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SARA BAUME | LUCY SWEENEY BYRNE | MARY COSTELLO
ELWIN COTMAN | ANNE DEVLIN | KATE DOYLE
SARAH GILBERT | CAMILLA GRUDOVA | KIRSTY GUNN
MARK ANTHONY JARMAN | ROSEMARY JENKINSON
SALLY WEN MAO | ADAM MAREK | MANUEL MUÑOZ
MARY O'DONNELL | DEREK OWUSU



corkshortstoryfest.net

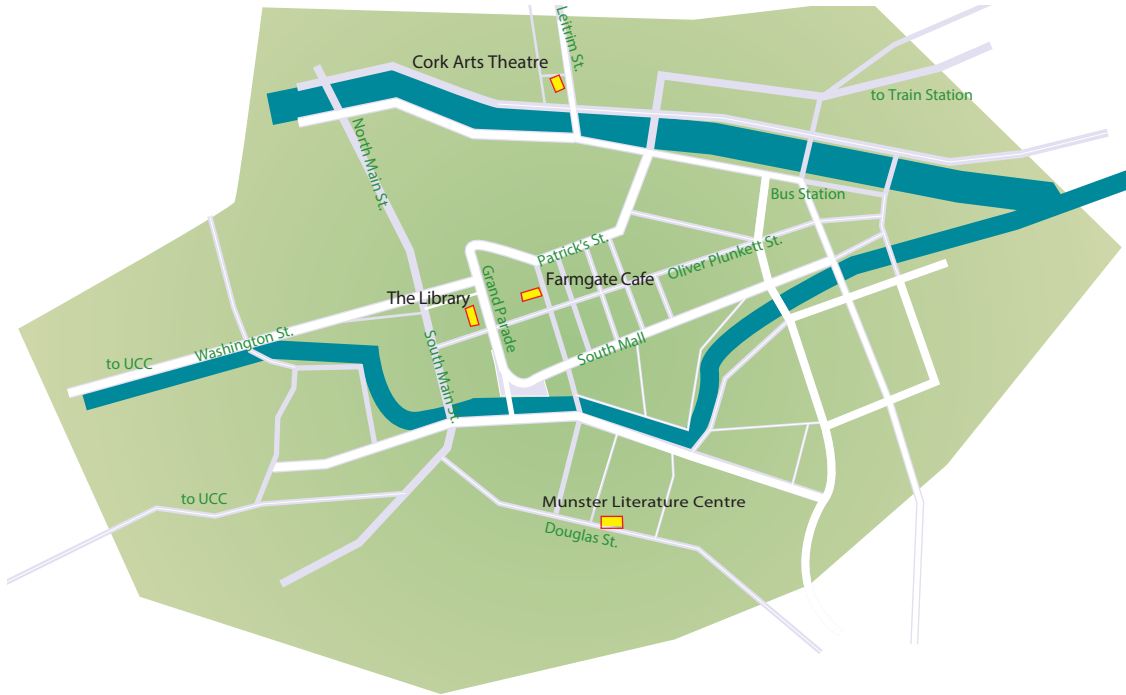


Cork International Short Story Festival

2024

Readings
Discussions
Awards
Screenings

16TH - 19TH OCTOBER



Bookings

Bookings can be made by credit card through the website www.corkshortstory.net until Friday 4th October. 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). Admission may be blocked after an event begins. Refunds will be given only if an event is cancelled.

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#CorkStoryFest

Programme Outline

Wednesday 16th - Saturday 19th October

  /munsterliteraturecentre
 /munlitcentre
#CorkStoryFest

Wednesday 16th

- 2.30pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 6
Who Ever Heard of an Irish Jew?
- 4.00pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 7
Launch of *David Marcus: Editing Ireland*
(moderated by Declan Meade)
- 7.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 8
Mary O'Donnell & Lucy Sweeney Byrne
(moderated by Laura Cassidy)
- 9.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 10
Camilla Grudova
(moderated by Danny Denton)

Thursday 17th

2.30pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 12
***SWERVE* Showcase**




4.00pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 14
***The Waxed Lemon* Showcase**

7.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 16
Sara Baume & Derek Owusu

9.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 18
Mary Costello
(moderated by Sarah Harte)

Programme Outline

Wednesday 16th - Saturday 19th October

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 /munlitcentre
#CorkStoryFest

Friday 18th

2.30pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 19

Edna O'Brien (Lannan Literary Video Series)

4.00pm, Cork City Library | Free, unticketed page 20

From the Well Showcase

7.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 22

Mark Anthony Jarman & Adam Marek

(moderated by Patrick Holloway)

9.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 24

Kate Doyle & Kirsty Gunn

(moderated by Laura Cassidy)

Saturday 19th

3.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 26

Ó Faoláin Prize Reading

4.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 28

Anne Devlin & Sarah Gilbert

(moderated by Patrick Holloway)

7.30pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 30

Rosemary Jenkinson & Sally Wen Mao

(moderated by Sarah Harte)

9.00pm, Cork Arts Theatre | Admission €5 page 32

Elwin Cotman & Manuel Muñoz

(moderated by Billy O'Callaghan)

Reading

Who Ever Heard of an Irish Jew?

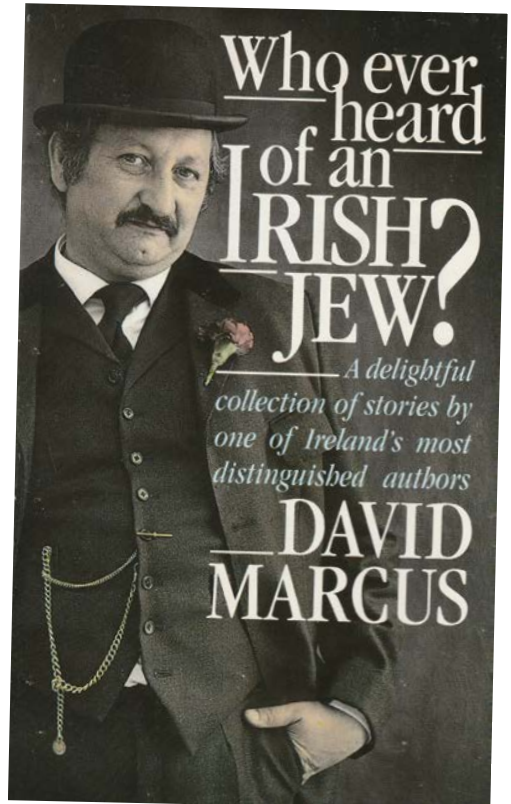
Wednesday 16th 2.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



PHOTOGRAPHER: JOHN MINIHAN

Cork actor Jack Healy performs the short story *Who Ever Heard of an Irish Jew?* by David Marcus.

