



Bookings

Bookings can be made by credit card through the website www.corkshortstory.net until Friday 12th September. Thereafter, all purchases must be in cash at the event door. A full set of tickets for Triskel events cost €78 at full price. A full set can be prebooked online for €50 up until September 1st. The concession rate is the lower of the two admission prices displayed and applies to pensioners, students and the unemployed. Admission may be blocked after an event begins. Refunds will be given only if an event is cancelled.

The Munster Literature Centre | Ionad Litríochta an Deiscirt

t. + 353 (0)21 4312955

or email info@munsterlit.ie

or pay through credit card/paypal on

www.corkshortstory.net



Programme Outline

Tuesday 16th - Saturday 20th September 2014

Tuesday 16th

8.00pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €15 & €12

Richard Ford

Wednesday 17th

9.30 - 12.30pm | Workshops (see p.38)

2.30pm, Library | Admission Free

Órlaith Foyle & Valerie Sirr

4pm, Library | Admission Free

Madeleine D'Arcy & Sun Wei

7.00 pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

Nuala Ní Chonchúir & Matt Rader

8.45pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

Kristiina Ehin & Rachel Trezise

Thursday 18th

9.30 - 12.30pm | Workshops (see p.38)

2.30pm, Library | Admission Free

Jon Boilard & Brendan Mathews, *two American writers.*

4pm, Library | Admission Free

Patrick Chapman & Jaki McCarrick

7.00pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

Lynn Coady & Alison MacLeod

8.45pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

Hisham Bustani & Clive Sinclair

Friday 19th

9.30 - 12.30pm | Workshops (see p.38)

2.30pm, Library | Admission Free

Charles Boyle & May-Lan Tan

4pm, Library | Admission Free

**The Word Factory presents Writers from Northern Ireland
with Lucy Caldwell, Paul McVeigh & Bernie McGill**

5pm, Millennium Hall at Cork City Hall | Admission Free

John Sexton & Young Cork Poets

6pm, Millennium Hall at Cork City Hall | Admission Free

Louise O'Neill for Young Adults

6.45pm, Waterstones Booksellers, Patrick Street | Admission Free

Flash Fiction Rapid Fire

8.30 pm, Millennium Hall at Cork City Hall | Admission Free

Seán Ó Faoláin Presentation & Cork Culture Night Literary Miscellany



Saturday 20th

9.30 - 12.30pm | Workshops (see p.38)

2.15pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €7 & €5

The Long and the Short of It, a discussion on the short story v. the novella v. the novel
moderated by Jennifer Matthews, editor of *Long Story, Short Journal*

4.15pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

Laura van den Berg & Salley Vickers

7pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

Davy Byrnes 2014 Anthology readings by
Sara Baume & Danielle McLaughlin

8.45pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

Award Presentation

Presentation of Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award, followed by a reading by 2014 O'Connor Laureate, **Colin Barrett**.

A Message from the Director

It is my honour to be curating this festival for the twelfth time. At fifteen years old The Cork International Short Story Festival is the daddy of all short story festivals. Before 2000 nobody in the world was producing an annual literary festival dedicated exclusively to the short story. The world abounded with specialist poetry festivals. But the short story existed in a vacuum, ignored by even the major catch-all book festivals. At the turn of the century Cork, being the home of major practitioners such as Frank O'Connor, Sean O Faolain, Elizabeth Bowen and William Trevor, seemed the obvious place to lead the world in a campaign to reinvigorate this wonderful, essential literary form.

In 2000 we founded the festival and in 2005 we founded the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award – the first literary prize dedicated to short story collections and still the most lucrative. We have since been joined by other awards in the UK and USA and specialist short story festivals around the globe. The short story is enjoying an international renaissance and Cork and the Munster Literature Centre have been at the forefront of that revival.

We have had some of the world's major practitioners of fiction come to read at this festival, many before they went on to become established names. Every year we showcase a mixture of brilliant new and established talent through readings, discussions and workshops. We are a friendly festival where the public is encouraged to hobnob with the writers. If you care about the short story but have never been to the festival you don't know what you are missing. The large number of free events means that there is no economic barrier to locals attending much of the festival and makes it easier for people from out of town to afford to make the journey here. With generous prebooking discounts on festival tickets, we aim to make great writers and great writing accessible to the greatest number of people in difficult economic times.

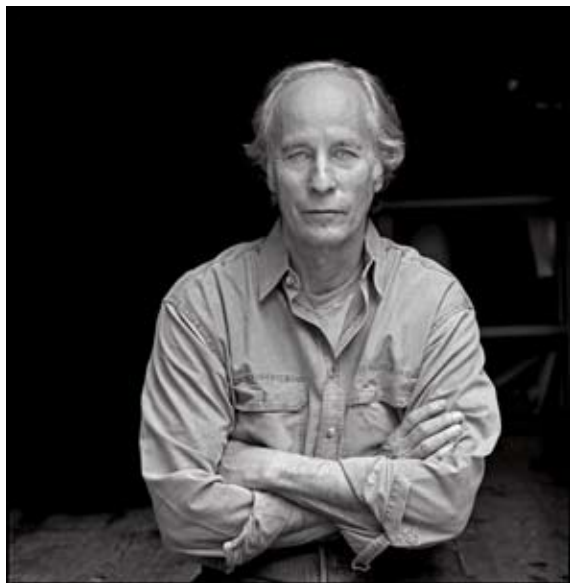
PATRICK COTTER

Reading & Public Interview

Richard Ford

in conversation with Hilary Lennon

Tuesday 16th 8pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €15 & €12



Richard Ford is one of the world's most famous authors. He has published seven novels including *The Sportswriter* and *Canada* and three collections of short stories. This autumn a fourth short story collection is forthcoming as is *Let Me Be Frank With You* – a new novel featuring his character Frank Bascombe.

