Venue Map



Bookings

Bookings can be made by credit card through the website **www.corkshortstory.net** until Sunday 15th September. Bookings by post with cheque payments 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.corkartsthreatre.com). 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

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

Phone: +353 (0)21 4312955

Email: info@munsterlit.ie

Pay through credit card/PayPal at

www.corkshortstory.net





Programme Outline

Wednesday 25th - Saturday 28th September



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For the latest news regarding workshop availablility visit www.corkshortstory.net

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Programme Outline

Wednesday 25th - Saturday 28th September



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For the latest news regarding workshop availablility visit www.corkshortstory.net

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Journal Showcase

Quarryman Showcase

Wednesday 25th 2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free



"...a perfect reading excursion, its pages inhabited by cyber-stalkers, bereft lovers, dying crows, web-less spiders, disillusioned radicals, illicit cadavers, and people treading the uncertain pathways of life." – Donal Ryan

Quarryman has a long history in UCC, albeit in different guises. It was originally published as the *Q.C.C.*, a student magazine with a small literary section included. It slept quietly for nearly 30 years, until it was revived by the post-graduate Creative Writing class in 2015 and turned into a journal showcasing the writing talent in UCC.

Rachel Alexander, from Birr, is delighted to see her work published for the first time in *Quarryman* and hopes that this is the first of many stories to appear in print.

Shane Coleman was born in Dublin and grew up in Dungarvan, County Waterford. He is a law student in UCC and writes short fiction and poetry.

Kieran Double, a native of County Cork, is the editor of *Quarryman V* and has been published in the *UCC express*. He primarily writes fantasy fiction.

Irene Halpin Long works as a freelance jounalist and writer. Her work has appeared in *The Irish Examiner, The Evening Echo* and *The Holly Bough*.

Presentation

Iohn Minihan: Beckett and the Wake

Wednesday 25th 4.00pm Cork City Library | Admission free

John Minihan was born in Dublin in 1946 and raised in Athy, County Kildare. Over the years, Minihan developed a close relationship with many writers and his photographs of Samuel Beckett show a particular affinity between the two men. William Burroughs once referred to Minihan as "a painless photographer." His friendship with Samuel Beckett produced some of the most remarkable photographs ever taken of the writer.



JOHN MINIHAN SELF-PORTRAIT

"Looking at the work of John Minihan one understands immediately why Samuel Beckett, that most private and publicity-shy of artists, entirely trusted him, and allowed him to become, in effect, his official photographer.

Minihan's gift is to be at once penetrating and discreet, probing and respectful, close-up and impersonal. His photographs offer us deep insights into Beckett the man while maintaining intact the essential mystery, which is the mystery of art, and the Beckett he presents to our gaze is both mortal being and the timeless artist."

- John Banville

Nayrouz Qarmout in conversation with Michael Hannigan

Wednesday 25th 7.30pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5

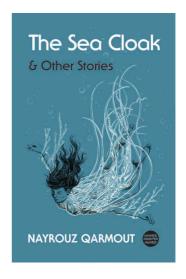


Nayrouz Qarmout is a journalist, author and women's rights campaigner. She was born in Yarmouk Refugee Camp, Damascus, in 1984. She currently works in the Ministry of Women's Affairs and has won a number of prizes including the Creative Women's Award for her debut collection *The Sea Cloak*.

"...a frustrated yet critical engagement with the social realities within Gaza ... I was struck by the strength of this story, the optimism that it demonstrated and the powerful symbols evoked."

– Lucille Turner

Bookmunch



Sara Maitland

in conversation with Alannah Hopkin

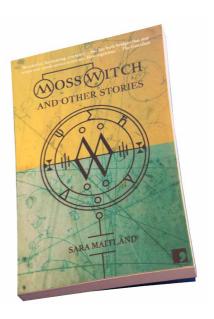
Wednesday 25th 9.00pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5



Sara Maitland has published seven novels and seven short story collections, including *Moss Witch and Other Stories* (Comma Press, 2013). Born in 1950, she studied at Oxford University and lives in Galloway, Scotland. She is the 2019 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Fellow.

"Rarely have I been so amazed at the splendor of a new landscape unfolding before my eyes and felt so tense wondering what was going to happen."

- Dominique Browning The New York Times



Chapbooks Launch

Southword Fiction Chapbook Prize

Thursday 26th 2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free

Southword Editions launches it's first fiction chapbooks from the inaugural 2018 Southword Fiction Chapbook Competition: *It's Not Me, It's You* by Brian Kirk (Best Irish Entry) and *A Middle Eastern No* by Jill Wildner (Best International Entry). At this launch, Brian Kirk will read from his chapbook.



