



West Cork Literary Festival

Friday 8 – 15 July 2022 / Bantry Co. Cork



Celebrating 70 years supporting the arts

arts council.ie

WELCOME TO THE 2022 WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

And what a delight it is to welcome you all back in person, to be gathering in Bantry once again and to be mingling with writers and audience members. It's been far too long but it'll definitely be worth the wait.

It was wonderful to hear about people finding comfort in books and the arts over the past two years so thank you to all of the writers and audience members who joined us online when physical festivals were not possible. You kept our spirits up and we hope that we did the same for you.

However we are very aware that so many writers missed out on launches and engaging with audiences and other authors during this time. Therefore it gives us huge pleasure to be back in person and to be able to share with you some of the incredible writers whose work has spoken to us this year. This July we hope that you will embrace (not literally, please!) new discoveries and old favourites amongst our line-up of Irish and international writers, novelists, poets, essayists, short story writers, memoirists, translators, creative writing tutors and writers for children and young people.

Eternal gratitude to the board of West Cork Music and the festival team who work so hard year-round to produce three world-class festivals – West Cork Chamber Music Festival, Masters of Tradition and West Cork Literary Festival. They kept the show on the road over the past years and I know we will be back stronger than ever this summer. Welcome to the additional staff and volunteers who come aboard at festival time and who make it all seem so effortless. It is a pleasure to

work with all of you and to be part of this very special festival.

West Cork is one of the most beautiful places in the world and it is a joy to present a literary festival in such amazing surroundings. The people and businesses of Bantry have really come together to support one another and to make our town a wonderful place to live, work and visit. We are ready and waiting to give you an unforgettable West Cork experience. Special thanks as always to our principal funders the Arts Council, Cork County Council and Fáilte Ireland.

At the end of 2021 Noel O'Mahony, Bantry Librarian, retired after thirty-seven years. We owe such gratitude to Noel and we wish him a long and happy retirement. Noel, we look forward to seeing you relax in the audience. We are delighted to be working with Denis Murphy, the new Bantry Librarian, and to be continuing our long partnership with the library.

The festival wouldn't exist without our audiences and the support that you give to the festival and the writers by continuing to buy tickets and books. It'll be a hectic week of readings, workshops, seminars and family events and we look forward to seeing you all here.

Biggest thanks of all go to our writers. Whether it is your first in-person visit or whether you are a seasoned WCLF author we hope that you have a wonderful time in West Cork. Thank you so much for sharing your work and your ideas with us.

Eimear O'Herlihy, Festival Director



West Cork Literary Festival



West Cork Literary Festival

A MESSAGE FROM CORK COUNTY LIBRARY & ARTS SERVICE

I am delighted to see the West Cork Literary Festival back in the heart of Bantry this year. The strong connection between the festival and Bantry Library reflects our shared passion for literature, for creativity and for providing access for everyone to writers and writing.

During the pandemic, the importance of books and reading was never clearer than in the tremendous response to the Library Housebound Service. Whether it is for pleasure, comfort, escapism or education, reading is clearly central to many of our lives. A festival dedicated to the celebration of literature and writing is sure to inspire and renew us all.

We extend a warm welcome to visitors from near and far to Bantry. As always, the programme this year is full of an incredible variety of events and workshops, with something to suit all interests. Cork County Library supports over forty book clubs in library branches across the county and provides books by authors featured at the festival to highlight the programme and encourage book club members to take this great opportunity to meet these authors.

I would like to thank West Cork Music and the festival's Artistic Director Eimear O'Herlihy. Thank you also to the County Arts Office, to the sponsors, local organisations, businesses and

volunteers for the time and effort put into creating something so special.

I would particularly like to mention Noel O'Mahony of Bantry Library, who retired recently. Noel is known by most who have attended the festival over the years and has always been dedicated not only to providing the people of Bantry with exemplary service in the library but to placing the West Cork Literary Festival firmly at the core of the library's events programme. The festival events in the library have always attracted large audiences and his enthusiasm and flexibility were central to their success. We wish him well in his retirement and welcome Denis Murphy as he and the staff of Bantry Library continue this great tradition.

I look forward to seeing you all in Bantry this summer – authors, first-time attendees and regular visitors. Enjoy the festival and its many wonderful offerings.

Emer O'Brien
County Librarian,
Cork County Library and Arts Service



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council



THIS YEAR'S COVER ART

Shores of Light by Tom Climent © 2021

Oil & plaster on board. 91x61cm www.tomcliment.com

ALL WEEK / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

EXHIBITION: SWERVE

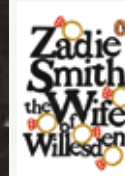
Visual art from a new magazine showcasing emerging Cork writers and artists. See page 12 for magazine launch

FRIDAY 8 JULY / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

OPENING RECEPTION

Join us as we gather in Bantry once again and welcome audience members, workshop participants, festival sponsors and supporters and of course the writers who will be with us over the course of the week.

This year's festival will be officially opened by **Sarah Bannan**, Head of Literature at the Arts Council.



FRIDAY 8 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

NICK LAIRD & ZADIE SMITH

in conversation with Rick O'Shea

Join us for an evening with **Nick Laird** and **Zadie Smith**. Nick will read from a selection of his poetry and Zadie will discuss her writing, including her most recent publication *The Wife of Willesden*. This is Zadie's first time writing for the stage and it is a riotous twenty-first century translation of Geoffrey Chaucer's classic *The Wife of Bath's Prologue*

[Nick Laird is] 'an assured and brilliant voice in Irish poetry.'
Colm Tóibín

[Zadie Smith is] 'a preternaturally gifted writer with a voice that's street-smart and learned, sassy and philosophical all at the same time.' **The New York Times**

SATURDAY 9 / 11.00 / ZOOM / €5

MARY LAWSON

Join us on zoom for this online event with award-winning Canadian author, **Mary Lawson**. Mary's new novel *A Town Called Solace* is set in the frozen north of Canada in 1972 and is a novel about childhood trauma, painful histories and the moments in life when we can change for the better.

Mary Lawson's first novel, *Crow Lake* was a *New York Times* bestseller and was chosen as a Book of the Year by the *New York Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

SATURDAY 9 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

MARIJKE SCHERMER

In **Marijke Schermer's** novel *Love, If That's What It Is* Terri runs off with a lover, abandoning her children and her marriage. Her husband, David, is left to take care of their daughters, one of whom is falling in love for the first time. These four people start to question their identity outside the nuclear family. What remains of a disintegrated home, and what changes?

Marijke Schermer is a Dutch novelist and playwright. *Love, If That's What It Is* was shortlisted for the prestigious Libris Literature Prize 2020. It is her first work to be published in English and it is translated by Hester Velmans.

Marijke's participation in West Cork Literary Festival is supported by the Nederlands Letterenfonds / Dutch Foundation for Literature as part of their New Dutch Writing programme.



Áine Ní Ghlinn

SATURDAY 9 / 14.30 / WHIDDY ISLAND / €25 (Includes Ferry Trip)

SARA BAUME

Join us for this special trip to Whiddy Island with West Cork author **Sara Baume**. *Seven Steeples* is the story of Bell and Sigh, a couple in the infancy of their relationship, who cut themselves off from friends and family. Taking place in a remote house in the south-west of Ireland, this rich and vivid novel spans seven years and speaks to the times we live in, asking how we may withdraw, how better to live in the natural world, and how the choices made or avoided lead us home.

Sara Baume's work includes novels *Spill Simmer Falter*, *Wither* and *A Line Made by Walking*, and her 2020 bestselling non-fiction debut, *handiwork*. She has won the Davy Byrnes Short Story Award, the Hennessy New Irish Writing Award, the Rooney Prize and the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize. Sara grew up in East Cork and now lives in West Cork.



The ferry leaves Bantry Pier for Whiddy Island at 14.30 sharp. It will leave Whiddy at 16.45 to return to Bantry.

SATURDAY 9 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

ÁINE NÍ GHLINN

Join Ireland's Laureate na nÓg, **Áine Ní Ghlinn**, for a conversation about how to encourage children to read as Gaeilge and the importance of reading as Gaeilge (or in any language). Áine is passionate about encouraging children and young people to read as Gaeilge for pleasure. **This event will be in English.**

Áine Ní Ghlinn is the sixth Laureate na nÓg (Ireland's Children's Literature Laureate). She is the first author writing exclusively in the Irish language to be appointed to the role. Áine has written twenty-eight books for children, as well as five collections of poetry for adults.

Is í **Áine Ní Ghlinn**, an séú Laureate na nÓg, agus an chéad údar sa ról a scríobhann i nGaeilge amháin. Is file agus údar do pháistí í Áine. Tá ocht leabhar is fiche scríofa aici do pháistí (scéalta, úrscéalta, filíocht agus drámaí) chomh maith le cúig chnuasach filíochta do dhaoine fásta. do pháistí agus daoine óga a spreagadh chun scíthléitheoireacht a dhéanamh as Gaeilge.



Laureate na nÓg is an initiative of the Arts Council. It is managed and delivered on the Arts Council's behalf by Children's Books Ireland, and also supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

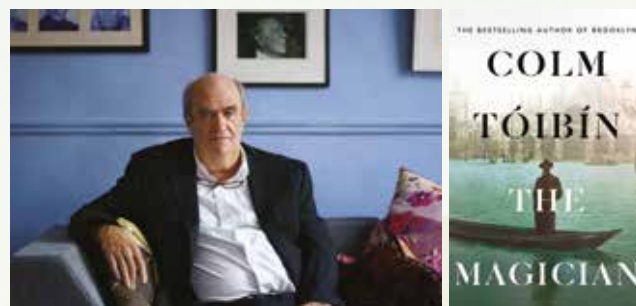


SATURDAY 9 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

GEOFF DYER

The Last Days of Roger Federer is the new book by award-winning author **Geoff Dyer**. Join Geoff for a fascinating conversation about endings; featuring sports stars, musicians and more. Much attention has been paid to so-called late style – but what about last style? When does last begin? How early is late? When does the end set in? In this endlessly stimulating investigation, Geoff Dyer sets his own encounter with late middle age against the last days and last achievements of writers, painters, athletes and musicians who've mattered to him throughout his life.

