



WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

Bantry / Friday 13 – Friday 20 July 2018

readings / workshops / seminars / children's events



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WELCOME TO THE 2018 WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

It gives me great pleasure to announce the line-up of incredible Irish and international writers attending this year's West Cork Literary Festival. There is such a wealth of talent across all genres from poetry to literary fiction, memoir to children's literature, journalism to nature writing, podcasts to food writing, travel and place-based writing to short stories and writers whose work crosses several genres.

As in previous years we are delighted to introduce new writers and those who have just published their first novel or collection as well as showcasing new work from the writers whose work we have admired for many years. We also encourage emerging writers through our five-day writing workshops, professional learning seminars and the opportunity to participate in our open mic sessions so whether you are a reader or a writer there should be plenty in the festival to engage and inspire you.

This year we are partnering on READ ON, a 4-year project across 6 European countries, funded by the EU Creative Europe programme. The READ ON project will excite young people aged 12 to 19 to read, write, illustrate, draw graphic novels, interview authors, offer their own spin on their favourite book, and curate events at a literature festival, both in their own country and across Europe. We are very proud to be working on these events both during the festival week and throughout the year.

I would like to thank the board of West Cork Music and the festival team who work so hard year-round to bring three world-class festivals to Bantry – West Cork Chamber Music Festival, Masters of Tradition and West Cork Literary Festival. Thank you to the additional staff and volunteers who come on 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 magnificent and inspiring surroundings. Thank you to the town of Bantry for its support of the festival and in particular the venues (both on and off the mainland!), accommodation providers, restaurants and bars who do so much to make our writers and our audiences feel welcome and to make sure that everyone has an unforgettable West Cork experience. Special thanks as always to our principal funders the Arts Council, Cork County Council and Fáilte Ireland as well as O'Keeffe's SuperValu and UCC.

I would like to talk this opportunity to pay tribute to a proud daughter of Bantry, Dr Paule Cotter, who passed away recently. Paule was a loyal and longtime champion of West Cork Music and will be missed by all of her friends in Bantry and West Cork Music.

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. We hope that you come along to this year's festival to see your favourite writers and to discover some new favourites. It'll be another non-stop week of readings, workshops, seminars and family events so we also hope to get out into the West Cork summer for a spot of yoga on the lawn, a walk or a dip in the sea.

Biggest thanks of all must go to the writers who will be joining us this year. Whether it is your first visit or whether you're a festival veteran 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

A Message from

Cork County Library & Arts Service

Every February I look forward to getting a sneak preview of what is to come during Festival Week in July, when a wave of literary wellbeing washes over the shores of Bantry. It is a constant pleasure to play host, in Bantry Library, to some of the many wonderful readings and discussions that take place in the town during that week. Readers get to see long-admired authors unmasked, people that have hitherto been a friend on their bookshelves taking shape in the reality of familiar and intimate settings. Just as exciting is the chance to discover new authors, thanks to the strategic groupings that have been conceived throughout the winter, allowing unexpected connections to be made.

From the legendary Margaret Drabble to TS Eliot Prize winner, Jacob Polley; from a resurgent Bernard MacLaverty's portrayal of an older Northern Irish couple to Deborah Levy's voices from the margins; from the social conscience of Booker-shortlisted Fiona Mozley to the eco-centric biographical work of Philip Hoare; society as a whole, and its current concerns, are very well represented in this year's programme. The writing workshops, always one

of the strongest features of the festival, ensure the continuation of a strong tradition of literary creativity in West Cork, as well as providing fertile ground for future programmes.

Cork County Library would like to extend its thanks to West Cork Music, the festival's Artistic Director Eimear O'Herlihy, local organisations, businesses and volunteers. The West Cork Literary Festival has gone from strength to strength over the last 20 years and has both sustained and grown its reputation as one of the foremost literary festivals in the country, making Bantry a dream destination for lovers of reading, writing and culture generally. Just as important to the festival's success is the loyal patronage of the festival-goers, and I'd like to wish all of you the very best for a week that promises to be as fulfilling and uplifting as the beautiful landscape in which it is set.

Eileen O'Brien, *Acting County Librarian*
Cork County Library and Arts Service



FRIDAY 13 JULY & THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 13 JULY / 18.30 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

OPENING RECEPTION OF THE 20TH WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

Join us as we welcome audience members, workshop participants, festival sponsors and supporters and of course the writers. The **J.G. Farrell Fiction Award**, for the best opening chapter of a novel-in-progress by a writer resident in Munster, will be presented during the launch.

ALL WEEK / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

EXHIBITION OF FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHY: BEN RUSSELL

Striking images from the 2017 West Cork Chamber Music Festival and Masters of Tradition. **Ben Russell** has been based in West Cork for over forty years and 6,000 of his images have been published.

ALL WEEK / ORGANICO CAFÉ / FREE / 25 JUNE – 4 AUGUST

WORKS ON PAPER: MARGARET LONERGAN & STUART COUGHLAN

Margaret Lonergan is a graphic artist and designer whose work explores acts of translation and interpretation in the relationship between visual language and written language (Irish and English). **Stuart Coughlan** is a graphic designer and artist with a particular interest in the written word and exploring definitions of 'nature'.

ALL WEEK / ORGANICO CAFÉ / FREE

THE WEST CORK LETTER CAFÉ

Come along to the Letter Café and write a letter to let someone know that you're thinking of them. We provide complimentary stationery and pens all week. All you have to do is provide the words.

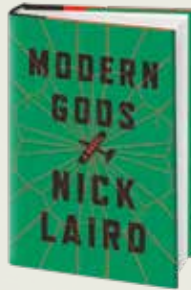
ALL WEEK / UILLINN, SKIBBEREEN / 25 JUNE – 21 JULY / FREE

MUSEUM OF MINIATURE

We're partnering with **Uillinn: West Cork Arts Centre** on Museum of Miniature, a residency by visual artists **Tess Leak** and **Marie Brett** inspired by 7 West Cork islands. Uillinn will commission three WCLF writers to write a short piece in response to a miniature artwork and these will also be exhibited in the Museum.



Photo: Danielle Delaney



FRIDAY 13 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

AN EVENING with **NICK LAIRD & ZADIE SMITH**

in conversation with **SINÉAD GLEESON**

Nick Laird will read from his new poetry collection which will be published by Faber this summer and *Modern Gods*, his most recent novel. *Modern Gods* (2017) is a powerful novel about two sisters who must reclaim themselves after their lives are dramatically upended. It charts the intimacies and disappointments of a family trying to hold itself together, and the repercussions of history and faith.

'Modern Gods is an exceptional work of literature.' Carlo Gébler, Irish Times

Nick Laird has won many awards for his fiction and poetry including the Betty Trask prize, the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize, a Somerset Maugham award, the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature and the Ireland Chair of Poetry Prize. Nick is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

In **Zadie Smith's** second collection of essays *Feel Free*, no subject is too fringe or too mainstream. Pop culture, high culture, social change and political debate all get the Zadie Smith treatment: dissected with razor-sharp intellect, set against the context of the contemporary, and considered with a deep humanity and compassion.

'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

Zadie Smith is the author of five novels including *White Teeth* and *Swing Time*, as well as a novella and another collection of essays. Zadie was listed as one of Granta's 20 Best Young British Novelists in 2003 and 2013. *White Teeth* won the James Tait Black Memorial Prize, the Whitbread First Novel Award and the *Guardian* First Book Award.

From top, Nick Laird and Zadie Smith Photos: Mark Pringle and Dominique Nabokov

SATURDAY 14 JULY

SATURDAY 14 / 9.30 / BANTRY HOUSE / €10 (Pay on the day) / age: 15+

YOGA ON THE LAWN

Maeve Murphy has been practicing Yoga for almost 10 years and completed her teacher training in 2016. Maeve's classes focus on alignment and bringing a balance between the mind & body, strength and flexibility. This drop-in class is suitable for all levels. Please bring your own yoga mat. Weather permitting the class will take place on the front lawn in Bantry House (with a bad weather Plan B) but do check our social media the day before for weather updates.



Maeve Murphy [Photo: Simon Murphy]

SATURDAY 14 / 11.30 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE

LEAH UMANSKY

In *The Barbarous Century* poet **Leah Umansky** uses varied dystopias embedded in myth, story, technology and popular culture to illustrate the challenges we all face in being human: how to be good in a world gone wrong.

'The Barbarous Century is a wild, magnificent achievement.' Kaveh Akbar

Leah Umansky lives in New York City. Her poems have been published in *POETRY*, *American Poetry Review*, *Magma Poetry*, *Salamander*, *Guernica* and *The White Review*. She is the author of four books and two chapbooks.



Inua Ellams



Leah Umansky Photo: Jen Fitzgerald

SATURDAY 14 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

INUA ELLAMS

Born in Nigeria, **Inua Ellams** is an award-winning poet, playwright and founder of the Midnight Run. Identity, Displacement and Destiny are reoccurring themes in his work in which he mixes the old with the new, traditional with the contemporary. His books are published by Flipped Eye, Akashic, Nine Arches and Oberon.



Liz Nugent Photo: Beta Bajgartova

Catherine Ryan Howard Photo: Steve Langan

SATURDAY 14 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

LIZ NUGENT & CATHERINE RYAN HOWARD

Skin Deep opens as Cordelia Russell has been living on the French Riviera for twenty-five years. But her luck, and the kindness of strangers, have run out. The arrival of a visitor from her distant past shocks Cordelia and causes a violent reaction.

'Monumentally good. Liz Nugent is a beautiful writer and among the very best storytellers in the world.' Donal Ryan

Liz Nugent's first two novels were Number One bestsellers and won Irish Book Awards. *Skin Deep* is her third novel. She lives in Dublin with her husband.

In *The Liar's Girl* Dublin's notorious Canal Killer is serving a life sentence when a body is fished out of the canal. Detectives suspect they are dealing with a copycat and turn to him for help. He claims he has the information but will only give it to the girl he was dating when he committed his horrific crimes.

'Catherine is such a skilled storyteller – every setting was evocative, every hook well-placed, every twist expertly-timed. Astonishingly good.'

Jo Spain

Catherine Ryan Howard's debut novel *Distress Signals* was shortlisted for the CWA John Creasy (New Blood) Dagger. *The Liar's Girl* was published in March 2018.

SATURDAY 14 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

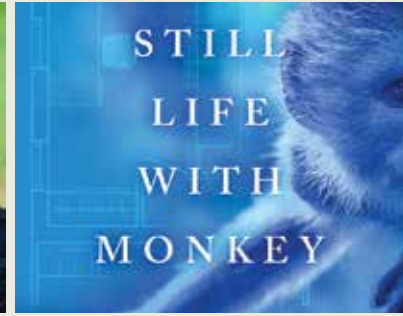
KATHARINE WEBER & DENYSE WOODS

Duncan loves his life until a car accident leaves him paralyzed and his will to live falters. Desperate to help him, his wife gets a trained helper monkey to assist with basic tasks. They both fall for this sweet creature and life appears more tolerable. But is it enough? **Katharine Weber** is a masterful observer of humanity, and *Still Life with Monkey*, full of tenderness and melancholy, explores the conflict between the will to live and the desire to die.

'Still Life with Monkey is a brilliantly crafted novel, brimming with heart.' Tayari Jones

Katharine Weber is the author of seven books, three of which were *New York Times* Book Review Notable Books. Her new novel *Still Life With Monkey* will be published in the summer of 2018.

Of Sea and Sand is set in the magnificent landscapes of Oman. In an attempt to out-run his conscience, Gabriel Sherlock flees to Muscat in 1982, where he begins an affair with a woman whom no one else can see. Locals insist she must be one of the jinn, but he refuses to buy into the folklore. Twenty-six years later, when he meets Thea Kerrigan, he is convinced that she is his lost lover.



Denyse Woods, who has also written as Denyse Devlin, is the author of six novels, including the critically-acclaimed *Overnight to Innsbruck* and *The Catalpa Tree*. In 2016, she won the Florida Keys Flash Fiction Award and spent two weeks writing in Ernest Hemingway's studio. *Of Sea and Sand* is her sixth novel and completes a trio of books set in the Arab world.

From top: Katharine Weber, Denyse Woods Photos: Corbin Gurkin, Mirte Slob



SATURDAY 14 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

LARA FEIGEL & DEBORAH LEVY in conversation with **SINÉAD GLEESON**



How might we live more freely, and will we be happier or lonelier if we do? Re-reading *The Golden Notebook* in her thirties, shortly after Doris Lessing's death, **Lara Feigel** discovered that Lessing spoke directly to her as a woman, a writer, and a mother in a way that no other novelist had done. At a time when she was dissatisfied with the conventions of her own life, Lara was enticed by Lessing's vision of freedom.