Jack Healy has worked in theatre for over thirty years, mainly as an actor and playwright. He has written scripts for the Everyman Palace, and RTÉ Radio. Most recently, under commission from Cork County Council, he wrote a stage adaptation of the novel, *Glenanaar* by Cannon Sheehan to celebrate the centenary of his death.

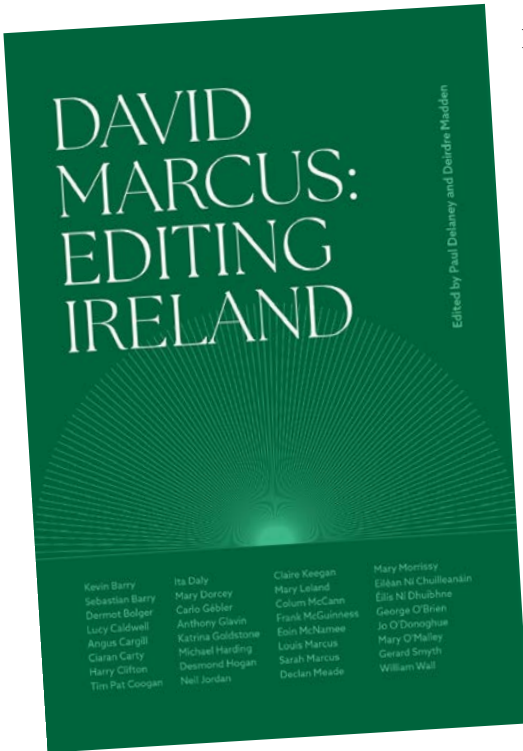


Book Launch

Launch of David Marcus: Editing Ireland

Moderated by Declan Meade

Wednesday 16th 4.00pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



Published to mark his centenary year, this miscellany – which includes poems, fiction, memoir and essays – celebrates this brilliant, self-effacing man, whose legacy and influence continue to shape our culture today.

David Marcus was Ireland's most important and influential literary editor of the twentieth century. Born into Cork's small Jewish community in 1924, his remarkable career spanned sixty years and saw him work with countless writers of note from Edith Somerville and Liam O'Flaherty to Claire Keegan and Kevin Barry. While perhaps best remembered for editing the 'New Irish Writing' page in *The Irish Press* between 1968 and 1986, Marcus was also a translator, a novelist and the editor of numerous trailblazing anthologies.

Mary Leland is a Cork-born journalist. She has published two novels, *The Killeen* (1985) and *Approaching Priests* (1991) and a book of short stories, *The Little Galloway Girls* (1986/87).

Mary Morrissy is the author of four novels, *Mother of Pearl*, *The Pretender*, *The Rising of Bella Casey* and *Penelope Unbound*, as well as two collections of short stories, *A Lazy Eye* and *Prosperity Drive*.

Reading & Discussion

Mary O'Donnell & Lucy Sweeney Byrne

Moderated by Laura Cassidy

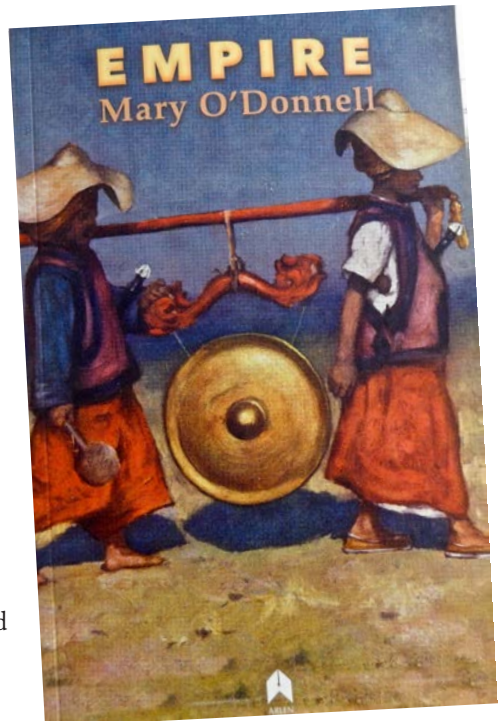
Wednesday 16th 7.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

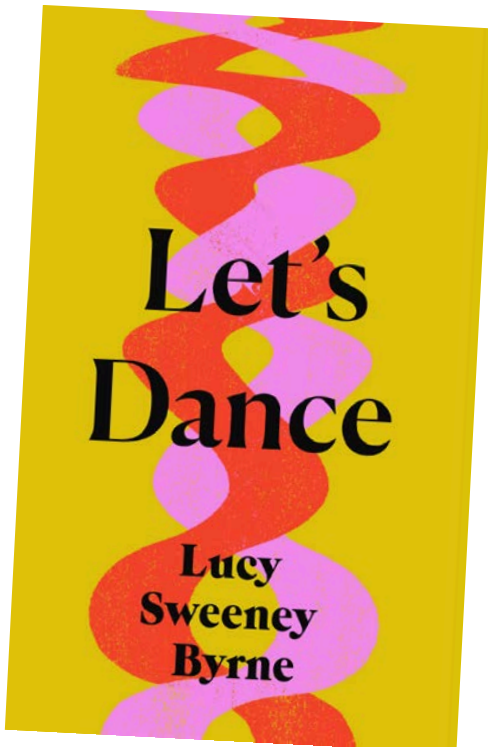


“Mary O’Donnell has long been one of Ireland’s best writers. In the historical fictions in Empire she once again dazzles with her trademark intelligence, her precise, gorgeous prose and the empathy she employs in everything she writes.”

— Nuala O’Connor

Mary O’Donnell’s work includes eight poetry collections, four novels and three short story collections. *Massacre of the Birds* (Salmon Poetry) appeared in 2020 and has been translated and published in Brazil by Arte y Letras. Her short stories in the collection *Empire* were published in 2018 (Arlen House). In 2023 she received an Irish Book Award in the Poem of the Year category for her political poem ‘Vectors in Kabul’. Her translated short stories will be available in Argentina in 2024. A chapbook of poems, *Outsiders, Always* was published by Southword Editions, Cork in 2023. She is a member of Ireland’s affiliation of artists, Aosdána.





Lucy Sweeney Byrne has written two collections of short fiction, *Paris Syndrome* (2019) and *Let's Dance* (2024), both published with Banshee Press. She is from Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

“[W]hat Sweeney Byrne does so skillfully is lure us into her world with entrancing narratives – somewhat similar to highway hypnosis – and then jolt us awake with sudden punches of sharp wit, gritty realism, and gorgeous linguistic play.”