Geoff Dyer is the award-winning author of ten non-fiction books and four novels. A fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Science, Geoff lives in Los Angeles. His books have been translated into twenty-four languages.



SATURDAY 9 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €5

COLM TÓIBÍN

Join us for an evening with **Colm Tóibín** as he discusses his latest novel *The Magician* and his role as the Laureate for Irish Fiction. *The Magician* is an intimate, astonishingly complex portrait of Thomas Mann, his magnificent and complex wife Katia, and the times in which they lived—the first world war, the rise of Hitler, World War II, the Cold War, and exile. This is a man and a family fiercely engaged by the world, profoundly flawed, and unforgettable. Through one life, Colm tells the breathtaking story of the twentieth century.



The Laureate for Irish Fiction is an initiative of the Arts Council of Ireland. The role seeks to acknowledge the contribution of fiction writers to Irish artistic and cultural life. Colm Tóibín was announced as the third Laureate for Irish Fiction in January 2022 and he will hold his role from 2022 to 2024.

SATURDAY 9 JULY / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

OPEN MIC All welcome

SUNDAY 10 / 10.00 – 15.00

MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

TRAMP PRESS CLINICS

Lisa Coen and **Sarah Davis-Goff** of Tramp Press invite you to come and chat about whatever literature-related topic you'd like. Book a free, 15-minute slot to come and say hi, ask about the sector, how the slush pile works, for advice on editing or submissions, by all means pitch your novel, or just ask us what we're reading! Tramp Press One-on-One sessions are intended to create an inclusive environment in which to demystify the publishing process.

Must be booked in advance online or through the festival office.

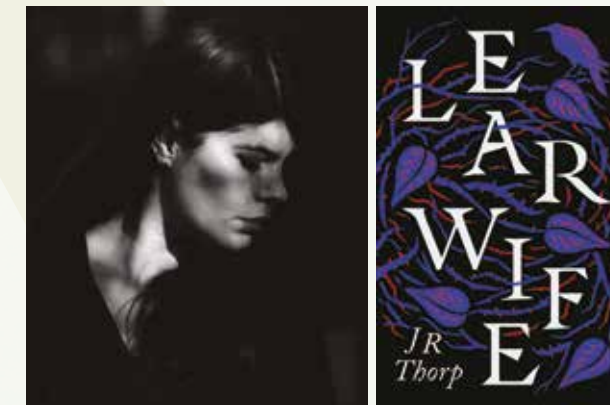


SUNDAY 10 / 12.00 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16 **J.R. THORP**

Learwife is a breathtaking novel of loss, renewal and how history bleeds into the present. Word has come. Care-bent King Lear is dead, driven mad and betrayed. His three daughters too, broken in battle. But someone has survived: Lear's queen. Exiled to a nunnery years ago, written out of history, her name forgotten. Now she can tell her story. *Learwife* gives an unforgettable voice to a woman whose absence has been a tantalising mystery.

'This impressive, opulently written debut novel begins where King Lear ends, as his invisible queen tells her story at last.' **The Guardian**

J.R. Thorp is a writer, lyricist and librettist. She won the London Short Story Award in 2011, was shortlisted for the BBC Opening Lines Prize, and has had work published in the Cambridge Literary Review and Manchester Review. She grew up in Australia and now lives in Cork. She was named as an *Observer* Best Debut Novelist 2021.



SUNDAY 10 / 15.00 / BANTRY HOUSE / €20

MARTINA DEVLIN & MARIANNE LEE

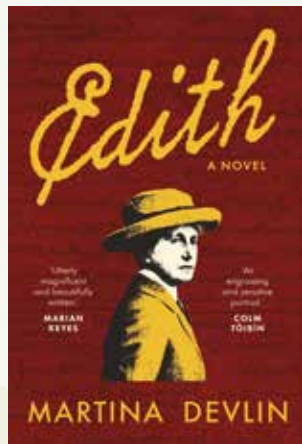
Martina Devlin and **Marianne Lee** have written about two groundbreaking West Cork women – best-selling author Edith Somerville and botanist Ellen Hutchins – who have been re-imagined in their historical fiction novels

Martina Devlin's new novel *Edith* is based on the life of Edith Somerville of 'Somerville and Ross' fame – authors of *The Irish R.M.* The story of Somerville and Ross is unique in the history of Irish women writers. Academic Shawn R. Mooney described these best-selling authors as 'undeniably New Women: single, educated and economically independent writers whose lives and literary collaboration were unique manifestations of late-nineteenth century feminist strivings toward political and sexual equality'.

A Quiet Tide is **Marianne Lee's** debut novel about the life of Ellen Hutchins. At the time of her death in 1815, twenty-nine-year-old Hutchins had catalogued over a thousand species of seaweed and plants from her native Bantry Bay. Ireland's first female botanist, Ellen was a major contributor to nineteenth-century scientific discovery. And yet, like so many brilliant women lost in history, it is her personal story that will resonate today.

Martina Devlin is a bestselling author and award-winning journalist, having published ten books to date. A former Fleet Street journalist, she writes weekly current affairs columns for the *Irish Independent* and has been named National Newspapers of Ireland columnist of the year.

Marianne Lee has an MPhil in Creative Writing from Trinity College Dublin and works as a freelance art director and copywriter.



SUNDAY 10 / 17.00 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

SEÁN HEWITT & CRISTÍN LEACH

All Down Darkness Wide is a luminous and haunting memoir from prize-winning poet, **Seán Hewitt**, a story of love, heartbreak and coming of age, and a fearless exploration of queer identity and trauma. By turns devastating and soaring, it is a mesmerising story of heartache and renewal, and a work of rare and transcendent beauty.

Negative Space is the searingly intimate literary debut from top Irish art critic **Cristín Leach** and it weaves words and art with an unravelling of self that comes when a marriage breaks. It is a memoir about writing and the expression of art as a salve and a means of escape, marriage as a refuge and a trap, the nature of home, and what happens when everything falls apart.

Seán Hewitt lectures in English literature at Trinity College Dublin and is a Book Critic for *The Irish Times*. He won a Northern Writers' Award in 2016, the Resurgence Prize in 2017, and an Eric Gregory Award in 2019. *Tongues of Fire*, his debut collection of poetry was published in 2020.

Cristín Leach is *The Sunday Times* Ireland's longest-serving art critic. She has written about art for the paper since 2003. She is a writer and broadcaster, whose short fiction and personal essays have been published in *Winter Papers* and on RTÉ Radio 1.

SUNDAY 10 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

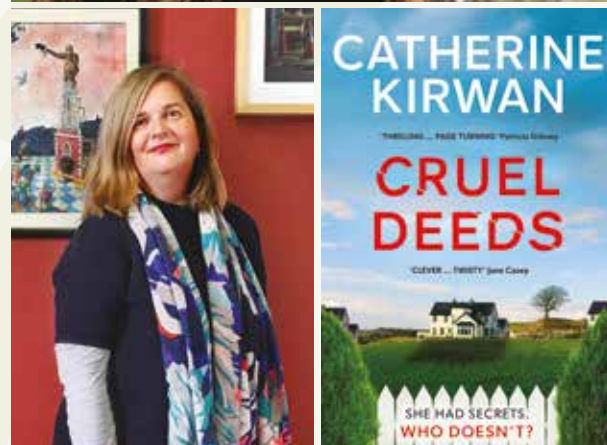
JANE CASEY & CATHERINE KIRWAN

Jane Casey's *The Killing Kind* is a breakout standalone thriller, exploring stalking, gaslighting and the role of women in society. After barrister Ingrid Lewis defended a client against a stalking charge, he then turned on her – following her, ruining her relationship, even destroying her home.

Jane Casey is no stranger to the crime world. Married to a criminal barrister, she's got the inside track on some of the country's most dangerous offenders, giving her writing an unsettlingly realistic feel. In 2019, *Cruel Acts* (the eighth book in her Jane Kerrigan series of crime novels) was chosen as Irish Crime Novel of the Year at the Irish Book Awards. Born in Dublin, Jane now lives in southwest London with her family. Her new book *The Killing Kind* is a standalone novel.

In **Catherine Kirwan's** *Cruel Deeds*, a successful lawyer is found murdered in a derelict house in Cork. Finn Fitzpatrick barely knows Mandy Breslin from the law firm where they both work. But as Finn gets drawn deeper and deeper into her colleague's life, she finds out that Mandy isn't such a stranger after all. And that Mandy's not the only one at the firm with something to hide.

Catherine Kirwan grew up on a farm in the parish of Fewes, County Waterford. She studied law at UCC and lives in Cork where she works as a solicitor.



SUNDAY 10 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

LOUISE O'NEILL

To Samantha Miller's young fans – her 'girls' – she's everything. She's an oracle, telling them how to live their lives, how to be happy, how to find and honour their 'truth'. And her career is booming: she's just hit three million followers, her new book *Chaste* has gone straight to the top of the bestseller lists and she's appearing at sell-out events. Determined to speak her truth to her adoring fans, she's written an essay about her sexual awakening as a teenager, with her female best friend, Lisa. She's never told a soul but now she's telling the world. The essay goes viral. But then – years since they last spoke – Lisa gets in touch to say that she doesn't remember it that way at all. Her memory of that night is far darker. It's Sam's word against Lisa's – so who gets to tell the story? Whose 'truth' is really a lie?

'IDOL is fresh, glamorous, and surprising, taking an issue we all care about and with a deft twist, recalibrating our position. Louise O'Neill is not afraid to take on a taboo but somehow always makes it utterly compelling. This is such an exciting book.'