'[Free Woman is] the most intriguing and certainly the bravest work of literary scholarship I have ever read.'

Deborah Levy

Lara Feigel is a Reader in Modern Literature and Culture at King's College London. She has written journalism for the *Guardian*, *Financial Times* and *Prospect*. *The Love-charm of Bombs* (2013) and *The Bitter Taste of Victory* (2016), were both published to critical acclaim. *Free Woman* was published by Bloomsbury in March 2018. Lara lives in West Hampstead, London.

Witty and ruthlessly honest, *The Cost Of Living* is **Deborah Levy's** unique memoir of writing and womanhood. It shows a writer in radical flux, facing separation and bereavement, and emerging renewed from the ashes of a former life. Faced with the restrictions of conventional living, she dismantles her life, expands it and puts it back together in a new shape. Deborah confronts a world not designed to accommodate difficult women and ultimately remakes herself in her own image.

'Superb sharpness and originality of imagination. It is feminist and political while being an inspiring work of writing... She writes on the high wire, unflinchingly.' Marina Warner

Deborah Levy is a British playwright, novelist and poet. She is the author of six novels including *Swimming Home* (2011) and *Hot Milk* (2016), both of which were shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Her collection of stories, *Black Vodka* was shortlisted for the BBC International Short Story Award and the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award.



From top: Lara Feigel, Deborah Levy Photos: Johnny Ring, Sheila Burnett

SATURDAY 14 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

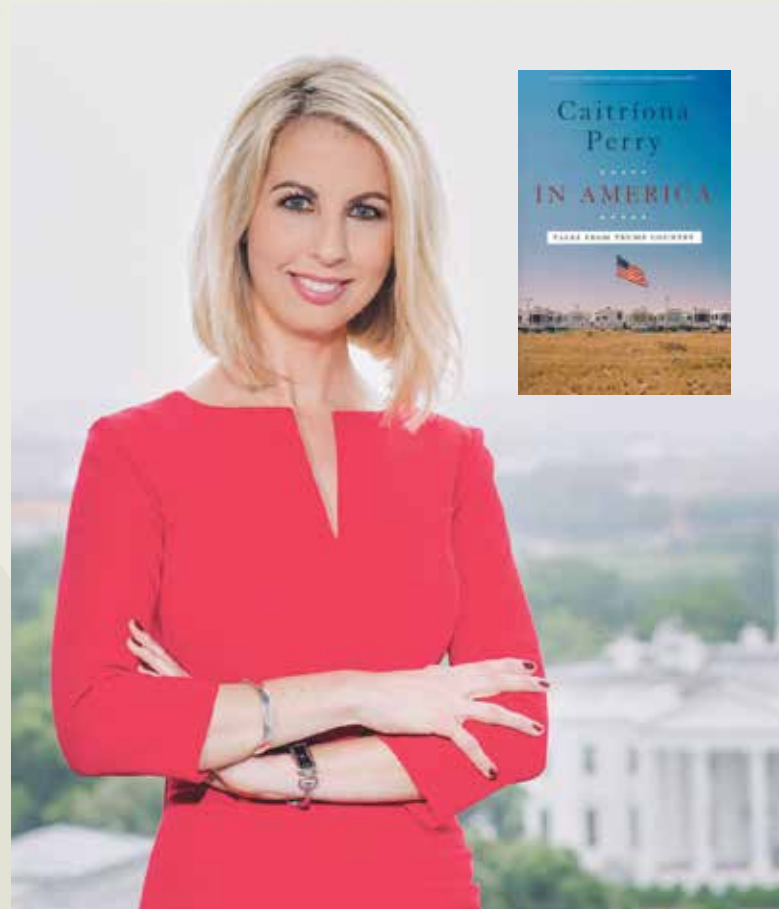
AN EVENING with **CAITRÍONA PERRY**

As RTÉ's Washington correspondent, **Caitriona Perry** earned a reputation as a reliable source of truth as the world tries to make sense of the maelstrom of shocking headlines emanating from Donald Trump's America. In her first book *In America: Tales from Trump Country*, she goes beyond the news reports and delves into the American heartland where she witnessed his rise at first hand, while others were blindsided by his victory.

'A genuinely fascinating chance to meet the most and least likely Trump voters and find out why his election was ultimately bound to happen.' Rick O'Shea

Caitriona Perry is an award-winning Irish journalist. She's worked as a broadcast news correspondent since 2000 and is currently co-anchor of the main television evening news programme from Ireland's national public service broadcaster, RTÉ. Previously she was the station's Washington Correspondent (2013-2017) where she worked across television, radio and digital platforms reporting on politics and US-related news. She holds a Degree in Journalism and a Masters in International Relations from Dublin City University. *In America: Tales from Trump Country* was shortlisted for Best Irish Non-Fiction Book of the Year 2017. Caitriona was recently named the *Irish Tatler* Media Woman of the Year 2017.

Caitriona Perry



SUNDAY 15 / 13.30 / WHIDDY ISLAND / €25 (INC. FERRY)

IMOGEN HERMES GOWAR

In 1785, the merchant Jonah Hancock hears urgent knocking on his front door. One of his captains is waiting eagerly on the step. He has sold Jonah's ship for what appears to be a mermaid. As gossip spreads through the docks, coffee shops, parlours and brothels, everyone wants to see Mr Hancock's marvel. In her debut novel *The Mermaid & Mrs Hancock*, **Imogen Hermes Gowar** has created a spell-binding story of curiosity and obsession.

A *Sunday Times* bestseller. Longlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction 2018.
'Imogen Hermes Gowar is a soon-to-be literary star.' *Sunday Times*

Imogen Hermes Gowar studied Archaeology, Anthropology and Art History before working in museums. Her fiction is inspired by artefacts she worked with, and in 2013 she won the Malcolm Bradbury Memorial Scholarship to study Creative Writing at UEA.

The ferry leaves Bantry Pier for Whiddy Island at 13.30 sharp. It will leave Whiddy at 15.30 to return to Bantry. A smaller ferry will depart Whiddy at 16.15.



Imogen Hermes Gowar Photo: Ollie Grove



Louise O'Neill Photo: Anna Groniecka

SUNDAY 15 / 16.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

LOUISE O'NEILL

The ground-breaking, bestselling author Louise O'Neill is back with *Almost Love*, an unforgettable new novel about how dangerous, painful and addictive love can be. When Sarah falls for Matthew, she falls hard. So it doesn't matter that he's twenty years older. That he sees her only in secret. That, slowly but surely, she's sacrificing everything else in her life to be with him. Love is supposed to hurt. Isn't it?

'Honest and poignant' Elle magazine *'Fantastic novel'* John Boyne

Louise O'Neill's award-winning novel *Asking For It* has been adapted for the stage and will have its world premiere during Cork Midsummer Festival 2018. Her debut novel *Only Ever Yours* won Newcomer of the Year at the Irish Book Awards and the inaugural Bookseller YA Prize. Louise lives in Clonakilty, West Cork.



From Left; Danny Denton, June Caldwell Photos: Rachel Bradbury, Will Govan

SUNDAY 15 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

JUNE CALDWELL & DANNY DENTON

Join us to hear two of the most impressive debuts published in Ireland in the past year.

Danny Denton's *The Earlie King & The Kid in Yellow* is set in Ireland in a post-digital future: derelict and flooded by ceaseless rain. From every wall, the King's Eye watches. Yet, the city is full of hearts – defiant and sprayed in yellow: the mark of the Kid.

'What a book. Absolutely marvellous.' Cillian Murphy

Danny Denton, from Cork, has written for the *Irish Times*, *Irish Examiner*, and RTÉ Arena. His short stories have been published in *Stinging Fly*, among others. *The Earlie King & The Kid in Yellow* is his first novel and was published by Granta in January 2018.

June Caldwell's *Room Little Darker* explores the clandestine aspects of modern life through jagged, visceral tales of wanton sex, broken relationships, homelessness and futuristic nightmares.

'You've probably never read about contemporary Ireland quite like this... Strong, salty, swaggering new voice in Irish fiction... A bitch's brew of anger, spiky rage and deft humour.' Irish Independent

June Caldwell worked for many years as a journalist and now writes fiction. Her story 'SOMAT' was published in the award-winning anthology *The Long Gaze Back* and was chosen as a 'favourite' by the *Sunday Times*. She is a prizewinner of the *Moth* International Short Story Prize. She lives in Dublin.

SUNDAY 15 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

FINTAN O'TOOLE:

BERNARD SHAW AND THE USES OF CELEBRITY

George Bernard Shaw, Nobel prizewinner for literature and Academy Award winner, is best known as the author of *Pygmalion* (his most popular and most frequently performed play). GBS was the first great brand and in this lecture **Fintan O'Toole** will explore how Shaw created this most modern of concepts.

'Judging Shaw is an exhilarating read. Fintan O'Toole persuades us that GBS still has radical and pertinent insights to offer into the glaring inequities of life in the twenty-first century.'

Anthony Roche, Dublin Review of Books

Fintan O'Toole is assistant editor, columnist and feature writer for the *Irish Times* and Leonard L. Milberg lecturer in Irish Letters at Princeton University. He has written books on Irish history, politics, society and culture. He has been awarded the European Press Prize 2017 and the Orwell Prize for Journalism 2017.

SUNDAY 15 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

OPEN MIC

Every night (Sunday to Thursday) we offer you the opportunity to perform your own work – or simply to listen to others and to mingle with writers. If you would like to read something, just sign up with your host on the evening, **Paul O'Donoghue**.



Fintan O'Toole Photo: John Ohle

MONDAY 16 JULY

MONDAY 16 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with

JOHN SIMPSON: *THE WORD DETECTIVE*

Series presented in association with Bantry House and Garden
John Simpson was Editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary* for twenty years until 2013. *The Word Detective* looks at the lexicography needed to understand a word and the poetry needed to construct its definition. He challenges the idea that dictionaries are definitive, and the notion that language is falling apart whilst giving life to the colourful characters of the *OED*.

MONDAY 16 / 11.30 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE

ANDREA CARTER

The Well of Ice is the third murder mystery featuring solicitor Ben O’Keeffe and set on the wild and isolated Inishowen peninsula. It’s Christmas in Glendara and a gruesome discovery is made: a body lying face-down in the snow...

‘A likeable amateur detective, an atmospheric and vividly rendered sense of place and engagingly drawn series characters... [It] moves towards a spectacular and explosive conclusion.’ Irish Times

Andrea Carter studied law at Trinity College Dublin before moving to the Inishowen peninsula in Donegal where she ran the most northerly solicitors’ practice in the country. After ten years, she moved to Dublin to work as a barrister before turning to write crime novels.



John Simpson Photo: Bloomingphotography.com. Andrea Carter.

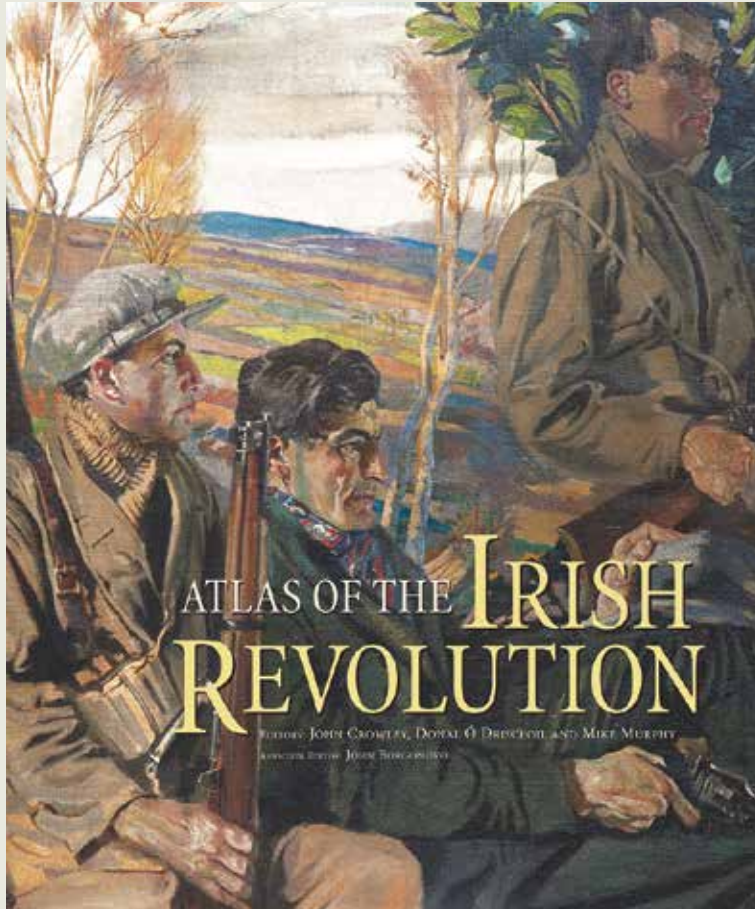
MONDAY 16 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

DANNY DENTON: CORK COUNTY COUNCIL WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE

Danny Denton is Cork County Council Library and Arts Service’s writer-in-residence and is working with writers groups in Bantry, Carrigaline, Mallow, Middleton, Millstreet, Youghal and Skibbereen libraries over the course of this year. Join Danny and writers from all seven groups as they share their work with us.

