*, was published by Southword Editions in 2017. His first collection, *The Blue in the Blue Marble*, is being published by Templar Poetry in 2024 as a winner of the Straid Collection Award 2023. He works in the Law School at University College Cork.



Fringe Event

Ó Bheal

Poetry Films, Five Word Challenge, Guest poets (Joanne McCarthy & Eoin Mc Evoy) & Open-mic

Monday 13th 8.30pm **The Hayloft Bar** | Admission free

These Monday Fringe Events (not managed or produced by the Munster Literature Center) are events that we are delighted to draw attention to



Ó Bheal is a hybrid poetry event held on the 2nd Monday of each month in The Hayloft Bar (upstairs at The Long Valley, Winthrop St) and online via Zoom. The guest poets on May 13th, in association with Foras na Gaeilge, are Joanne McCarthy and Eoin Mc Evoy. This four-part evening includes:

Poetry films (7pm)

Five Word Challenge (8.30pm)

Guest poets (9.20pm) & later open-mic

To participate please email info@obheal.ie

More details at www.obheal.ie



Award Presentation

The Farmgate Café National Poetry Award

Tuesday 14th 6.30pm **Farmgate Café** | Free but ticketed (Eventbrite)

The Farmgate Café National Poetry Award was established in 2019 with sponsorship from one of Cork's most loved restaurants, The Farmgate Café. The partnership between the Munster Literature Centre and the Farmgate received the Business to Arts 2019 Best Small Sponsorship Award.



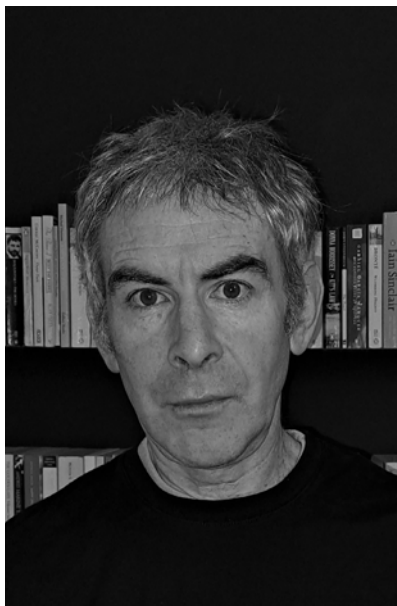
The award will be €2000 for the best full-length poetry collection in English (including translations from other languages) published in 2023, by a poet residing in Ireland. Judges this year were Patrick Deeley, Afric McGlinchey and Molly Twomey. Limited places are available for a cosy reception at the Farmgate where the winning poet will receive their prize and present a short reading. The full list of six finalists is available on www.corkpoetryfest.net.

In a year where a debut collection does not win the overall Farmgate Café National Poetry Award, the highest scoring debut collection in the competition will be awarded the separate Southword Debut Poetry Collection Award. This award is for €1000.

Reading & Discussion

Daragh Breen (Ireland) & Lani O'Hanlon (Ireland) Moderated by Afric McGlinchey

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



Daragh Breen has three collections from Shearsman Books in the UK; *What the Wolf Heard* in 2016, *Nostoc* in 2020, and most recently, *Birds in November* in January of 2023. His work has appeared in Irish and UK literary journals such as *The Stinging Fly*, *Banshee*, *Blackbox*, *Manifold*, *Tears in the Fence*, *Long Poem Magazine* and *The Fortnightly Review*. He was also included in Poetry Ireland's 2015 anthology *Everything to Play For: 99 Poems About Sport*. He lives in Cork.

"...the more one reads these strange poems the more profound their vision appears. Peter Riley has described him as an 'Irish super-Ted Hughes', but there is also something of Samuel Beckett's deep compassion."
—Tim Dooley



Birds in November
Daragh Breen

Lani O'Hanlon is a dance artist, somatic movement therapist and writer living in a renovated cottage beside the sea in County Waterford. Her poetry collection *Landscape of the Body* was published in 2023 by the Dedalus Press. Her poetry is widely published and broadcast on RTÉ's Sunday Miscellany. She was the winner of the Poetry Ireland Trocaire Award in 2022 and other prizes include The Bridport Prize, Poetry on the Lake and the Hennessey New Irish Writing.



PHOTOGRAPHER: EILEEN HYLAND



“Out of the body in movement and straight into her empowering dance of community, Lani O’Hanlon’s poems are ciphers and signs made by a great and important soul at work in the world of Irish poetry.”
— Thomas McCarthy

Reading & Discussion

Mícheál McCann (Ireland) & Mark Ward (Ireland) Moderated by Patrick Holloway

Wednesday 15th 4.00pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



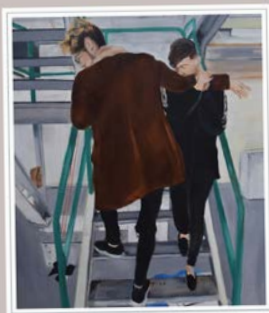
Mícheál McCann is from Derry City and lives in Belfast. His poems have been published in *Banshee*, *Fourteen Poems*, *The Poetry Review*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *Queering the Green* (Lifeboat Press, 2021), *The Stinging Fly* and have been broadcast on BBC and RTÉ. His essays have appeared in *The Irish Times* and *Tolka* and on BBC Radio 3. He was selected by Kei Miller for the International Literature Showcase 2021. He has a PhD from the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry where he is now a Publishing Fellow.

*“Each poem sparkles on the
flood of time, blissing in sudden
spiritual moments, worked
with a playful vision of beauty.
Mícheál McCann is a poet of
wise, exalting attention.”*

— Seán Hewitt

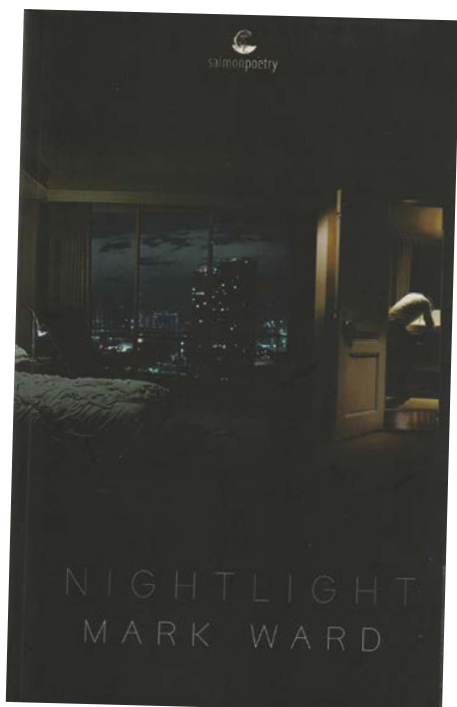
DEVOTION

Mícheál McCann





Mark Ward is the author of the collection *Nightlight* (Salmon Poetry, 2023). His chapbooks include *Faultlines* (voidspace, March 2024), *Carcass* (Seven Kitchens Press, 2020) and *Circumference* (Seven Kitchens Press, 2018). His poems have been published widely at home and abroad. He was Highly Commended in the 2019 and 2022 Patrick Kavanagh Awards and selected for the 2020 Poetry Ireland Introductions series. He has recorded poems for Arena, The Poetry Programme, Poetry File & Words Lightly Spoken. He is the founding editor of *Impossible Archetype*, an international journal of LGBTQ+ poetry.



“In this powerful, energetic collection, the reader is asked to witness the performances, loving, erotic, fearful, which the body must endure.”

— Andrew McMillan

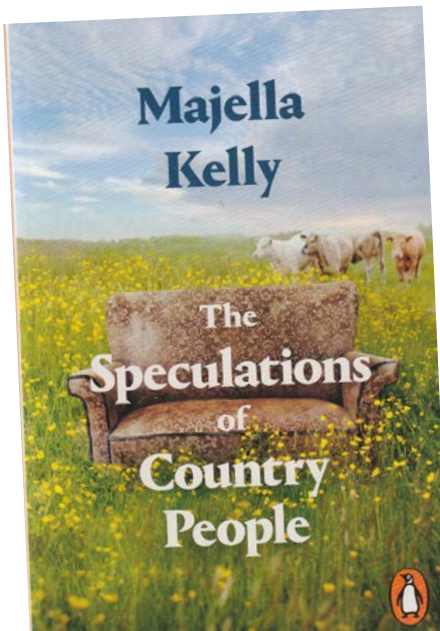
Reading & Discussion

Majella Kelly (Ireland) & David McLoghlin (Ireland) Moderated by Lauren O'Donovan

Wednesday 15th 7.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



Majella Kelly is from Tuam, Co. Galway. In 2019 she won the Strokestown International Poetry Competition. Her debut pamphlet *Hush* was published in 2020 by Ignition Press & her debut collection *The Speculations of Country People* was published by Penguin in 2023. She holds a Masters in Creative Writing from the University of Oxford.