— Hayley Car

Reading & Discussion

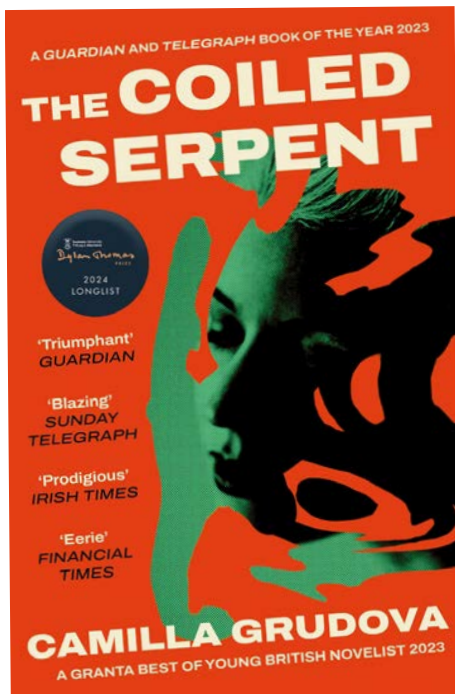
Camilla Grudova

Moderated by Danny Denton

Wednesday 16th 9.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



Camilla Grudova is the author of the critically acclaimed *The Doll's Alphabet*, *Children of Paradise* which was longlisted for the Women's Prize, and *The Coiled Serpent* which was longlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize. In 2023 she was named one of *Granta's* Best Young British Novelists. She lives in Edinburgh, Scotland.

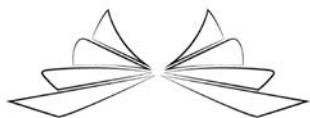


“Grudova has an instinct for queasily precise imagery that few can rival – skylights emerge from the “beefy red brick” of a building “like blisters on roasted flesh”, elephant foetuses in jars are “wrinkled old raincoats”. There’s a glorious excess and tactility to her writing.”
— AK Blakemore

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Journal Showcase

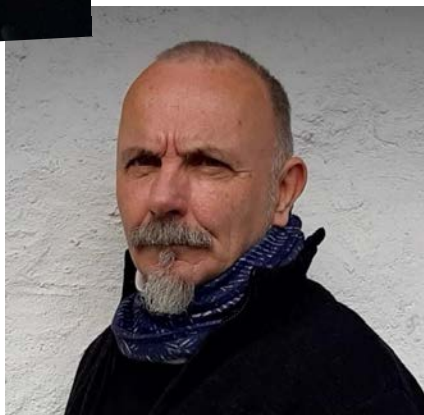
SWERVE Showcase

Thursday 17th 2.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



SWERVE is an annual journal based in Skibbereen, County Cork. We publish the work of emerging writers and artists from Ireland as well as more established names. *SWERVE* provides an international residency programme for writers and artists, creates art-writing collaborations and hosts readings at their performance space, the Lit Lounge. We think of *SWERVE* as a local and international publication and have just launched *SWERVE 3* (2024) in print and digital format.

Sean Coffey, a graduate of UL's Creative Writing Masters Program, has twice been shortlisted for the Francis MacManus Prize, also for the Hennessy Prize, and other competitions. His work appears in the *Hennessy Book of Irish Fiction 2005—2015*, *The Phoenix Collection of Irish Short Stories 2003* and current literary publications.





Elaine Gormley is an Armagh writer living in Belfast. Elaine's writing reflects the humour, and resilience of working class people living in the North of Ireland. Recently, Elaine has been published by *SWERVE* and *Fieldzine* and she was shortlisted for the Exeter Prize. Elaine can be found on Instagram @elainegormleywriter.

Sharon Guard has an MA in Creative writing from UL. Her work has appeared in *New Irish Writing*, *SWERVE*, *The Ogham Stone* and *Washing Windows*. She won the Molly Keane Creative Writing Award 2020. Her debut novel, *Assembling Ailish*, will be published by Poolbeg Press in Spring 2025.



Janet Heeran lives on the side of Mount Hillary in North Cork. She writes about rural life. She is a regular contributor to *CountryWide* on RTÉ Radio 1. She is a founder member of *SWERVE*. She is a member of Cork Prose Collective. She is a committee member of Kanturk Arts Festival.

Journal Showcase

The Waxed Lemon Showcase

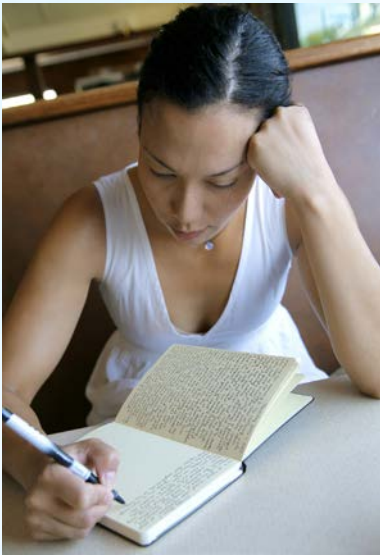
Thursday 17th 4.00pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free



The Waxed Lemon is an independent literary journal that launched in autumn 2020. The journal provides a publishing platform for the many and varied writers currently working in Waterford and Ireland. The co-editors of *The Waxed Lemon* are Joanne McCarthy and Derek Flynn.

Four contributors to the latest issue will read their stories.

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 Suji Kwock Kim, Maya C. Popa, Leila Chatti & Mark Wagenaar.

1ST PRIZE: €2,000
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INTERNATIONAL POETRY
FESTIVAL WITH FOUR-NIGHT
HOTEL STAY AND FULL BOARD;
PUBLISHED IN SOUTHWORD;
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POETRY PODCAST

2ND PRIZE: €500
PUBLISHED IN SOUTHWORD

3RD PRIZE: €250
PUBLISHED IN SOUTHWORD

TEN RUNNERS-UP: €50
PUBLISHED IN SOUTHWORD

DEADLINE: 30 NOVEMBER
GUIDELINES: MUNSTERLIT.IE

Reading & Discussion

Sara Baume & Derek Owusu

Thursday 17th 7.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

Sara Baume is the author of three novels which have received multiple awards, such as the Rooney Prize for Literature, the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize and a Lannan Literary Fellowship, and been widely translated. Her first book of non-fiction, *handiwork*, was shortlisted for the 2021 Rathbones Folio Prize, and her most recent novel, *Seven Steeples*, was shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize and the International Dylan Thomas Prize. In 2023 she was named one of *Granta* magazine's 'Best Young British Novelists.' She was raised in East Cork and now lives in West Cork where she works also as a visual artist.



PHOTOGRAPHER: KENNETH O' HALLORAN

“If you eschew conventional plot and its attendant devices, all that’s left to retain your readers’ attention is the pleasure they take in your prose. Baume’s writing is near-faultless: instinctively balanced, precise and often surprising.”

— Melissa Harrison





Derek Owusu is an award-winning writer and poet from North London. His first novel,

That Reminds Me, and the first work of fiction to be published by Stormzy's Merky Books imprint, won the Desmond Elliott Prize for best debut novel published in the UK and Ireland. His second novel, *Losing the Plot*, was published in 2022 and was Longlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize and Jhalak Prize. In 2023 he was selected as one of *Granta's* Best of Young British Novelists.