Danny Denton is a writer from Cork. His short stories have been published in *Stinging Fly*, among others and his first novel *The Earlie King & The Kid in Yellow* was published by Granta.

Danny will read from his work in an event at 6.30pm Sunday. See p.11



MONDAY 16 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

ATLAS OF THE IRISH REVOLUTION

Atlas of the Irish Revolution is the most comprehensive treatment of Ireland's revolutionary years ever produced and it presents the history of the Irish Revolution in a vivid and exciting way, using many photos and archival documents that have rarely been seen by the Irish public. President Higgins has described the *Atlas* as a 'scholarly masterpiece'. Over 140 separate contributions from the leading scholars of the era deal with the revolution in all its complexity. Stories of individuals and parishes sit alongside large thematic and international studies to give a multifaceted picture of these transformative years.

'This scholarly epic is a literal heavy hitter, but with its breadth of research, beautiful illustrations and attention to detail it is a true classic well worth a place on any (groaning) bookshelf.'

Sunday Times

Dr John Borgonovo lectures in the School of History at University College Cork, and coordinates UCC's Decade of Centenaries Programme. He is the associate editor of the acclaimed *Atlas of the Irish Revolution* (Cork University Press, 2017). An authority on revolutionary Ireland, he frequently appears in the national media.

MONDAY 16 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

CLARE CONVILLE: LITERARY AGENT

Clare Conville will speak about the agent-author relationship and the publishing process. Listed by the *Observer* as one of “Our top 50 players in the world of books”, Clare worked as an editor at Random House, before co-founding Conville & Walsh in 2000.

Her clients have won or been nominated for nearly every major literary prize. Clare’s clients include Matt Haig, Rachel Joyce, PJ Lynch, Polly Samson and Lemn Sissay. Reading is her hobby as well as her profession and she loves literary and literary/commercial novels, memoir, short stories and exceptional voice-driven non-fiction. C+W is a leading international literary agency representing an eclectic range of best-selling and award-winning novelists, scientists, historians, travel writers, biographers and children’s authors.

MONDAY 16 / 18.00 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

LAUNCH OF THE 2018 FISH ANTHOLOGY

The **Fish Anthology** is the culmination of a year’s work, trawling through the thousands of submissions to the Fish Short Story, Short Memoir, Flash Fiction and Poetry Prizes. The judges were **Billy O’Callaghan**, **Marti Leimback**, **Sherrie Flick** and **Ellen Bass** 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. **Fish Publishing** was established in 1994 by Clem Cairns and Jula Walton to promote, encourage and publish new and emerging writers of quality. Fish has published over 500 writers from all over the world, and for many of them Fish has been the stepping stone into successful writing careers.



From top: Clare Conville Photo: Tom Donohue. Past Fish Anthologies.

MONDAY 16 JULY

MONDAY 16 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

AN EVENING with **BERNARD MACLAVERTY**

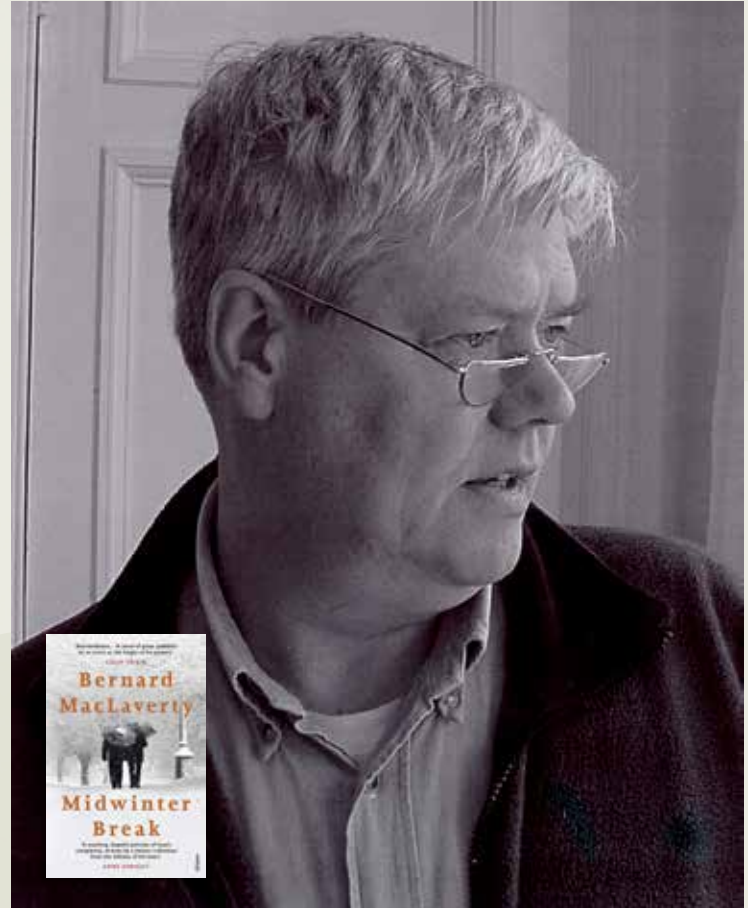
Sixteen years on from his last novel, the Booker Prize-nominated author **Bernard MacLavery** returns with *Midwinter Break* and reminds us why he is regarded as one of the greatest living Irish writers. A retired couple, Gerry and Stella Gilmore, fly to Amsterdam for a midwinter break. A holiday to refresh the senses, to see the sights and to generally take stock of what remains of their lives. But amongst the wintry streets we see their relationship fracturing beneath the surface. And when memories re-emerge of a troubled time in their native Ireland things begin to fall apart. As their midwinter break comes to an end, we understand how far apart they are – and can only watch as they struggle to save themselves.

Winner of 2017 Bord Gáis Energy Novel Of The Year

Bernard MacLavery lives in Glasgow. He has written five collections of stories and four other novels, including *Grace Notes* which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. He has written versions of his fiction for other media – radio and television plays, screenplays and libretti. His latest novel, *Midwinter Break*, won Novel of the Year in 2017's Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book Awards.

MONDAY 16 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

OPEN MIC



Bernard MacLavery Photo: Jude MacLavery



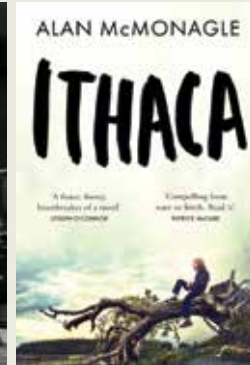
TUESDAY 17 / 08.00 / FESTIVAL WALK / FREE BUT TICKETED
FESTIVAL WALK

Join **Allan Jenkins** (see 09.15am) for an 'early' morning walk. Allan's book *Morning* shows how getting up earlier even once a week or month can free us to be more imaginative, to maybe read, to walk, to write. Comfortable shoes and appropriate weather gear necessary. Please check our website for further details.

TUESDAY 17 / 09.15 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10
COFFEE & CHAT with **ALLAN JENKINS: MORNING**

Allan Jenkins' walk (see 8am) will be followed by a *Morning* coffee and chat. *'This is my manifesto for morning. There is an energy in the earlier hours, an awareness I enjoy. In today's world we tend to wake as late as we can, timed to when we have to work. But we don't need to chase the day.'* *Morning* is a celebration of dawn and morning: the best time of day. Allan is also the author of a memoir *Plot 29* (see 2.30pm) and is the editor of *Observer Food Monthly*.

From left: Allan Jenkins and Alan McMonagle. Photo: Colin John Seymour and John Minihan



TUESDAY 17 / 11.30 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE

ALAN MCMONAGLE

Ithaca, a ferociously funny and poignant debut novel, combines a fiercely emotional story with crackling prose. Summer 2009, and eleven-year-old Jason is preoccupied with thoughts of the Da he has never known. In the meantime, his vodka-swilling, swings-from-the-hip Ma is busy entertaining her latest boyfriend and indulging her fondness for joyriding.

'A fierce and funny novel that tackles tough topics with great imaginative flair... Jason's jaunts around town are reminiscent of Francie Brady in The Butcher Boy.' *Irish Times*

Alan McMonagle lives in Galway. *Ithaca*, his debut novel was longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Award and shortlisted for an Irish Book Award. He has published two collections of short stories both of which were nominated for the Frank O'Connor Award.



Claire Connolly Photo: Tomás Tyner, UCC



Niamh Mulvey Photo: Linda Essen-Möller

TUESDAY 17 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

DEEP MAPS: NINETEENTH-CENTURY POETRY OF THE WEST CORK COAST

What can nineteenth-century poetry bring to our understanding of the West Cork coast? How can the poetic language of the past shape or alter our understanding of environmental challenges in our own time? *Deep Maps: West Cork Coastal Cultures* explores the rich maritime environment along the arc of Roaring Water Bay, from Timoleague to Bantry Bay, as it is shaped by sea and land and imagined in literature and art. www.deepmapscork.ie.

Claire Connolly is Professor of Modern English at University College Cork and is the author of *A Cultural History of the Irish Novel, 1780-1829*.

TUESDAY 17 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

THE AUTHOR & EDITOR RELATIONSHIP: NIAMH MULVEY

Niamh Mulvey will speak about the relationship between author and editor and the importance of the collaborative process. She is commissioning editor at Quercus in London. She started her career in children's books, working with Louise O'Neill among many others, and moved to adult literary fiction in 2016. Niamh is our Editor-in-Residence this week (see p.44)

'I often say that I feel her name should be on the cover of the book as well.' Louise O'Neill

TUESDAY 17 / 14.30 / NATIONAL LEARNING NETWORK / €18

RICHARD BEARD & ALLAN JENKINS

Richard Beard and **Allan Jenkins** have written two very beautiful memoirs about their brothers and the silences that families keep. *Allan's memoir Plot 29 is also a love letter to gardening and this event will take place in the outdoor auditorium of NLN's Garden Centre in Donemork (or in the Greenhouse in case of rain).*

The Day That Went Missing is a family memoir of exceptional power about loss, life and carrying on. On a holiday in Cornwall in 1978, **Richard Beard's** 9-year-old brother Nicky drowns and the family's collective denial writes him out of memory. Forty years later, Richard sets out on a pain-staking investigation to rebuild Nicky's life.

'What a wonderful book... I was quite undone by it – and also surprised, at times, by eruptions of laughter.' Deborah Moggach

Richard Beard's most recent book *Acts of the Assassins* was shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize. He is the author of critically acclaimed novels and narrative non-fiction and is an optimistic opening batsman for the Authors Cricket Club.

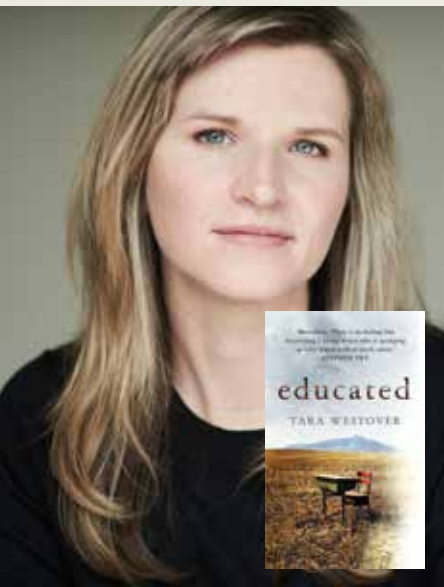
As young boys in 1960s Plymouth, **Allan Jenkins** and his brother, Christopher, were rescued from their care home and fostered by an elderly couple. As an adult Allan dug deeper into his past, learning more about his absent parents and discovering why the boys were in care. His story is written over the course of a year at *Plot 29* a small London allotment where he finds solace and discovers the joy of growing and sharing food and flowers with people you love.

'A superbly written testament to the power of earth to nourish and heal.' Monty Don

Allan Jenkins is the editor of *Observer Food Monthly*. He once lived in an experimental eco-community on Anglesey, growing organic food on the edge of the Irish Sea.