"Majella Kelly's debut poetry collection, The Speculations of Country People, is a moving examination of injustice and grief, while also celebrating resilience, love and the awe that accompanies finding hope in unexpected places."
— Aisling Cronin

David McLoughlin's books are *Waiting For Saint Brendan and Other Poems*, *Santiago Sketches* and *Crash Centre* (May 2024). He was recently awarded a Patrick and Katherine Kavanagh Fellowship, has won the Open Category of UCD's Voices of War International Poetry Competition and received grants and fellowships from The Arts Council, Kerry County Council, The Sewanee Writers Conference and New York University, where he was a Writing Fellow and received an MFA in poetry in 2012. He has taught creative writing with Poetry as Commemoration and at the American College, Dublin, and currently teaches via Poetry Ireland's Writers in Schools.

"The poems are rhetorically baroque, inward-looking and taut with imagery, and his complex metaphors unfold, slow and origami-like, often across multiple stanzas."

— Eric Bliman



Reading & Discussion

Patrick Deeley (Ireland) & John Ennis (Ireland) Moderated by Matthew Geden

Wednesday 15th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

Patrick Deeley is a poet, memoirist and children's writer from Loughrea. *Keepsake* is his eighth collection of poems with Dedalus Press. His previous collections include *The End of the World*, *Groundswell: New and Selected*, and *The Bones of Creation*. His work has featured in leading literary journals worldwide and his awards include the 2019 Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award, the Dermot Healy International Poetry Prize and the Eilis Dillon Award for Children's Literature. His best-selling, critically acclaimed memoir, *The Hurley Maker's Son*, was published by Transworld in 2016. He worked formerly as Administrative Principal of De la Salle Primary School in Ballyfermot, Dublin.



"Fascinated by the empirical evidence, he displays a questing, questioning spirit before nature and the universe with a natural sense of awe before the mysteries."
— Patrick Kehoe



“The best of Ennis ... is a rich and rewarding experience. He leaves many other poets looking watery and confined to limited forms, like people who never stir out of the house.”
— Seán Dunne

John Ennis’s work has been published recently in *Poetry Ireland Review* 137 (2022), *The Waxed Lemon* (2022), *Drawn to the Light Press* (2022), *Contemporary Surrealist and Magical Realist Poetry* edited by Jonas Zdanys, Lamar University Texas (2022), *Winter Anthology* edited by Sourav Sarkar (2022), *Creative Ireland Anthology* (2022), *Fujitsu ‘National Dementia Hub’* (2022), *Korean Expatriate Literature* co-edited by Stanley H. Barkan (2022) and in *Madness, An Anthology of World Poetry* (RedPanda Books 2023). Ennis’s haiku feature in *Rakuen (Paradise)*, Japan. Before retirement (2009), Ennis worked for forty years in Education establishing the Humanities at SETU (formerly WIT), Ireland.



Reading & Discussion

Katie Donovan (Ireland)

& Michelle O'Sullivan (Ireland)

Moderated by Clóna Ní Ríordáin

Wednesday 15th 10.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



Katie Donovan's sixth collection of poetry, *May Swim* has just been published by Bloodaxe Books. It is 30 years since Bloodaxe published her first collection, *Watermelon Man*, praised by Eavan Boland for its “distinguished and open language” and “bold statements of identity.” Katie Donovan received the Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award for Poetry in 2017. She is a former journalist with *The Irish Times* and has taught Creative Writing at IADT Dún Laoghaire and NUI Maynooth. She lives in Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

“Donovan has an exceptional descriptive gift. A highly idiosyncratic, individualistic writer who probes experience for hidden meanings, her seeming introversion is exposed through a poetry of great solidity and tactility.”
— Bernard O'Donoghue

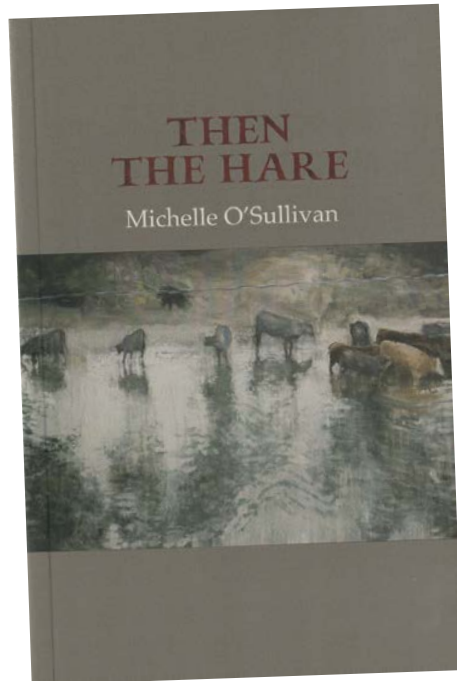




Then the Hare is **Michelle O'Sullivan**'s fourth collection published by The Gallery Press. Previous titles include *The Blue End of Stars* and *The Flower and the Frozen Sea*. She lives in the west of Ireland.

"Michelle O'Sullivan is a marvel, writing tough, beautiful poems of nature and spirit, and 'the field's cosmic hides'. Her lines are precise and weather-worn, etched in an 'often-said, difficult tongue.'"

— Paul Perry

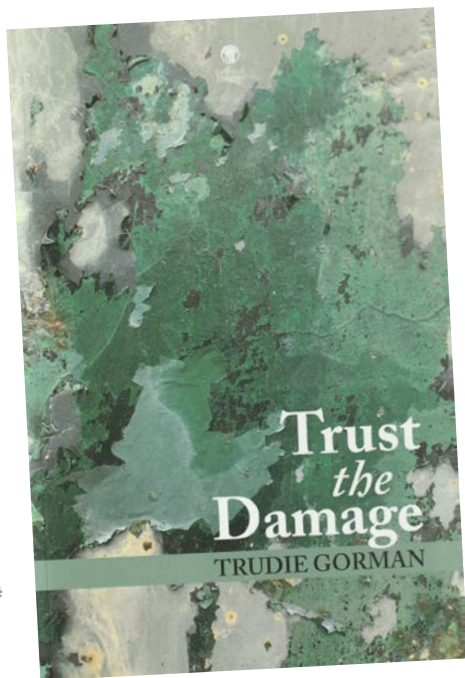


Reading & Discussion

Trudie Gorman (Ireland) & Marie Iljašenko (Czech Republic) Moderated by James O'Leary

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

Trudie Gorman is a poet, essayist and activist based in Dublin. Her debut poetry collection *Trust the Damage* was shortlisted for the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award 2023. In 2022 she was awarded a residency with Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris and in 2023 she was a Dublin Fringe Festival Artist in Residence. Trudie was selected for Poetry Ireland Versify Series in 2019 and was also shortlisted for the Creative Future Writing Award 2019. Her writing has been published in *Poetry Ireland Review*, *Banshee*, *Poetry NI*, *Two Metre Review*, *Unapologetic Magazine*, and *The 32: An Anthology of Irish Working-Class Voices*.