SCHOOL OF ENGLISH



UCC

University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



MA Creative Writing at UCC

Further Information

Dr Eibhear Walshe,

School of English, UCC, Cork, Ireland.

e.walshe@ucc.ie

englishdepartment@ucc.ie

www.creativewritingucc.com



SCHOOL OF ENGLISH



Reading & Discussion

Órfhlaith Foyle & Valerie Sirr

in conversation with Patrick Cotter

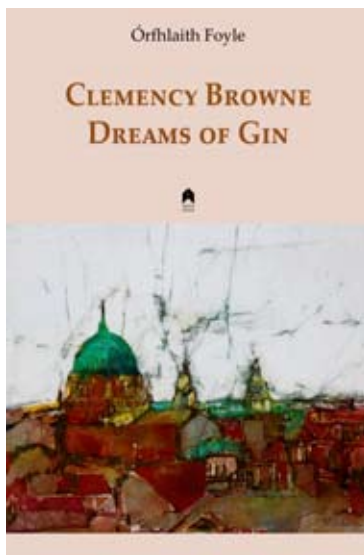
Wednesday 17th 2.30pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free



Órfhlaith Foyle was born in Africa to Irish parents and has published a novel *Belios* (2005), a poetry collection and two full-length collections of stories with Arlen House *Somewhere in Minnesota and other stories* (2011) and *Clemency Browne Dreams of Gin* (2014). Órfhlaith is currently writing her second novel.

*“...rages with a wild vitality
oddly touched by tenderness.
Órfhlaith Foyle has fire in her
belly”*

– *PATRICK McGRATH*





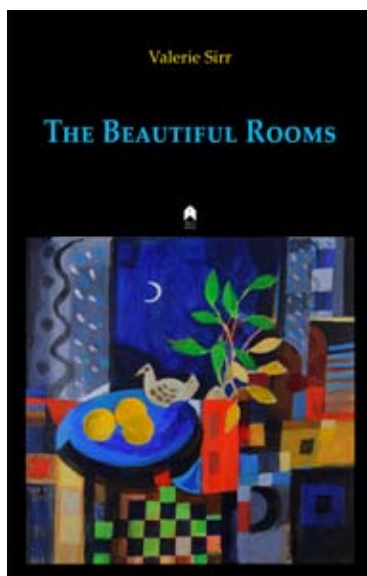
Valerie Sirr's debut collection of short stories is *The Beautiful Rooms* (Arlen House 2014). Her short fiction and poems have been widely published. Honours include 2007 Hennessy New Irish Writing Award, Arts Council of Ireland literature bursaries, and other national and international literature awards. She holds an M. Phil. in Creative Writing from Trinity College, Dublin. For more information visit Valerie online at www.valeriesirr.wordpress.com

'With this collection Valerie Sirr shows herself to be a worthy successor to Sean O'Faolain and William Trevor as a master of the short story.'

– DOUGLAS KENNEDY

'The characters who inhabit The Beautiful Rooms may be broken but Valerie Sirr transforms them with her lyrical mastery of language and her humane insight, making this a powerful and haunting collection'

– MARY MORRISSY



Reading & Discussion

Madeleine D'Arcy & Sun Wei

in conversation with Conal Creedon

Wednesday 17th 4pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free



Madeleine D'Arcy lives in Cork City. In 2010, she received the Hennessy First Fiction Award and the overall Hennessy Award of New Irish Writer. Her début short story collection, *Waiting For The Bullet* was published by Doire Press in April 2014. She's currently a scholarship student on the inaugural MA in Creative Writing at University College Cork. www.madeleinedarcy.com

“Madeleine D’Arcy’s stories are funny and wry and pulsate with all the mad rude energies of life itself but often there is an undercurrent of darkness or sadness just beneath the surface and this is what deepens and gives real weight to the work. A very accomplished collection”

~KEVIN BARRY





Sun Wei is a Chinese novelist, short-story writer and essayist. She was born in 1973 in Shanghai. She started writing fairy tales and novels in her teenage years. In her 20s, she worked as a director at Shanghai Television Station and later as the General Manager of a state-owned media company that specialised in documentary and TV column production. In 2003, she quit her job and became a full-time writer. She was writer in residence at the Munster Literature Centre in 2011.



Reading & Discussion

Nuala Ní Chonchúir & Matt Rader

in conversation with Sara Baume

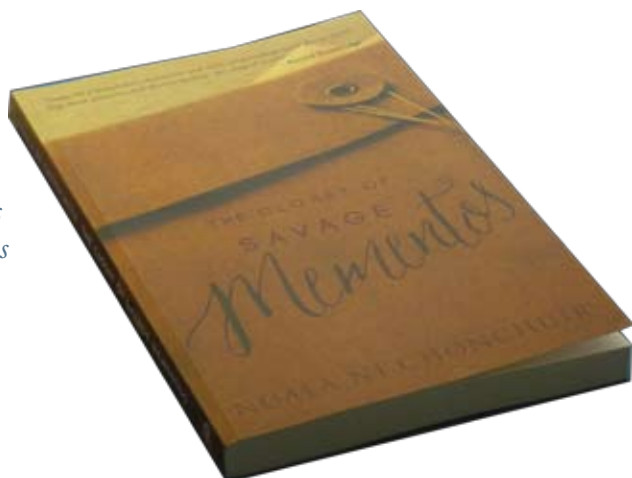
Wednesday 17th 7pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



Nuala Ní Chonchúir was born in Dublin in 1970. Her first novel *YOU* was published in 2010 by New Island. The same publisher brought out her fourth short story collection *Mother America* in 2012. Nuala's second novel *The Closet of Savage Mementos* appeared in April 2014 from New Island. Penguin USA and Penguin Canada will publish Nuala's third novel, *Miss Emily*, about the poet Emily Dickinson and her Irish maid, in 2015.