From top: National Learning Network, Richard Beard Photo: Dru Marland, Allan Jenkins Photo: Andrew Crowley





TUESDAY 17 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

MARIE-HELENE BERTINO & EIMEAR RYAN

Marie-Helene Bertino is the author of the novel *2a.m. at the Cat's Pajamas* and the story collection *Safe As Houses*. Her work has received The O. Henry Prize, The Pushcart Prize, The Iowa Short Fiction Award, The Frank O'Connor International Short Story Fellowship in Cork and has been featured on NPR's Selected Shorts. She teaches at NYU and in the MFA program at Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe and lives in Brooklyn, where she is Editor-at-Large for *Catapult* Magazine.

Eimear Ryan's writing has appeared in *Winter Papers*, *Granta*, *The Stinging Fly*, *The Dublin Review*, *Town & Country* (Faber) and *The Long Gaze Back* (New Island). She has won several awards for her short stories, including a Hennessy First Fiction Award and the Sean Dunne Young Writer Award. She is co-editor of the literary journal *Banshee*. She lives in Cork.

TUESDAY 17 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

TARA WESTOVER

Tara Westover grew up in rural Idaho with a radical, survivalist father who was opposed to government interference in the lives of his family. As a result, she didn't get a birth certificate until she was 9 and didn't set foot in a classroom before the age of 17. And yet, by 27 she had earned a doctorate from Cambridge University. *Educated* tells the story of her self-invention and her determination to access knowledge. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty, and of the grief that comes with the severing of the closest of ties.

'The writing soars...This remarkable story of triumphing over a survivalist upbringing is fit to stand alongside the great modern memoirs.' Sunday Times

Tara Westover was born in rural Idaho. She studied history at Brigham Young University and upon graduation was awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship. She received an MPhil in intellectual history from Trinity College, Cambridge in 2009, and a PhD in the same subject in 2014.

Images, clockwise from top left: Marie-Helene Bertino, Eimear Ryan and Tara Westover Photos: Sioux Nesi, Selina O'Meara and Paul Stuart





TUESDAY 17 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

AN EVENING with **SINÉAD MORRISSEY, RUTH PADEL & JACOB POLLEY**

Join us for an evening with three award-winning poets whose work is strongly influenced by the natural world. **Sinéad Morrissey's** Forward Prize-winning sixth collection, *On Balance*, is set against a backdrop of ecological and economic instability. The poems address gender inequality and our inharmonious relationship with the natural world. Sinéad is Belfast's inaugural Poet Laureate. She has published six collections including the T.S. Eliot Prize-winning *Parallax* (2013).

'Sinéad Morrissey gains power with each collection.' Hilary Mantel, TLS Books of the Year 2017

Ruth Padel's new collection *Emerald* (July 2018) is an elegy for her mother, at her passing at the age of 97. She has written ten collections covering human and animal migration, the Middle East and homelessness. She was Chair of Judges for the 2016 T.S. Eliot Prize, Judge for the 2016 International Man Booker Prize.

'[Ruth Padel is] A poet of great eloquence and delicate skill, an exquisite image-maker who can work wonders with the great tradition of line and stanza.' Colm Tóibín

In his fourth collection *Jackself*, **Jacob Polley** describes a rural upbringing in Cumbria in the language of English folklore. The story of Jackself is threaded with nursery rhymes, riddles and cautionary tales. His work explores the forces of tradition and history, and the power of speech as it approaches song.

Winner of the 2016 T.S. Eliot Prize for poetry. *'[Jackself is] A firework of a book; inventive, exciting and outstanding in its imaginative range and depth of feeling.'* T.S. Eliot Prize judges

TUESDAY 17 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

OPEN MIC

Images, from left: Sinéad Morrissey, Ruth Padel and Jacob Polley Photos: Florian Braakman, Mary Tziraki and Mai Lin Li

WEDNESDAY 18 JULY

WEDNESDAY 18 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with **ALEXANDRA HEMINSLEY**

Alexandra Heminsley really thought she could swim. But, as she learned one day while flailing around in the sea, she really couldn't. Believing that a life lived fully is one experienced to the fullest, she decided to conquer her fear of wild swimming whilst learning to appreciate her body and still her mind.

'Soaringly beautiful book about swimming' India Knight, Sunday Times

Alexandra Heminsley is a journalist, broadcaster and ghostwriter. She is author of the bestselling memoir *Running Like a Girl* and *Leap In*.

WEDNESDAY 18 / 11.30 / ABBEY STRAND / FREE

THE FESTIVAL SWIM

Swimming is one of the fastest growing sports in the UK: 2.7 million people swim once a week. Join **Alexandra Heminsley**, author of *Leap In – A Woman, Some Waves and the Will to Swim* for our festival swim. As Alexandra learned, the water is never as frightening once you're in, and really, everything is better when you remember to exhale. Bring your swimsuit, your towel and your sense of fun!

WEDNESDAY 18 / 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 judges **Billy O'Callaghan**, **Claire Kilroy** and **Eimear Ryan** 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 **Eimear Ryan**.



From top: Alexandra Heminsley Photo: Chris Floyd and the 2016 Festival Swim.

WEDNESDAY 18 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18



MARTINA EVANS & AILBHE NÍ GHEARBHUIGH

Martina Evans' *Now We Can Talk Openly About Men* is a poetry collection in two parts, dramatic monologues touching on the Irish War of Independence and the Civil War from a woman's perspective. There are two voices: a dressmaker on laudanum and a stenographer in love with a young revolutionary.

Martina Evans grew up in County Cork and moved to London in 1988. She is the author of eleven books of poetry and prose. She has won several awards including the Premio Ciampi International Prize for Poetry in 2011 and the Betty Trask Award. Her latest book of poems *Now We Can Talk Openly About Men* is published by Carcanet in May 2018. She is a regular contributor to the *Irish Times*.

Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh's poems in Irish blend dreams and dread visions. Collapsing ages and traditions, banshees and pookas infiltrate a modern, urban sensibility. Loss and longing co-exist in sensual images and expressions. Her bilingual collection, *The Coast Road*, includes English translations by thirteen poets.

Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh was born in Kerry. 'Filleadh ar an gCathair' was chosen as Ireland's EU Presidency poem in 2013. Coiscéim published *Péacadh* (2008) and *Tóst agus Allagar* (2016). Ciarraíoch í **Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh**. Roghnaíodh 'Filleadh ar an gCathair' mar Dhán Uachtarántacht an Aontais Eorpaigh in 2013. *The Coast Road* an teideal atá ar chnuasach dátheangach a d'fhoilsigh an Gallery Press mar a bhfuil aistriúcháin le filí aitheanta an Bhéarla.



WEDNESDAY 18 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

SPOTLIGHT ON UCC'S MA IN CREATIVE WRITING

Have you ever thought about doing an MA or PhD in Creative Writing? Did you know that you may do one in Cork? Join **Eibhear Walshe**, UCC's Director of Creative Writing, to learn more about their MA and PhD in Creative Writing. Three of the current students will read from their work and will be available to share their experiences and to answer any questions you may have.

From top: Martina Evans and Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh Photos: Joanne O'Brien and Máire Uí Mhaicín





WEDNESDAY 18 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

LEANNE O'SULLIVAN & BILLY RAMSELL

In 2013, **Leanne O'Sullivan's** husband Andrew suffered a severe infection in his brain and spent three weeks in a coma. The birds and wild animals that he believed he could see during his recovery became the starting point for *A Quarter of an Hour*, poems that deal with personal memory, recovery and the ways in which nature has a voice that can speak back.

'Skilful and soulful, her achievements as a writer are as clear as ever in her powerful new book.'

John McAuliffe, *The Irish Times*

Leanne O'Sullivan was born in 1983, and comes from the Beara peninsula in West Cork. She has published four collections with Bloodaxe. She received the Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary Award, the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature and the Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award for Irish Poetry. She is a lecturer in creative writing at University College Cork.



Billy Ramsell was born in Cork in 1977 and educated at the North Monastery and UCC. He has published two collections with Dedalus Press, *Complicated Pleasures* and *The Architect's Dream of Winter*, which was shortlisted for the *Irish Times* Poetry Now Award. He was awarded the Chair of Ireland Bursary for 2013 and the Poetry Ireland Residency Bursary for 2015. He has been invited to read his work at many festivals and literary events around the world and has taught on the MFA programme at Sierra Nevada College. He lives in Cork where he co-runs an educational publishing company.

WEDNESDAY 18 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

OPEN MIC MATINEE

A special early evening edition of our open mic series. You are welcome to read your own work (in any genre) or simply listen to others. This session is hosted by **Marie Guillot** and the **Cork Non-Fiction Writers Group**.

From top: Leanne O'Sullivan and Billy Ramsell Photos: Aisling O'Sullivan and David Creedon

WEDNESDAY 18 / 17.30 / GARNISH ISLAND / €30 (INCLUDING RETURN FERRY)

PHILIP HOARE & ALICIA KOPF: A GARNISH ISLAND SPECIAL EVENT

Join us for a very special event in the magnificent gardens of Garnish Island. One of the chapters in **Philip Hoare's** *RISINGTIDEFALLINGSTAR* documents his previous visit to the festival when he swam with jellyfish in Bantry Bay. In this watery book, he goes in pursuit of human and animal stories of the sea. Of people enchanted or driven to despair by the water, accompanied by whales and birds and seals.

'A beautifully written mixture of travelogue and essay... Hoare has invented a new genre: an elegy for something not yet lost.' Independent on Sunday

Philip Hoare lives in Southampton. He is the author of *Leviathan, or The Whale*, winner of the Samuel Johnson Prize for non-fiction and *The Sea Inside*. He is Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Southampton and co-curator of the *Moby-Dick Big Read*.

Alicia Kopf's hybrid novel – part research notes, part fictionalized diary, part travelogue – uses stories of polar exploration to make sense of the protagonist's concerns as an artist, daughter, and sister to an autistic brother. Winner of multiple awards upon its Catalan and Spanish publication, *Brother in Ice* is a richly rewarding journey into the unknown.

'Brother in Ice is halfway between essay, auto-fiction, historical treatise, aesthetic discourse and the logbook of an explorer discovering the source of her discomfort.' El Mundo

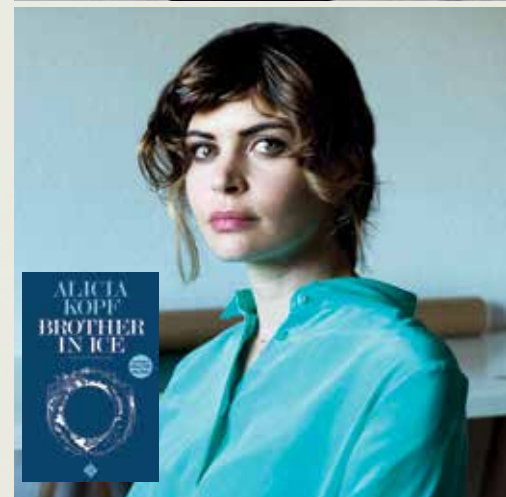
Alicia Kopf is an award-winning writer based in Barcelona. *Brother in Ice* is the culmination of an artistic cycle of texts and exhibitions entitled Àrticantàrtic, which won numerous visual art and literary prizes. The English-language translation is by **Mara Faye Lethem**.

Alicia Kopf's participation in the festival is supported by the Institut Ramon Llull.

 Institut
ramon llull
Catalan Language and Culture

The use of Garnish Island for this event is courtesy of the OPW. The ferry leaves from the Blue Pool, in the centre of Glengarriff Village (next to Quills), at 17.30 and will leave Garnish at 19.15.

From top: Philip Hoare and Alicia Kopf Photos: Dennis Minsky and Laia Gutierrez



WEDNESDAY 18 JULY

WEDNESDAY 18 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

AN EVENING with **MARGARET DRABBLE**

Fran may be old but she's not going without a fight. She dyes her hair, enjoys every glass of red wine, drives around the country for her job and lives in an insalubrious tower block that her loved ones disapprove of. And as each of them – her pampered ex-husband, old friend, flamboyant son and earnest daughter – seeks happiness in their own way, what will the last reckoning be? Will they be waving or drowning when the end comes?

By turns joyous and profound, darkly sardonic and moving, **Margaret Drabble's** triumphant, bravura novel *The Dark Flood Rises* takes in love, death, sun-drenched islands, poetry, Maria Callas, tidal waves, surprise endings – and new beginnings.