“[An] uncompromising exploration of chronic illness, trauma, urbanity, class, and how these elements combine to profoundly impact the relationship with self.”
— Victoria Kennefick

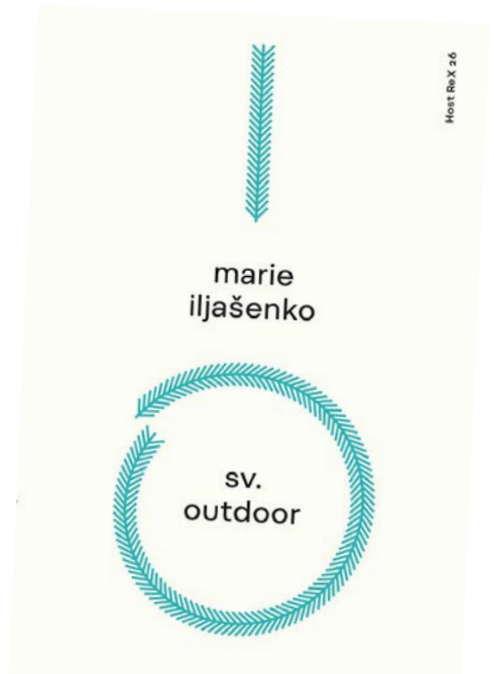
Marie Iljašenko (1983) is a Czech poet, writer, and translator, laureate of the Tom Stoppard Prize (2023). She was born in Kyiv, Ukraine, into a family of Ukraine-Czech-Polish descent. Her collection of poems *Osip míří na jih* (Osip Heads South) was published in Czech in 2015 and won critical acclaim. The collection was

PHOTOGRAPHER: ONDŘEJ LIPÁR



most recently published in Poland (2022), where it was similarly well received. It was nominated for the Magnesia Litera Prize for Discovery of the Year. She has also been nominated for the Dresdener Literature Prize (2015) and the Václav Burian Prize (2016). Her second book of poetry, *Sv. Outdoor* (St. Outdoor), was published in 2019.

“Her poems, underpinned by a strong narrative line, bring to Czech poetry a breath of fresh air in which mythological images, old Jewish and Eastern European stories, fragments of ancient cultures, the human everyday and tragedy shiver in apparent timelessness.”
— Magnesia Litera



Reading & Discussion

Triin Paja (Estonia) & Breda Spaight (Ireland) Moderated by Róisín Legget Bohan

Thursday 16th 4.00pm **Cork City Library** | Admission Free



PHOTOGRAPHER: COLIN USHER

Triin Paja lives in a small village in rural Estonia. She is the author of three collections of poetry in Estonian and a recipient of the Värskke Rõhk Poetry Award, the Betti Alver Literary Award, and the Juhan Liiv Prize for Poetry. Her English poetry has received two Pushcart Prizes and her chapbook, *Sleeping in a Field* (forthcoming in 2024), won the Wolfson Poetry Chapbook Prize. She is a member of the Estonian Writers' Union.

"These are gorgeous lyrics ... The poems are richly imagistic, contain stunning metaphors, and the poet writes with an assured voice."

— Nancy Botkin





Breda Spaight is from Co Limerick. Her debut chapbook, *The Untimely Death of My Mother's Hens*, is published by Southword Editions in the New Irish Voices series. Her debut poetry collection, *Watching for the Hawk*, is published by Arlen House. In 2023, she was a Forward Prize finalist for Best Single Poem Written. She holds an M.Phil. in creative writing from Trinity College and has participated in the Poetry Ireland Introductions Series. Her work has appeared in *Southword*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *The Stinging Fly*, *Cyphers*, *Banshee*, and *Ambit*.

"Watching for the Hawk is an unflinching and intensely moving evocation of a childhood in rural Ireland ... a world of parental conflict, poverty, illness and loss. It is also a world of beauty, love and courage."

— Jane Clarke



Reading & Discussion

Jenny Mitchell (UK) & Gustav Parker Hibbett (USA / Ireland) Moderated by Kimberly Reyes

Thursday 16th 7.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

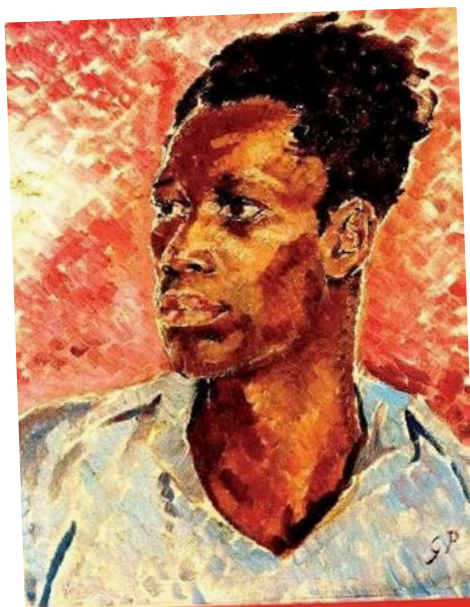


PHOTOGRAPHER: BILLY GRANT

"Jenny Mitchell's powerful and evocative poems are a bridge of empathy and solidarity. She conveys the personal impacts of political decisions and policies with a clarity and precision which is both shocking and deeply moving. Everyone should read this work."

— Helen Hayes MP

Jenny Mitchell has three poetry collections, *Her Lost Language*, *Map of a Plantation*, which is on the syllabus at Manchester Metropolitan University, and *Resurrection of a Black Man*, which contains three prize-winning poems and was featured on the US podcast Poetry Unbound. She's won numerous awards, including the Gregory O'Donohue Prize 2022, and has performed at the Houses of Parliament. She's currently Poet-in-Residence at Sussex University.



Resurrection of a Black Man
Jenny Mitchell

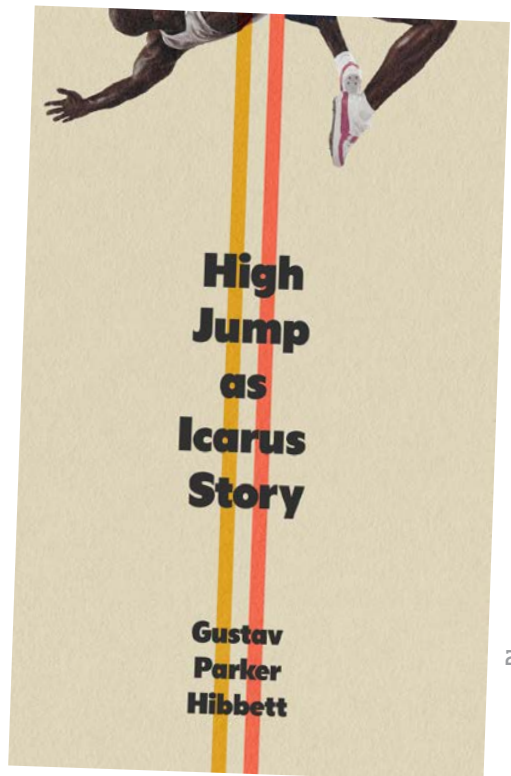
Gustav Parker Hibbett is a Black poet, essayist, and MFA dropout. Originally from New Mexico, they are currently pursuing a PhD at Trinity College Dublin. They are a 2023 Obsidian Foundation Fellow, a 2022 Djanikian Scholars Semifinalist, and a 32 *Poems* Featured Emerging Poet. Recently, they were selected as a runner-up



for *The Missouri Review*'s 2022 Poem of the Year award. Their work appears or is forthcoming in *Guernica*, *fourteen poems*, *The Stinging Fly*, *London Magazine*, *Adroit*, and elsewhere. Their debut collection, *High Jump as Icarus Story*, is published this summer by Banshee Press.

"I love Hibbett's poems for their attention to the body, their corporeal sensitivity that sometimes allows his poems to cross over into territory I experience as spiritual or sublime."

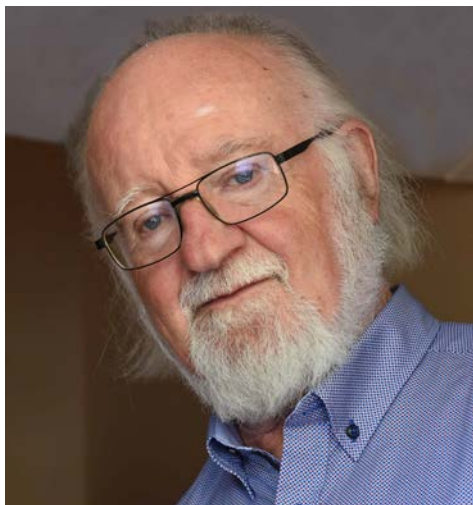
— Sarah Rose Nordgren



Reading & Discussion

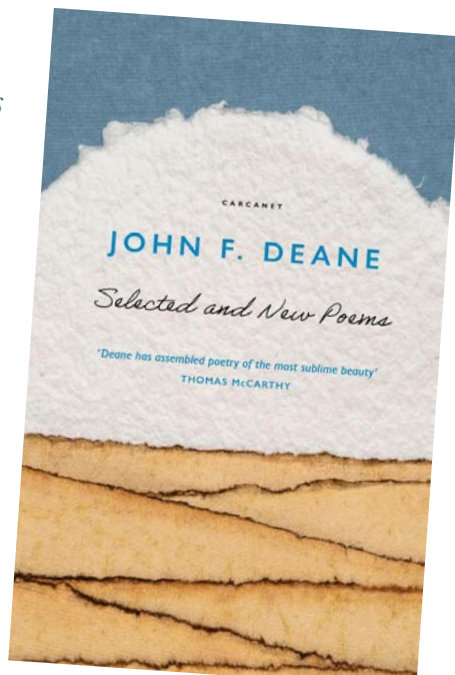
John F. Deane (Ireland) & Aidan Mathews (Ireland) Moderated by James Harpur

