

Kildare Readers Festival 2013

Programme of Events



Main Events

Lilly Higgins

Author of *Make, Bake, Love and Dream Deli*
in conversation with Hazel Williams

Fri Oct 11th | 19.30-20.30 | Riverbank Arts Centre

Food writer Lilly Higgins lives in Cobh, Co.Cork with her partner Colm and two small sons. Author of *Dream Deli* and *Make Bake Love* both published by Gill & MacMillan, Lilly writes regularly for newspapers and magazines. Having graduated from Ballymaloe Cookery School with a 12 week diploma Lilly went on to teach at the school. Finally, using her degree in design, as well as her love of baking and cooking, Lilly started a food blog in 2010. This has led to a career in food writing, styling and photography as well as a year spent running an underground supper club in Dublin. Lilly is also a judge and presenter of 'Ireland's Best Young Baker' on RTE2 this Autumn.



10 Books You Should Read

Mary Shine Thompson and Peter Sheridan

Sat Oct 12th | 10.00-11.30 | Riverbank Arts Centre

Mary Shine Thompson is a regular reviewer of fiction for the national press and has published widely, especially on poetry and children's literature. She is former Dean of Research and Humanities at Dublin City University (St Patrick's College), former chair of Poetry Ireland, the national poetry organisation, and of Imram, the Irish-language literary festival, and a one-time English lecturer. Among her edited publications are *Young Irelands: Studies in Children's Literature*; *The Fire i' the Flint: Essays on the Creative Imagination*; *Skellig Sunset*, by Michael Kirby (2006); and *Selected Plays* by Austin Clarke.



Peter Sheridan is an award-winning writer and director. Winner of the Rooney Prize for Literature, he was Writer-in-Residence at the Abbey Theatre, and with his brother, Jim, founded the Project Theatre Company. His publishing credits include *44: A Dublin Memoir* and *Forty-Seven Roses*, both based on his family. His first novel, *Big Fat Love* was published in 2003 and this year, another memoir, *Break a Leg* was published. He is also an accomplished playwright and director of many and varied theatre productions such as *The Risen People*, *The Shawshank Redemption* (Director) and the hugely successful *Dancing Shoes - the George Best Story*. His film credits include *Prix Art Europe* and *Banff Winning Short The Breakfast*, and the feature film, *Borstal Boy*.



KRF Author Panel

Niamh Boyce, Caroline Finnerty and Louise Phillips
in conversation with John Boland

Sat Oct 12th | 12.00-13.15 | Riverbank Arts Centre

Writers, Talking! John Boland, in conversation with authors Niamh Boyce, Caroline Finnerty and Louise Phillips, chatting about their work, preferred genres and influences.

John Boland is Dublin-born and has worked in journalism all his adult life. He was a theatre and film critic with the Irish Press, literary columnist for the Irish Times and is currently television critic and books critic for the Irish Independent. He also contributes regularly to RTE's Sunday Miscellany on literary, musical and arts topics and has won an Arts Journalist of the Year award. His first book of poems, *Brow Head*, was published in 1999.

Niamh, from Kildare, is the author of *The Herbalist* (2013). She has won the Hennessy XO New Irish Writer Award, and her short fiction has been nominated for the Francis Mac Manus Competition, the Molly Keane Creative Writing Award and the New Irish Writing Award.

Caroline, from Kildare, is the author of novels *In a Moment* and *The Last Goodbye* (2013). Short-listed for the RTE Guide/Penguin Short Story Award, she has just compiled *If I was a Child Again*, a collection of stories sold in aid of Barnardos.

Louise, from Dublin, is the author of *Red Ribbons*, shortlisted for Best Irish Crime Novel of the Year (2012) and *The Doll's House* (2013). Short-listed for the Molly Keane Memorial Award, she has won the Jonathan Swift Award and was also a winner in the Irish Writers' Centre Lonely Voice Platform.



Just Mary

An afternoon with Mary O'Rourke

Sat Oct 11th | 14.15-15.15 | Riverbank Arts Centre

Mary O'Rourke is a former deputy leader of Fianna Fáil, who has held a number of senior Cabinet positions. She has also been Leader of the Seanad and is a frequent guest on radio and television.

Mary is known as someone who always speaks her mind. This forthright approach has made her one of Ireland's best-loved public figures and is very much in evidence in her highly popular memoir, *Just Mary*.



Brian McGilloway & Declan Hughes

in conversation with Declan Burke

Sat Oct 12th | 15.30-16.30 | Riverbank Arts Centre

A stellar line-up of the finest crime writers will have a panel discussion led by Declan Burke who has published four novels: *Eightball Boogie*, *The Big O*, *Absolute Zero Cool* and *Slaughter's Hound*. Declan is also the editor of *Down These Green Streets: Irish Crime Writing in the 21st Century*, and the co-editor, with John Connolly, of *Books to Die For*, which won this year's Agatha Award for Best Non-Fiction.