Marian Keyes

Louise O'Neill is the author of three YA novels and three for adults. Her first novel, *Only Ever Yours* won the Sunday Independent Newcomer of the Year at the Irish Book Awards, the Eilís Dillon Award for a First Book and the Bookseller's inaugural YA Book Prize. *Asking For It* was published to widespread critical acclaim and spent 52 weeks in the Irish top 10 bestseller list. *Idol* is her third adult novel. Louise contributes regularly to Irish TV and radio, had a weekly column in the *Irish Examiner* for several years and now has a weekly column in the *Sunday Times*. She lives in West Cork.

SUNDAY 10 JULY / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE / **OPEN MIC** All welcome



MONDAY 11 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10
COFFEE & CHAT with JESSICA TRAYNOR

Series presented in association with Bantry House and Garden
Pit Lullabies is Jessica Traynor's third collection, following *Liffey Swim* and *The Quick* from Dedalus Press. These intimate, visceral and wickedly funny poems journey through the darker days of new parenthood, teasing out the anxieties which plague us when night falls. Violence against women, the destruction of our environment, the poisons and pitfalls of 21st-century living are explored here in poems by turns lyrical and earthy, yearning and angry. They mine gold from the darkness and seek luminescence in the deepest oceans.

MONDAY 11 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE
LAUNCH OF SWERVE MAGAZINE

Swerve Magazine is a new journal that brings together county Cork writers who met during the pandemic in online workshops facilitated by Matthew Geden, poet and writer-in-residence at Cork County Council. The first issue of Swerve is an anthology of the writing that came out of those groups.

MONDAY 11 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18
WAYNE MILLER & STEPHEN SEXTON

Join poets **Wayne Miller** and **Stephen Sexton** as they read from their new collections *We the Jury* and *Cheryl's Destinies*. In *We the Jury*, **Wayne Miller** situates his poems in dilemma. From an academic dinner party disturbing in its crassness and disaffection to a family struggling to communicate gently the permanence of death. **Wayne Miller** the author of five poetry collections is a professor at the University of Colorado Denver, where he edits the literary journal *Copper Nickel*.

Stephen Sexton's second collection *Cheryl's Destinies* was a *Financial Times* and *Irish Times* Book of the Year. It is the decade of centuries, and Cheryl tells us our fortune. Radicals liberate a zoo, teenagers flirt in a bowling alley, and the dead are cherished. **Stephen Sexton's** first book, *If All the World and Love Were Young* was the winner of the Forward Prize for Best First Collection in 2019.



This event is supported by Poetry Ireland

MONDAY 11 / 17.00 / MARITIME HOTEL / €10
FOCUS ON CORK'S
NEW LITERARY JOURNALS

A number of new literary journals arose out of the pandemic as writers and artists sought to bring artists together and create new platforms for their work. Four new Cork-based journals **Swerve**, **Howl**, **Bealtaine** and **The Four-Faced Liar** will tell us how they came about and how writers and artists can submit work to them.

MONDAY 11 / 18.00 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE
LAUNCH OF THE
2022 FISH ANTHOLOGY



The **Fish Anthology** is selected from thousands of submissions to the Fish Short Story, Short Memoir, Flash Fiction and Poetry Prizes by judges **Sarah Hall**, **Qian Julie Wang**, **Tracey Slaughter** and **Billy Collins** respectively. The writers represented are from many countries. The launch is a celebration of these writers and an opportunity to hear some of them reading from their winning work.



MONDAY 11 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20
LUCY CALDWELL & RUTH PADEL

Join **Lucy Caldwell** and **Ruth Padel** as they discuss their new novels with **Sue Leonard**. *These Days* by the award-winning short story writer, **Lucy Caldwell** follows the lives of two sisters as they try to survive the horrors of the 1941 Belfast Blitz. **Lucy Caldwell** is the author of four novels, two short story collections, and several stage plays and radio dramas. Awards include the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature, the Dylan Thomas Prize and the BBC National Short Story Award in 2021.

Daughters of the Labyrinth is the new novel by acclaimed poet **Ruth Padel**. A successful London artist returns to her ancestral home of Crete. The home she left deals with a looming Brexit, and the home she rediscovered grapples with a refugee crisis. She unearths stories from her family's past which alter her understanding of herself, her relationship to her country, and her art. **Ruth Padel** is an award-winning poet, author of twelve acclaimed poetry collections. Her non-fiction includes a book on the influence of Greek myth on rock music. She is Professor of Poetry at King's College London

MONDAY 11 JULY / 22.00 / MA MURPHYS / FREE OPEN MIC All welcome.

TUESDAY 12 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10
COFFEE & CHAT with TICE CIN

There's a stash of heroin waiting to be imported from Turkey, and no one seems sure what to do with it... But Ayla's a gardener, and she has a plan. Offering a fresh and funny take on the machinery of the North London heroin trade, **Tice Cin**'s *Keeping the House* lifts the lid on a covert world thriving just beneath notice: not only in McDonald's queues and men's clubs, but in spotless living rooms and whispering kitchens. Spanning three generations, this is the story of the women who keep their family – and their family business – afloat, juggling everything from police surveillance to trickier questions of community, belonging and love. **Tice Cin** is a poet, writer, and interdisciplinary artist from North London. *Keeping The House* is currently shortlisted for the Jhalak Prize for writers of colour in the UK and the British Book Awards.



TUESDAY 12 / 13.00/ BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE
I AM LEWY with
MÍCHEÁL Ó HAODHA & RITA KELLY

I Am Lewy is the first English translation of **Eoghan Ó Tuairisc**'s 1977 Irish-language novel *An Lomnochtán*. We are joined by poet **Mícheál Ó hAodha** who translated the work and by fellow poet **Rita Kelly** who was married to Ó Tuairisc until his death. Mícheál and Rita will also read a selection of their own Irish-language poetry.

Loodeen Winders – Lewy, six years of age – is growing up sharp. It's the turbulent early 1920s in a market town in the west of Ireland. Free State soldiers patrol in front of the Workhouse. Lewy's worried about his father's car being commandeered again. The nuns loom over Lewy and his classmates, amongst them the orphans – those shadowy figures, 'slobbery and weak and raggy'. On the fortieth anniversary of Ó Tuairisc's death, this is the first appearance in English of the frank, funny voice of Lewy, a vital witness of his place and time.



TUESDAY 12 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18
NIAMH CAMPBELL & DANNY DENTON

Niamh Campbell and **Danny Denton** discuss their second novels. *We Were Young* is the witty and beautiful second novel by **Niamh Campbell**. Cormac is a photographer, approaching forty and still single, when he finds himself 'the leftover man'. Cormac meets an ambitious young dancer, and they embark on a miniature odyssey of intimacy. Simultaneously, he and his married brother must reckon with a death in the family that hangs over those left behind. **Niamh Campbell** won the 2020 *Sunday Times* Audible Short Story Award and in 2021 was awarded the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature.

In **Danny Denton**'s brilliant second novel *All Along the Echo*, a middle-aged radio talk-show host, takes a road trip across Ireland with his producer, part of a publicity stunt organised by a local car dealership. Their aim is to give away their Mazda C3 to one lucky winner, the catch being that it must go to one of the many emigrants who have returned home to escape escalating terror attacks in London. **Danny Denton** is the editor of *The Stinging Fly* and a lecturer in creative writing at University College Cork.

TUESDAY 12 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €30 (Valid for both sessions Tues & Wed)
MULTILINGUAL POETRY TRANSLATION

The workshop is spread over two sessions (Tues & Wed 2.30pm, 90-minutes each) and will focus on the intersection between writing and translating. It is not intended for professional translators. Bridge translations of Dutch and Irish poems into English will be used. Participants do not need to be bilingual. The participants will be asked to translate one or more poems into any language they master sufficiently. Alternatively they can rework the English bridge translations, get advice from native speakers about the original poems, and come to an English translation of their own. **Michele Hutchison** lives in Amsterdam. She translates literary fiction, nonfiction, poetry, graphic novels, and children's books. She has translated two of the books featured in this year's Festival.

Supported by the Nederlands Letterenfonds / Dutch Foundation for Literature as part of their New Dutch Writing programme.



TUESDAY 12 / 15.45 / ABBEY STRAND / FREE THE FESTIVAL SWIM

To really immerse yourself into beautiful West Cork join us for our annual festival sea swim in Bantry Bay. Bring your swimsuit, your towel and your sense of fun for this communal dip into the sea. This year we are joined on our swim by **Nina Mingya Powles**, author of *Small Bodies of Water*. Nina will be speaking at the festival at 18.30 today.

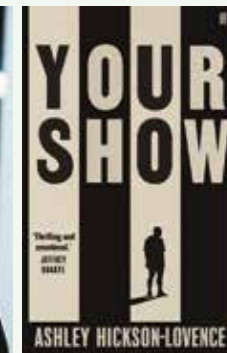
TUESDAY 12 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE KATHY FISH

Kathy Fish's stories have been widely published in journals, anthologies, and textbooks. Her work has been widely published. She is the author of five short fiction collections and will be discussing her work with **Marie Gethins**.

TUESDAY 12 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16**LYNN BUCKLE & NINA MINGYA POWLES**

Join **Lynn Buckle** and **Nina Mingya Powles** for an evening of writing inspired by the natural world. In **Lynn Buckle**'s Barbellion-Prize-winning *What Willow Says*, a deaf child and her grandmother experiment with the lyrical beauty of sign language whilst sharing stories of myths, legends and ancient bogs. **Lynn Buckle** is a deaf/hard-of-hearing artist, activist, and tutor. Her second novel *What Willow Says* won The Barbellion Prize 2021. She hosts Ireland's Climate Writers' Group at The Irish Writers' Centre..