Thursday 16th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



John F. Deane was born on Achill Island, Mayo; he is founder of Poetry Ireland, Ireland's national poetry society, and its journal *Poetry Ireland Review*. He has been Visiting Scholar in Boston College, in Loyola University Chicago and Notre Dame Indiana. Irish Pages Press published a collaborative book of poems and dialogue with the poet James Harpur, called *Darkness Between Stars* in October, 2022. In May of 2023, Veritas Dublin published his poetry and faith memoir, *Song of the Goldfinch*. In October of 2023, Carcanet published *Selected and New Poems*, a generous choice of poems from earlier years, together with a substantial sequence of new work.

"Deane finds the embedded music of particular moments – the inscape of them – and understands their cosmic vitality ... [he] draws us into deeper listening and invites us into sacred, transcendent encounter."
— Michael P. Murphy

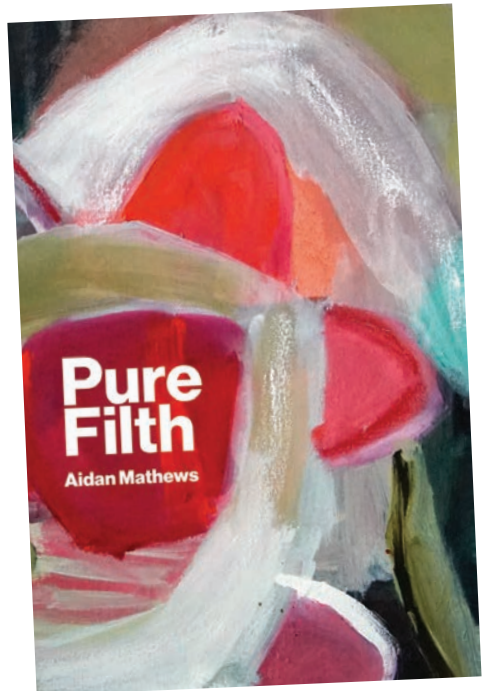


PHOTOGRAPHER: ALAN BETSON



Aidan Mathews was born in 1956 in Dublin, educated by Jesuits, and studied under the anthropologist & theologian René Girard at Stanford University. He served for forty years as a Drama and Religion producer in RTÉ, has published five books of poetry, three short fiction collections, a novel, half a dozen plays, and two volumes of broadcast talks on the faith and culture crisis in modern Ireland. His most recent work is *Pure Filth* from Lilliput Press.

“Mathews does not have themes so much as obsessions. If his Catholic faith provides the ground base for all his work, sexuality, mental illness and the Holocaust recur in poem after poem, stitching together the quotidian and the extreme.”
— David Wheatley



Reading & Discussion

Victoria Kennefick (Ireland) & Heather Treseler (USA) Moderated by Clóna Ní Ríordáin

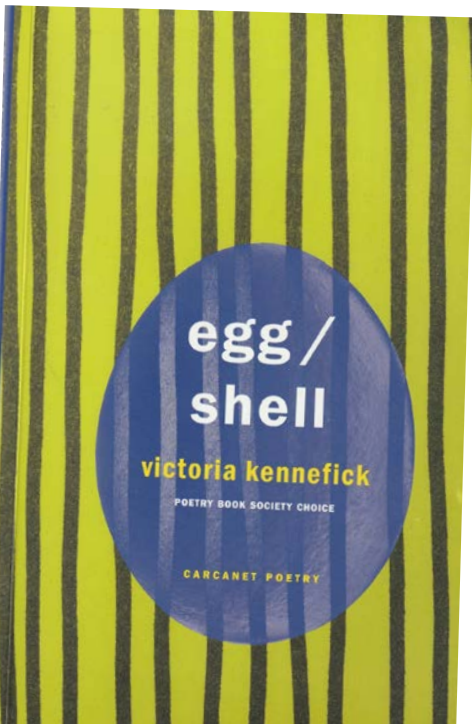
Thursday 16th 10.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



Victoria Kennefick's second collection *Egg/Shell* (Carcanet Press, 2024) is a Poetry Book Society Choice for Spring 2024. Her debut collection, *Eat or We Both Starve* (Carcanet Press, 2021), won the Seamus Heaney First Collection Poetry Prize and the Dalkey Book Festival Emerging Writer of the Year Award. It was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize, the Costa Poetry Book Award, the Derek Walcott Poetry Prize and the Butler Literary Prize. She was UCD/Arts Council of Ireland Writer-in-Residence 2023 and Poet-in-Residence at Yeats Society Sligo 2022-23. She is currently Cork County Council Writer-in-Residence 2024.

"Daring, visceral and replete with unsettling images ... few collections arrest a reader with such intensity from the opening poem, and even fewer manage to hold that thrill over the course of many poems, but Kennefick's does."

— Seán Hewitt

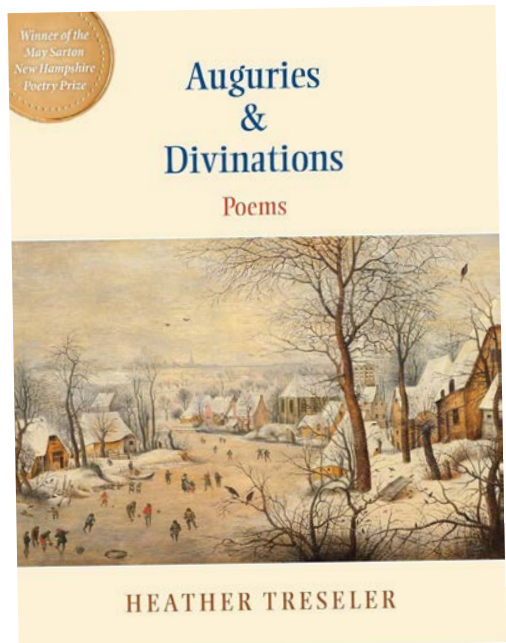


PHOTOGRAPHER: RICK BERN

Heather Treseler is the author of *Auguries & Divinations* (2024), which was selected for the May Sarton Prize, and *Parturition* (2020), which received the Munster Literature Centre's Fool for Poetry Chapbook Prize and the Jean Pedrick Chapbook Prize from the New England Poetry Club. Her poems appear in *Kenyon Review*, *The Iowa Review*, *PN Review*, *Harvard Review*, and *The American Scholar*, and have won the W. B. Yeats Prize, the Editors' Prize from *Missouri Review*, and the 15th annual poetry prize from *Narrative* magazine. She is a resident scholar at the Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center and professor of English at Worcester State University.



"...running through all her lyricism is a staring, unblinking intelligence that informs us about what she sees. Her vision is inclusive, generous, wide-ranging, and enthralling."
— Brad Crenshaw



Reading

Prebooked Poetry Introductions Moderated by James O'Leary

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



The Prebooked Poetry Introductions involves six individuals who have yet to publish a short chapbook or full-length collection of poems. Each poet, chosen through open submission, will read in a ten-minute reading slot, in many cases availing of their first opportunity to give a reading in a professional setting.

The line-up of chosen poets is available at www.corkpoetryfest.net.