"The judges and I were as shattered by the truths of the story as we were moved by the talent of its writer. Derek Owusu has given us a unique, profound and transcendent work of literature: we want as many readers as possible to discover it."

— Preti Taneja,
Desmond Elliott Prize chair



Reading & Discussion

Mary Costello

Moderated by Sarah Harte

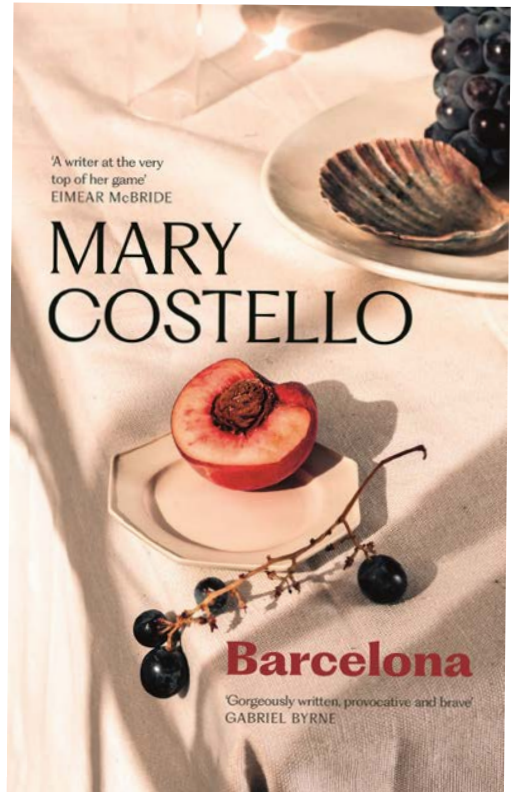
Thursday 17th 9.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



Mary Costello's first collection of stories, *The China Factory* (2012) was nominated for the Guardian First Book Award and the Irish Book Awards. *Academy Street* (2014), won the Irish Novel of the Year Award and was named Irish Book of the Year in 2014. It was shortlisted for the International Dublin Literary Award, the Costa First Novel Prize and the EU Prize for Literature, among others. *The River Capture* (2019) was shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards, the Kerry Group Novel of the Year and the Dalkey Novel Award. Her recent collection of stories, *Barcelona*, was published in March.

“Costello’s writing is insistent, precise and unsparring. Everyday acts and ordinary lives are infused with a sense of the skull beneath the skin and of a catastrophe held tautly at bay.”

— Alex Clark



Video Presentation

Edna O'Brien

Lannan Literary Video Series

Friday 18th 2.30pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free

The Lannan Literary Video Series features inspired literary writers of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, as well as cultural freedom advocates with a social, political, and environmental justice focus. This edition with Edna O'Brien in conversation with Tobias Wolff was directed by Dan Griggs on 12th May 1998. O'Brien reads from her stories 'Brother' and 'Down by the River'.

Edna O'Brien

(1930–2024) was the author of more than twenty-five works of fiction, including *The Country Girls*, *The Little Red Chairs*, and *The Light of Evening*. She received numerous awards, including the PEN/Nabokov Award for Achievement in International Literature, the Irish PEN Award for Literature, the National Arts Club Medal of Honor, and the Ulysses Medal.

PHOTOGRAPHER: JOHN MINIHAN

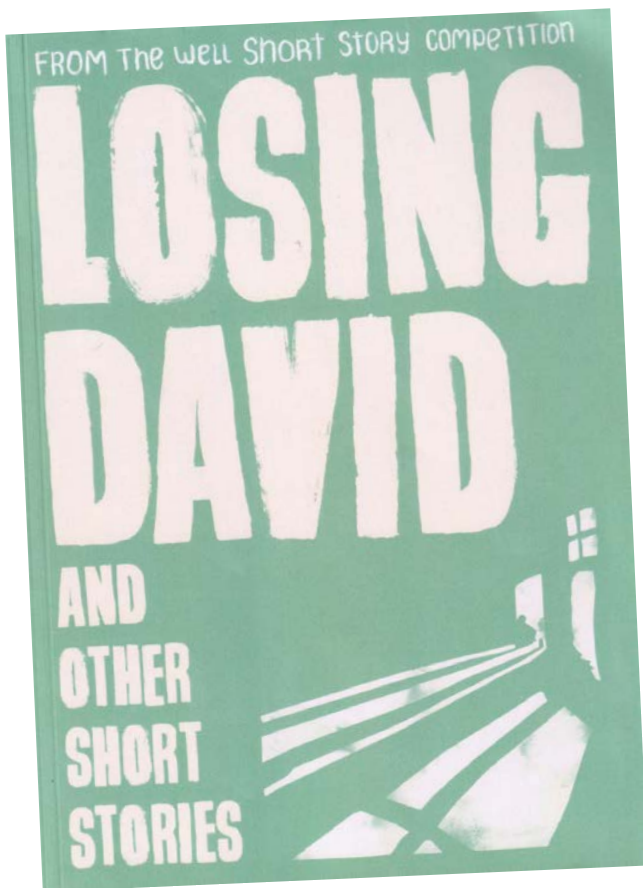


Anthology Showcase

From the Well Showcase

Friday 18th 4.00pm **Cork City Library** | Admission free

Losing David is the twentieth edition of Cork City Council and Library Service annual short story anthology *From the Well*. Writer and programmer Sasha de Buyl selected nineteen stories for this anthology, four of which will be read at this event.



Siobhan Dempsey is not a writer, she is a play therapist, but therapy is fundamentally about stories. She joined a writer's group over covid to preserve her sanity, which worked for the most part. She likes writing poetry and short stories.



M Jay Sheehan is a writer of novels, short stories and bad poetry. Previously listed for twenty different short-story competitions, he finally won something in 2017 by landing the ‘Over the Edge Story Competition’ and ‘New Writer of the Year Award’. Currently, the Feldstein Literary Agency are working hard trying to find a publisher for his new novel.

Lauren O'Donovan is an Irish writer. In 2023, she won the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award, the Cúirt New Writing Prize, and was runner-up for Poetry Business Book & Pamphlet Competition and the Listowel Writers' Week Collection Award. She is fortunate to have her work published often in journals and anthologies.



Peter Toibin is an English teacher and writer from Cork city. His work tries to draw attention to the complexities of human nature and relationships as well as the magic and beauty in the everyday. This is his first published story.