New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2017 and *Guardian* Best Books of the Year

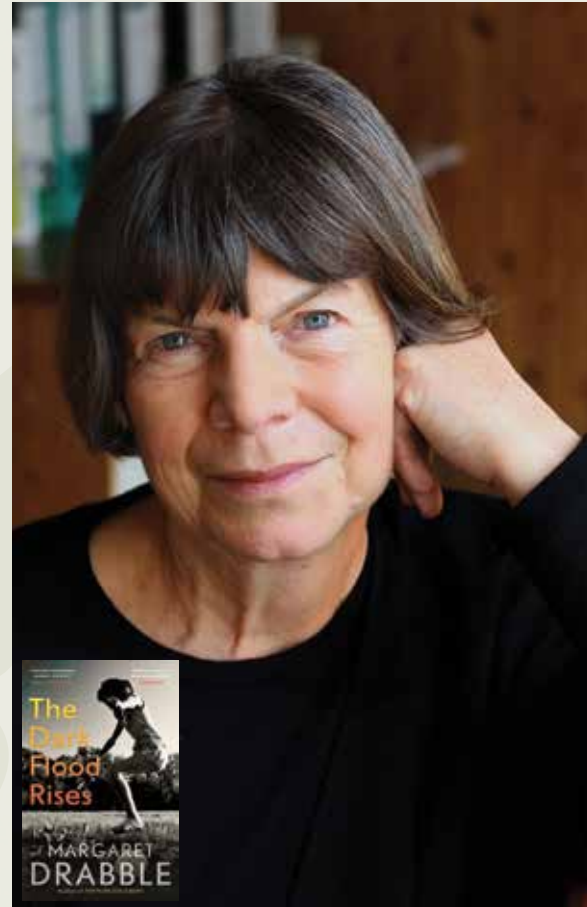
'One of the most thought-provoking and intellectually challenging writers around.'

Financial Times

'An absolute tour de force' The Guardian *'Darkly witty and exhilarating'* The Times

Dame Margaret Drabble was born in Sheffield in 1939 and was educated at Newnham College, Cambridge. She is the author of eighteen novels. She has also written biographies, screenplays and was the editor of the Oxford Companion to English Literature. She was appointed CBE in 1980, and made DBE in the 2008 Honours list. She was also awarded the 2011 Golden PEN Award for a Lifetime's Distinguished Service to Literature. She is married to the biographer Michael Holroyd.

WEDNESDAY 18 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE **OPEN MIC**



Margaret Drabble Photo: Ruth Corney

THURSDAY 19 JULY

WEDNESDAY 18 & THURSDAY 19 / VARIOUS TIMES / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE / BOOK ONLINE OR CONTACT FESTIVAL OFFICE

TRAMP PRESS OPEN OFFICE HOURS INITIATIVE

Got a question about publishing, editing, or just looking for recommendations? Open Office Hours seeks to break down perceived barriers between writers, readers, and publishers. Tramp Press invite you to chat to them about whatever books-related topic you'd like. Free twenty-minute slots must be booked in advance online or through the festival office.

Tramp Press was launched by **Sarah Davis-Goff** and **Lisa Coen** in 2014. Their aim is to find, nurture and publish exceptional literary talent. Tramp Press is committed to finding only the best and most deserving books, by new and established writers. They've published critically acclaimed authors including Sara Baume and Mike McCormack.

THURSDAY 19 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with **ARJA KAJERMO**

Arja Kajermo's darkly funny debut *The Iron Age* is part coming-of-age novel, and part fairy-tale told from the perspective of a young girl growing up in the poverty of post-war Finland. Then, when she is little more than six years old, the family crosses from Finland to Sweden, from a familiar language to a strange one, from one unfriendly home to another.

'A radiantly beautiful book.' Joseph O'Connor

Arja Kajermo first came to Dublin over 40 years ago. She drew cartoons for *In Dublin* magazine for more than ten years and also contributed cartoons to the feminist publisher Attic Press and to *The Sunday Press*, *The Irish Times* and *Magill*. *The Iron Age* was published by Tramp Press in 2017.



From top: Sarah Davis-Goff & Lisa Coen and Arja Kajermo Photo: Stefan Evans

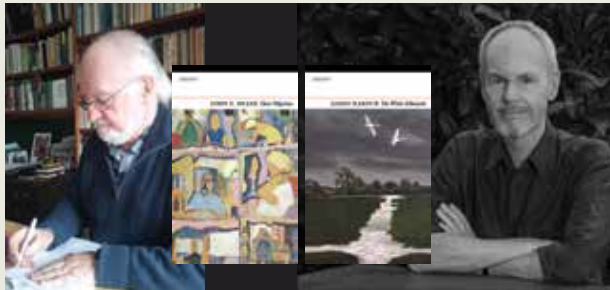
THURSDAY 19 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

JOHN F DEANE & JAMES HARPUR

In June Carcanet will publish new collections from multi-award-winning poets **John F Deane** and **James Harpur**.

In *Dear Pilgrims* **John F. Deane**, founder of Poetry Ireland, Poetry Ireland Review and Dedalus Press, uncovers a map of spiritual tracks and pathways – external and internal. John uses his extraordinary flair for language, his heartfelt love of nature, and his deep spiritual insight to take the reader into the landscapes of East Anglia, Israel and Palestine and into metaphysical realms far beyond.

James Harpur's *The White Silhouette* explores the numinous in a snowy pilgrimage from West Cork to Dorset, Russian icons, the Perseids' meteor shower and the medieval Celtic art of the Book of Kells. The title poem is a powerful, haunting journey of 'missed encounters' in the spiritual landscapes of Tipperary, Wiltshire and Patmos.



John F Deane

James Harpur Photo: Dino Ignani

THURSDAY 19 / 14.30 / BANTRY HOUSE / €18

JOHN & SALLY MCKENNA: IRELAND THE BEST

John and **Sally McKenna** have compiled a true insider's guide to the top attractions Ireland has to offer. With these fabulous tips travellers, tourists and locals will be inspired to discover new adventures all over the country – whatever their budget. John and Sally explore the true culture of Ireland and discover local, hidden gems from the best coastal walks to city strolls, the best local cafes and regional restaurants, stunning landscapes and historical highlights. And of course they know West Cork best of all!

John McKenna has written about Ireland's food culture for almost thirty years, and has won many national and international awards for his work, including the André Simon Special Award. He is the curator of the annual 100 Best Restaurants in Ireland, published since 1992. The *Wall Street Journal* described him as 'Ireland's most authoritative food writer'. **Sally McKenna** is a photographer, cookery editor, filmmaker and the publisher of the *McKennas' Guides*, working from her office in West Cork.



John and Sally McKenna

THURSDAY 19 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

SINÉAD GLEESON & RIVKA GALCHEN

Sinéad Gleeson's essays have appeared in *Granta*, *Winter Papers*, *Gorse*, *Banshee* and *Elsewhere Journal*. Her debut essay collection, *Constellations* will be published by Picador in 2019. She is the editor of three short story anthologies, including *The Long Gaze Back: an Anthology of Irish Women Writers* and *The Glass Shore: Short Stories by Women Writers from the North of Ireland*, both of which won Best Irish Published Book at the Irish Book Awards. She has contributed poems and short stories to various anthologies and is currently working on a novel.

One August day, a baby was born, or as it seemed to **Rivka Galchen**, a puma moved into her apartment. *Little Labours* is her dazzling compendium of observations, stories, and essays about babies in art and literature, and the odd unrecorded moments that becoming a mother necessitates. She is the author of a novel *Atmospheric Disturbances* and a collection of short stories *American Innovations*. She lives in New York.



THURSDAY 19 / 18.30 / ORGANICO CAFÉ / €22 (includes a complimentary glass of wine on arrival)

NINA CAPLAN: THE WANDERING VINE

Impelled by a dual thirst, for wine and for knowledge, **Nina Caplan** follows the vine into the past, wandering from Champagne's ancient chalk to the mountains of Campania, via the crumbling Roman ruins that flank the river Rhône and the remote slopes of Priorat in Catalonia. She meets people whose character, stubbornness and sometimes, borderline craziness makes their wine great.

'A travel journal like no other I've ever read: evocative, intelligent, beautifully written, a pilgrimage of the soul through a love of wine and the vineyards that produce it.' Elisabeth Luard

Nina Caplan is an arts, wine and travel journalist and Louis Roederer International Food and Wine Writer of the Year, 2016. She was Directories Editor for the *Guardian* and Features and Arts Editor for *Time Out* before going freelance and these days she wanders too much to remain deskbound. Nina lives in London and Burgundy.

A complimentary glass of wine will be served on arrival. Additional food and drinks will be available for purchase from Organico in advance of the event but not during or after.

Images, from top: Sinéad Gleeson, Rivka Galchen and Nina Caplan Photos: Ger Holland, Sandy Tait and Craig Moyes



THURSDAY 19 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

AN EVENING with **JOSEPH O'NEILL**

In *Good Trouble* (June 2018), the first story collection from **Joseph O'Neill**, author of *Netherland*, characters are forced to discover exactly who they are, and who they can never quite be. There's Rob, who swears he is a dependable member of society, but can't scrape together a character reference to prove that's the case. A mother tries to find where she fits into her son's new life of semi-soft rind-washed cheeses, and a poet tries to fathom what makes a poet. Do you even have to write poetry? Packed with Joseph's trademark acerbic humour, *Good Trouble* explores the maddening and secretly political space between thoughts and deeds, between men and women, between goose and not-goose.

'An extraordinary novel... O'Neill is a writer of dizzying elegance.'

Financial Times [on *Netherland*]

'Enraged, brutal, witty and at times brilliant.' Sunday Times [on *The Dog*]

Joseph O'Neill was born in Ireland, grew up in several different countries and now lives in New York where he teaches at Bard College. He is the author of four novels, *Netherland* (longlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2008), *The Dog*, *This Is the Life* and *The Breezes*, as well as a memoir, *Blood-Dark Track*. His short stories have been published in the *New Yorker* and *Harper's*, and his literary criticism has appeared in the *Guardian*, the *New York Times*, the *Irish Times*, the *Atlantic*, *Granta* and other publications. He won the 2009 PEN/Faulkner Prize for Fiction and 2009 Kerry Fiction Award for *Netherland*. *Good Trouble* will be published by Fourth Estate in June 2018.

THURSDAY 19 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE **OPEN MIC**



Joseph O'Neill



Elizabeth-Jane Burnett



Sarah Byrne Photo: Patricia Smith

FRIDAY 20 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with **ELIZABETH-JANE BURNETT**

Plunge into mountain lakes and drift along meandering rivers in **Elizabeth-Jane Burnett's** lyrical celebration of wild swimming. A book-length poem taking many forms, *Swims* reminds us of the power of swimming to transform the human spirit. It investigates water's effect on body and mind, and the human impact on the natural world.

'Her oneness with the water is a oneness with words; and this collection is a wondrous, perfect thing.' Philip Hoare

Elizabeth-Jane Burnett is a poet and academic with a focus on innovative poetics. She curates eco-poetics exhibitions and lectures in Creative Writing at Newman University Birmingham.

FRIDAY 20 / VARIOUS TIMES / MARITIME HOTEL
FREE / BOOK ONLINE OR CONTACT FESTIVAL OFFICE

THE WELL REVIEW POETRY SURGERY

A surgery for your poetry emergencies! Please bring one poem and any queries about your piece. Ask *The Well Review's* editor, Sarah Byrne, about their submission policy and poetry publishing in general. Free twenty-minute slots must be booked in advance online or through the festival office.

The Well Review is a literary journal established in Co. Cork in 2016. It has published work by John Burnside, Anne Carson, Leontia Flynn, Ishion Hutchinson, Nick Laird, Sinéad Morrissey as well emerging writers and artists from Ireland and abroad.

FRIDAY 20 / 11.30 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE

MELATU UCHE OKORIE

Melatu Uche Okorie is a writer and scholar, currently living in Sligo with her daughter. Born in Nigeria, she moved to Ireland in 2006 and during her eight and a half years living in the direct provision system she began to write. She has an M.Phil. in Creative Writing from Trinity College Dublin and is studying for a PhD in Education. She has been published in numerous anthologies and in 2009 she won the Metro Éireann Writing Award for her story 'Gathering Thoughts'. Her debut collection of stories *This Hostel Life* is published by Skein Press in May 2018.

'Melatu Uche Okorie has important things to say – and she does it quite brilliantly. Her language is arresting and inventive, and very entertaining.' Roddy Doyle

FRIDAY 20 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

JOHN CONNELL

Farming has been in **John Connell's** family for generations but he never intended to follow in his father's footsteps. Until, after living abroad for years, he found himself back on the family farm in Longford and began to learn the ways of the farmer and the way of the cow. Over the course of a calving season John records the hypnotic rhythm of the farming day. But there are also unforeseen moments: a calf fails to thrive, a sheep goes missing, illness breaks out, depression takes hold and arguments erupt.