Small Bodies of Water by **Nina Mingya Powles** is a lyrical, poetic essay collection that blends memoir and nature writing. Nina first learned to swim in Borneo – where her mother was born and her grandfather studied freshwater fish. She weaves together memories, dreams exploring migration, food, family, earthquakes and the ancient lunisolar calendar as she reflects on a girlhood spent between two cultures. **Nina Mingya Powles** is a writer, poet and maker from Aotearoa, currently living in London. *Small Bodies of Water* won the Nan Shepherd Prize. This event will take place in the main room of the Maritime Hotel and a hearing induction loop will be installed for the duration of the festival

**TUESDAY 12 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20 TADHG COAKLEY & ASHLEY HICKSON-LOVENCE**

Join us for an evening of sporting non-fiction and fiction with **Tadhg Coakley** and **Ashley Hickson-Lovence**. **Tadhg Coakley**'s *The Game* is a multifaceted reflection on sport. It is part memoir, outlining Tadhg's time as a player and fan, and how sport has shaped his life. But it also tackles sport on a universal scale – the good and the bad. Written with warmth, openness and keen insight, *The Game* is an entertaining and thought-provoking meditation on the uniquely intense highs and lows of loving sport in today's world. **Tadhg Coakley** is from Cork. His second novel was chosen as the 2020 Cork, One City One Book. His short stories, articles and essays have been published in *The Stinging Fly*, *Winter Papers*, and *The Irish Times*, and he writes about sport for the *Irish Examiner*.

Your Show by **Ashley Hickson-Lovence** is an extraordinary novel which charts one man's efforts to make it, against

the odds, to the very top of his profession. From Jamaica to Sheffield to the recently formed Premier League, Uri Rennie rises through the ranks as a referee, making it to the the highest level of the game. Along the way he is confronted with tensions and prejudices as his every move is analysed. **Ashley Hickson-Lovence** was born in London in 1991 and is a former secondary school English teacher. In his spare time, using his experience as a football referee, he formally observes semi-professional referees for The F.A..

Freestyle poetry is teamed with kick-by-kick reports in this stirring novel about Uriah Rennie, the Premier League's first black match official. The Guardian

TUESDAY 12 JULY / 22.00 / MA MURPHYS / FREE OPEN MIC All welcome



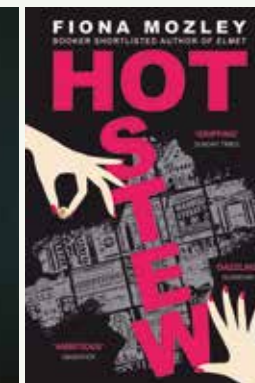
WEDNESDAY 13 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10
COFFEE & CHAT with **JENNIFER DEBIE**

Jennifer deBie's second novel, *Heretic* was conceived during the first lockdown of 2020, completed during the second and third, and finally published as the world reopens. It is a rejection of isolation, geographic paralysis, and the mundane. Her sharp, fantastical characters cross continents, transcend planes of reality, and wield their wit and weapons with alacrity, whether they are contemplating cannibalism, musing on the nature of love, or murdering their enemies (all with equal relish). **Jennifer deBie** is a native Texan living in Cork where she earned an MA in Creative Writing in 2017 and a PhD on Mary Shelley in 2021. Jenni works as guest liaison with WCLF each summer.

WEDNESDAY 13 / 11.00 / FUTURE FORESTS / €18
WAKING LIGHT

Join writers **Mícheál McCann** and **Kerri ní Dochartaigh** as they discuss *Waking Light*, a Skein Press collaboration between Mícheál and Kerri and photographer Michelle Moloney. Through poetry, imagery and lyric fragments, *Waking Light* seeks to honour the small things, the seeds of beginnings and endings, and the search for places where we find ourselves and each other. **Kerri ní Dochartaigh** is the author of *Thin Places* which was highly commended by the Wainwright Prize for Nature Writing 2021. **Mícheál McCann** is from Derry and is the author of two poetry pamphlets, *Safe Home* (Green Bottle Press, 2020) and *Keeper* (fourteen poems, 2022).

This event is presented in partnership with Dublin Book Festival.



WEDNESDAY 13 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE **LISA MCINERNEY & FIONA MOZLEY**

The Rules of Revelation is the third book in **Lisa McInerney's** Cork city trilogy and it features reunions, recriminations and reckonings. Ireland is a country of great nationalists, bad mothers, a whole lot of secrets and Ryan Cusack is ready to deliver its soundtrack. Maureen has got wind that things are changing, and if anyone's telling the story she wants to make sure it's her. A riotous blast of sex, scandal, obsession, love, feminism, gender, music, class and transgression from an author with tremendous, singular talent. **Lisa McInerney** is the author of three novels set in Cork city: *The Glorious Heresies*, *The Blood Miracles* and *The Rules of Revelation*. She has won the Women's Prize for Fiction, the Desmond Elliott Prize, the RSL Encore Award and the Premio Edoardo Ghiblin for European literature. She lives in Galway.

Hot Stew is **Fiona Mozley's** insightful and ambitious novel about property, ownership, wealth and inheritance. It is about the place we occupy in society, especially women, and the importance placed on class and money.

London has changed a lot. The Soho that Precious and Tabitha live and work in is barely recognisable. And now, the building they call their home is under threat; its billionaire-owner Agatha wants to kick the women out to build expensive restaurants and luxury flats. But the women are not going to go quietly.

Fiona Mozley grew up in York and lives in Edinburgh. Her first novel, *Elmet*, won a Somerset Maugham Award and the Polari Prize. It was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize.

WEDNESDAY 13 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €10

CAROLINE O'DONOGHUE & MARY WATSON

Maeve and friends return in **Caroline O'Donoghue's** magical new novel *The Gifts That Bind Us*. They have uncovered their powers and banded together as a coven: Roe can pick locks, Lily sends sparks flying, Maeve can read minds and Fiona can heal any injury. And even better than their newfound talents? Roe and Maeve are officially an item. But with strange things happening at school, and old enemies appearing in new places, it soon becomes clear their powers are attracting all the wrong attention. **Caroline O'Donoghue** is a novelist and podcaster originally from Cork. She has published two adult novels, *Promising Young Women* and *Scenes of a Graphic Nature*. Caroline's award-winning podcast, *Sentimental Garbage* investigates 'the culture we love that society can sometimes make us feel ashamed of'. Caroline lives in London. Her first YA novel *All Our Hidden Gifts* was chosen as Cork County Council's One County, One Book in 2021.

Blood to Poison is an epic South African fantasy by **Mary Watson**. Seventeen-year-old Savannah is cursed. It's a sinister family heirloom; passed down through the bloodline for hundreds of years, with one woman in every generation destined to die young. The family call them Hella's girls, named for their ancestor Hella; the enslaved woman with whom it all began. Hella's girls are always angry, especially in the months before they die, and the anger is bursting from Savannah. This is a mesmerising story about discovering magic, historical rage and love in all its guises. **Mary Watson** grew up in Cape Town during the apartheid years and did her Masters in Creative Writing with André Brink. She appeared on Hay Festival's Africa39 list of influential writers. *Blood to Poison* is her third novel for young adults and the first rooted in her South African heritage. Mary now lives in Galway.

WEDNESDAY 13 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL (day two of a two-day workshop)

MULTILINGUAL POETRY TRANSLATION

This is the second afternoon of a two-day workshop (90-minutes) with translator **Michele Hutchison**. See Tuesday 14.30 for full details. The event ticket is valid for both sessions. Supported by the Nederlands Letterenfonds / Dutch Foundation for Literature as part of their New Dutch Writing programme.



WEDNESDAY 13 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

DEIRDRE SULLIVAN

In *I Want to Know That I Will Be Okay*, a dark and glittering collection of short stories, **Deirdre Sullivan** explores the trauma and power that reside in women's bodies. A teenage girl tries to fit in at a party held in a haunted house, with unexpected and disastrous consequences. A mother and daughter run an online business selling antique dolls, while their customers get more than they bargained for. With empathy and invention, Deirdre blends genres in stories that are by turns strange and exquisite.

Deirdre Sullivan is a writer and teacher from Galway. She has written seven acclaimed books for young adults, including *Savage Her Reply*, *Perfectly Preventable Deaths* and *Tangleweed and Brine*. She was the recipient of the CBI Book of the Year Award in 2018 and the An Post Irish Book Award in 2020. Her short fiction has appeared in *Banshee* and *The Dublin Review*.



WEDNESDAY 13 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

ROSALEEN MCDONAGH

Rosaleen McDonagh writes fearlessly about a diverse experience of being Irish. Her collection of essays, *Unsettled*, explores racism, ableism, abuse and resistance as well as the bonds of community, family and friendship. As an Irish Traveller writing from a feminist perspective, Rosaleen's essays are rich and complex, raw and honest, and, above all else, uncompromising.

Rosaleen McDonagh is a playwright, performer, columnist for *The Irish Times* and a member of Aosdána. Her most recent commissions were *Walls and Windows* for the Abbey Theatre and *Contentious Spaces* for the Project Arts Centre. Rosaleen holds a BA, two MPhils from Trinity College Dublin and a PhD from Northumbria University. She is a board member of Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre and was appointed a Human Rights Commissioner in June 2020.



WEDNESDAY 13 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

YAN GE & MAEVE HIGGINS

Join us for a conversation between **Yan Ge** and **Maeve Higgins**. Yan was born in China, immigrated to Ireland in 2015 and now lives in the UK. Maeve grew up in Cork and immigrated to the US.

Yan Ge won an English PEN award and was shortlisted for the 2021 Warwick Prize for Women in Translation. Her novel *Strange Beasts of China* is set in the city of Yong'an where an amateur cryptozoologist is commissioned to uncover the stories of its fabled beasts. These creatures — with their greenish stomachs or gills or strange birthmarks — live alongside humans in near-inconspicuousness, some with ancient forbears, others engineered as artificial breeds. Part detective story, part metaphysical enquiry, *Strange Beasts* addresses existential questions of identity, being, love and morality with whimsy and grace. **Yan Ge** was born in Sichuan, China in 1984. The author of thirteen books in Chinese, including six novels, she started to write in English in 2016. *Strange Beasts of China* was written in Chinese and translated into English by Jeremy Tiang.