Brian Kirk is an award-winning poet and short story writer from Dublin. His children's novel, *The Rising Son* was published in December 2015. His first poetry collection, *After The Fall* was published by Salmon Poetry in 2017.



Jill Widner grew up in Sumatra, Indonesia, the setting of her novel in progress, A Green Raft on a Muddy Swell. The three stories included in A Middle Eastern No are part of a collection of stories in progress set in Iran and Saudi Arabia.

Carlo Gébler

in conversation with Alannah Hopkin

Thursday 26th 4.00pm Cork City Library | Admission free



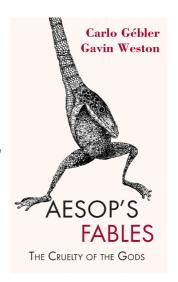
PHOTOGRAPHER: BOBBIE HANVEY

"I know few novelists who write their way so vividly into the motivations of characters at the dead-end of the social scale or so thoroughly into the self-righteousness of the establishment."

— Julian Evans

The Telegraph

Carlo Gébler teaches in Trinity
College at the Oscar Wilde
Centre for Irish Writing and at
the American College in Dublin;
he also works with prisoners in the
community. Over a long career he
has written drama for the screen,
stage and radio, long and short
fiction, memoir, history and travel.
At this event, Gébler introduces his
latest collection of short fiction: 21st
century versions of Aesop's Fables.



Maggie Gee & Sarah Harte in conversation with James O'Leary

Thursday 26th 7.30pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5



Maggie Gee was born in Dorset, England in 1948. She wrote her first novel at 25, and was one of Granta's original 20 "Best of Young British Novelists" in 1983. She has written thirteen acclaimed novels, most recently *Blood* (Fentum, 2019), as well as a collection of short stories, *The Blue* (Telegram, 2006) and a memoir, *My Animal Life* (Telegram, 2010).

"...tightly compressed, almost epigrammatic narratives, little parables of human paradox ... It is not enough to mean well, Gee seems to say, one must also do well."

— Elena Seymenliyska The Telegraph



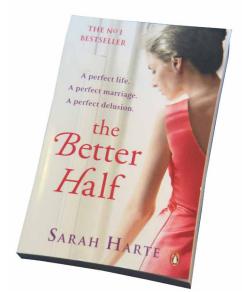


PHOTOGRAPHER: CLAIRE O'RORKE

"The Better Half is a deceptively sharp, witty look at modern Ireland."

— Anna Carey
The Irish Times

Sarah Harte won the Bryan McMahon short story award in 2019. In 2017, she was highly commended for the Manchester Fiction Prize. She's the author of two novels, *The Better Half* (2011) and *Thick and Thin* (2013), which went to numbers one and three in the national book charts, and is currently working on a collection of short stories.



Claire Adam & Danielle McLaughlin in conversation with Eimear Ryan

Thursday 26th 9.00pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5



Claire Adam was born in Trinidad & Tobago, to an Irish mother and Trinidadian father. She studied in the US, and then worked in a family-owned business in Cork before settling in London. *Golden Child* won the 2019 Desmond Elliott Prize for best debut novel.

PHOTOGRAPHER: MARIA NUNES

"...the beauty and the latent violence of her Trinidadian setting are miraculously vivid. Her novel combines the harsh force of a fable with the unforgettable strangeness of real life and, like all the very best debuts, Golden Child gives a sudden and enlightening view of both a new subject and a new mind."

— Alan Hollinghurst
Desmond Elliott Prize judge



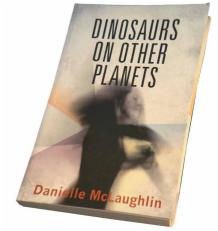


Danielle McLaughlin's debut collection of short stories, *Dinosaurs On Other Planets*, was published in Ireland in 2015 by The Stinging Fly Press and in the UK and the US & Canada by John Murray and Random House in 2016. In 2019 she was awarded a Windham-Campbell Prize for fiction. She was Writer in Residence at UCC for 2018-2019.