“Nuala Ní Chonchúir’s characters and their relationships have about them that most precious and elusive quality: the ring of truth..”

~ GERARD STEMBRIDGE





Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada



Matt Rader is the author of three books of poems. His fiction, non-fiction, and poetry have appeared in *The Walrus*, *Prism International*, *The Fiddlehead*, and two editions of *Best Canadian Poetry*, as well as many other publications across the world. Rader has been nominated for numerous awards, including the Journey Prize, the National Magazine Award, and the Pushcart Prize. He is core faculty in the Creative Studies Department at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. His first collection of short stories *What I Want To Tell You Goes Like This* has just been published.

“These fiercely beautiful stories create a kaleidoscopic vision of a very real but sometimes unsettling world”

~ JACK HODGINS



Reading & Discussion

Kristiina Ehin & Rachel Trezise in conversation with Jon Gower

Wednesday 17th 8.45pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



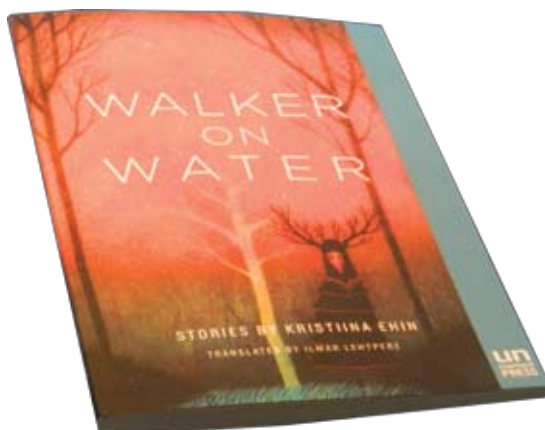
Kristiina Ehin is the author of the short story collection *Walker on Water*. An internationally renowned poet, her collection *The Drums of Silence* was awarded the British Poetry Society Popescu Prize for European Poetry in Translation in 2007, and her collection *1001 Winters* was nominated for the same prize in 2013. In her native Estonia, Ehin has published six volumes of poetry, three books of short stories and a retelling of South-Estonian folk tales. She has written plays, as well as poetic radio broadcasts.



EESTI KULTUURKAPITAL

*“Sharp, jarring
and darkly funny...
daringly re-examining
relationships”*

~ SUSAN STEINBERG





Rachel Trezise was born in Wales, where she still lives. Her debut novel *In and Out of the Goldfish Bowl* won a place on the Orange Futures List in 2002. *Harpers & Queen* magazine voted her New Face of Literature, 2003. In 2006 her first short story collection, *Fresh Apples* won the inaugural International Dylan Thomas Prize in 2014. Her second collection of short stories *Cosmic Latte* won Readers' Choice in The Edge Hill Short Story Prize this year. racheltrezise.co.uk

"An outstanding young writer..." ~THE TIMES

"...raw, honest, heartbreaking and hilarious..." ~WILLY VLAUTIN



Reading & Discussion

Jon Boilard & Brendan Mathews

in conversation with Eibhear Walshe

Thursday 18th 2.30pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free



Jon Boilard was born and raised in Western Massachusetts. He has been living and writing in Northern California since 1986. His short stories have been published in literary journals in the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia. His first novel *A River Closely Watched* was published by MacAdam Cage in 2012. His second novel *The Castaway Lounge* will be published next year. He has won the Seán Ó Faoláin prize. www.jonboilard.com

“Boilard’s debut novel is like the literary equivalent of punk rock”

~ THE KIRKUS REVIEWS



Brendan Mathews is the author of the novel *The World of Tomorrow* and the short story collection *Leavetakings*, both forthcoming from Little, Brown & Co. His stories have twice appeared in *Best American Short Stories* (2010 and 2014) and in *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Southern Review*, *Cincinnati Review*, and other magazines in the United States and UK. He is the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship to Ireland and an Artist Fellowship from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. He teaches at Bard College at Simon's Rock.



Reading & Discussion

Patrick Chapman & Jaki McCarrick

in conversation with Paul McVeigh

Thursday 18th 4pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free



Patrick Chapman has published six collections of poetry and one of short stories *The Word Signal* (2007). A volume of two novellas *The Negative Cutter* has been published this year by Arlen House. He has written for film, radio and television including the Dr Who audio drama *Fear of the Daleks* and the children's tv series *Garth and Bev*.

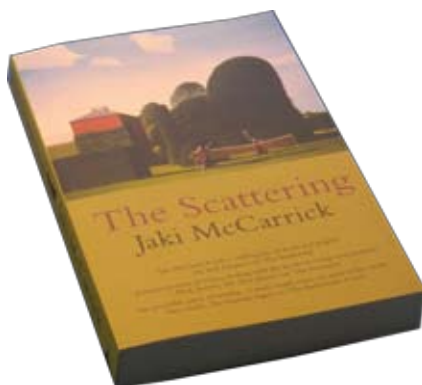




Jaki McCarrick lives in Dundalk and has an M.Phil in Creative Writing from Trinity. She is a playwright and short story writer and working on a novel. She has won many awards for her work including the Wasafiri Prize for New Writing and the SCDA National Playwriting Competition. Her debut short story collection *The Scattering* was shortlisted for the 2014 Edge Hill Prize.