Maeve Higgins' collection of essays, *Tell Everyone On This Train I Love Them*, is a funny, complex story of an immigrant and her difficult relationship with America after moving there. As an eternally curious outsider, Maeve can see that the United States is still an experiment. Some parts work well and others *really* don't, but that doesn't stop her from loving the place and the people that make it. **Maeve Higgins** is a writer whose work appears regularly in *The New York Times*, *The New York Review of Books* and *The Guardian*. Maeve grew up in Cobh, county Cork and now lives in New York.

WEDNESDAY 13 JULY / 22.00 / MA MURPHYS / FREE

OPEN MIC All welcome

THURSDAY 14 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with AFRIC MCGLINCHY

Tied to the Wind is an auto-fictional childhood memoir by poet **Afric McGlinchey**. A girl attempts to tether herself to a life that keeps becoming unfixed, each time her family moves from Ireland to Southern Africa and back again. Her nomadic childhood triggers a sense of destabilisation, exacerbated by alcoholism, racism, war and the conflicts of complicit colonial privilege. Interwoven into the narrative are the puzzle pieces of a fateful decision to undertake a skydive, despite her fear of heights. These are the pieces with which to assemble a self. **Afric McGlinchey** is an Irish poet with strong African connections. She is the author of two poetry collections and a chapbook. Afric lives in West Cork.

THURSDAY 14 / 11.00 / MARITIME HOTEL / €15

PROPERBOOK: WRITING & PUBLISHING A CHILDREN'S BOOK

Everything You Need to Know About Writing a Children's Book and Getting It Published.

Join **Sarah Webb**; **Gráinne Clear** Walker Books; **Aoife Murray** Children's Books Ireland and authors **Deirdre Sullivan** and **Mary Watson** for this 90-minute session.

In association with Children's Books Ireland and Sarah Webb

THURSDAY 14 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE **ILJA LEONARD PFEIJFFER**

Ilja Leonard Pfeijffer's *Grand Hotel Europa* is a moving and addictive novel of European identity, nostalgia and the end of an era. Ilja will be joined by his translator **Michele Hutchison** who translated this Dutch bestseller into English. A writer takes residence in the illustrious but decaying Grand Hotel Europa and he reconstructs a compelling story of love in times of mass tourism, about trips to Malta, Portovenere and the Cinque Terre and their search for the last painting of Caravaggio. All the while, globalisation seems to be grabbing hold even on this place frozen in time. **Ilja Leonard Pfeijffer** is a Dutch writer who is a classicist by training. He has written plays, essays, columns, travel, stories, satire, and four novels written in the spirit of Rabelais. He lives in Italy. Supported by the Nederlands Letterenfonds / Dutch Foundation for Literature as part of their New Dutch Writing programme.



THURSDAY 14 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE
PLAY IT FORWARD SHOWCASE

Join us for this showcase of work by the inaugural Play It Forward Fellows, **Gonchighkhand Byambaa**, **Sara Chudzik**, **Neo Florence Gilson**, **Majed Mujed** and **Sarah Fitzgerald**

The **Play It Forward** Fellowships are aimed at nurturing and amplifying the talents of writers whose voices and stories have traditionally been underrepresented in Irish literature and publishing. A joint initiative between **Skein Press** and **The Stinging Fly**, spearheaded by poet and editor **Nidhi Zak/Aria Eipe**, the programme seeks to advance new perspectives in contemporary cultural discourse, and broaden conversations around diversity, inclusion, access and opportunity across the literary landscape.

This pioneering 18-month programme is designed to create pathways for writers to develop, showcase and publish their work and we are delighted to bring their work to you as part of West Cork Literary Festival.

THURSDAY 14 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20
BIG STORIES IN A SMALL SPACE: The Art of Flash Fiction

This 90-minute generative session with **Kathy Fish** will introduce you to the unique beauty and brevity of flash fiction. Kathy will explain the three essentials of great flash fiction and what flash fiction is NOT. We'll read and discuss some excellent examples, then write to two prompts aimed at honing skills of concision and urgency. **Kathy Fish's** work has been published in *Ploughshares*, *Copper Nickel*, *Best American Nonrequired Reading*, *Washington Square Review*, the *Norton Reader*, and *Norton's Flash Fiction America* (2023). She is the author of five short fiction collections


THURSDAY 14 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE
MADELEINE D'ARCY & NITHY KASA

In this event we are delighted to present two new publications from **Doire Press**. *Liberty Terrace* by **Madeleine D'Arcy**, a collection of short fiction set in Cork city, and *Palm-Wine Tapper and the Boy at Jericho* by **Nithy Kasa**, her debut poetry collection which was inspired by her childhood and fireside storytelling in D.R. Congo and gives a glimpse of her journey to Ireland and what was found when she got here.

Madeleine D'Arcy's awards include the 2010 the Hennessy Literary Awards for First Fiction and New Irish Writer. With writer Danielle McLaughlin, Madeleine co-hosts Fiction at the Friary, a monthly event in Cork City. Her short fiction has appeared in various newspapers, journals and anthologies.

Nithy Kasa was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo and in 2005 she moved to Galway. A poem in her secondary school's magazine caught the attention of her teacher, a renowned Galway poet whose encouragement led to her enrolment in Poetry Ireland's national Poetry Aloud Competition. The title poem in her collection was commissioned by Poetry Ireland.

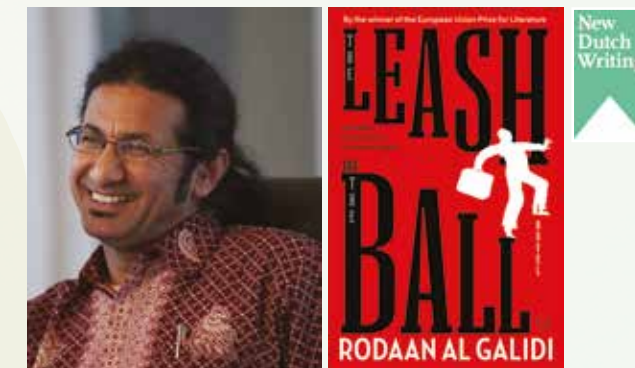
THURSDAY 14 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE
OPEN MIC MATINEE

A special early evening open mic. You are welcome to read your own text, introduce your published work, or simply listen to others. Reading in all genres are welcome. Hosted by Marie Guillot and the **Cork Non-Fiction Writers Group**.

THURSDAY 14 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €10
RODAAN AL GALIDI

Poet and novelist **Rodaan Al Galidi** was born in Iraq, trained as a civil engineer and has lived in the Netherlands since 1998. As an undocumented asylum seeker he did not have the right to attend language classes, so he taught himself to read and write Dutch. He won the European Union Prize for Literature in 2011 – the same year he failed his Dutch citizenship course. In his new novel *The Leash and the Ball*, Samir finally has the chance to start his new life as a European citizen after nine years in a Dutch asylum centre.

Supported by the Nederlands Letterenfonds / Dutch Foundation for Literature as part of their New Dutch Writing programme.



THURSDAY 14 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €5
CRITICAL VOICES 2022

In this, its seventieth year, the Arts Council of Ireland is commissioning Critical Voices 2022, a short essay and accompanying discussion series. Critical Voices 2022 reflects on the Arts Council's history, the value of the arts and the impact of 70 years of public investment in the arts. Critical Voices, in collaboration with West Cork Literary Festival will present a special event with unique perspectives on the role of the arts in Ireland past, present and future.

The event will look at the relationship between various governments and the arts since the 1950s, the arts and culture as common languages across the world, reflections on a diverse Ireland and the role of the arts in celebrating contemporary Ireland, the role of creativity as a positive force in the world agus ról agus tiomantas na Comhairle Ealaíon don Ghaeilge a mheasiú agus an ról is féidir leis na healaíona a imirt chun forbairt na Ghaeilge mar theanga bheo labhartha a chinntiú.


FRIDAY 15 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10
COFFEE & CHAT with MIEK ZWAMBORN

Miek Zwamborn is a Dutch poet, translator and artist. Her practice often delves into archival collections, drawing on the suggestive possibility of historical materials, letters, texts, objects and artefacts in order to create semi-factual narratives. *The Seaweed Collector's Handbook* is a short, exquisitely illustrated portrait, in which she shares her discoveries of seaweed's history, culture and use, from the Neolithic people of the Orkney Islands to sushi artisans in modern Japan. It is translated by Michele Hutchison. Miek lives on the Isle of Mull.

Supported by the Nederlands Letterenfonds / Dutch Foundation for Literature as part of their New Dutch Writing programme.

FRIDAY 15 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE
FROM THE WELL

From the Well is the annual short story competition organised by **Cork County Library and Arts Service**. Twenty stories are shortlisted by **Denyse Woods** for publication in the From the Well anthology. The winner of the competition and two other shortlisted writers will read their stories in this event hosted by **Denyse Woods**. Denyse is the author of six novels and a short collection of fiction and non-fiction.


FRIDAY 15 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE
YOUNG WRITER DELEGATES SHOWCASE

Now in its fifth year, the Irish Writers Centre Young Writer Delegate Programme has partnered with WCLF for the second time – and for the first time in person. At this showcase, our four selected IWC/WCLF Young Writer Delegates will share some of the creative work developed during the festival with their mentor.

FRIDAY 15 – PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
THE LIGHTHOUSE PROJECT AT SHEEP'S HEAD

The Lighthouse Project is a site-specific response to lighthouses around Ireland, curated by Dani Gill. This summer, the West Cork Literary Festival has partnered with the project to deliver an offering at Sheep's Head Lighthouse with writer **Sara Baume** and visual artist **Mark Beatty**. Drawing inspiration from the landscape and history of Sheep's Head, the artists will produce an event during the festival.

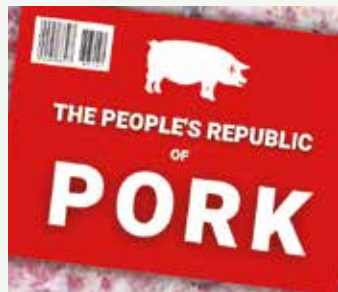
FRIDAY 15 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE
SUAD ALDARRA

I Don't Want to Talk About Home by **Suad Aldarra** is a powerful debut memoir reframing the Syrian migrant experience and what it is to rebuild your life out of the rubble. Growing up in Saudi Arabia, Suad felt stifled. The daughter of Syrian parents, she rebelled against the strictures placed on women and the rising prejudice her family faced as migrants. She studied software engineering at Damascus University and enjoyed a degree of freedom she'd never known. But when the war started, everything changed. Her qualification allowed her to travel to Ireland on a working visa. Yet reaching safety came at a price.