NEW IRISH

SHORT STORIES



"Few short-story collections capture so well such a diverse group of characters—their economically-signifying mannerisms, the reasoning behind their selfish and loving actions—without teetering into stereotypes. Dinosaurs on Other Planets is more than a compelling read—it's a study in compassion."—Amy Brady

Chicago Review of Books

Reading

Flash Fiction Introductions Reading

Friday 27th 2.30pm Cork City Library | Admission free

The Flash Fiction Introductions Reading is a new event which will involve five individuals who have yet to publish a collection of short fiction. Each writer 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 writers will be selected from an open call and the line-up will be announced on the festival website: www.corkshortstory.net.



Crawford Art Gallery

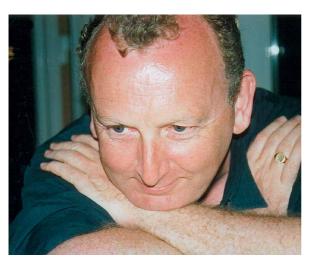






Donal McLaughlin & Roman Simić in conversation with James O'Leary

Friday 27th 4.00pm Cork City Library | Admission free

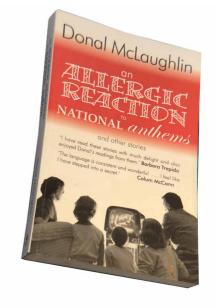


Donal McLaughlin is a freelance writer and translator. Scottish PEN's first écrivain sans frontières, a recipient of the Robert Louis Stevenson Memorial Award and a former Hawthornden Fellow, he is the author of two short story collections, *An Allergic Reaction to National Anthems* (2009, Argyll Publishing) and *Beheading the Virgin Mary* (2014, Dalkey Archive Press).

"McLaughlin's ear for dialogue is also visual, if that's possible: his Northern Irish characters adhere to exclamation points like a mark of identity, and accumulatively they give the world of the growing Liam O'Donnell a forceful, yet also humorous, masculinity as he negotiates his way over the twin peaks of politics and family."

— Lesley McDowell

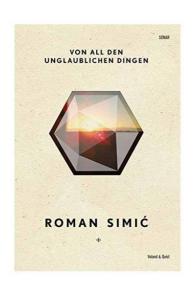
The Scotland Herald





PHOTOGRAPHER: SARAH JANE EYRE

Roman Simić was born in 1972 in Zadar, Croatia. He is the Artistic Director for the Festival of the European Short Story and the editor of the series Anthologies of the European Short Story. His publications include the short story collections What Are We Falling in Love With (2005), Feed Me (2012) and A Frame For The Family Lion (2015).



"Roman Simić gibt einer traumatisierten Generation eine eigene Sprache: berührend, ergreifend, niemals sentimenta."

"Roman Simić gives his own language to a traumatized generation: stirring, touching, never sentimental." — Christina Mohr Junge Welt

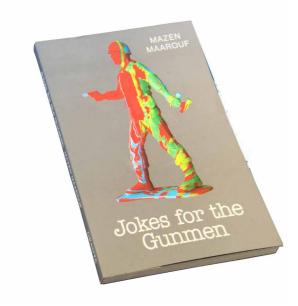
Mazen Maarouf

in conversation with Patrick Cotter

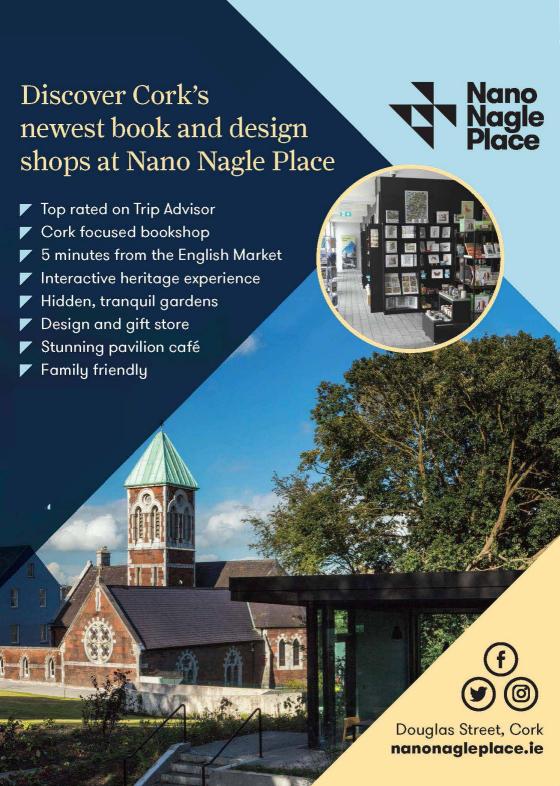
Friday 27th 7.30pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5



Mazen Maarouf was born in Beirut in 1978. He is a Palestinian-Icelandic writer, poet, translator and journalist. He has published three poetry collections and two short story collections. *Jokes for the Gunmen* (Granta, 2019) was nominated for the 2019 International Booker Prize.