“it has such an understated menace running through it and the writing is so subtly coloured, it reads like looking at a painting”

~BRIAN KIRK



Reading & Discussion

Lynn Coady & Alison MacLeod

in conversation with Matt Rader

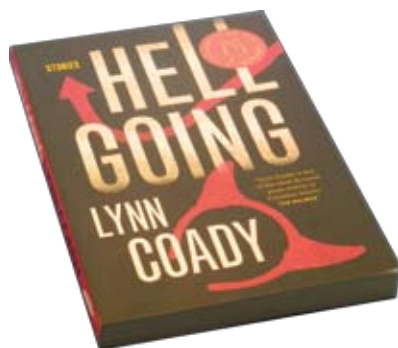
Thursday 18th 7pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



Lynn Coady was born and raised in Nova Scotia. She is the author of four novels and two short story collections. Her collection *Hellgoing* won the 2013 Giller Prize – Canada’s most prestigious literary award for fiction. She has written several plays, and contributes regularly to *The Globe and Mail*

“Coady’s sharp sense of humour serves to humanize even the most vicious or clueless figures in the book. There is a searing honesty here about humankind’s inability, or unwillingness, to make an effort at connection, but the author’s own humanity rescues her vision from descending into despair or nihilism”

~NATIONAL POST



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du Canada

“Almost unbearably moving”

~TERRY EAGLETON

*“A jolt of thought electrifying
the clogged tissue of the human
heart”*

~ALEX LINKLATER



Alison MacLeod is a novelist, short story writer and essayist. Her third and most recent novel, *Unexploded* (Hamish Hamilton/Penguin Books), was long-listed for The 2013 Man-Booker Prize and selected as one of 'The Observer's' 'Books of the Year'. She is also the author of the short story collection *Fifteen Modern Tales of Attraction* (Penguin, 2007). In 2008 she was awarded the Society of Authors' Prize for Short Fiction. She has also won Writers Awards from Arts Council England and the Canada Council for the Arts.

Reading & Discussion

Hisham Bustani & Clive Sinclair

in conversation with Paul McVeigh

Thursday 18th 8.45pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



Hisham Bustani (b. 1975, Amman, Jordan) writes fiction and has published four collections of short fiction: *Of Love and Death* (2008), *The Monotonous Chaos of Existence* (2010), *The Perception of Meaning* (2012) and *Preludes to a Stalled Disintegration* (2014). The German review *Inamo* has chosen him as one of the Arab world's emerging and influential new writers, translating one of his stories into German for its special issue on "New Arab Literature" (December 2009, www.inamo.de). He was listed among the best six contemporary Jordanian writers by theculturetrip.com.





Clive Sinclair was born in 1948. Sinclair has published four novels: *Bibliosexuality: a novel* (1973), *Blood Libels* (1985), *Cosmetic Effects* (1989) and *Augustus Rex* (1992). His short story collections include *Bedbugs* (1982), *The Lady with the Laptop and Other Stories* (1996) *Clive Sinclair's True Tales of the Wild West* (2008) and *Death and Texas* (2014). He has returned to the Universities of East Anglia and Santa Cruz as a Guest Lecturer, specialising in creative writing, detective fiction, gothic fiction and Holocaust literature.

“It is truly wonderful. Almost every sentence a surprise.... it’s hard not to turn green with envy at the sight of such seemingly effortless prose.”

~ WG SEBALD



Reading & Discussion

Charles Boyle & May Lan-Tan

in conversation with Matthew Sweeney

Friday 19th 2.30pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free



Charles Boyle has published a number of poetry collections (for which he was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot, Forward and Whitbread Prizes), a short novel (winner of the 2008 McKitterick Prize) and two books combining text and photography. He runs the small press CB editions. Last year he published his first book of stories *The Manet Girl*, with Salt Publishing.

“Much cooler and funnier than Sebald’s baroque and melancholy meditations... lies somewhere between Walter Benjamin’s musings and the wonderfully crazy mini-monologues that make up Thomas Bernhard’s The Voice Imitator”

~ GABRIEL JOSIPOVICI



National Culture Night:



May-Lan Tan grew up in colonial Hong Kong and was educated in British and American schools. Her parents are Dutch-speaking Chinese immigrants from Indonesia. She holds a BA in Fine Art and an MA in Creative Writing from Goldsmiths College. May-Lan's fiction has been published in *Zoetrope*: *All-Story*, *Areté*, and *The Reader*. Her debut collection, *Things to Make and Break*, was published by CB editions in March 2014.

“Tan’s treatment of intimacy in this collection of graciously detailed short stories embraces a variety of sexual experience: from sexual abuse to attempted sexual healing, from sadomasochism to a teenager’s first flushes of jealousy. Tan doesn’t limit herself to one gender perspective or one sexual orientation. Things to Make and Break is omnisexual, and it’s mind-blowingly good”

~ PANK MAGAZINE



Reading & Discussion

The Word Factory Presents Writers from Northern Ireland

with Lucy Caldwell, Bernie McGill & Paul McVeigh

Friday 19th 4pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free



Lucy Caldwell was born in Belfast in 1981. She is the author of three novels and several plays and is currently working on her debut short story collection. Stories from the collection have so far been shortlisted for the BBC International Short Story Award and won the Commonwealth Writers Prize (Canada & Europe). www.lucycaldwell.com



Bernie McGill is the author of *Sleepwalkers*, a short story collection short-listed for the Edge Hill Prize in 2014, and of the novel *The Butterfly Cabinet*. Her short fiction has been placed in the Seán Ó Faoláin, the Bridport, and the Michael McLaverty Short Story Prizes and she won the Zoetrope:All-Story Award in the US in 2010. She lives in Portstewart in Northern Ireland with her family. www.bernziemcgill.com

National Culture Night:



Paul McVeigh's short stories have been published in anthologies and journals and been commissioned by BBC Radio 4. He recently read his work alongside David Nicholls on BBC Radio 5, at Belfast Book Festival and the International Conference on the Short Story in Vienna. Paul is the Director of the London Short Story Festival and is Deputy Editor at London's Word Factory. His novel *The Good Son* is forthcoming from Salt in 2015.