'Reading this gripping, fascinating book I felt I was becoming a cattle farmer.' Roddy Doyle

John Connell is a journalist, filmmaker, writer and farmer. He lives on his family farm in Longford. He published a short story in *Granta* 135, *New Irish Writing* in 2016. *The Cow Book* is his first book.



Images, from top: Melatu Uche Okorie and John Connell Photos: Leo Byrne and Eamonn Doyle

FRIDAY 20 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

FIONA MOZLEY & SARAH WINMAN



The simplicity of Daniel's early life has turned menacing. They lived apart in the house that Daddy built for them in the woods. They foraged and hunted. Brutal and beautiful in equal measure, **Fiona Mozley's** *Elmet* is a compelling portrayal of a family living on the fringes of contemporary society.

'A cleverly constructed rural Gothic fable... Elmet is a marvellous achievement.' TLS

After working at a literary agency in London, **Fiona Mozley** moved back to York to complete a PhD in Medieval Studies. *Elmet* is her first novel and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2017 and is currently longlisted for the 2018 Women's Prize for Fiction.



Sarah Winman's *Tin Man* begins with a painting won in a raffle: fifteen sunflowers, hung on the wall by a woman who believes that men and boys are capable of beautiful things. And then there are two boys who couldn't be closer. And the boys become men. And then they meet Annie. And it changes nothing and everything.

'An exquisitely crafted tale of love and loss.' The Guardian

Sarah Winman is the author of bestsellers *When God Was a Rabbit* and *A Year of Marvellous Ways*. *Tin Man* is a term used to refer to the highly skilled panel beaters who worked in the car factory with her grandfather in a working-class area of Oxford. Sarah now lives in London with her partner, Patricia.

FRIDAY 20 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

CHIBUNDU ONUZO



Welcome To Lagos is a powerful and provocative portrait of contemporary Nigeria. When an army officer is ordered to kill innocent civilians, he knows that it is time to leave. As he travels towards Lagos, he becomes the leader of a new platoon, a band of runaways who share his desire for a better life, but their arrival in the city coincides with the eruption of a political scandal.

'I loved the bittersweet tone of this novel, so wise and beautiful.'

Stephen Kelman, author of *Pigeon English*

Chibundu Onuzo was born in Lagos, Nigeria in 1991. Her first novel, *The Spider King's Daughter*, won a Betty Trask Award, was shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Commonwealth Book Prize, and was longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize and the Etisalat Prize for Literature. She is completing a PhD on the West African Student's Union at King's College London.



From left: Fiona Mozley, Sarah Winman and Chibundu Onuzo Photo: Blayke+images

FRIDAY 20 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

EMILY WILSON: *THE ODYSSEY BY HOMER*

Emily Wilson has written a lean, fleet-footed translation that recaptures Homer's 'nimble gallop' and brings an ancient epic to new life. The first great adventure story in the Western canon, *The Odyssey* is a poem about violence and the aftermath of war; about wealth, poverty and power; about marriage, family and identity; and about travellers, hospitality and the changing meanings of home in a strange world. This vivid new poetic translation—the first ever by a woman—matches the number of lines in the Greek original, thus striding at Homer's sprightly pace. An engrossing tale told in a compelling new voice that allows contemporary readers to luxuriate in Homer's magical descriptions and similes and to thrill at the tension and excitement of its hero's fantastical adventures.

'Friends, believe the hype. This translation is a marvel!...'

Max Porter, author of *Grief is the Thing with Feathers*

'[This] translation of The Odyssey is brilliant and sharp and swift and funny and will repay the reader a thousand times over.' Katherine Rundell

Emily Wilson is a British classicist. She is professor of Classical Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, having obtained her BA in Literae Humaniores, Classical Literature and Philosophy from Balliol College, Oxford, and her MPhil in English Renaissance Literature (1994) at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. She is the author of *Mocked to Death: Tragic Overliving from Sophocles to Milton* and *The Death of Socrates: Hero, Villain, Chatterbox, Saint*, as well as the translator of *Six Tragedies of Seneca*.



This event is presented in conjunction with Seamus Heaney HomePlace



Emily Wilson Photo: Ralph Rosen



FRIDAY 20 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

WEST CORK: THE MAKING OF A PODCAST

Earlier this year the *Sunday Times* asked if “Irish podcasts [are] enjoying a golden age”. 10% of Irish adults now listen to podcasts on a weekly basis and one of the successful Irish podcasts mentioned is West Cork, an audio series about the unsolved murder of Sophie Toscan du Plantier in Schull in 1996. **Sam Bungey** and **Jennifer Forde** were first introduced to the case by a short piece in a British newspaper and subsequently travelled to Dublin and West Cork and interviewed more than 60 people for the series.

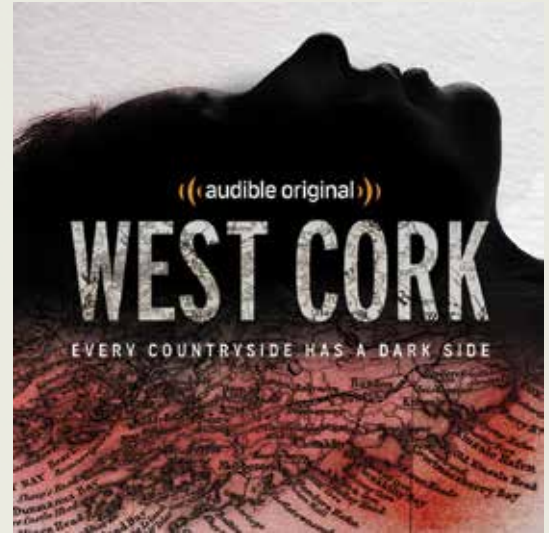
“It was surely foolish to set out to uncover some new aspect of a case that had occupied professional investigators in Ireland and France over two decades, not to mention local and national journalists who had reported on the case from day one. Instead, we decided to put all the narratives side by side and see how they stacked up... Over the years, it seemed that the quest for justice for Sophie had been replaced by something else – the Ian Bailey case. We wanted to take advantage of our position as outsiders coming fresh to a case which had become so difficult to take a straight look at.”

Sam Bungey in the *Sunday Business Post*, February 2018

Join **Sam Bungey** and **Jennifer Forde** as they discuss the making of this thoughtful and compelling podcast with **Justine McCarthy** of the *Sunday Times*.

Sam Bungey is a journalist from London whose writing has been featured in the *Guardian*, the *Daily Beast* and *Monocle*. He started his career in Dublin with a national monthly magazine, *Mongrel*.

Jennifer Forde is a documentary television producer, who has worked with the BBC and Britain’s leading independent production companies. She believes that the most important part of telling any story is letting the people who have lived it tell it for you.



Sam Bungey and Jennifer Forde



The 20th
WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

Bantry, Co. Cork
Friday 13 – Friday 20 July 2018
at a glance

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK		VENUE
All week	Ben Russell: Exhibition of Photographs	Bantry Library
All week	Margaret Lonergan & Stuart Coughlan: Exhibition	Organico Café
All week	The WCLF Letter Café	Organico Café

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
FRIDAY 13 JULY		
18.30	20th West Cork Literary Festival OPENING RECEPTION	Bantry Library
20.30	Nick Laird & Zadie Smith	Maritime Hotel
SATURDAY 14 JULY		
09.30	Yoga on the Lawn	Bantry House Gardens
10.00	Teenage Workshop: Inua Ellams	Bantry Library
11.30	Leah Umansky	Bantry Bookshop
13.00	Inua Ellams	Bantry Library
14.30	Liz Nugent & Catherine Ryan Howard	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Teenage Reading: Louise O'Neill	St Brendan's School Hall
17.00	Katharine Weber & Denyse Woods	Bantry Library
18.30	Lara Feigel & Deborah Levy	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Caitriona Perry	Maritime Hotel
SUNDAY 15 JULY		
13.30	Imogen Hermes Gowar	Whiddy Island
14.30	Children's Event: E.R. Murray	St Brendan's School Hall
16.30	Louise O'Neill	Maritime Hotel
18.30	June Caldwell & Danny Denton	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Fintan O'Toole: George Bernard Shaw	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic Night	Maritime Hotel
MONDAY 16 JULY		
10.00	Coffee & Chat with John Simpson	Bantry House Tearooms
11.00	Children's Workshop: Fighting Words	St Brendan's School Hall
11.30	Andrea Carter	Bantry Bookshop
13.00	Cork County Council Writer in Residence	Bantry Library
14.30	Atlas of the Irish Revolution	Maritime Hotel

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
14.30	Literary Agent: Clare Conville	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Children's Workshop: Fighting Words	St Brendan's School Hall
18.00	Launch of the 2018 Fish Anthology	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Bernard MacLavery	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic Night	Maritime Hotel

TUESDAY 17 JULY

08.00	Festival Walk	Check website
09.15	Coffee & Chat with Allan Jenkins	Bantry House Tearooms
10.00	Teenage Workshop: Mary Watson	Bantry Library
11.30	Alan McMonagle	Bantry Bookshop
13.00	Deep Maps: West Cork Coastal Cultures	Bantry Library
14.30	Author & Editor Relationship: Niamh Mulvey	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Richard Beard & Allan Jenkins	National Learning Network
14.30	Teenage Reading: Mary Watson	St Brendan's School Hall
17.00	Marie-Helene Bertino & Eimear Ryan	Bantry Library
18.30	Tara Westover	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Sinéad Morrissey, Ruth Padel & Jacob Polley	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic Night	Maritime Hotel

WEDNESDAY 18 JULY

10.00	Coffee & Chat with Alexandra Heminsley	Bantry House Tearooms
11.30	Festival Swim	Abbey Strand
13.00	From the Well	Bantry Library
14.30	Martina Evans & Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Spotlight on UCC's MA in Creative Writing	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Teenage Reading: Muhammad Khan	St Brendan's School Hall
Various	Tramp Press Open Office	Maritime Hotel

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
17.00	Leanne O'Sullivan & Billy Ramsell	Bantry Library
17.30	Philip Hoare & Alicia Kopf	Garnish Island
18.30	Open Mic Matinee	Maritime Hotel
20.30	Margaret Drabble	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic Night	Maritime Hotel

THURSDAY 19 JULY

Various	Tramp Press Open Office	Maritime Hotel
10.00	Coffee & Chat with Arja Kajermo	Bantry House Tearooms
13.00	John F Deane & James Harpur	Bantry Library
14.30	John & Sally McKenna	Bantry House
14.30	Teenage Workshop: #IAmIrish	St Brendan's School Hall
17.00	Sinéad Gleeson & Rivka Galchen	Bantry Library
18.30	Nina Caplan	Organico Café
20.30	Joseph O'Neill	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic Night	Maritime Hotel

FRIDAY 20 JULY

10.00	Coffee & Chat with Elizabeth-Jane Burnett	Bantry House Tearooms
11.30	Melatu Uche Okorie	Bantry Bookshop
Various	Well Review Poetry Surgery	Maritime Hotel
13.00	John Connell	Bantry Library
14.30	Fiona Mozley & Sarah Winman	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Teenage Event: A Reading & Writing Life	St Brendan's School Hall
17.00	Chibundu Onuzo	Bantry Library
18.30	Emily Wilson: The Odyssey by Homer	Maritime Hotel
20.30	West Cork: The Making of a Podcast	Maritime Hotel



THE J.G. FARRELL FICTION AWARD

The J.G. Farrell Fiction Award is for the best opening chapter of a novel-in-progress by a writer resident in Munster. The prize includes a place on the West Cork Literary Festival's **Novel Writing with Katharine Weber** workshop (16-20 July) and accommodation in Bantry.

Applicants must submit the first chapter of their novel (max 3,000 words) via email and also two printed copies (double-spaced and printed on one side of the page only) by **Friday 18 May**. Place your name and address on a separate sheet with the printed copies. Please send two hard copies to JG Farrell Award, West Cork Literary Festival, 13 Glengarriff Road, Bantry, Co Cork and email a copy to sarawcm@eircom.net with 'JG Farrell Award' in the subject line. **Entries will only be considered if submitted in both hard copy and by email.** Late entries will not be accepted and entries will not be returned.

The award will be adjudicated by **Katharine Weber**. Katharine is the author of eight books including *Still Life With Monkey*, *Triangle*, *Objects in Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear*, *The Music Lesson*, and *The Little Women*. She has held the Richard L. Thomas Chair in Creative Writing at Kenyon College since 2012, and has taught at Yale University and the Paris Writers Workshop.