Reading & Discussion

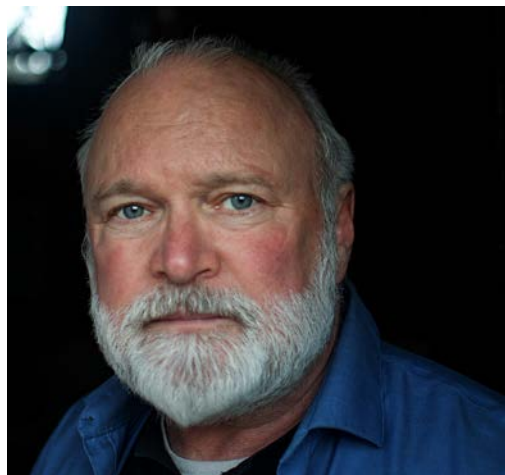
Mark Anthony Jarman & Adam Marek

Moderated by Patrick Holloway

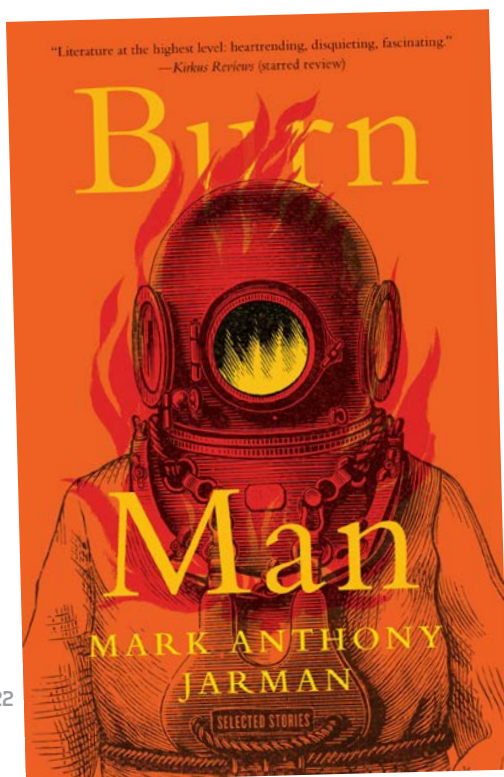
Friday 18th 7.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5

“The archetypal Jarman narrator is a bedraggled man dragging around a big aching heart. He might be a petty thief, a hockey scout, an addict or a bloodstained soldier ... Jarman’s stories are full of violence, tragedy and mistakes. Yet there’s plenty of humor and heart too.”

—Lincoln Michel



PHOTOGRAPHER: MUHAMMAD AL-DIGEI



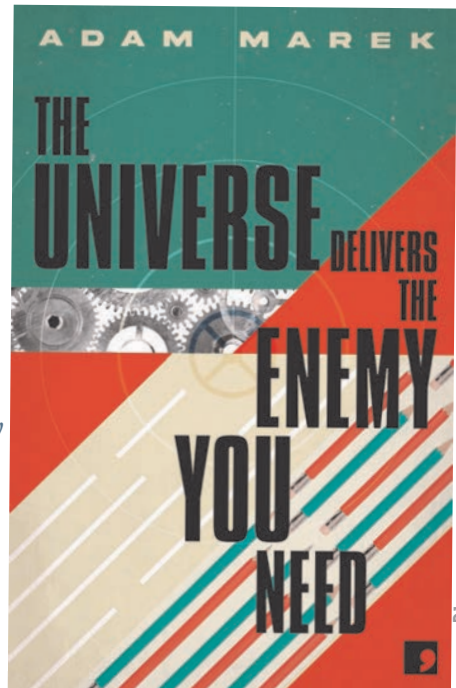
Mark Anthony Jarman is the author of *Touch Anywhere to Begin*, *Czech Techno*, *Knife Party at the Hotel Europa*, *19 Knives*, and the travel book *Ireland’s Eye*. Published in journals across Europe, Asia, and North America, he is a graduate of The Iowa Writers’ Workshop, edits fiction for *The Fiddlehead*, and co-edits a new magazine, *Camel*. He edited *Best Canadian Stories 2023*, and *Burn Man*, his Selected Stories, was a 2024 Editors’ Choice with *The New York Times*.



Adam Marek is the author of three short story collections: *Instruction Manual for Swallowing*, *The Stone Thrower*, and, most recently, *The Universe Delivers the Enemy You Need*. His stories have appeared on BBC Radio 4, and in many magazines and anthologies, including *The Penguin Book of the British Short Story*. He loves collaborating with scientists on creative projects, and recently visited CERN to write a story for the *Collision: Stories from the Science of CERN* anthology. He regularly works with SciFutures, using storytelling to help prototype the future.

“Playful, clever, witty, surprising, The Universe Delivers the Enemy You Need is 21 shots of pure pleasure which add up, Ray Bradbury-style, to a profound reflection on life in our twenty-first century. Adam Marek is surely one of the most enjoyable and humane writers of sci-fi around.”

— Lucy Caldwell



Reading & Discussion

Kate Doyle & Kirsty Gunn

Moderated by Laura Cassidy

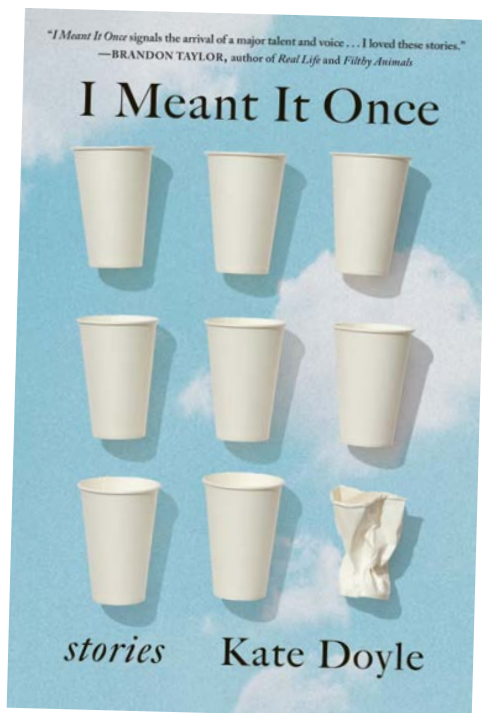
Friday 18th 9.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



“Kate Doyle’s sentences are something to be savored, and the characters in these stories live and breathe and stand up fully from the page. Perceptive, funny, forthright, and often alarmingly relatable.”

— Claire Lombardo

Kate Doyle is an American writer based in Amsterdam and the author of the short story collection *I Meant It Once*, longlisted for The Story Prize and a finalist for the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize. A graduate of the NYU Creative Writing Program, Kate lived in New York City and later in upstate New York (where she worked as a bookseller) prior to moving to Amsterdam. She is the recipient of fellowships and residencies from A Public Space, New York University, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, and elsewhere, and her writing appears in *No Tokens*, *Electric Literature*, *Chicago Review of Books*, *Split Lip*, and other publications. *I Meant It Once* is her first book.