WordFactory.tv

National Culture Night: for Young Adults John Sexton & Young Cork Poets

Friday 19th 5pm Millennium Hall, Cork
City Hall | Admission Free



John Sexton is famed for his poetry for adults and his fiction and radio plays for children. He is also a renowned teacher of creative writing for young people. Here he reads with three gifted teenage Cork writers he has discovered: Máirín-Rua Ní Aodha, Hassan Baker & Thomas Carr.

Expect shocks and laughter in equal amounts.

National Culture Night: for Young Adults Louise O'Neill

Friday 19th 6pm Millennium Hall, Cork
City Hall | Admission Free



Louise O'Neill is from Clonakilty in West Cork. After graduating from Trinity College Dublin with an honours BA in English Studies, she moved to New York to work for the senior Style Director of ELLE magazine. She returned to Ireland in 2011 to write her critically acclaimed debut novel, *Only Ever Yours*, which has been described as *The Handmaid's Tale* meets *Mean Girls*. This event will consist of a reading of excerpts from the novel followed by a Q&A led by the writer Róisín Kelly.

*"My book of the season for older teens is Only Ever Yours by Louise O'Neill, a stunning YA debut set in a dystopian future that has everyone talking.... A dark and devastating tale, this is a must read for older teens and adults alike" ~SARAH WEBB,
IRISH INDEPENDENT*

"A dark dream. A vivid nightmare. The world O'Neill imagines is frightening because it could come true. She writes with a scalpel" ~JEANNETTE WINTERSON





National Culture Night: Flash Fiction Rapid Fire

**Friday 19th 6.45pm-8pm Waterstones
Booksellers | Admission Free**

In celebration of National Culture Night – a free event consisting of rapid fire readings by a selection of festival authors and specially invited others. Listen to humour, tragedy and sometimes sheer weirdness. Each story will be less than 500 words long so feel free to stay for the whole event or come and go as you please.

Waterstones

National Culture Night: Sean O'Faolain Presentation & Cork Literary Miscellany

Friday 19th 8.30pm **Millennium Hall,
Cork City Hall** | **Admission Free**

As part of National Culture Night, the presentation of a prestigious prize followed by a miscellany of Cork writers and musicians presenting a varied programme, full of memoir, history, humour and sadness. Each piece is five minutes long so feel free to stay for the whole event or come and go as you please. Among the featured writers: William Wall, Mary Leland, Conal Creedon, Liadain O'Donovan, Alannah Hopkin, Madeleine D'Arcy, Doireann Ní Ghríofa and Joseph Sweeney.

Discussion & Debate

The Long & the Short of it.

a discussion on flash fiction v. the short story v. the novella v. the novel with Jennifer Matthews

Saturday 20th 2.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €12 & €10



A discussion on the length of forms in fiction, exploring how time, plot and characters differ between stories, novellas and novels—and whether demands on readers change too. Writers well-versed in multiple fiction forms, Nuala Ní Chonchúir and Patrick Chapman, and others will share their expertise, interviewed by Long Story, Short Journal editor Jennifer Matthews.

Jennifer Matthews writes poetry and book reviews, and is founder and editor of the *Long Story, Short Journal*. Her poetry has been published in *The Stinging Fly*, *Msllexia*, *Revival*, *Necessary Fiction*, *Poetry Salzburg*, *Foma* & *Fontanelles* and *Cork Literary Review*, and anthologised in Dedalus's collection of immigrant poetry in Ireland, *Landing Places* (2010). In 2012 she read at Electric Picnic with Poetry Ireland, and had a poem shortlisted by Gwyneth Lewis in the Bridport poetry competition.

Where have all the long short stories gone?

We love short shorts.
Flash is fantastic.
But why has the great
short story shrunk to
3000 words or less in
many literary journals?

Long Story, Short Journal
is the home of stories 4000
words or longer, one story
published every month.

Long Story, Short Journal
is free to read online,
with new work by Charles
Boyle, Madeleine D'Arcy,
John McKenna, Valerie
Sirr, Danielle McLaughlin,
Dave Lordan, Jamie
O'Connell, Julia Van
Middlesworth and
Matthew Sweeney.



Photo © Julia Van Middlesworth

LONG STORY, SHORT JOURNAL

longstoryshort.squarespace.com

Reading & Discussion

Laura van den Berg & Salley Vickers in conversation with Cathy Galvin

Saturday 20th 4.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



Laura van den Berg was raised in Florida and earned her M.F.A. at Emerson College. Her first collection of stories was shortlisted for the Frank O'Connor Award. Her second collection of stories, *The Isle of Youth*, won the Rosenthal Family Foundation Award and was named a "Best Book of 2013" by over a dozen venues, and was also shortlisted for the Frank O'Connor Award. Her first novel, *Find Me*, will be published by FSG in February 2015.