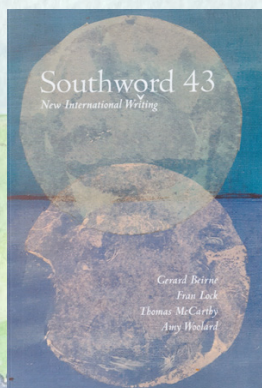
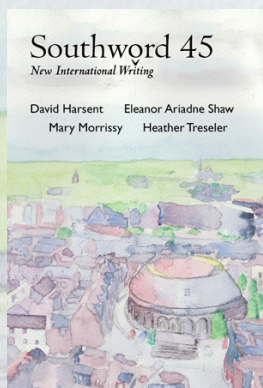
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Reading & Discussion

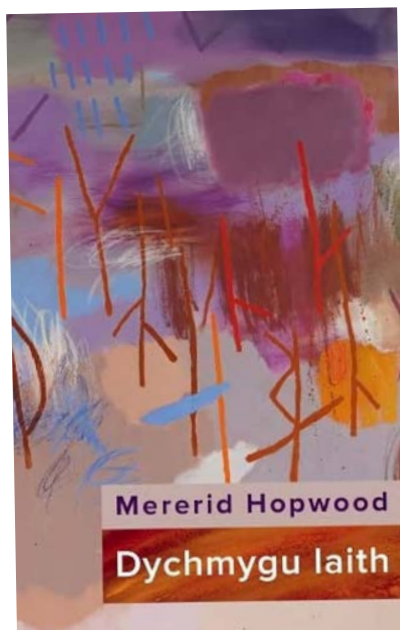
Mererid Hopwood (UK) & Mikael Vogel (Germany) Moderated by Lucy Holme

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



“The linguistic awareness that comes from speaking a minority language is brought to the fore in this work and is a celebration of multilingualism.”
— Morgan Owen

Mererid Hopwood is Professor of Welsh and Celtic Studies at Aberystwyth and Secretary of Academi Heddwch Cymru (Wales’ Peace Institute). She won the Chair and Crown for poetry and the Prose Medal at the National Eisteddfod. In 2016 her collection of poems *Nes Draw* won the Welsh Book of the Year Prize in the poetry category, and in 2023 she received the Hay Festival Medal for Poetry. She has been Children’s Laureate for Wales. She takes great pleasure in translating literature and in collaborating with other artists on music, theatre, dance and visual arts projects in Wales and overseas.





“The results of his meticulous work on the topic of mass extinction is, in my eyes, nothing less than an epoch-defining work.”

— Eric Giebel

Mikael Vogel was born in Bad Säckingen, Germany, in 1975. He has been based primarily in Berlin since 2003. Among his six published books of poetry are: ›zum Bleiben, wie zum Wandern – Hölderlin, theurer Freund‹ (with José F. A. Oliver, Schiler & Mücke, 2020) and ›Dodos auf der Flucht. Requiem für ein verlorenes Bestiarium‹ (Verlagshaus Berlin, 2018). His seventh book of poetry will come out later this year. His numerous awards include Hermann Lenz Writing Grant (2002), a Yakiuta Travel Grant to Hokkaido, Japan (2015), and the Arbeitsstipendium deutschsprachige Literatur für Berliner Autorinnen und Autoren 2021.



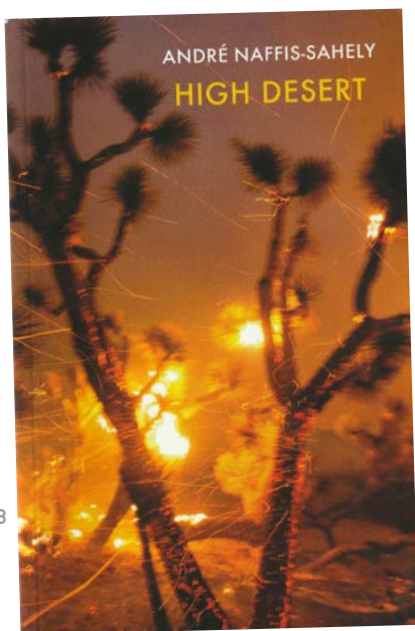
Reading & Discussion

André Naffis-Sahely (UK) & Tom Sleigh (USA) Moderated by Patrick Cotter

Friday 17th 7.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



André Naffis-Sahely is the author of two collections of poetry, *The Promised Land: Poems from Itinerant Life* (Penguin UK, 2017) and *High Desert* (Bloodaxe Books, 2022), as well as the editor of *The Heart of a Stranger: An Anthology of Exile Literature* (Pushkin Press, 2020). He also co-edited *Mick Imlah: Selected Prose* (Peter Lang, 2015) and *The Palm Beach Effect: Reflections on Michael Hofmann* (CB Editions, 2013). He has translated over twenty titles of fiction, poetry and nonfiction, including works by Honoré de Balzac, Émile Zola, Abdellatif Laâbi, Ribka Sibhatu and Tahar Ben Jelloun. He is an Assistant Professor at the University of California, Davis and the editor of *Poetry London*.



“A globally engaged meditation on history, migration, inclusion, and justice. Drawing on found text from diaries to academic manuscripts and traversing across North America, Europe, and Asia, High Desert is at once humble and unafraid.”

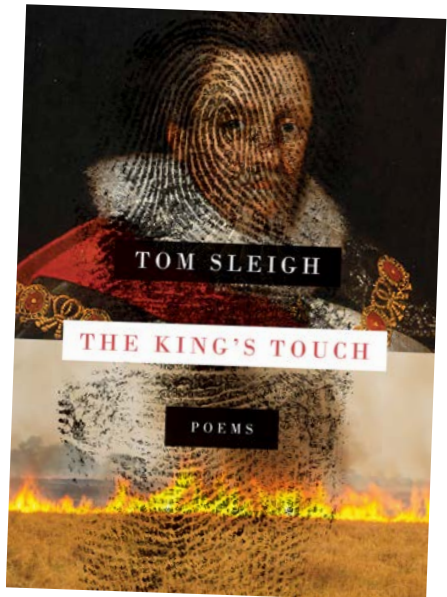
— Maggie Wong



PHOTOGRAPHER: ANNETTE HORNISCHER

Tom Sleigh's many books include the 2023 Paterson Poetry Prize winner, *The King's Touch*, *House of Fact*, *House of Ruin*, *Station Zed*, and *Army Cats*, all from Graywolf Press. His most recent book of essays is *The Land Between Two Rivers: Writing In an Age of Refugees*. His awards include a Guggenheim, two NEA grants, Kingsley Tufts Award, Shelley Memorial Award, and both the Updike Award and Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His poems appear in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Threepenny*, *Poetry*, and other magazines. A Distinguished Professor at Hunter College, he lives in Brooklyn, NY.

"Sleigh's deft hand, attention to detail, and literary experience make him an ideal interlocutor ... In The King's Touch, Sleigh excels at seeing and interpreting the world as it is, on its own merits."
— Kevin O'Rourke



Reading & Discussion

Donika Kelly (USA) & Dante Micheaux (USA / UK) Moderated by Kimberly Reyes

Friday 17th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

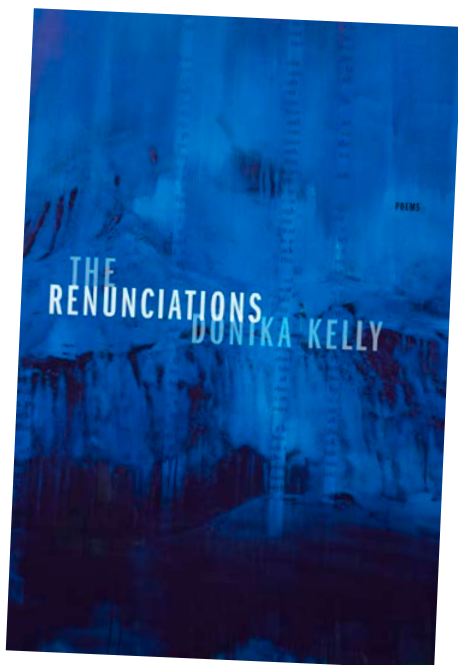
PHOTOGRAPHER: LADAN OSMAN



Donika Kelly is the author of *The Renunciations*, winner of the Anisfield-Wolf book award in poetry, and *Bestiary*, the winner of the 2015 Cave Canem Poetry Prize, a Hurston/Wright Legacy Award and a Kate Tufts Discovery Award. A recipient of a fellowship from the National Endowment for the

Arts, she is a Cave Canem graduate fellow and founding member of the collective Poets at the End of the World. Her poems have been published in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *The Paris Review*, and elsewhere. She is an assistant professor in the English Department at the University of Iowa, where she teaches creative writing.