J.G. Farrell was born in Liverpool and died at the age of 44, when he was swept into the sea while fishing from rocks near his home in Kilcrohane, West Cork. His book *Troubles* won the Faber Prize in 1971, and in 2010 it won the Lost Man Booker Prize. *The Siege of Krishnapur*, Farrell's novel about the Indian Mutiny of 1957, carried off the Booker Prize in 1973. In 2008, *The Siege of Krishnapur* was shortlisted for the Best of Booker public vote. West Cork Literary Festival would like to thank **Richard Farrell** for his continued sponsorship of this award, now in its ninth year.

WORKSHOPS

Booking: +353 (0)27 52788/9

Book online: www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie

€185 for five-day workshops (except cookbook €195)

€125 for the three-day travel workshop (includes daily ferry)

€110 for five-day Words Allowed: Workshop for Teenage Writers

Workshops run concurrently, from

9.30am – 12.30pm, Monday 16 to Friday 20 July 2018

Except: for the travel workshop which runs from Tues 17 – Thurs 19 July

Workshop Venue: Colaiste Pobail Bheanntai, Seskin, Bantry

Except: *Travel & Nature Writing* with Philip Hoare takes place in Bank House Bar and Restaurant on Whiddy Island. Daily ferry transfer to/from Whiddy Island is included in the course.

The WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL workshop programme is aimed at both novice and experienced writers. Our 5-day workshops, unique among Irish literary festivals, provide opportunities for development and intensive learning not possible in one sitting. All our workshops are run by award-winning writers many of whom 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.





FIRE WALK WITH ME: ADVANCED POETRY / MARTINA EVANS

/ €185 / 15 max

An advanced class for poets interested in getting lost in the forest and shaking up old habits. Using the words of Dante, Shakespeare, Stanley Kunitz, Ruth Stone and Emily Dickinson, we will borrow from art, film, music and T.V. with a special emphasis on David Lynch's *Twin Peaks*. You will be encouraged to step out and see how you can truly be the director of your own work. This focus will be on new writing and all writing will be done within the workshop. A booklet of poems will be provided. No previous knowledge of *Twin Peaks* is needed.

Martina Evans is an award-winning poet and novelist, the author of eleven books of prose and poetry. Her latest book of poems *Now We Can Talk Openly About Men* is published by Carcanet in May 2018. She has taught poetry at Birkbeck University, London Metropolitan University and University of East London as well as holding several fellowships at Queen Mary, University of London. A regular contributor to *The Irish Times*, she is a Royal Literary Fund Advisory Fellow and lives in London with her daughter.



Billy Ramsell Photo: David Creedon

PUSHING IT: POETRY FOR BEGINNERS / BILLY RAMSELL / €185 / 15 max

You've started to write poetry. You've been assembling coherent lines and stanzas. You might even have seen your work in print. This workshop is designed to help you take the next step. We'll learn not to rest contented with a poem's earliest configuration. Instead we'll keep pushing, playing with shape and meaning in the hope that a text's full potential might be unlocked. We'll look at contemporary poets like Alice Oswald and Jorie Graham as well as canonical figures like Wordsworth and Donne. We'll utilise a variety of techniques, from rhyming to dreaming, to let our poems reveal their intentions.

Billy Ramsell was published two collections with Dedalus Press, *Complicated Pleasures* in 2007 and *The Architect's Dream of Winter* in 2013, which was shortlisted for the *Irish Times* Poetry Now Award and has recently been published in Italian translation. He was awarded the Chair of Ireland Bursary for 2013 and the Poetry Ireland Residency Bursary for 2015. He has taught on the MFA programme at Sierra Nevada College. He lives in Cork where he co-runs an educational publishing company.

WORKSHOPS

NOVEL WRITING / KATHARINE WEBER / €185 / 15 max

We will explore methods for developing maps, timelines, plans for writing a novel, best approaches to understanding the sources and inspirations for situations and how to consider narrative strategies for the situation and story of each novel in the workshop. Issues of structure, pacing, tone, style, language, and above all, voice will be our constant concerns. We will discuss short excerpts from a variety of texts for inspiration, as well as the work of class students. Students should bring five thousand words (max) from any part of their novel, along with a narrative description of the project. Each student will also have the opportunity of a private 30 minute conference with Katharine during the week.

Katharine Weber is the author of eight books including *Still Life With Monkey* and three *New York Times* Book Review Notable Books. She has held the Richard L. Thomas Chair in Creative Writing at Kenyon College since 2012. She previously taught at Yale University, the Paris Writers Workshop and was a fiction thesis advisor and evaluator for the MFA program at Columbia University's School of the Arts.

Katharine Weber Photo: Corbin Gurkin



STORY LABORATORY: SHORT STORY / MARIE-HELENE BERTINO / €185 / 15 max

We will discuss participants' work in depth, with an eye towards what builds a strong and effective short story – idiosyncratic character development, surprising language, smart conflict and pacing. We will workshop participants' work with this question in mind: where do I think this writer/story is trying to go? We will tailor our critiques toward the idea of helping the writer get there. We will dissect published stories to figure out how the author achieved his/her effects by mining their choices for craft gems and tips. We will eschew the idea that there is one way to write fiction. We will cultivate our personal, idiosyncratic voices. *Participants will be asked to pre-submit one piece (10 to 20 pages) to be discussed in class.*

Marie-Helene Bertino is the author of the novel *2a.m. at the Cat's Pajamas* and the story collection *Safe As Houses*. Her work has received The O. Henry Prize, The Pushcart Prize, The Iowa Short Fiction Award, The Frank O'Connor International Short Story Fellowship in Cork and has been featured on NPR's Selected Shorts. She teaches at NYU and in the low-residency MFA program at Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe and lives in Brooklyn, where she is Editor-at-Large for *Catapult Magazine*.



Marie-Helene Bertino Photo: Sioux Nesi





CREATIVE WRITING FOR BEGINNERS / EIMEAR RYAN / €185 / 15 max

We will explore the various elements of writing, from ideas and first lines, to characterisation, setting and dialogue. Whether you're interested in poetry, fiction or memoir, the emphasis will be on finding the right form for you and trusting your own voice. The class will include exercises and examples from literature, and will conclude with advice on revising and submitting your work.

Eimear Ryan's writing has appeared in *Winter Papers*, *Granta*, *The Stinging Fly*, *The Dublin Review*, *Town & Country* (Faber) and *The Long Gaze Back* (New Island). She has won several awards for her short stories, including a Hennessy First Fiction Award and the Sean Dunne Young Writer Award. She is co-editor of the literary journal *Banshee*.



Dave Lordan

WORDS ALLOWED: WORKSHOP FOR TEENAGE WRITERS /

DAVE LORDAN & E.R. MURRAY / €110 / 18 max / age 14-18

The Words Allowed workshop builds the creative confidence and expressive ability of any teenager with an interest in writing by combining a high-energy workshop approach with talks and Q&A sessions on being a writer in a world where multimedia technologies and performance writing are assuming importance. Words Allowed introduces participants to poem, story and song as well as Youtubing and online video production. In an atmosphere of group support and encouragement for individual creativity, each participant will be encouraged to generate new work. This year Dave will be joined by the fabulous author and facilitator **E.R. Murray** to help the participants explore and enjoy their creative imaginations for this intense, fun, inclusive and inspirational week. The workshop is open to young people of all backgrounds, identities and abilities. Both teachers are also 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, and multimedia educator with four acclaimed books and twenty years' experience in creativity education and cultural programme design. Visit davelordan.com or follow Dave Lordan on YouTube or Facebook. **Elizabeth Rose Murray** writes novels for children/young adults and short fiction. Her award-winning books include the Nine Lives Trilogy (*The Book of Learning*, *The Book of Shadows*, *The Book of Revenge*) and *Caramel Hearts*.



E.R. Murray

Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union



WORKSHOPS

ESSAYS, LIFE-WRITING & MEMOIR / SINÉAD GLEESON / €185 / 15 max

There are many ways to tell a story, and the essay is one of the most elastic forms in contemporary writing. Many of literature's most daring writers of the self have used auto-fiction, memoir and personal essays to write about their lives and the world, from James Baldwin and Joan Didion. We will explore the art of the essay, past and present, focusing on the skills required for life-writing and first-person non-fiction. We will discuss how to put ideas into practice, beginnings and structure, making the personal universal and learning how to extract the key elements of your own story.

Sinéad Gleeson's essays have appeared in *Granta*, *Winter Papers*, *Gorse*, *Banshee* and *Elsewhere Journal*. Her debut essay collection, *Constellations* will be published by Picador in spring 2019. She is the editor of three short story anthologies, including *The Long Gaze Back: an Anthology of Irish Women Writers* (2015) and *The Glass Shore: Short Stories by Women Writers from the North of Ireland*, both of which won Best Irish Published Book at the Irish Book Awards. She has contributed poems and short stories to various anthologies and is currently working on a novel.

Sinéad Gleeson Photo: Ger Holland



JOURNALISM: DO OR DIE / JUSTINE MCCARTHY / €185 / 15 max

This workshop will look at: 1. why it makes perfect sense to follow a career that will consume your life in a business that is dying on its feet; 2. why all journalism should be investigative, and how to do it; 3. the need for stamina and a stomach for subversion; 4. how journalism styles have changed and 5. biggest impediments to telling the truth, and how fake news is a gift to our dumb world. *In advance of the workshop participants will be asked to submit a 500 word piece to Justine starting: "I want to be a journalist because..."*

Justine McCarthy is a columnist and political correspondent with the *Sunday Times*. She is the author of *Mary McAleese: The Outsider* and *Deep Deception: Scandals in Irish Swimming*. She is a broadcaster and public speaker and was an adjunct professor of journalism at the University of Limerick. She has written for the *Guardian*, the *Washington Post* and the *Observer* and has won over a dozen journalism awards, including columnist of the year, features writer of the year, woman journalist of the year, campaigning and social justice journalist of the year, and the Journalists' Journalist award for features writing.



Justine McCarthy Photo: Patrick Bolger



Trish Deseine Photo: Deirdre Rooney



WRITE YOUR OWN COOKBOOK / TRISH DESEINE / €195 / 15 max

Whether you would like to chronicle your family's favourite recipes, tell the story of a recent food-filled trip or gather together your unique creations, we will tease out your favourite recipes, then structure, write and consider the presentation of your very own cookbook. We will be joined by photographer **Virginie Garnier** for a food styling and photography session. We will also take a look at the cookbook publishing world. *If you can, bring a laptop and a digital camera. We will be handling food, please advise of any serious allergies.*

Trish Deseine is a cookbook author and food writer who recently moved to West Cork after 25 years in France. She has published over 25 books – many of which are award-winners and bestsellers. Trish has hosted TV shows for RTÉ and BBC NI and writes for *The Gloss*. **Virginie Garnier** is a French food and lifestyle photographer who contributes regularly to the French food and lifestyle press and has just published a book with Gregory Marchand which won the prestigious 'Prix du Livre de Chef' in Paris.

WHERE ARE WE IN THE WORLD? TRAVEL & NATURE WRITING /

PHILIP HOARE / €125 / 15 max / WHIDDY ISLAND (incl Daily Return Ferry) / TUES-THURS ONLY

We will explore how to write about the natural environment and ourselves. We will look at the way we intuit a sense of place and the world through words. We will explore the way personal experience, memoir and description can come together in a satisfying creative act. Participants will be invited to bring a short piece of writing of their own, either fiction or non-fiction, drawing on a personal experience of travel or the natural world, with opportunities to read aloud and discuss their work. Each day participants will be invited to bring new, short pieces of writing for discussion, as we develop our ideas together. The three-hour sessions may involve outdoor work and short walks for inspiration.

Philip Hoare's book *Leviathan or, The Whale* won the 2009 BBC Samuel Johnson Prize for non-fiction. It was followed in 2013 by *The Sea Inside*. His new book, *RISINGTIDEFALLINGSTAR*, shortlisted for the 2018 Stanford Travel Writing Prize ranges from Cape Cod to Bantry Bay in search of stories of the sea, its people, and its animals. He is a regular contributor to the *Guardian* and is Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Southampton and curator of the *Moby-Dick* Big Read.



Philip Hoare Photo: Dennis Minsky

ONE-TO-ONE
SESSION
WITH OUR
EDITOR
-IN-RESIDENCE

EDITOR-IN-RESIDENCE / NIAMH MULVEY

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 14.00, 15.00, 16.00, 17.00 / Tuesday & Friday 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00
MARITIME HOTEL / €60 per 45-minute appointment

Take advantage of this rare opportunity to speak with an experienced literary editor by booking a one-to-one session with our editor-in-residence **Niamh Mulvey** who will discuss and appraise your work. Submit a sample of your work – no more than four pages of A4 double-spaced – and a cover letter describing briefly the context for the writing sample, your writing background and specifics you might like addressed.