"Laura van den Berg is one of the most freakishly talented young writers at work today, and a master of the short story form. Hers are deliciously unnerving, moving and monstrous tales"

~ KAREN RUSSELL

"uniformly excellent... emotionally complex and raw"

~ DAVE EGGERS





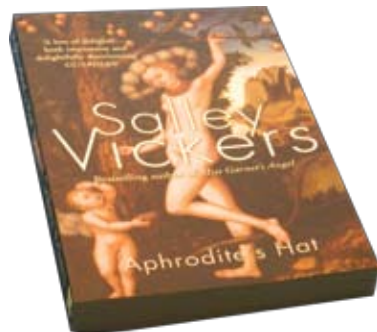
Salley Vickers was born in 1948 in Liverpool. She has published eight novels including the word-of-mouth bestseller *Miss Garnet's Angel*, *Mr. Golightly's Holiday*, *The Other Side of You* and *Where Three Roads Meet*, a retelling of the Oedipus myth to Sigmund Freud in the last months of his life. Her short stories are collected in the volume *Aphrodite's Hat*.

"Vickers proves herself a formidable and astute chronicler of the psychology of love"

~THE SUNDAY TIMES

"A deceptively wild, seamlessly well-crafted collection"

~THE TIMES



Reading

Davy Byrnes 2014 Anthology

featuring Sara Baume & Danielle McLaughlin with Declan Meade

Saturday 20th 7pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



Sara Baume was born in Lancashire in 1984. She grew up in County Cork and studied fine art at Dun Laoghaire College of Art and Design before completing the MPhil in creative writing at Trinity College Dublin. Her short stories have been published in *the Moth*, *the Stinging Fly* and *the Irish Independent* as part of the Hennessy New Irish Writing series. Her reviews and articles have also appeared online and in print. Her debut novel, *Spill Simmer Falter Wither*, will appear from Tramp Press next year. She won this year's Davy Byrnes Short Story Award.



Danielle McLaughlin lives in County Cork. Her stories have been published widely in periodicals and anthologies. She won the Writing Spirit Award for Fiction 2010, a WOW!2 Award for Fiction in 2011, the From the Well Short Story Competition 2012, and the William Trevor/Elizabeth Bowen International Short Story Competition 2012. A full length collection is due from Stinging Fly Press in 2015.

Reading & Public Interview

Colin Barrett

Winner of the 2014 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award
in conversation with Sinead Gleeson

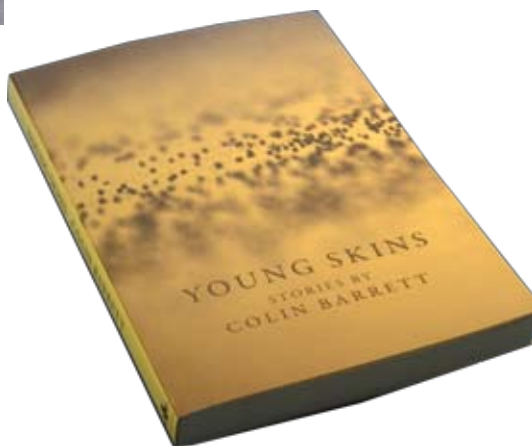
Saturday 20th 8.45pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



Colin Barrett was born in 1982 and grew up in County Mayo. In 2009 he completed his MA in Creative Writing at University College Dublin and was awarded the Penguin Ireland Prize. His work has been published in *The Stinging Fly* magazine and in the anthologies *Sharp Sticks*, *Driven Nails* (Stinging Fly Press, 2010) and *Town and Country* (Faber and Faber, 2013). Barrett received bursaries from the Arts Council in 2011 and 2013. *Young Skins* is his first collection of stories and won the 2014 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award.

“The most underpraised of the Irish newcomers, Young Skins is a fine collection dominated by the novella ‘Calm With Horses’, a bravura performance in which Barrett simply outwrites many of his peers with a chilling confidence that suggests there is far more beneath the surface than merely the viciously effective black humour.”

~ EILEEN BATTERSBY, *THE IRISH TIMES*



Workshops

General Information

All workshops will run concurrently Wednesday 17th to Saturday 20th September, 9.30am to 12.30pm, at a number of venues in Cork City centre, each no more than a ten minute walk from the main festival venue: the Triskel Arts Centre on South Main Street. The exact venue for each workshop will be determined by the number of participants and mobility considerations. **Maximum number of participants in each workshop is 15.**

Mobility Requirements: Most of the venues have wheelchair access but not all. If you have limited mobility every effort will be made to accommodate you on the other workshops, but best chance is through an early booking.

Your workshop place will be secured only after full payment. Every effort will be made to make sure that the programme proceeds as advertised but the Munster Literature Centre accepts no responsibility for changes made due to circumstances beyond our control.

Refunds will be given only if a workshop is cancelled.

Participants with booked places will be informed in early September of exact venue. Any other relevant requirements such as reading materials or submitted work (as indicated in some workshop descriptions) will be communicated to you in good time.

As workshops sell out notification of such will be posted on www.corkshortstory.net

How to Book.

Phone + 353 (021)4312955 Email info@munsterlit.ie

In person at The Munster Literature Centre, Frank O'Connor House, 84 Douglas Street, Cork.

Payment will be accepted by cheque/postal order or by credit card via Paypal.

Short Story Masterclass with Rachel Trezise Price: €180

This four-part master-class in short story writing will examine all elements of the short story – characters, setting, plot, conflict and theme, as well as the short story form itself – what makes a short story a short story? We will look briefly at some well-known short stories but participants are also encouraged to read and discuss their own work. Writing exercises will feature in the hope that each participant will begin and develop a new short story.

Day One: Characters, Settings, Point-of-View and Tense

The first session of this master-class will concentrate on what you need before you even begin to write a story; three dimensional characters that ring true and jump off the page, a place and a time that your reader will recognise even if they've never been there, and the narrative mode best suited to bring the very best out in your story and characters.