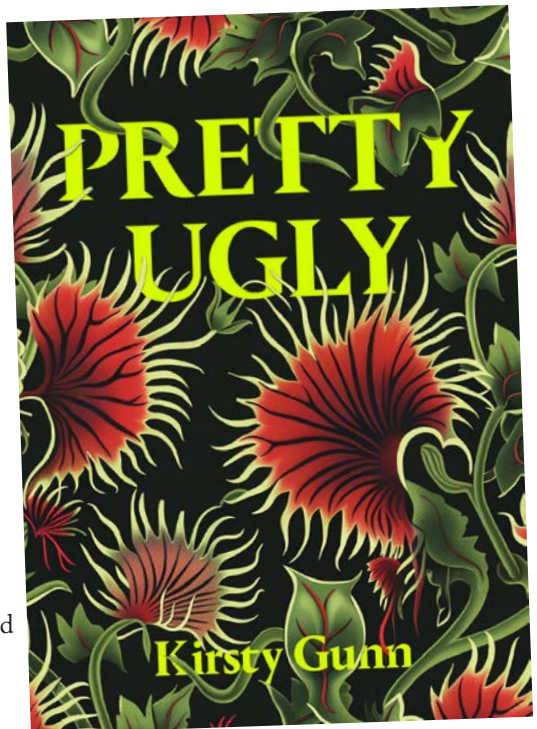




“Kirsty Gunn shuffles and deals the cards in the pack of short fiction to produce quietly startling combinations. In these tales, fables, anecdotes and dramas, words ‘shift and slide and they crack and go off’—appropriately, considering the author’s name —‘like a gun.’ this is a writer who is as exploratory in small forms as in large ones.”

— Adam Mars-Jones

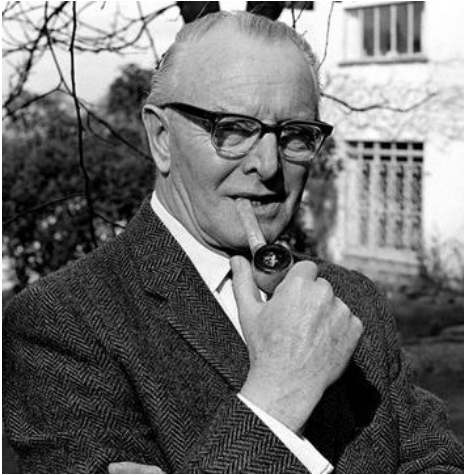
Kirsty Gunn has published six works of fiction and three short story collections. Her books have been translated into over a dozen territories, been widely anthologised, been broadcast, turned into film and dance theatre, and have also won multiple prizes and awards including the Edge Hill Prize for Short Stories, the Scottish Book of the Year, as well as a shortlisting for the Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award. A regular contributor to a range of international newspapers and magazines, she is also Professor of Writing Practice and Study at the University of Dundee, where she established and directs the writing programme. She lives in London and Scotland with her husband and two daughters.



Prize Reading

Ó Faoláin Prize Reading

Saturday 19th 3.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



The Seán Ó Faoláin International Short Story Prize is awarded to the best single story entered in competition from anywhere in the world. The first prize is €2000, a featured reading at the Cork International Short Story Festival (with four-night hotel stay and full board) and publication in *Southword*. This occasion is an opportunity to hear the winning story.

Details of the winner, not yet announced at the time of this publication, will be posted on corkshortstory.net. Prizewinning and shortlisted stories from this competition will be published in *Southword*.

“As I see it a short story, if it is a good story, is like a child’s kite, a small wonder, a brief, bright moment. It has its limitations; there are things it can do and cannot do but, if it is good, it moves in the same element as the largest work of art – up there, airborne.”

— Seán Ó Faoláin

A collage of magazine covers for 'Southword: New International Writing'. The top section is a red banner with the title 'SOUTHWORD' in large white letters and a white location pin icon. Below the banner, several magazine covers are visible, including 'Southword 41' with a blue cover, 'Southword 42' with a white cover listing authors like Alan McManagle, Kim Moore, and Helen Mori, and 'Southword 43' with a white cover. The central text is overlaid on the collage.

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Full guidelines at southword.submittable.com

Reading & Discussion

Anne Devlin & Sarah Gilbert

Moderated by Patrick Holloway

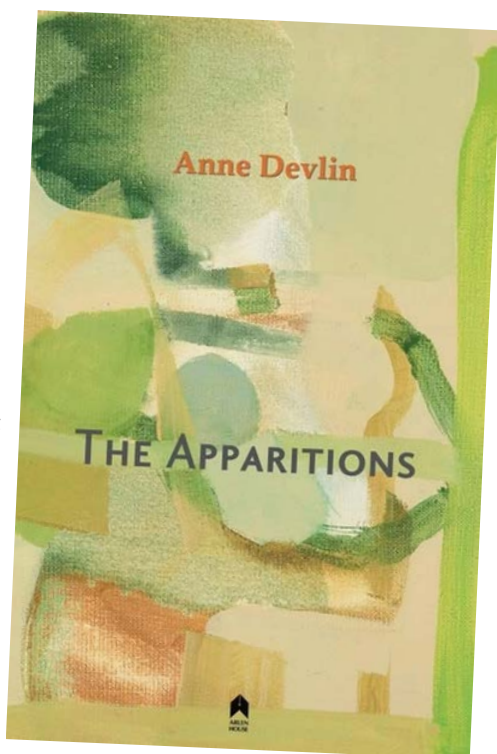
Saturday 19th 4.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



“These stories are quirky and lovely, shining with moments of glad grace. There is nothing quite like them in contemporary Irish fiction. Anne Devlin has her own original, arresting way of looking at the world, and of writing. Funky, sparkling, wise and wonderful.”

— Martina Evans

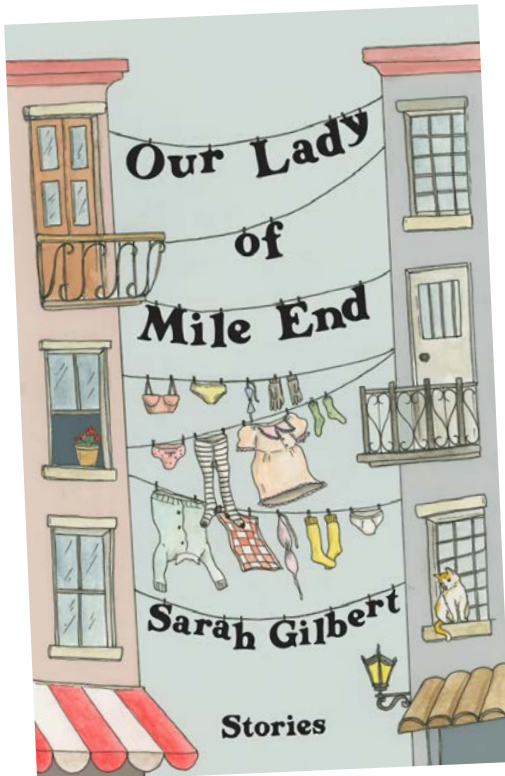
Anne Devlin is a short story writer, playwright and screenwriter. In the 1980s she wrote *Ourselves Alone* for the Royal Court Theatre followed in the 1990s with *After Easter* for the Royal Shakespeare Company. Her prize-winning original work for screen, *Naming the Names*, was based on a story from her first collection, *The Waypaver* (Faber, 1986), while her original screenplay, *The Venus de Milo Instead*, was directed by Danny Boyle for BBC NI. Film adaptations include *Wuthering Heights* for Paramount Pictures and *Titanic Town* for BBC Films. Since returning from London in 2007 she's written *The Forgotten* for BBC Radio 4, literary essays, and serves as Literary Editor of *Fortnight*. *The Apparitions* (Arlen House) is her second short fiction collection.