*"Kelly's poems gather us
from cliff edge to river
fold, from terror to more
terror, from what cannot be
known to what intuition
and mirrors can divine."
— Khadijah Queen*



“Dante Micheaux’s superb poetic aptitude is wedded to an equally superb poetic amplitude. Intimate soliloquy, lyric address, and linguistic allegory merge with resonating voices and personae. This poem is masterful, paradoxical and spiritual.”
— Terrance Hayes



Dante Micheaux is the author of *Circus*, which won the Four Quartets Prize from the Poetry Society of America and the T. S. Eliot Foundation and *Amorous Shepherd*. His poems and translations have appeared in *The American Poetry Review*; *Magma*; *Poem-A-Day*; *Poetry*; *Poetry London*; *PN Review*; *The Rialto* and *Tongue*—among other journals and anthologies. Micheaux’s other honors include an Amy Clampitt Residency, the Ambit Magazine Poetry Prize, and a fellowship from The New York Times Foundation. He is a Fellow and Director of Programs at Cave Canem Foundation. Micheaux’s most recent work is the libretto for Rolf Hind’s opera *Sky In a Small Cage*, which will premiere in London, at the Barbican, this autumn.



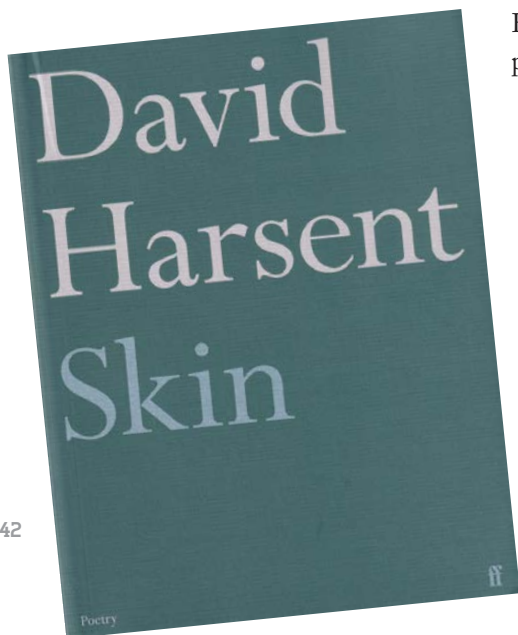
Reading & Discussion

David Harsent (UK)
& Sarah Holland-Batt (Australia)
Moderated by Patrick Cotter

Friday 17th 10.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



David Harsent has published thirteen collections of poetry. *Legion* won the Forward Prize. *Night* was triple shortlisted in the UK and won the Griffin International Poetry Prize. *Fire Songs* won the T.S. Eliot Prize. *A Broken Man in Flower*, Harsent's versions of the poems written by Yannis Ritsos while in prison camps and under house arrest at the time of the Greek junta, was published in 2023. His latest collection, *Skin*, appeared in February 2024. Harsent has collaborated with several composers, though most often with Harrison Birtwistle. Birtwistle/Harsent collaborations have been performed at major venues worldwide.

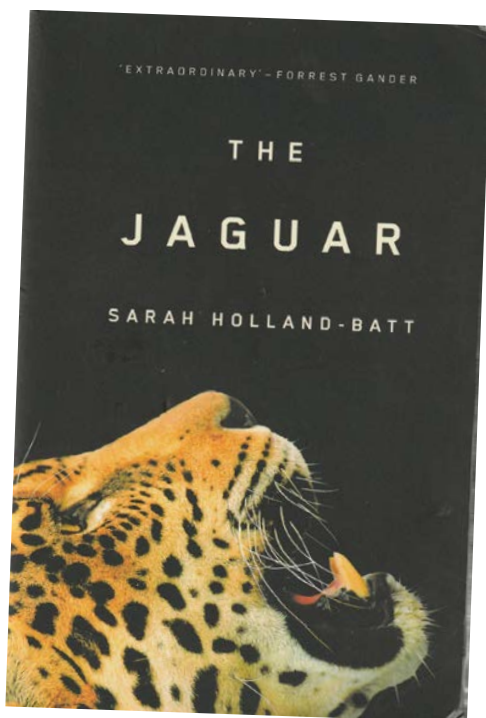


*“As these poems flicker
and shift, haunted by
‘the spectre of yourself’
... the sense is of time’s
inexorable demands, and
the vast unhuman forces
arrayed against us.”*
— Ben Wilkinson

PHOTOGRAPHER: JOHN FEDER



Sarah Holland-Batt is an award-winning Australian poet, editor and critic, and the author of three books of poems—most recently *The Jaguar*—and a book of essays, *Fishing for Lightning*, a collection of her columns on contemporary Australian poetry written for *The Australian* newspaper. Her books have received many of Australia's major honours for poetry, including the Prime Minister's Literary Award, the Stella Prize, *The Australian* Book of the Year, and the Margaret and Colin Roderick Award. Her *Selected Poems* is forthcoming from Bloodaxe Books in 2024. She presently is Professor of Poetry at the Queensland University of Technology.



“Unpredictable harmonics, intense wordplay, synesthetic sensual registries, double analogies, resonant emotional force, and insistent internationality – what is there to say about The Jaguar that doesn’t begin with extraordinary.”

— Forrest Gander

Chapbooks Launch & Award Presentations

Fool for Poetry & Gregory O' Donoghue Prize Readings Moderated by Patrick Cotter

Saturday 18th 3.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

At this event the winning chapbooks of the most recent Fool for Poetry International Chapbook Competition, *Levis Corner House* by Partridge Boswell and *Ghost Sojourn* by Gwen Sayers, will be launched with readings by Partridge Boswell and Rosie O'Regan (reading the poems of Gwen Sayers). Both poets will receive a cash prize and 25 copies of their books.

Fool for Poetry Joint Winner



Author of the Grolier Poetry Prize-winning collection *Some Far Country*, **Partridge Boswell** is co-founder of Bookstock Literary Festival and teaches at Vallum Society for Education in Arts & Letters in Montreal. His poems have recently found homes in *Poetry*, *American Poetry Review*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *Southword* and *The Moth*. He lives with his family in Vermont and troubadours widely with the poetry/music group Los Lorcás, whose debut

release *Last Night in America* is available on Thunder Ridge Records. His Saguaro Prize-winning chapbook *Not Yet a Jedi* is also now a thing.

Fool for Poetry Joint Winner

Gwen Sayers worked as a doctor in South Africa, Seattle, and London where she lives. Her poetry has been published widely in magazines and anthologies, most recently, *Propel Magazine* Issue 9 (Ed. Fran Lock), *Acumen*, *DMQ Review*, *Unbroken Journal*, *Right Hand Pointing*, and *Tears in the Fence*. She won First Prize in the Magma Poetry Competition in 2022, and has been a Forward Prize nominee for best single poem.



The winner of the Gregory O'Donoghue International Poetry Competition will receive their €2,000 prize and have the opportunity to read from a selection of their poems. Their winning poem will be published in issue 46 of *Southword*. Details of the winner, not yet announced at the time of this publication, will be posted on corkpoetryfest.net.

GREGORY O'DONOGHUE INTERNATIONAL POETRY COMPETITION



Open to original, unpublished poems in the English language of 40 lines or fewer. Any subject, any style, by a writer living anywhere in the world. Past winners include Sujit Kwock Kim, Maya C. Popa, Leila Chattri & Mark Wagenaar.