Day Two: Beginnings and Backgrounds

The second session of the master-class will look at planning and starting a short story. We'll learn ways to plot narratives that prevent the writer getting stuck or overloaded somewhere in the middle by learning to differentiate between necessary and unnecessary information. We'll also look at ways to gauge a reader's attention from the get-go and keep them reading.

Day Three: Drama, Conflict and Minimalism

Session three and the continuation of the story. How to plough through the most difficult part of your story without complicating, confusing or boring your reader, and simultaneously keep your plot and themes small but vital? We'll look at ways to use conflict in order to heighten the drama in your story whilst avoiding clichéd, abstract and judgemental writing.

Day Four: Climax and Endings and what next?

The final session of the master-class will look at short story climaxes and endings; ways to conclude your stories that both tie up all your loose threads and leave your reader feeling as though they've experienced an emotion rather than simply read a few paragraphs. Plus, what to do with your short story now that it's written? Some advice on competitions, short story markets and composing collections.

Rachel Trezise was born in Wales, where she still lives. Her debut novel *In and Out of the Goldfish Bowl* won a place on the Orange Futures List in 2002. *Harpers & Queen* magazine voted her New Face of Literature, 2003. In 2006 her first short story collection, *Fresh Apples* won the inaugural International Dylan Thomas Prize. In 2014. Her second collection of short stories *Cosmic Latte* won Readers' Choice in The Edge Hill Short Story Prize this year. racheltrezise.co.uk

Short Stories for Beginners with Jon Boilard Price: €150

Suitable for beginner writers who would like to explore the foundation elements of the short story, and for those who have never written before. Topics include: plot, setting, character, conflict, symbols, point of view, and building themes. Participants will read and discuss their own stories in class and writing exercises will feature in most sessions. The tutor will advise on building good writing habits, finding a writing community and how to send off work for publication.

Day One: Elements of Fiction

Plot, Setting, Character, Conflict, Symbol, and Point of View are the main elements which fiction writers use to develop a story and its Theme. Setting might be the most important element in one and almost nonexistent in another. Just as a Crime Scene Investigator cannot approach a crime scene looking for a specific clue (e. g. shell casings), you as a reader cannot approach a story deciding to look for a specific element, such as Symbol. This session will look at each element in depth, and the class will look at participants' work in progress.

Day Two: Sending Your Work Out

Remember that writing isn't just the act of putting words on paper, it's also sending your completed stories to literary magazines for publication, entering

fiction contests, basically flooding the market with your best material—the administrative side of writing can be just as important as the creative side. No agent or editor or publisher is going to come looking for you, you have to make yourself visible. You have to put yourself out there. Writing exercises and advice on establishing habits and sending out submissions features in this session.

Day Three: Shameless Self-Promotion; News & Trends

This session involves advice from the tutor on how to share and promote your work. Discussion will follow on current trends in fiction. Class will look at participants' work in progress.

Day Four: Resources for Beginning Writers, Q&A / Contact information

The tutor will advise students on resources for beginning writers, and there will be a general Q&A session to discuss the topics covered during the week. The class will continue to discuss participants' work in progress.

Jon Boilard was born and raised in Western Massachusetts. He has been living and writing in Northern California since 1986. His short stories have been published in literary journals in the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia. His first novel *A River Closely Watched* was published by MacAdam Cage in 2012. He has won the Seán Ó Faoláin Prize. jonboilard.com

Story to novel: how to write long when you are used to writing short with Nuala Ní Chonchúir Price: €180

This workshop will provide an introductory guide to novel writing. Participants will receive a daily handout and we will write at every session. We will also have an opportunity to discuss publishers, agents etc. Participants are welcome to bring the first five pages of a novel in progress for discussion in class.

Day One: The first five pages

This workshop will look at early decisions in novel writing: the importance of a strong title; point of view, tense and structure. We will also explore the notion of theme in writing novels.

Day Two: Plotting and planning

In this session we will focus on ways of enriching your novel as opposed to making it flabby. We will look at plot, sub-plot, side-alleys, structure and flow in novel writing.

Day Three: Character and dialogue

This workshop will examine character under the following headings: creating believable characters; motivation; conflict; profiles; naming. We will also zone in on the things our characters say and don't say; correct layout of dialogue; how to reproduce real speech in fiction; and the use of colloquial language.

Day Four: Self-editing

The final workshop will focus on MS layout and how to improve self-editing skills. In this session, Nuala will also answer queries from participants regarding publishing opportunities, approaching agents and publishers, recommended reading etc.

Nuala Ní Chonchúir was born in Dublin in 1970; she lives in East Galway. Her critically acclaimed first novel *YOU* was published in 2010 by New Island. The same publisher brought out her fourth short story collection *Mother America* in 2012. A chapbook of flash fiction *Of Dublin and Other Fictions* was published in the US in late 2013 by Tower Press and Nuala's second novel *The Closet of Savage Mementos* appeared in April 2014 from New Island. Penguin USA and Penguin Canada will publish Nuala's third novel, *Miss Emily*, about the poet Emily Dickinson and her Irish maid, in 2015. www.nualanichonchuir.com

Poetry Masterclass with Kristiina Ehin Price €180

The Munster Literature Centre is grabbing the opportunity to present a four morning Poetry Masterclass with one of Europe's most admired poets under forty years of age. The Estonian poet Kristiina Ehin is attending the festival to read from her latest short story collection in English. Her work has received not only all of Estonia's major poetry awards but also the Poetry Society's highest accolade for poetry in translation (The Popescu Prize). She lectures in creative writing at Tartu University and this will be a rare opportunity for Irish poets seeking a masterclass with a completely different perspective. Combining elements of Estonian and Irish folk and poetic traditions, this masterclass will present insights novel to the Irish poetry workshop scene by a young poet of acknowledged genius. The masterclass is reserved for poets who have already begun to publish in periodicals or who may have already published a collection of their own. For more about Kristiina visit:

<http://lehtpere.blogspot.ie>

During the four day workshop participants will be encouraged to share their poetry and prose poems in order to expand their creativity and methods of composition. We will use a variety of spontaneous exercises in description, reflection, language and structure. Working as a group we will create a positive atmosphere to respond to each other's work.