"Small, explosive and powerful,
Jokes for the
Gunmen is a
bullet of a debut."
- Emily Rhodes
The Spectator



Cónal Creedon & Lisa McInerney in conversation with Tadgh Coakley

Friday 27th 9.00pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5



Cónal Creedon is a short story writer, novelist, playwright, and documentary filmmaker. His books include the short story collection *Pancho and Lefty Ride Out* (Collins Press, 1999) and the novel *Begotten Not Made* (Irishtown Press, 2018). His short stories have achieved recognition in the Francis MacManus Awards, Life Extra Awards, George A. Birmingham Awards and PJ O'Connor Awards.

"Creedon's words are enough to create a world that is at once comic and dramatic, poetic and musical." - Rachel Saltz New York Times





Lisa McInerney's story Navigation was longlisted for the 2017
Sunday Times EFG Short Story
Award. Her debut novel, The
Glorious Heresies, won the 2016
Women's Prize for Fiction and the
2016 Desmond Elliott Prize. Her
second, The Blood Miracles, won
the 2018 RSL Encore Award.

PHOTOGRAPHER: BRID O DONOVAN



"The Blood Miracles, which begins as a slow trickle, soon gushes forth as an unstaunched flow of manic energy and raw

emotion. It is an exhilarating rush of blood to the head that slams quickly closed and leaves you spent but utterly hooked."

- Ceire Duggan RTÉ Culture



Prize Reading & Journal Launch

Seán O'Faoláin Prize Reading & Southword 37 Launch

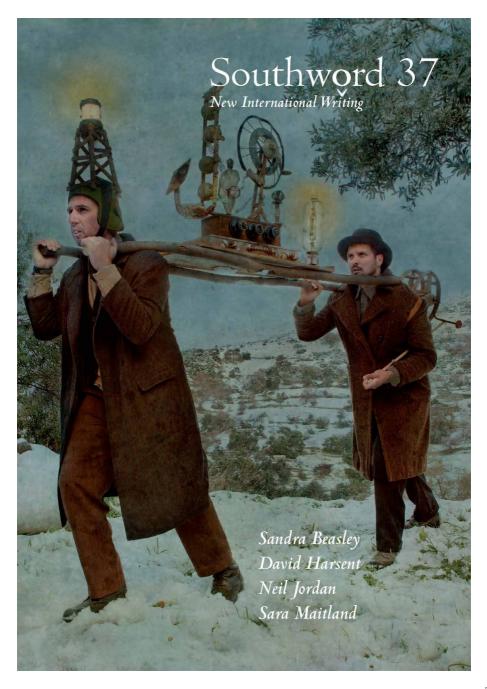
Saturday 28th 3.00pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5

The Seán O'Faoláin Prize is awarded to the best single story entered in competition from anywhere in the world. The first prize is €2,000. The winner also receives a week's residency at the Anam Cara artist retreat in West Cork and publication of their winning story in *Southword*. The winner, if they choose to travel to Cork for this event, also receives accommodation with meals for the duration of the festival and entry into all events. This occasion is an opportunity to hear the winning story.



At this event, we are also launching issue 37 of *Southword: New International Writing*, with new fiction by Sara Maitland, new poetry by David Harsent, a personal essay by Sandra Beasley and an in-depth interview with Neil Jordan, plus many more new poems and stories.

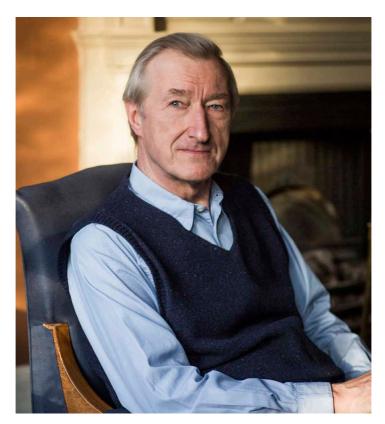
Three short story contributors to this issue will read: Sara Maitland, Donal McLaughlin and Niamh Bagnell.