JUDGE: MARY O'DONNELL

1ST PRIZE: €2,000

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WITH FOUR-NIGHT HOTEL STAY
AND FULL BOARD; PUBLISHED IN
SOUTHWORD; FEATURED ON THE
SOUTHWORD POETRY PODCAST

2ND PRIZE: €500

PUBLISHED IN SOUTHWORD

3RD PRIZE: €250

PUBLISHED IN SOUTHWORD

TEN RUNNERS-UP: €50

PUBLISHED IN SOUTHWORD

Reading & Discussion

Simon Ó Faoláin (Ireland) & Gabriel Rosenstock (Ireland) Moderated by Paul Casey

Saturday 18th 4.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

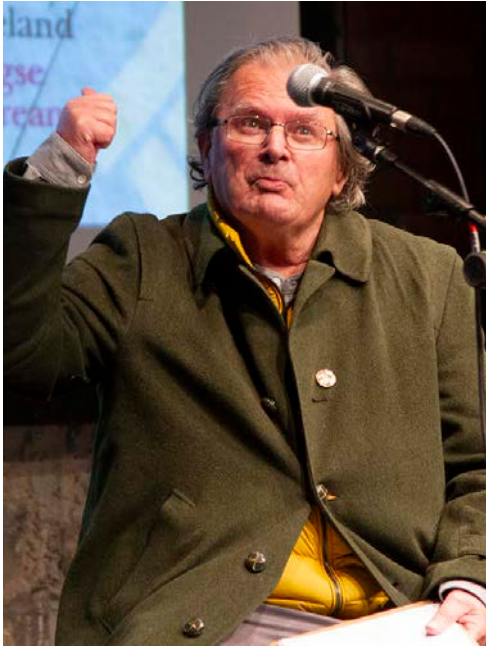


*“Irish poetry is fortunate
that it has, in Ó Faoláin, a
practitioner with the rigorous
intellectual honesty necessary
to both probe its past and
point the way to its future”
— Gréagóir Ó Dúill*

Tá ceithre leabhar filíochta foilsithe ag **Simon Ó Faoláin**, ina measc *Anam Mhadra* (2008), a bhuaigh Duais Glen Dimplex agus Duais Strong araon, agus a chnuasach is déanaí, *Iasachtaigh* (2022). Tá a thriú leabhar d’aistriúcháin liteartha, an chéad leagan Gaeilge de ‘Meidéa’ Eoiripidéas, á ullmhú don gcló faoi láthair.

Simon Ó Faoláin has published four poetry collections to date, amongst them *Anam Mhadra* (2008), which won both the Glen Dimplex and Strong Prizes, and his latest, *Iasachtaigh* (2022). His third book of literary translation, the first Irish version of Euripides ‘Medea’, is in preparation for the press at present.

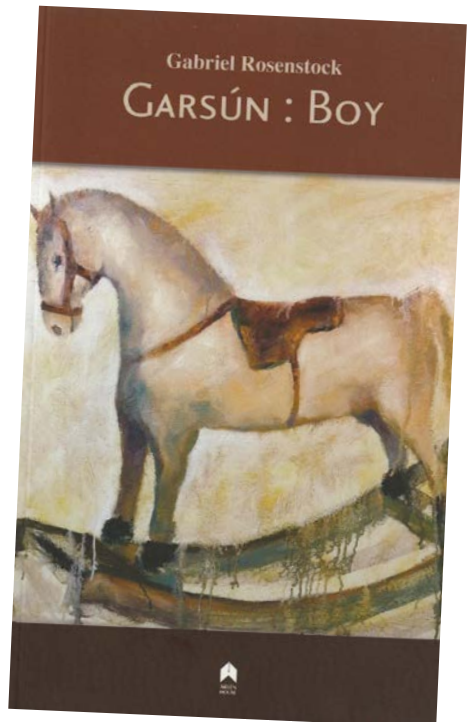




Gabriel Rosenstock was born in post-colonial Ireland and is a poet, translator, haikuist, tankaist, short story writer, novelist, children's author, playwright, essayist and in the words of Hugh MacDiarmid, 'a champion of forlorn causes.' Recent bilingual titles include *Glengower* (The Onslaught Press), *Garsún/ Boy* (Arlen House), *Boatman! take these songs from me* (Manipal Universal Press, India), and *Love Letter to Kashmir* (Cross-Cultural Communications, New York).

"... arrest the attention and speak alternatively to the reason, the imagination, the heart and sometimes seem to touch the very soul."

— Thomas Goggin



Reading & Discussion

Fatimah Asghar (USA) & Sally Wen Mao (USA) Moderated by Patrick Cotter

Saturday 18th 7.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

PHOTOGRAPHER: MERCEDES ZAPATA

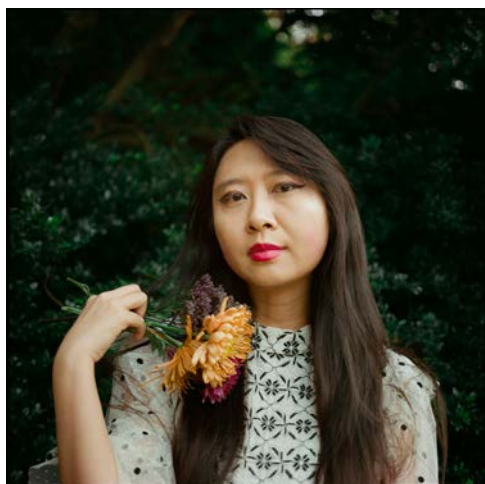


Fatimah Asghar has been featured in various outlets such as *TIME*, NPR, *Teen Vogue* and the Forbes 30 Under 30 List. They are the author of *If They Come For Us* and *When We Were Sister*, which was longlisted for the National Book Award and won the Carol Shield's Prize. Along with Safia Elhillo they co-edited an anthology for Muslim people who are also women, trans, gender non-conforming, and/or queer, *Halal If You Hear Me*. They are the writer and co-producer on *Ms. Marvel* on Disney+, and wrote Episode 5, Time and Again, which was listed as one of the best TV episodes of 2022 in the *New York Times* and *Hollywood Reporter*.



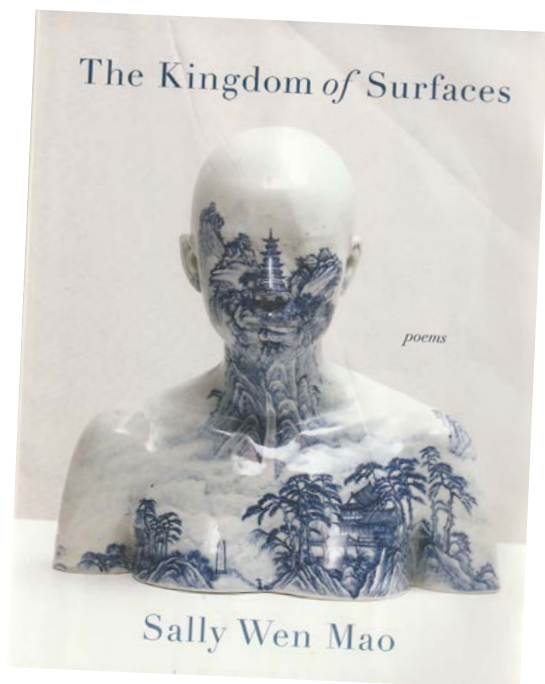
*"These poems bend time,
encircle kin, invent new
forms of saying ... There
is such fierce, resilient awe
everywhere here. Such poems
embolden me into love and
dreaming and action."*
— Aracelis Girmay

PHOTOGRAPHER: JESS X. SNOW



Sally Wen Mao is the author of the fiction collection *Ninetails: Nine Tales* (Penguin Books, May 2024). She is also the author of three books of poetry: *The Kingdom of Surfaces* (Graywolf Press, 2023), a finalist for the Maya Angelou Book Award, *Oculus* (Graywolf Press, 2019), a finalist for the 2020 *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize in Poetry, and *Mad Honey Symposium* (Alice James Books, 2014). The recipient of an NEA grant, a Cullman fellowship, a Shearing fellowship, and two Pushcart Prizes, Mao lives and teaches in New York City.

"I simply trust no other poet to confront and fracture notions of Empire more deftly – and with such élan – than Sally Wen Mao."
— Aimee Nezhukumatathil



Reading & Discussion

Paul Muldoon (Ireland / USA) Moderated by Thomas McCarthy

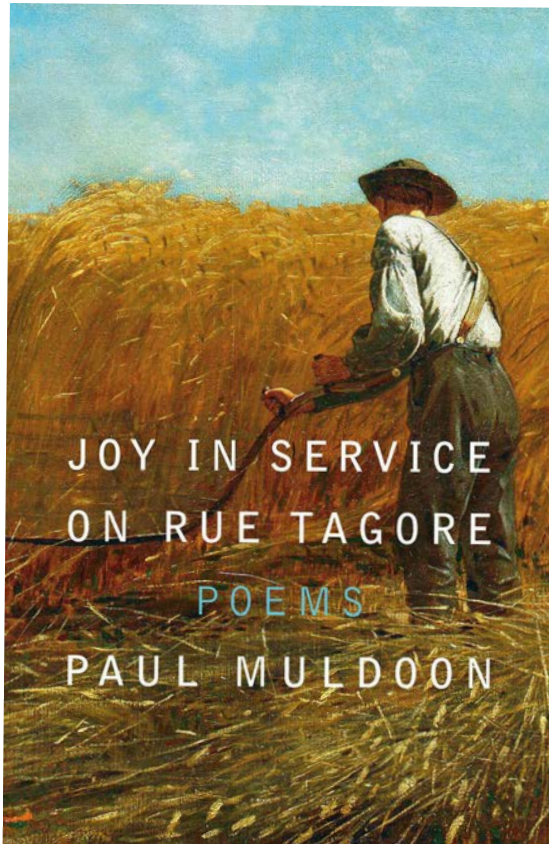
Saturday 18th 8.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €15



Paul Muldoon was born in County Armagh in 1951. He now lives in New York. A former radio and television producer for the BBC in Belfast, he has taught at Princeton University for thirty-five years. He is the author of fifteen collections of poetry including *Joy in Service on Rue Tagore*, published by FSG and Faber and Faber in 2024. Among his awards are the 1972 Eric Gregory Award, the 1980 Sir Geoffrey Faber Memorial Award, the 1994 T.S.