FRIDAY 15 / 18.30 / MA MURPHYS / €10
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF PORK

A work-in-progress showing of a new musical in development. Come and get a look into the highly collaborative development process of creating a comedy musical. *The People's Republic of Pork* tells the story of a man from West Cork who declares the grounds of his house to be an independent country in order to stave off eviction. What starts as a desperate attempt to buy time, takes on a life of its own as the experiment gets wildly out of hand, capturing the imagination of a town and then a whole nation. In an increasingly confusing world, people are desperate to 'take back control' – but what do they do when they've got it? Declaring a country is one thing. Figuring out how to run one is another. Especially when your economy is based on selling artisan sausages. Written by Hugh Travers (book) and Fionn Foley (music & lyrics)

The development of *The People's Republic of Pork* is supported by The Everyman, The Arts Council, Cork Midsummer Festival and West Cork Literary Festival.


FRIDAY 15 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20
PAUL MULDOON

A 'howdie-skelp' is the slap in the face a midwife gives a newborn. It's a wake-up call. A call to action. The poems in **Paul Muldoon's** striking new collection *Howdie-Skelp* include a nightmarish remake of *The Waste Land*, an elegy for his fellow Northern Irish poet Ciaran Carson, a crown of sonnets that responds to the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, a translation from the ninth-century Irish and a Yeatsian sequence of ekphrastic poems that call into question the very idea of an 'affront' to good taste. Paul is a poet who continues not only to capture, but to hold, compellingly, our attention.

Paul Muldoon is the author of fourteen full length collections of poetry, including *Moy Sand and Gravel*, for which he received the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, and *Howdie-Skelp* (2021). His other awards include the 1994 T. S. Eliot Prize, the 2003 Griffin Prize, the 2015 Pigott Prize, and the 2017 Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry. Born in County Armagh in 1951, he has lived since 1987 in the United States, where he is the Howard G. B. Clark Professor in the Humanities at Princeton University.


MONDAY 18 / 13.00 / ZOOM / €10
JO UNWIN: LITERARY AGENT

Literary Agent **Jo Unwin** joins us online to demystify the publishing process. What does an agent do? Do you need one? How do you get one? Do you need more than one? In this friendly and informal session, Jo will tell you everything you need to know about how publishing works, leaving plenty of time for you to ask your own questions. The aim of the session is for you to go away armed with everything you need to get a publishing contract when the book you're working on is ready. And remember THERE ARE NO SILLY QUESTIONS! Jo Unwin runs JULA – a dynamic literary agency that represents bestselling and debut authors. Within three years of coming into the industry, in 2008, she was nominated as a Bookseller Rising Star and shortlisted as Literary Agent of the Year. In 2013, she set up her own agency and her authors include Nina Stibbe, Jenny Colgan, Candice Carty-Williams, Richard Ayode, Charlie Brooker, and Kit de Waal.





West Cork Literary Festival

Friday 8 – 15 July 2022 / Bantry Co. Cork

at a glance

Time	Title	Venue
FRIDAY 8 JULY		
All week	Swerve: Exhibition	Bantry Library
17.00	Opening Reception of WCLF	Bantry Library
20.30	Nick Laird & Zadie Smith	Maritime Hotel
SATURDAY 9 JULY		
10.00	Áine Ní Ghlinn - Poem Tree/Crann Filíochta	Bantry Library
11.30	Mary Lawson - online	Zoom
13.00	Marijke Schermer	Bantry Library
14.30	Sara Baume	Whiddy Island
17.00	Áine Ní Ghlinn	Bantry Library
18.30	Geoff Dyer	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Colm Tóibín	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic	Maritime Hotel

Time	Title	Venue
SUNDAY 10 JULY		
10.00	Tramp Press Clinics (15-minute slots)	Maritime Hotel
12.00	JR Thorp	Maritime Hotel
15.00	Martina Devlin & Marianne Lee	Bantry House
17.00	Seán Hewitt & Cristín Leach	Maritime Hotel
18.30	Jane Casey & Catherine Kirwan	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Louise O'Neill	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic	Maritime Hotel
MONDAY 11 JULY		
10.00	Jessica Traynor	Bantry House Tearooms
13.00	Swerve Magazine Launch	Bantry Library
14.30	Wayne Miller & Stephen Sexton	Maritime Hotel
15.30	Alex Barclay	St Brendans Hall
17.00	Cork's New Literary Journals	Maritime Hotel
18.00	Launch of the 2022 Fish Anthology	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Lucy Caldwell & Ruth Padel	Maritime Hotel
22.00	Open Mic	Ma Murphys

Time	Title	Venue
TUESDAY 12 JULY		
10.00	Tice Cin	Bantry House Tearooms
11.30	Niamh O'Mahony & Annabel Langrish	St Brendans Hall
13.00	I Am Lewy: Mícheál Ó hAodha & Rita Kelly	Bantry Library
14.30	Multilingual Poetry Translation workshop	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Danny Denton & Niamh Campbell	Maritime Hotel
15.45	Festival Swim	Abbey Strand
17.00	Creative Writing / Caroline O'Donoghue	St Brendans Hall
17.00	Kathy Fish reading	Bantry Library
18.30	Lynn Buckle & Nina Mingya Powles	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Tadhg Coakley & Ashley Hickson-Lovence	Maritime Hotel
22.00	Open Mic	Ma Murphys
WEDNESDAY 13 JULY		
10.00	Jenie deBie	Bantry House Tearooms
11.00	Mícheál McCann & Kerri Ní Dochartaigh	Future Forests
13.00	Lisa McInerney & Fiona Mozley	Bantry Library
14.30	Caroline O'Donoghue & Mary Watson	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Multilingual Translation workshop (2 of 2)	Maritime Hotel
17.00	Deirdre Sullivan	Bantry Library
18.30	Rosaleen McDonagh	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Yan Ge & Maeve Higgins	Maritime Hotel
22.00	Open Mic	Ma Murphys

Time	Title	Venue
THURSDAY 14 JULY		
10.00	Afric McGlinchey	Bantry House Tearooms
11.00	Writing & Publishing a Children's Book	Maritime Hotel
13.00	Ilja Leonard Pfeijffer	Bantry Library
14.30	Play It Forward Showcase	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Flash Fiction workshop with Kathy Fish	Maritime Hotel
17.00	Madeleine D'Arcy & Nithy Kasa	Bantry Library
18.30	Open Mic Matinee	Maritime Hotel
18.30	Rodaan al Galidi	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Critical Voices 2022	Maritime Hotel
22.00	Open Mic	Ma Murphys
FRIDAY 15 JULY		
10.00	Miek Zwamborn	Bantry House Tearooms
11.30	Shane Hegarty	St Brendans Hall
13.00	From The Well	Bantry Library
14.30	The Lighthouse Project	TBC
14.30	Young Writer Delegates Showcase	Maritime Hotel
17.00	Suad Aldarra	Bantry Library
18.30	People's Republic of Pork	Ma Murphys
20.30	Paul Muldoon	Maritime Hotel
MONDAY 18 JULY		
13.00	Literary Agent: Jo Unwin	Zoom





Dave Lordan



E.R. Murray



Tina Pisco



Ashley Hickson-Lovence

WORKSHOPS

Booking: +353 (0)27 52788

Book online: www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie

The WCLF workshop programme is aimed at both novice and experienced writers. Our workshops provide opportunities for development and intensive learning not possible in one sitting. Our workshops are run by experienced tutors many of whom are award-winning writers and/or teach creative writing at third level and offer immense value to participating writers. Please note that as with any workshop scenario, each tutor will have their own unique teaching style. Several of the writers who have taken these workshops have gone on to publish and have returned to the festival to read from their work.

Conditions of Sale: Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme will proceed as advertised however West Cork Literary Festival accepts no responsibility for any changes made due to circumstances beyond its control. Once purchased tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded. Refund will only be given in case of a cancelled event.

For a more detailed outline of each course and full tutor biographies please visit our website.

Workshop participants will be entitled to purchase tickets to other WCLF events for a reduced rate of €10 per event. This discount is only available on the door 15 minutes prior to each event and is subject to availability. Excludes other workshops

WORDS ALLOWED: FOR TEENAGE WRITERS

DAVE LORDAN & E.R. MURRAY

€125 / 16 MAX / Age 14-17

Friday 8 & Saturday 9 July, 9.30-12.30 & 13.30-16.30pm.

Sunday 10 July, 9.30-12.30 / **St Brendan's School Hall**

Designed to build the creative confidence and expressive ability of teenagers with an interest in writing this high-energy workshop combines talks and Q&As on being a writer in a world where multimedia and performance writing are assuming importance alongside traditional publishing. As well as covering poem, story and essay, **Words Allowed** introduces you to the essentials of editing and performance. In an atmosphere of support and encouragement for individual creativity, you will be facilitated in pursuing your own writing interests and in generating new work. The workshop is open to young people of all backgrounds, identities and abilities. Dave and Elizabeth are both very experienced in working with young people with special needs. The only requirement is an interest in writing or storytelling of any kind.

Dave Lordan is a multi-genre writer, performer, editor. He has led creative writing workshops for RTE, Irish Film Institute, Dublin City Libraries, Youthreach, Children's Books Ireland, Irish Writers Centre and more. **Elizabeth Rose Murray** writes novels for children/young adults and short fiction. Her award-winning books include the Nine Lives Trilogy and *Caramel Hearts*.