Please email your writing sample and letter to sarawcm@eircom.net with Editor-in-Residence in the subject line by Friday 22 June following payment to the West Cork Literary Festival.

Niamh Mulvey is a commissioning editor at Quercus in London. She started her career in children's books, working with authors Piers Torday, Cat Clarke, Amber Lee Dodd and Louise O'Neill among many others. She moved into adult literary fiction in 2016 and is currently building a list at riverrun, Quercus's literary imprint. She has written on books, TV and culture for the *Irish Times*, *The Pool*, *The Stinging Fly* and *Image Magazine* and was named a Rising Star by the *Bookseller* in 2015.



Niamh Mulvey Photo: Linda Essen-Möller



THIS YEAR'S COVER ART

Hughie O'Donoghue

On Our Knees, 1996-97

Acrylic on canvas, 122 x 152 cms,

© Hughie O'Donoghue

Image courtesy Ireland's Great Hunger Museum
at Quinnipiac University, Hamden, CT, USA.

From the exhibition

Coming Home: Art and the Great Hunger

Uillinn: West Cork Arts Centre, Skibbereen

20 July to 13 October 2018

READ ON

inspiring young people across Europe to read

Cofunded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union



READ ON is a 48-month, European project that aims to reignite a passion for reading amongst young people. It is specifically focused on those between the ages of 12 -19. Reading will be one of the key skills that all young people will have to master if they are to succeed in their future working life as well as in their social life and in society in general.

The project is being delivered through 7 partner organisations across 6 EU countries: Ireland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom. Activities include Reading Programmes, Creative Writing, Interviewing, Literature and Cultural Identity, Graphic Novels, Illustration, Training for Professionals, Audience Development and Multimedia. The project commenced in 2017 and will continue until May 2021.

The Irish component of the project will be delivered by West Cork Music in collaboration with Cork County Library & Arts Service. **READ ON** is funded by the EU Creative Europe programme and undertaken with the support of the Arts Council.

READ ON stands for Reading for Enjoyment, Achievement and Development of **young** people. You can find more information at <https://readon.eu>

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



Inua Ellams

READ ON

As part of our involvement in **READ ON** this week's events for young people include Creative Writing workshops; Passports events encouraging young readers to reflect on the meaning of citizenship and cultural identity in contemporary Europe and to discover work by European writers whose family heritage is from other continents, writers who have been programmed throughout the festival; and Blurandevù events where **Louise O'Neill**, **Mary Watson** and **Muhammad Khan** will be interviewed by transition year students from **Coláiste Pobail Bheantraí** who have completed workshops in how to interview a writer in public.

SATURDAY 14 / 10.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY
TEENAGE WORKSHOP / Age: 14-18 / 15 max /
FREE / BOOKING IS REQUIRED

POETRY WORKSHOP / INUA ELLAMS

Join poet, playwright, performer **Inua Ellams** for a one-hour workshop. Inua will look at poems that address identity and cultural stereotypes. There is nothing wrong with stereotypes, a lot of the time they are true, the only problem is they present just *one* side of a person and we are made of a cacophony, a kaleidoscope of thoughts, feelings, experiences. Born in Nigeria, Inua is an award winning poet, playwright and founder of the Midnight Run. Identity, displacement and destiny are reoccurring themes in his work in which he mixes the old with the new, traditional with the contemporary.

SATURDAY 14 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL

TEENAGE READING / Age: 14+ / €6

THE SURFACE BREAKS: LOUISE O'NEILL

A fabulous reimagining of *The Little Mermaid*. Deep beneath the sea, off the cold Irish coast, Gaia is a young mermaid who dreams of freedom from her controlling father. Hans Christian Andersen's original fairy tale is reimagined through a searing feminist lens, with the stunning, scalpel-sharp writing and world building that has won Louise her legions of devoted fans. A book with the darkest of undercurrents, full of rage and rallying cries: storytelling at its most spellbinding.

Louise O'Neill's is the author of two previous award-winning YA novels *Asking For It* and *Only Ever Yours*. Louise lives in Clonakilty, West Cork.



SUNDAY 15 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL

Age: 8-12 / €6

THE BOOK OF REVENGE: E.R. MURRAY

Join **E.R. Murray** on an enchanting journey through West Cork. Find out about the people and places from the area that influenced her *Nine Lives Trilogy* and how the landscape around you can bring life to your own stories. A fun and interactive event, Elizabeth will also read from her books and answer your questions about what it's like to be a writer. Her award-winning books include the *Nine Lives Trilogy* (*The Book of Learning*, *The Book of Shadows*, *The Book of Revenge*) and *Caramel Hearts*.



From top: Louise O'Neill Photo: Anna Groniecka, E.R. Murray



Through our programming we are delighted to support Children's Books Ireland **BOLD GIRLS** campaign which celebrates brave, intelligent, strong women and girls in children's books – books for boys and girls and books written by boys and girls.

MONDAY 16 / 11.00-13.00 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL
CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP / Age: 8-10 / 25 max /
FREE / BOOKING IS REQUIRED

FIGHTING WORDS (8-10)

The **Fighting Words** programme, developed by **Roddy Doyle** and **Sean Love**, was brought to Cork by **Graffiti Theatre Company** in 2017, to support creative writing among children and young adults. During these workshops, students develop a collaborative story while an Illustrator brings their ideas to life. Their individual tales are taken to our Editor **McConkey** for publication! The process involves a lot of laughs and draws out the marvellous ideas the students have, with Graffiti's Writing Tutors supporting their individual development of the story ideas.

MONDAY 16 / 14.30-16.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL
CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP / Age: 12-14 / 25 max /
FREE / BOOKING IS REQUIRED

FIGHTING WORDS (12-14)

The **Fighting Words** programme, as above, but for 12-14 year olds.

TUESDAY 17 / 10.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY
TEENAGE WORKSHOP / Age: 14-18 / 15 max / FREE / BOOKING IS REQUIRED
FAMILIAR PLEASURES: WRITING TROPES IN YA FICTION /
MARY WATSON

Love or hate them, there are many tropes that appear frequently in young adult fiction. This workshop explores some recurring themes and motifs, and how they may be useful in a story.



From top: Fighting Words, Graffiti Theatre Fighting Words

TUESDAY 17 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / TEENAGE READING / Age: 14+ / €6

THE WREN HUNT: MARY WATSON

In other places, the Wren Hunt has become little more than a symbolic chase, a game. But in Kilshamble, an isolated Irish village that grew up around the remains of a slaughterhouse, they like to keep things a little more bloody. Every Winter, Wren Silke is chased through the forest in a warped version of a childhood game. Her pursuers are judges – a group of powerful and frightening boys who know nothing of her true identity. If they knew she was an augur – their sworn enemy – the game would be up.

'A magical YA debut... Two factions battle for survival in this complex and slippery tale of ancient spells cast in contemporary Ireland.' The Guardian

Mary Watson is from Cape Town and now lives on the West Coast of Ireland with her husband and three young children. She was included on the Hay Festival's 2014 Africa39 list of influential writers from sub-Saharan Africa.



WEDNESDAY 18 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / TEENAGE READING / Age: 14+ / €6

I AM THUNDER: MUHAMMAD KHAN

Fifteen-year-old Muzna Saleem, a shy girl trying to find her place in the world, is passionate about writing and dreams of becoming a novelist. No one is more surprised than Muzna when high school hottie, Arif Malik, takes an interest in her. But Arif and his brother are angry at the West for demonizing Islam and are hiding a terrible secret. *I Am Thunder* is a thought-provoking and empowering story which will encourage readers to question what they see and hear.

'An uplifting, empowering novel with hope at its heart.' Observer Children's Book of the Week

Muhammad Khan is an engineer, a secondary-school maths teacher, and now a YA author! He lives in South London and is studying for an MA in Creative Writing at St Mary's. Muhammad takes his inspiration from the children he teaches, as well as his own upbringing as a British-born Pakistani.



Images, from top: Mary Watson and Muhammad Khan Photos: Bart Michiels and Sarah Blackie

THURSDAY 19 / 14.30-16.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL
TEENAGE WORKSHOP / Age: 14+ / 25 max / FREE / BOOKING IS
REQUIRED

#IAMIRISH

Inspired by a persisting lack of representation of the Black Irish experience, **Lorraine Maher** began a journey to uncover and celebrate a more diverse representation of Irish identity, questioning the notions of 'Irishness' and what that means for Irish communities today. Since its birth, the project has attracted huge interest capturing the imagination of people in the UK, Ireland and internationally. It has sparked creative conversations and connections far beyond the project and the Black Irish experience. **#IamIrish** is growing to become a international creative movement which explores perceptions of Colour, Culture, Identity and Heritage and embraces the collective mixed-race experience of Irish heritage in all its diversity.

FRIDAY 20 / 14.30-15.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL
TEENAGE EVENT / Age: 14-18 / €6 /

A READING & WRITING LIFE

Join three of the writers from this year's festival as they chat about how their family heritage and the countries they were born in, grew up in or now live in have influenced them as writers and as readers. **Muhammad Khan** is a British-born Pakistani writer and teacher. **Chibundu Onuzo** was born in Nigeria and lives in London. **Joseph O'Neill** was born in Ireland to a Turkish mother and an Irish father, he grew up in the Netherlands and now lives in the US.



#IamIrish

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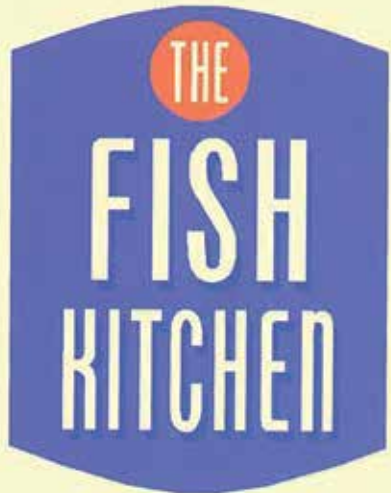
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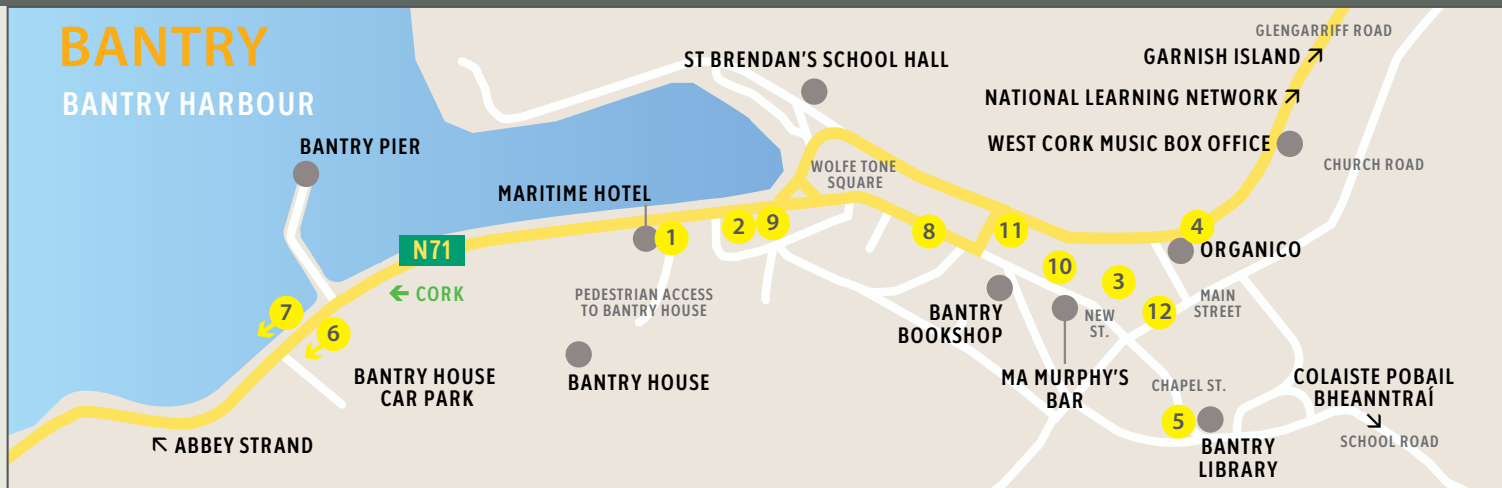
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We would like to thank all of the writers, tutors and introducers who will join us this year and all of the writers who weren't able to make it (we'll ask you again!)

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TUES 17	THE WREN HUNT: MARY WATSON	€6		
WED 18	I AM THUNDER: MUHAMMAD KHAN	€6		
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