Julian Barnes

in conversation with Nadine O'Regan

Saturday 28th 4.30pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €20

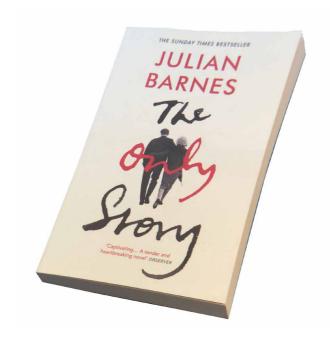


Julian Barnes is the author of several books of stories, essays, a translation of Alphonse Daudet's *In the Land of Pain*, and numerous novels, including the 2011 Man Booker Prize winning novel *The Sense of an Ending* and the acclaimed *The Noise of Time*. His other recent publications include *Keeping an Eye Open: Essays on Art* and *The Only Story*.

"...through his precise attention to the marvels of love and his perfect stylistic accompaniments ... Barnes has once again shown himself capable of transforming the mundane and ephemeral into the lyrical and lasting."

– Thomas J. Millay

Los Angeles Review of Books



"Barnes writes with such shattering emotional acuity."

– Lucy Scholes

The Independent

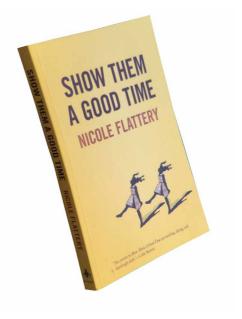
Nicole Flattery & Lucy Sweeney Byrne in conversation with Sarah Byrne

Saturday 28th 7.30pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5



Nicole Flattery's work has been published in *The Irish Times, The Dublin Review, The White Review, Winter Papers* and *The Stinging Fly.*She won The White Review Short Story Prize in 2017, and is a recipient of a Next Generation Artists' Award from the Arts Council. *Show Them a Good Time* is her first collection, published by The Stinging Fly Press and Bloomsbury in 2019.

"The stories are tragicomic and deliciously odd. The author writes sentences that make you laugh, and then immediately want to reread to savour a striking image." – Sam Mills
The Spectator





Lucy Sweeney Byrne is a writer of short stories, essays and poetry. Her work has appeared in *Banshee, The Stinging Fly, The Dublin Review, Grist*, and the anthology *Stinging Fly Stories* (2018). Her first collection, *Paris Syndrome*, will be published by Banshee Press in September 2019.

"...experimental and gorgeous and gritty and sexy and clever." – Claire Hennessy The Irish Times



Kevin Barry & Peter Murphy in conversation with Nadine O'Regan

Saturday 28th 9.00pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5

Kevin Barry is the author of the novels Night Boat to Tangier, Beatlebone, and City of Bohane and the story collections Dark Lies the Island and There Are Little Kingdoms.

His awards include the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, the Goldsmiths Prize and the Sunday Times EFG Short Story Prize. His stories have appeared in The New Yorker and elsewhere.



"Barry's sensibility is eerie; he is attuned to spirits, to malevolent presences, the psychic tundra around us. But what distinguishes this book beyond its humour, terror and beauty of description is its moral perception. For this is no liberal forgiveness tract for naughty boys: it is a plunging spiritual immersion into the parlous souls of wrongful men."

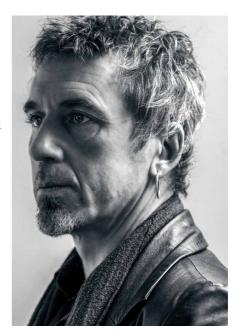
- Alan Warner The Guardian



Edi

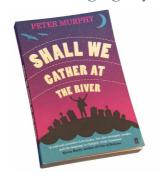
Peter Murphy is the author of two novels, John the Revelator (2009) and Shall We Gather at the River (2013), both published by Faber & Faber. He has been nominated for the Costa First Novel Award, Kerry Group Fiction Prize and the IMPAC prize. His journalism and non-fiction has appeared in Rolling Stone, The Guardian, The Irish Times, Hot Press and The Huffington Post.





"Murphy masterfully conjures millenarianism, mythology, fraudulence and life-negation in small-town life. In these settings, the fear is not simply that the end of the world might occur but that it might not. And what strange, terrible, ludicrous lives we might lead, waiting to find out."

— Darran Anderson The Stinging Fly



VIDEO SCREENINGS AT THE LIBRARY

Wednesday 25th - Friday 27th 11.00am Cork City Library | Admission free



Wednesday 25th

William Trevor: Writer in Profile

William Trevor, born in Cork in 1928, was an acclaimed author of several collections of short stories including *The Ballroom of Romance* (1972). He adapted many of his own stories for the stage, television and radio.