Eliot Prize, the 1997 Irish Times Poetry Prize, the 2003 Pulitzer Prize, the 2003 Griffin International Prize for Poetry, the 2004 American Ireland Fund Literary Award, the 2004 Shakespeare Prize, the 2006 European Prize for Poetry, the 2015 Pigott Poetry Prize, the 2017 Queens Gold Medal for Poetry, and the 2020 Michael Marks Award. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society for Literature and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

“To describe Paul Muldoon’s influence on contemporary poetry is like trying to assess the influence of The Beatles on post-war music: it’s to be seen and heard in the work of almost every British and Irish poet since the 1970’s.”
— Irish Post



Reading & Discussion

Simon Armitage (UK) Moderated by Matthew Geden

Saturday 18th 10.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €15

UK Poet Laureate **Simon Armitage**

was born and grew up in West Yorkshire, England. He is the recipient of numerous prizes and awards, including the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry and PEN Prize for Translation. He has published over a dozen poetry collections, including *Magnetic Field: the Marsden Poems*, and acclaimed medieval translations of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* and *The Owl and the Nightingale*. He also writes, records and performs with the band LYR and has received an Ivor Novello Award for his song writing. His recent book *Never Good with Horses* assembles his song lyrics for the first time. His new book *Blossomise* came out this Spring. A

regular broadcaster, Armitage presents the popular UK BBC Radio 4 series *The Poet Laureate has Gone to his Shed*. Armitage is Professor of Poetry at the University of Leeds. *A Vertical Art* brings together the vibrant and engaging lectures from his tenure as Oxford Professor of Poetry (2015-2019).

PHOTOGRAPHER: PETER JAMES MILLSON



"The Yorkshire-born poet's quotidian observations, witty tone and accessible style belie some searing analysis of 21st-century life in the UK ... Essential reading."
— Financial Times



Simon
Armitage
The
Unaccompanied

Moderators

Paul Casey's poems have most recently appeared in *The Irish Times* and *Flare*, and he is working on his third collection. *Virtual Tides* was published by Salmon in 2016, which followed *home more or less* (Salmon, 2012) and a chapbook, *It's Not All Bad* (Heaventree, 2009). He edits the *Unfinished Book of Poetry* and promotes poetry in his role as director of Ó Bhéal.

Patrick Cotter is an Irish poet, born in Cork City where he still lives. His poems have been published in journals such as the *Financial Times*, *The London Review of Books*, *Poetry* and *Poetry Review*. He is a recipient of the Keats-Shelley Prize for Poetry. His poems have been translated into over a dozen languages and he has given readings of his work across the Northern Hemisphere. *Sonic White Poise*, his third full-length collection, was published by Dedalus Press in 2021.

Matthew Geden was born and brought up in the English Midlands, moving to Kinsale in 1990. His publications include *Fruit* (SurVision Books, 2020) and *The Cloud Architect* (Doire Press, 2022). In 2019 he was Writer in Residence at Nanjing Literature Centre in China and from 2020 to 2023 was Writer in Residence for Cork County Library and Arts Office. He was awarded an Arts Council Literature Bursary in 2022.

James Harpur has published eight books of poetry and has won many prizes and awards, including the Michael Hartnett Prize, the Vincent Buckley Prize and the UK National Poetry Competition. His *The White Silhouette* was an *Irish Times* Book of the Year, and his debut novel, *The Pathless Country*, won the JG Farrell Award and was shortlisted for the John McGahern Prize. He was the 2023 Oscar Wilde Writer Fellow at Trinity College Dublin.

Patrick Holloway's fiction and poetry has appeared in *The Stinging Fly*, *The London Magazine*, *The Moth*, *Southword*, *Carve*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *The Irish Times*, among others. He is the winner of the Bath Short Story Prize, The Molly Keane Creative Writing Prize, The Flash 500 Prize and the Allingham Fiction Contest. His work has appeared in numerous anthologies including, *Masculinity: an anthology of modern voices*, and *We Will be Shelter*.

Lucy Holme is a PhD student and creative writing teacher living in Cork. Her work features in *PN Review*, *PIR*, *The Pig's Back*, *The Stinging Fly*, *Banshee*, *The London Magazine*, and *Southword* amongst others. Her debut chapbook, *Temporary Stasis* (Broken Sleep 2022) was shortlisted for The Patrick Kavanagh Award and a collection of non-fiction essays is forthcoming in Autumn 2024. She was a finalist in the recent Fool for Poetry Chapbook Competition.

Róisín Legget Bohan is a writer from Cork. In 2023 she was shortlisted for the Aesthetica Creative Writing Award. Her work appears in *Poetry Ireland Review*, *Banshee*, *Aesthetica*, *Magma*, *New Irish Writing*, *The Guthrie Gazette*, *Southword* and elsewhere. Róisín is the grateful recipient of Arts Council funding, Cork City Arts funding, and a Munster Literature Centre Mentorship. She is a Poetry Ireland Introductions poet and co-founder and editor of *HOWL New Irish Writing*.

Thomas McCarthy was born in Co. Waterford and educated at UCC. His many collections of poetry include *Pandemonium* (2016) and *Prophecy* (2019). A former Editor of *Poetry Ireland Review*, he is a member of Aosdána. His diaries, *Poetry*, *Memory and the Party*, were published in 2022 by The Gallery Press. His essays will be published by The Gallery later this year and his new collection, *Plenitude*, will be published by Carcanet Press UK in Spring 2025.

Afric McGlinchey's collections are *The lucky star of hidden things* and *Ghost of the Fisher Cat* (Salmon Poetry), both translated into Italian. *Tied to the Wind*, a hybrid memoir, appeared in 2021 (Broken Sleep Books). The winner of a Hennessy Award among other awards, she was also a recipient of two Literature Bursaries from the Arts Council of Ireland and a Patrick and Katherine Kavanagh Fellowship (2023). She lives in West Cork.

Clíona Ní Ríordáin is a critic and translator. She holds a doctorate from the University of Lyon Lumière, post-graduate degrees from the Sorbonne, the Sorbonne Nouvelle and University College Cork, and an undergraduate degree from Mary Immaculate College, Limerick. Before joining the University of Notre Dame Department of Irish Language and Literature, she taught Irish literature and translation studies at the Sorbonne Nouvelle from 2003-2023.

Lauren O'Donovan is a writer from Cork, Ireland. In 2023, she won the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award and the Cúirt New Writing Prize in Poetry. She is fortunate to have her work published often in journals and anthologies. Lauren is a graduate of UCC, co-founder of Lime Square Poets, and an editor at *HOWL New Irish Writing*.

James O'Leary's first poetry chapbook, *There Are Monsters in This House* (Southword Editions, 2018) lives in the grey area between addiction and recovery, co-dependence and love. This was followed by *Sacrament of the Sick* (Well Review Editions, 2023), about illness and mysticism.

Kimberly Reyes is the author of the poetry collections *vanishing point.* and *Running to Stand Still*. Her work is featured in various outlets including *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *The Associated Press*, *Entertainment Weekly*, Time.com, *The New York Post*, *The Village Voice*, *The Irish Examiner*, *Poetry London*, *Poetry Ireland*, RTÉ Radio, NY1 News, *The Best American Poetry* blog, poets.org, *American Poets Magazine*, *The Feminist Wire*, *Southword*, and *The Stinging Fly*.

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