NOVEL WRITING

ASHLEY HICKSON-LOVENCE

€225 / 15 MAX

Monday 11 to Wednesday 13 July 9.30-12.30 & 14.30-16.30 / **Colaiste Pobail Bheanntrai**

This workshop for writers of all levels will explore the different features, technical and structural, that are appropriate for penning a fresh and contemporary tale. Exercises and reading will foster your confidence to be bold and dynamic, in terms of form, and the stories being told. You'll be encouraged to push yourself to respond in new and creative ways to source material, enabling originality and imaginative flair through workshops, discussions, exercises and some one-to-one time. The goal is that you'll come away with a renewed and intensified sense of possibility in your work, and a greater understanding of how to create compelling, exciting fiction.

Ashley Hickson-Lovence is a novelist, PhD student and Creative Writing tutor originally from Hackney, east London. A former secondary school English teacher, he completed his MA in Creative Writing and Publishing from City, University of London and is finishing his PhD in Creative and Critical Writing at the University of East Anglia. He teaches in several universities as well as with young writers for The Brilliant Club, First Story and Arvon. His second novel *Your Show* is based on the life and career of Black football referee Uriah Rennie.

CRIME WRITING

JANE CASEY / €225 / 15 MAX

Monday 11 to Wednesday 13 July, 9.30-12.30 & 14.30-16.30

Colaiste Pobail Bheanntrai

Day One: Character. We'll look at how to create a memorable, believable character and will talk about good villains, bad heroes and violence: why your choice of victim really matters. Day Two: Narrative. We'll discuss the pros and cons of first person vs third person, the authorial voice, what the readers need to know –and when – and the importance of playing fair with your clues. Day Three: Plot. Tips and tricks for turning your idea into a page-turning story. We'll discuss the rules of plot structure, pace, hooks, plotlines, twists and the importance of an ending. Each session will include written exercises, opportunities for class discussion and recommendations for further reading.



Jane Casey is the bestselling author of nine books in her Jane Kerrigan series of crime novels and a standalone novel *The Killing Kind*. She has won both the Mary Higgins Clark Award and Irish Crime Novel of the Year. Born in Dublin, Jane now lives in southwest London with her family.

BEGINNING POETRY

PAUL MULDOON / €225 / 15 MAX

Monday 11 to Friday 15 July, 9.30-12.30

Colaiste Pobail Bheanntrai

There are two people involved in the making of every poem — a writer and a reader, an alchemist and a structural engineer, an innocent and a know-it-all. This five day workshop explores strategies for harnessing these two-person teams to the advantage of your poem. Leave your preconceptions at home and prepare to write 4 poems over the course of the session.

Paul Muldoon is the author of fourteen full length collections of poetry, including *Moy Sand and Gravel*, for which he received the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, and *Howdie-Skelp* (2021). Other awards include the 1994 T. S. Eliot Prize, the 2003 Griffin Prize, the 2015 Pigott Prize, and the 2017 Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry. Born in Armagh in 1951, he has lived since 1987 in the United States, where he is the Howard G. B. Clark Professor in the Humanities at Princeton University.



THE THREAT OF WRITING

SARAH BYRNE / €225 / 15 MAX

Monday 11 to Friday 15 July, 9.30-12.30 / Colaiste Pobail Bheanntrai (with field trips to Bantry House Gardens, Brown Envelope

Seeds and Whiddy Island) See website for more info

The Threat of Writing will be a meeting place for creative and ecological concerns and will help writers to produce texts that are clear, accurate and beautiful. There is immense power in seeing an alternative reality on paper and writers who want readers to spend time with their work bear this responsibility. That is the threat of writing. Whatever genre you write in, this course will help you to identify what drives you to write and where it might take you; to create a text that withstands internal/external threats; to develop critical listening and reading skills; to explore modes of creativity beyond the computer and desk; to respond to your direct writing environment of Bantry Bay and its local ecology.

This course is subsidised by The Adrian Brinkerhoff Poetry Foundation and UNESCO City of Dublin Literature.

Sarah Byrne is a writer, editor and publisher based in Paris. Originally from Cork, she worked in restorative justice, prisoner welfare and mental health for a decade. She founded the poetry journal, *The Well Review*, in 2016 as well as running a pamphlet series that supports debut writers. Her writing has appeared in *The Irish Times*, *The New Statesman* and *Poetry Ireland Review*. Sarah has lived in Bantry and has collaborated with the West Cork Literary Festival since 2017.

CRAFTING THE SHORT STORY

TINA PISCO / €225 / 15 MAX

Wednesday 13 to Friday 15 July, 9.30-12.30 & 14.30-16.30

Colaiste Pobail Bheanntrai

This 3-day workshop has classes in the morning and afternoon sessions for writing, critiquing, and discussion and it will focus on the craft of writing short stories. Open to both beginners and more experienced writers. The workshops will include writing exercises, prompts and discussions to push the participants further in their writing. The three days will cover the Classic Three Act Structure: Form is at the essence of what makes a short story; I/You/She/We: the importance of Point of View: Whose story is it? What do they have to tell and how will they tell it?; Past Present or Future? He goes. He went. What's the difference?

Tina Pisco is a West Cork writer of novels, newspaper columns and short stories. In 2020/21 she became the first Writer-in-Residence for Cork City Libraries, and in 2021/22 was awarded the prestigious Frank O'Connor Fellowship by the Munster Literature Centre. Her first short story collection (*Sunrise Sunset and other fictions*, FISH 2016) was longlisted for the Edge Hill Prize.

YOUNG ADULT & CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

Booking: +353 (0)27 52788

Book online: www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie

Children's workshops have a very limited capacity and should be booked in advance to avoid disappointment. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for the duration of children's events in St Brendan's School Hall.

If you are interested in literature for children and young people please check out **Áine Ní Ghlinn's** public interview about encouraging children to read as Gaeilge (see p5) and our Proper Book event, **Everything You Need to Know About Writing a Children's Book and Getting It Published**, in association with Children's Books Ireland and Sarah Webb. See page 23 for details

WORDS ALLOWED: WORKSHOP FOR TEENAGE WRITERS / DAVE LORDAN & E.R. MURRAY / €125 / 16 people max / Age 14-17 / Friday 8 – Sunday 10 July / St Brendan's School Hall
See page 33 for details

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Saturday 9 / 10.00-11.00 / Bantry Library

Children's Workshop

Free / Age 10-12 / 15 people max / Booking is required

Crann Filíochta with Áine Ní Ghlinn

Join Laureate na nÓg, **Áine Ní Ghlinn**, for a poetry workshop in Irish, English and whatever languages children bring to the event. We will write nature poems at this Poet-Tree / Crann Filíochta workshop and will hang the poems on our very own Crann Filíochta.



Laureate
na nÓg

Monday 11 / 15.30 / St Brendan's School Hall

Children's & YA Reading / €7 / Age 11+

My Heart & Other Breakables

Alex Barclay

My Heart & Other Breakables is the hilarious and deeply moving 11+ debut from West Cork resident **Alex Barclay**, this might just be the funniest book ever to make you cry your eyes out... This is the diary of me, Ellery Brown, aged 16 and a half. I think I'm supposed to use it to record my feelings about my Mom, since she died. So why do I keep thinking about who my dad might be, instead...?

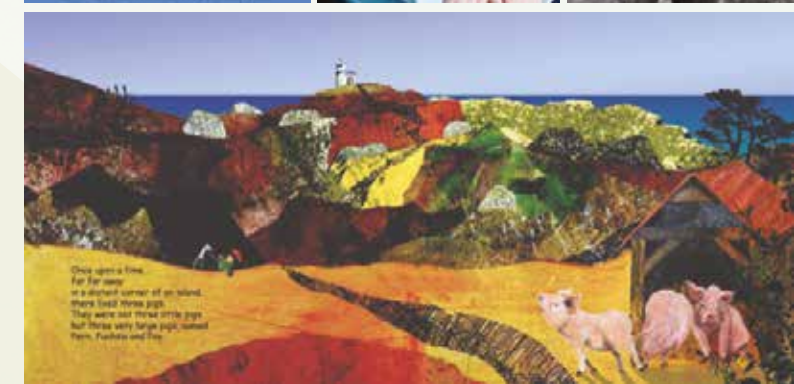
Tuesday 12 / 11.30-13.00 / St Brendan's School Hall

Children's Workshop / €7 / Age 6-9 / 12 people max

Fay Goes to Sea

Niamh O'Mahony & Annabel Langrish

Come and meet West Cork writer and illustrator duo, **Niamh O'Mahony** and **Annabel Langrish**, who created the picture books *Why Are We Here?* and *Fay Goes to Sea*. Enjoy storytelling with Niamh and discover how Annabel creates her illustrations. Join in a hands-on writing/illustrating session and walk away with a book that you have created yourself.



Tuesday 12 / 17.00 / St Brendan's School Hall

Teen & YA Workshop / €10 / Age 16-24 / 20 Max

Creative Writing with Caroline O'Donoghue

Join author **Caroline O'Donoghue** for a creative writing workshop inspired by tarot. Caroline will introduce the audience to tarot and share how the archetypes which feature can be used as a means for storytelling. There will be a chance to share your own work and receive feedback.