Frank O'Connor: Writers of Today

Frank O'Connor, born in Cork in 1903, was an Irish playwright, novelist, short story writer and translator. Notable among his numerous volumes of short stories are *Guests of the Nation* (1931) and *Crab Apple Jelly* (1944).



THURSDAY 26TH

Grace Paley: Lannan Foundation interview and reading

Grace Paley, born in 1922 in the Bronx, New York, was a poet and short story writer. Her three books of stories are *The Little Disturbances of Man, Enormous Changes at the Last Minute*, and *Later the Same Day*.



FRIDAY 28TH

Gish Jen: Lannan Foundation interview and reading

Gish Jen has published in The New Yorker, The Atlantic Monthly, The New Republic, The Los Angeles Times, and The New York Times. She has published three novels and the story collection, Who's Irish? (1999, Knopf).

STORY THROUGH SONG A programme of Irish singer-songwriters

Wednesday 25th - Saturday 28th 10.30pm Cork Arts Theatre | Admission free with a ticket stub from an event attended on the same day

WEDNESDAY 25TH

John Spillane, two-time Meteor award winner, is one of the most accomplished songwriters in Ireland today. His songs have been covered by many musicians, including Christy Moore, Karan Casey and Cathy Ryan. His singing, with an almost sean nós-like element, is full of honesty, commitment and sensitivity.

THURSDAY 26TH

Fintan Lucy has been gigging in Cork city since the mid-eighties. He was a member of folk/trad bands *Duchas* and *Pluckfocailwindskin*, and the acoustic rock harmony band *The Phintones*. His first solo CD, *The Is and Was and Maybes*, is "utterly passionate...a timeless gem" (The Irish Examiner).

FRIDAY 28TH

Eve Clague's debut EP *Young Naive Me* crosses genres very naturally in songs which centre around Clague's acoustic guitar and deeply honest vocal style. Since its release in April of 2019, the EP has received national radio play in Ireland as well as airplay on regional stations at home and in the UK.

SATURDAY 29TH

Anna Mieke is a musician and songwriter from Wicklow. She performs on guitar, bouzouki and piano and has performed at Electric Picnic, Body & Soul, Another Love Story, Clonmel Junction Festival, and Sounds From A Safe Harbour. Her debut album, *Idle Mind*, was released in April 2019.

FOUR-DAY WORKSHOP WITH SARA MAITLAND

Wednesday 25th - Saturday 28th 9.30am - 12.30pm Munster Literature Centre | €150 15 places available | bookings by phone (021-4312955) or email (info@munsterlit.ie)

Shakespeare never bothered with inventing new stories: he re-envisioned old ones. If it worked for him it might work for us! Old stories, in some cases, have been around for thousands of years – they have been told and re-told over and over again. There's good chance that they are tougher, more engaging and more psychologically satisfying than any new plot I think up this afternoon. The skill is in how we tell them, how we write them afresh.

Wednesday: Introduction – to each other and to the workshop

Participants are invited to tell old stories. Usually these turn out to be "fairy stories" but sometimes local legends, myths, historical events, biblical episodes etc. We will then outline a modern version of someone else's story.

Thursday: Place and atmosphere

"Descriptive writing" has rather gone out of fashion in fiction; this is odd because there is a massive revival of nature writing, which is highly descriptive. We will work on describing place through detail and observation.

Friday: Character

One problem with these stories is that they tend to be rather old-fashioned regarding their view of women and of class (among other things!) and "character development" in short-form fiction can problematic. We will look at strategies for getting around these sorts of problems – including humour.

Saturday: Structure and framing

Fairytales invite readers/hearers into the fictional/fantasy space and release them back into the "real" world at the end. These sorts of techniques for framing and structuring a short story are invaluable and worth exploring.

Each day will include a writing exercise, readings, feedback, and discussion. For the full prospectus and details about availability, visit corkshortstory.net.

Funders & Creative Partners















Being Various is the latest in a long line of anthologies of contemporary Irish short stories published by Faber. The festival this year features four contributors.

STAFF & BOARD

Founded in 1993, the Munster Literature Centre (Ionad Litríochta an Deiscirt) is a non-profit arts organisation dedicated to the promotion and celebration of literature, especially that of Munster.

www.munsterlit.ie

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1/munsterliteraturecentre

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Chairperson

Recording Secretary

SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to express our gratitude to Sarah Bannan, Head of Literature in the Arts Council, and Jean Brennan, Arts Officer in Cork City Council, for their ongoing support.