“Sarah Gilbert writes of an old neighbourhood that is disappearing and being born anew. Her stories are as vibrant and intimate as drinking a cup of coffee on a stoop while gossiping with a neighbour in their housecoat.”

— Heather O’Neill



Sarah Gilbert has been living in Mile End, Montreal since 1990. Stories from her popular blog on changes in the neighbourhood were featured in the book *Histoire du Mile End* by Yves Desjardins and her fiction has appeared in a variety of literary journals. Gilbert has worked as a freelance writer and a radio producer and is a faculty member at Dawson College where she teaches literature. *Our Lady of Mile End* is her first book. Instagram: @ourladyofmileend

Reading & Discussion

Rosemary Jenkinson & Sally Wen Mao

Moderated by Sarah Harte

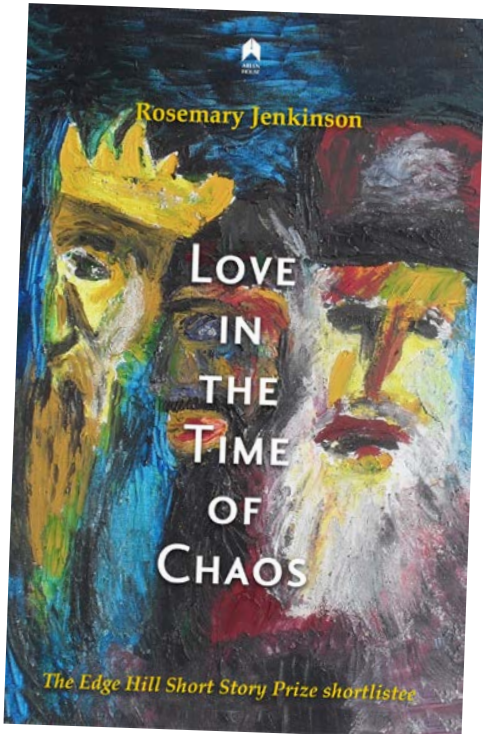
Saturday 19th 7.30pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



PHOTOGRAPHER: STUART BAILIE

Rosemary Jenkinson is a short story writer, playwright and poet. She particularly loves the short story as she fervently believes life is too short for long literature. Her short story collections are *Contemporary Problems*, *Aphrodite's Kiss*, *Catholic Boy* (shortlisted for the EU Prize for Literature), *Lifestyle Choice 10mgs* (shortlisted for

the Edge Hill Prize) and *Marching Season*. Her recent collection of short stories *Love in the Time of Chaos* (Arlen House) was shortlisted for the Edge Hill Prize. *The Irish Times* has praised her fiction for 'an elegant wit, terrific characterization and an absolute sense of her own particular Belfast'.



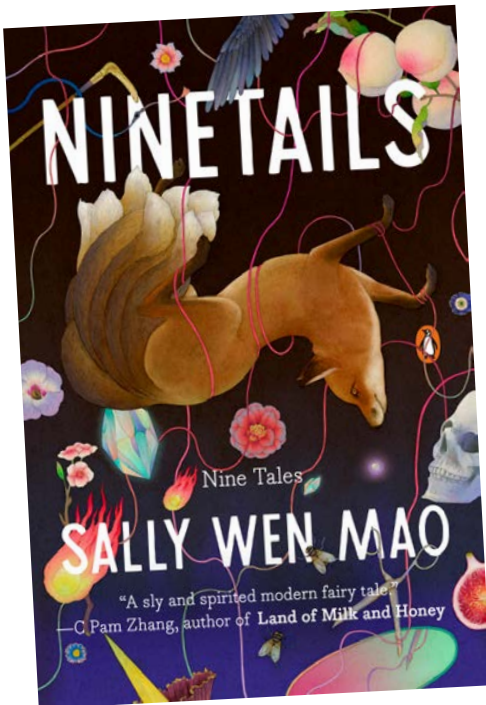
“Against a backdrop of Brexit, The Covid-19 pandemic, a cost-of-living crisis and the lingering shadows of The Troubles, Jenkinson explores love, or what is perhaps more appropriately described as desire, in times of chaos. Hers are lusty, skin-hungry characters, seeking not only the touch of another but escape, forgiveness and ultimately, a better existence.”

— Brigid O’Dea



PHOTOGRAPHER: JELANI AMEER

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, 2023), a finalist for the Maya Angelou Book Award, *Oculus* (Graywolf Press, 2019), a finalist for the 2020 Los Angeles 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.



“Fiercely imaginative and nourished by a wild subterranean river of magic, folklore, and futuristic myth, Sally Wen Mao’s Ninetails is a beguiling book and one that challenges the reader to conjure strange new modes of subverting oppression. Long a luminary of the poetry world, Sally Wen Mao proves here that she is an unstoppable, incandescent force in prose as well.”

— Alexandra Kleeman

Reading & Discussion

Elwin Cotman & Manuel Muñoz

Moderated by Billy O'Callaghan

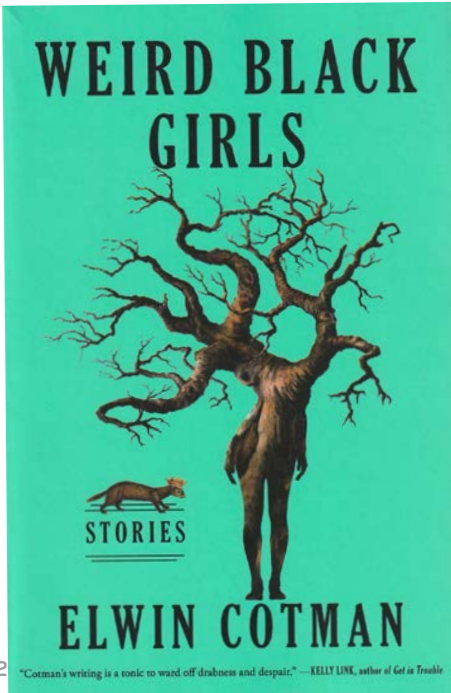
Saturday 19th 9.00pm **Cork Arts Theatre** | Admission €5



Elwin Cotman

is a storyteller from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is the author of five books: the poetry collection *The Wizard's Homecoming*, and the short story collections *The Jack Daniels Sessions EP*, *Hard Times Blues*, *Dance on Saturday*, and

Weird Black Girls. His debut novel *The Age of Ignorance* will be published by Scribner in 2025. He has worked as a video game consultant and writer for Square Enix. He holds a BA from the University of Pittsburgh and a MFA from Mills College.