Wednesday 13 / 14.30 / Maritime Hotel

YA Reading / €10 / Age 14+

Caroline O'Donoghue & Mary Watson

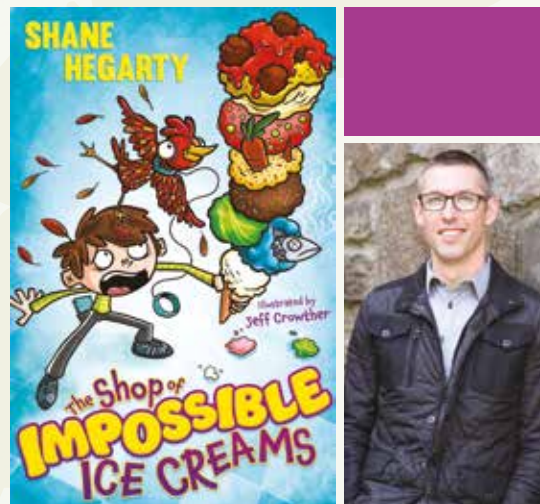
Join YA authors **Caroline O'Donoghue** and **Mary Watson** to hear all about their magical new novels *The Gifts That Bind Us* and *Blood To Poison*. See page 20 for details

Friday 15 / 11.30-12.30 / St Brendan's School Hall

Children's Reading / €7 / Age 7+

The Shop of Impossible Ice Creams: Shane Hegarty

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Contact Details:-

Phone: 027 56434

Fax: 027 56439

Email: admin@colaistepobailbheanntaraí.com

Colaiste Pobail Bheanntaraí, a community college under the co-trusteeship of the Diocese of Cork and Ross and Cork Education and Training Board offering a wide range of courses and programmes including:-

- Junior Cycle
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- Senior Cycle
- Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme
- Leaving Certificate Applied
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The Staff and students of Colaiste Pobail Bheanntaraí are delighted to be associated with, and wish every success to, the West Cork Literary Festival

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West Cork Literary Festival

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

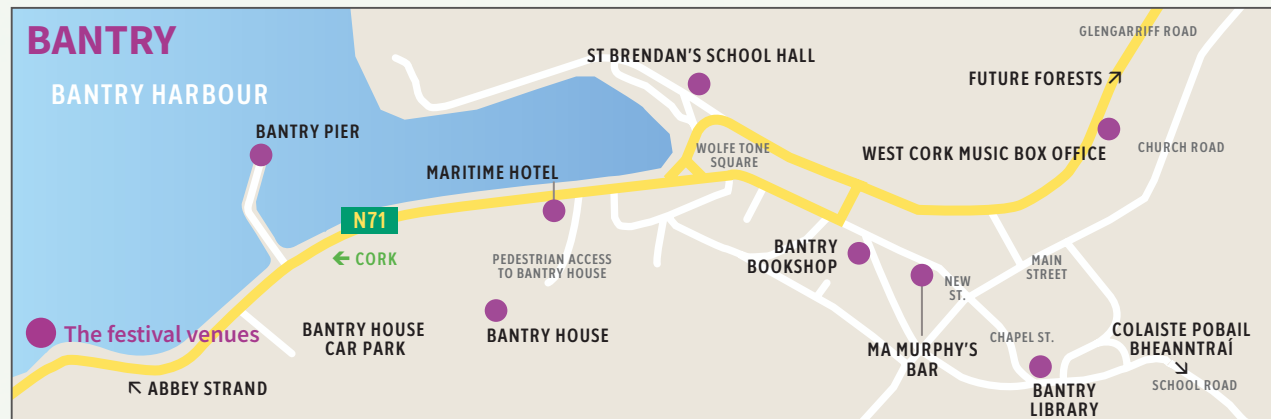
West Cork Music gratefully acknowledges the major funding from the Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon; Cork County Council Library and Arts Services; and Fáilte Ireland.

West Cork Music gratefully acknowledges the generous sponsorship of Words Allowed by O'Keeffe's Supervalu; and Poetry Ireland.

The West Cork Literary Festival would like to thank the following for their support and encouragement: the management and staff, Martime Hotel; Denis Murphy and staff, Bantry Library, Kate Smyth and Marney Smyth Fischer, Bantry Bookshop; Marian Carey, Principal, Colaiste Pobail Bheanntai; Brian Murphy, Principal of St Brendan's School; Julie Shelswell-White, Bantry House; Maria Collard and Matt Keane, Future Forests; Stephen and Gillian O'Donovan, The Brick Oven, Bantry Bay and the Mariner; Canon Paul Willoughby, Rector of Kilmocomogue Union of Parishes; Bernie O'Sullivan of Forest and Flock; Hannah and Rachel Dare, Organico; Tim O'Leary, Whiddy Island Ferry; Jean Kearney and Louise Barker of Kearney Melia Barker Communications; Steve Knight, Sodexo; Zenith Energy; The Irish Examiner; RTÉ lyric fm; Siobhan Burke of Living the Sheeps Head Way; Noel O'Mahony; Ma Murphy's Bar; Tina Pisco; Marie Guillot; Tessa Gibson; Jenni Debie; Raven Goode; Assumpta Curran; Aisling Arundel; Lauren Ingram; Joan O'Donovan; George Plant; Bernie Wallace; Ian McDonagh; Sinéad Donnelly; Rachel Burke; Deirdre O'Donovan for her photographs; and all of the publicists, agents and personal assistants who assisted us in putting together the programme. Thank you to Tom Climent for permission to reproduce his painting 'Shores of Light' on the cover of this brochure.

We would like to thank all of the writers, tutors and introducers who will join us this year and all of the writers who weren't able to make it (we'll ask you again!) A special thanks to the Festival volunteers who give their time and energy to the Festival each year





Photography Credits

Mark Pringle pg 3, Dominique Nabokov pg 3, Julien Behal pg 4 & 36, Annaleen Louwes pg 4, Kenneth O'Halloran pg 4, Barry Cronin pg 6, Guy Drayton pg 6, Tristan Hutchinson pg 7, Bríd O'Donovan pg 7, 19 & 27, Jill Cotter pg 9, Stuart Simpson / Penguin Random House pg 9, Annie Armitage pg 10, Kieran O'Connor pg 10, Anna Groniecka pg 11, Chris Kannen pg 12, Michael Weir pg 12, Joseph Taussay pg 13, Luigi Cazzanigana pg 13, Máire Uí Mhaicín pg 14, Dillon Kalyabe pg 14, Katie Freeney pg 15, Monika Gorka pg 15, Sophie Davidson pg 16, Iggy London pg 17 & 32, Shane Cronin pg 17, Whitney M Hall pg 18, Manus Kenny pg 18, Jamie Drew pg 20 & 38, Nazreen Essack pg 20 & 38, Diarmuid O'Brien pg 21, Derek Speirs pg 21, Mindy Tucker pg 22, Michael Ray pg 23, Stephan Vanfleteren pg 23, Claire O'Rorke pg 25, Emma Wish pg 25, Beowulf Sheehan pg 29, Rosa Lordan pg 32, Louise Barker pg 32.

Planning your Visit

All performance spaces in the Maritime are fully wheelchair accessible and a hearing induction loop system is installed in the large function room for the week.

We have a small number of exclusively online events and we will film a number of in-person events which will be available online with subtitles after the festival. Check our website for details nearer the time.

We do our very best to present the festival as it appears in this brochure but this year we expect a level of uncertainty. Follow us on social media, join our e-newsletter or check our website to keep informed of any last-minute changes to the line-up.



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Full Terms & Conditions at www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie

Booking Form

Days and Workshop	Price	Qty	Total
FRIDAY 8 - SUNDAY 10			
Words Allowed / D. Lordan & ER Murray	€125		
MONDAY 11 - WEDNESDAY 13			
Novel / Ashley Hickson Lovence	€225		
Crime / Jane Casey	€225		
MONDAY 11 - FRIDAY 15			
Poetry / Paul Muldoon	€225		
Threat of Writing / Sarah Byrne	€225		
WEDNESDAY 13 - FRIDAY 15			
Short Story / Tina Pisco	€225		
(Carry over to Main Form) SUB TOTAL			

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West Cork Literary Festival

JULY	EVENT	Price	Qty	Total	JULY	EVENT	Price	Qty	Total
CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS Check Brochure for Details					PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Check Brochure for Details				
MON 11	Alex Barclay	€7			THUR 14	Writing & Pub. Children's Books	€15		
TUES 12	N. O'Mahony & Annabel Langrish	€7			THUR 14	Flash Fiction / Kathy Fish	€20		
TUES 12	Writing / Caroline O'Donoghue	€10			EARLY EVENING EVENTS / 18.30 / Check Brochure for Details				
WED 13	C. O'Donoghue & Mary Watson	€10			SAT 9	Geoff Dyer	€16		
FRI 15	Shane Hegarty	€7			SUN 10	Jane Casey & C. Kirwan	€16		
COFFEE & CHAT / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM					TUES 12	L. Buckle & Nina Mingya Powles	€16		
MON 11	Jessica Traynor	€10			WED 13	Rosaleen McDonagh	€16		
TUES 12	Tice Cin	€10			THUR 14	Rodaan Al Galidi	€10		
WED 13	Jenie deBie	€10			FRI 15	People's Republic of Pork	€10		
THUR 14	Afric McGlinchey	€10			EVENING EVENTS / 20.30/ MARITIME HOTEL				
FRI 15	Miek Zwamborn	€10			FRI 8	Nick Laird & Zadie Smith	€20		
SERIES	COFFEE & CHAT SERIES (SAVE 20%)	€40			SAT 9	Colm Tóibín	€5		
DAYTIME EVENTS Check Brochure for Details					SUN 10	Louise O'Neill	€20		
SAT 9	Sara Baume (Whiddy Is. incl ferry)	€25			MON 11	Lucy Caldwell & Ruth Padel	€20		
SUN 10	JR Thorp	€16			TUES 12	Yan Ge & Maeve Higgins	€20		
SUN 10	M. Devlin & Marianne Lee	€20			WED 13	T. Coakley & A. Hickson-Lovence	€20		
SUN 10	Seán Hewitt & Cristín Leach	€16			THR 14	Critical Voices 2022	€5		
MON 11	Wayne Miller & S. Sexton	€18			FRI 15	Paul Muldoon	€20		
TUES 12	Danny Denton & N. Campbell	€18			ONLINE EVENTS / 13.00 / ZOOM / Check Brochure for Details				
WED 13	M. McCann & K. Ní Dochartaigh	€18			MON 18	Jo Unwin Literary Agent	€10		
WED 13	C. O'Donoghue & Mary Watson	€10			Book 5 + Separate Events & Get A 10% Discount*				
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Check Brochure for Details					Sub Total				
MON 11	Cork's New Literary Journals	€10			Booking Fee				€5.00
TUES 12	Poetry Translation (2 sessions)	€30			GRAND TOTAL				





West Cork Literary Festival

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