Preliminary task: Participants are asked to bring a list of at least 10 unusual words to the first session that are interesting in their sound, meaning and feeling, and that might find their way into your poetry. These can be from literary works, dictionaries, folk songs or just from other people.

Day One:

Introduction. Exercises for inspiration. Games to find one's own means of poetic expression. Identity as one of poetry's basic themes (parallel examples in classic Estonian and Irish poetry). Who am I, where am I, where am I going – the creation of a poem. How to connect hearing and writing: working in pairs – posing questions and writing a poem based on the answers.

Day Two:

Exercises to enliven the senses: how to turn sensations, feelings and ideas into words. How to find the right words.

Poems made up of unusual words.

Words as sensitive colours with which to paint landscapes, situations and beings.

Dialogue poems. Exercises to establish contact.

Day Three:

Creating images as a riddle. The tightrope walk of mystery and explication. Exercises in stylistic imitation (haiku, romantic poetry, folk poetry, classicism, surrealistic poetry, free verse).

Day Four

Using traditional folk motifs in poetry (Estonian and Irish examples). Folk poetry as inspiration. Writing poetry on the basis of fairy tales. Archetype in psychoanalysis as a creator of the multidimensionality of a poem. Sharing the participants' work. Conclusions.

Notes



Culturefox.ie is the definitive online guide to Irish cultural events, giving you complete information about cultural activities both here and abroad.

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Frank O'Connor speaking to the BBC in 1961:

“Towns and cities have a mental age of their own. The mental age limit defines the period after which a young man or woman of talent ought to pack his bags and get out. I don't know exactly how you judge the mental age of a town, but one way is by its bookshops and libraries, art galleries and theatres and concerts.

I have a feeling that, at one time, Cork, for a short time at least, during the reign of Cormac McCarthy, was a real European capital. It has ceased to be that and the problem now is how it's going to recreate a life for itself, a life in which a man can live completely from the cradle to the grave; that I think is a problem not only for Cork, but for the whole of Western European Civilisation. Life has to start flowing back into the smaller places. Metropolis ended with Hiroshima. People have got to start living a much less specialised form of life, a much more a community form of life and my feeling about this city is... either people make a success of it or Western Europe is finished.”

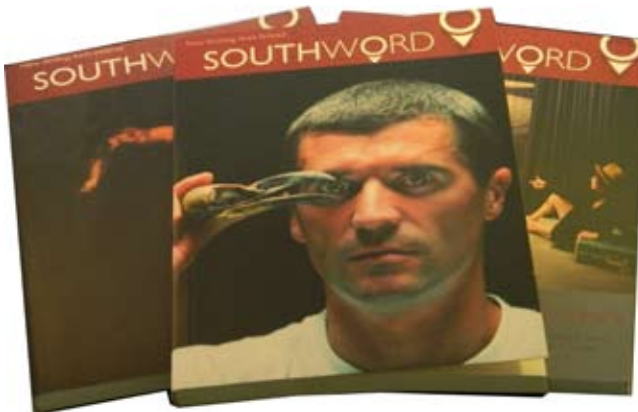


Proudly working to create a city life without limits!

Cork City Council, through its sponsorship of the Arts; its funding of the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award, the Cork International Short Story Festival and the other activities of the Munster Literature Centre is working to create a life without limits, to ensure that men and women can develop to their fullest creative and intellectual extent; so that they are never obliged to leave their home city to fulfil themselves. Cork City Council works to raise the quality of city life by facilitating access to the Arts for all the community.

Three times a year, the best of new fiction
and poetry from established and emerging
authors, free to readers online

http://www.munsterlit.ie/Southword/issues_index.html



If you haven't been reading Southword then you
will have missed new work by Colm Toibín, Haruki
Murakami, James Lasdun, Tess Gallagher, Billy Collins,
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Martín Espada, Paula Meehan and many, many others.

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The Cork International Short Story Festival

The Cork International Short Story Festival was founded in 2000 and called then the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Festival. It is produced by the Munster Literature Centre.

The Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award

Founded in 2005 the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award is the world's richest prize for an original collection of short stories. It is generously co-sponsored by Cork City Council and the School of English University College Cork.

About Munster Literature Centre

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. To this end, we organise festivals, workshops, readings and competitions. Our publishing section, Southword Editions, publishes a biannual journal, poetry collections and short stories. We actively seek to support new and emerging writers and are assisted in our efforts through funding from a number of government agencies, mainly Cork City Council and the Arts Council of Ireland.

Originally located in Sullivan's Quay, the centre moved to its current premises in the Frank O'Connor House (the author's birthplace) at 84 Douglas Street in 2003.

Festival Team

Festival Director: Patrick Cotter

Administration: Jennifer Matthews

MLC Board of Management:

Claire Connolly, Sue Cosgrave, Edward Faby, Lorraine Kingston, Aisling Meade, Pádraig Trehy.

Special thanks to:

Cork City Council Arts Officer: Liz Meaney

Arts Council Head of Literature: Sarah Bannan