“I’m enraptured by his writing, his every paragraph rich in wisdom and wit, his stories somehow rough and refined both, a brilliant mix of perversity and common sense, of the sacred and the profane.”

— Timothy Schaffert

PHOTOGRAPHER: JOHN D AND CATHERINE T (MACARTHUR FOUNDATION)



Manuel Muñoz is the author of three collections of short stories: *The Consequences*, published by Graywolf Press in 2022, *The Faith Healer of Olive Avenue* and *Zigzagger*. A novel, *What You See in the Dark*, was published in 2011. In 2023 Muñoz received a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship and won the 2023 Joyce Carol Oates

Prize. He is also the recipient of a 2008 Whiting Writers Award, and was a finalist for the 2023 Aspen Words Literary Prize and the 2007 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Prize. *The Consequences* was longlisted for the Story Prize.



“Lucid and elegantly written, The Consequences tells the stories of characters who ache for one another or for ephemeral moments of release; who ache—bodily—from a life spent harvesting the sweetness that will grace other tables.”

— Carolina A. Miranda

Moderators

Laura Cassidy is a writer from Co. Kildare, living in Cork city. She is a founding editor of the literary journal and small press Banshee, where she worked for a decade in the roles of publisher and editor. Laura is a recipient of the Cecil Day Lewis Literary Bursary award.

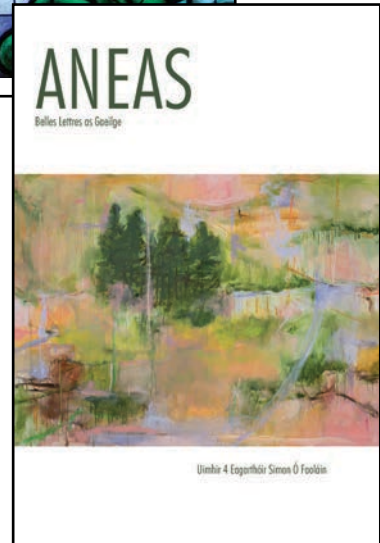
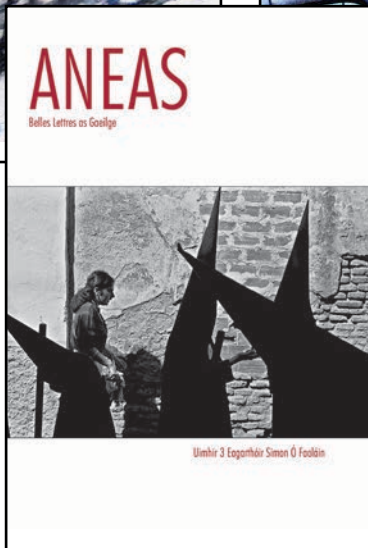
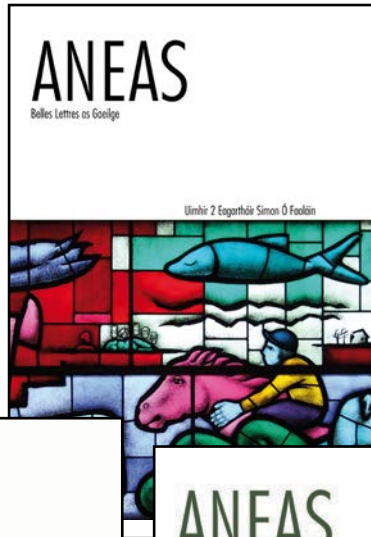
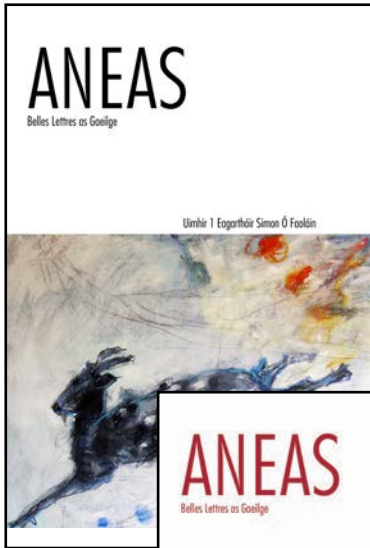
Danny Denton is a writer from Cork. He is the author of the novels *The Earlie King & the Kid In Yellow* and *All Along The Echo*. He lectures on writing at University College Cork and is a contributing editor to *The Stinging Fly*.

Sarah Harte has won or been shortlisted for prizes in Ireland and the UK including The Bryan MacMahon short story prize, The Bridport Prize, the Manchester Fiction Prize, the Seán Ó Faoláin International Short Story Prize, and the Fish Short Story Prize. She has also published two novels.

Patrick Holloway's debut novel, *The Language of Remembering*, will be published in February 2025 by Epoque Press. He is the winner of the Bath Short Story Award, The Allingham Fiction Prize, The Flash 500 Prize and The Molly Keane Creative Writing Prize. He is an editor of the literary journal, *The Four Faced Liar*.

Declan Meade is founding editor of *The Stinging Fly* magazine, which he established in Dublin in 1997. Under The Stinging Fly Press imprint, he has edited and published short-story collections by writers such as Colin Barrett, Kevin Barry, Claire-Louise Bennett, Wendy Erskine, Nicole Flattery and Danielle McLaughlin.

Billy O'Callaghan is the author of four novels and four collections, including, *The Boatman and Other Stories* (Jonathan Cape, 2020). His stories have appeared in *Agni*, *the Kenyon Review*, *Ploughshares*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, *The Stinging Fly* and elsewhere. His latest novel, *The Paper Man*, was published by Cape in 2023.



Iris nua bhliantúil atá tiomnaithe go hiomlán don gcuide is fearr de litríocht chomhaimseartha na Gaeilge í Aneas, iris a léiríonn go bhfuil neart, ealaín, pléasúr agus tathag fós ag baint le litríocht na teanga sinseartha sa tír seo. Laistigh dá clúdach geobhair filíocht, gearrscéalta agus léirmheasanna doimhne ó na scríbhneoirí is fearr atá ag saothrú na Gaeilge inniu, idir óg is aosta. Is é an mana eagarthóireachta a leagadh amach don iris, thar aon rud eile, ná caighdeán ard scríbhneoireachta.

SPECIAL THANKS

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

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