Brian McGilloway was born in Derry in 1974 and is currently Head of English in St Columb's College in the city. His *Inspector Devlin* novels have been shortlisted for a CWA Dagger, Irish Book Award and the Theakston's Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year while *Little Girl Lost*, which introduced a new series featuring DS Lucy Black, won the University of Ulster's McCrea Award in 2011 and was a No.1 e-book bestseller, selling over a quarter of a million copies. The new Lucy Black novel *Hurt* will be published in November.

Declan Hughes has written five novels *The Wrong Kind of Blood*, *The Colour of Blood*, *The Dying Breed*, *All The Dead Voices* and *City of Lost Girls*. His new novel *All The Things You Are* will be published in 2014. Declan is also the co-founder and former artistic director of Rough Magic Theatre Company. His plays include *Digging For Fire*, *Twenty Grand*, *Shiver* and *The Last Summer*.



James Durney

The War of Independence in Kildare

Sat Oct 12th | 16.30-17.30 | Riverbank Arts Centre

James Durney, author of the recently published *The War of Independence in Kildare*, will conduct an illustrated talk on County Kildare in the decade of revolution. As part of KRF 2013, James is compiling a list of participants in County Kildare's decade of revolution, 1913-1923. The aim of this project is to publish in 2016, a biographical account of all Kildare participants in this revolutionary period to coincide with the anniversary of the 1916 Rising.

Did your Kildare relative participate in The 1913 Lockout, The 1916 Rising, The War of Independence or The Civil War? If so, this project presents an opportunity to include a permanent record of their part in this publication. Come along on the day and connect with James and bring any ephemera that you would like to discuss.



Strumpet City Revisited

A Conversation Through Literature and History with Pádraig Yeats, Angela Harding and Mary Corcoran and special guest.

Sat Oct 12th | 19.30-21.00 | Riverbank Arts Centre

Pádraig Yeates is author of *Lockout: Dublin 1913*. He is former Industry and Employment Correspondent of the Irish Times. Other books include: *A City in Wartime: Dublin 1914-1918* and *A City in Turmoil: Dublin 1919-1921*.

Mary P. Corcoran is Professor of Sociology at the National University of Ireland Maynooth, where she is also a research associate at the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis, and a member of the University's Governing Authority. Author of numerous scholarly articles and reports, Mary was a Taoiseach's nominee to the National Economic and Social Forum. She occasionally appears as a commentator on radio and television.

Angela Harding trained as an actress at The Abbey Theatre and has worked in theatre for many years. Her TV career includes roles in RTE's *Wanderly Wagon* and *Glenroe*. Angela worked with the BBC playing Nora in *The Plough & The Stars* and Maggie in *My Son My Son*. She worked as a continuity announcer on RTE Radio 1 and now works with the Drama Department. She is delighted that the series *Strumpet City*, in which she plays the role of Mary, is being revisited as part of the 1913 Lockout commemorations.



Jennifer Johnston in conversation with Dermot Bolger

Cecil Day Lewis Bursary Award presentation and readings before the main event

Sun Oct 13th | 11.00-12.30 | Riverbank Arts Centre

Dermot Bolger's intimate and relaxed Sunday morning interviews with leading Irish authors are a Festival highlight.

Jennifer Johnston, one of the foremost Irish writers of her generation has won the Whitbread Prize and the Evening Standard Best First Novel Award. She has been shortlisted for the Booker Prize with *Shadows on our Skin*. Her first book, *The Captains and the Kings*, appeared in 1972. Her other novels include *Truth or Fiction*, *Foolish Mortals*, *The Gingerbread Woman*, *Two Moons* and *Shadowstory*.

Dermot Bolger's novels include *A Second Life: A Renewed Novel*, *New Town Soul* and the novella, *The Fall of Ireland*. His play, *The Lament for Arthur Cleary*, received the Samuel Beckett. His ninth collection of poems, *The Venice Suite: A Voyage Through Loss*, was published recently. In 2012, Bolger was named Commentator of the Year at the Irish Newspaper Awards.



Fringe Events

Three Women, One Guitarist

With a passion for words and music

Thur Oct 3rd | 20:00 | Alices Restaurant Naas

Join four unique and very talented voices for this, the first fabulous fringe event of the Kildare Readers Festival 2013. What better venue than Alice's Café to meet three women, Mae Leonard, Maggie Breen and Margaret Scott who will treat you to readings from past and current works; their prose, poetry and fiction writing as diverse as it is distinctive. Dave Morrissey, fearless singer-songwriter among women, will draw the evening together beautifully with musical interpretation of his skilfully crafted folk lyrics. Beidh cúpla dán againn ó Mae freisin agus buíochas mór do Éilín, Bean an Tí, faoi bheith páirteach linn arís i mbliana. Bigí linn!

"A Wine Goose Chase"

Wine and Theatre combine to tell the fascinating story of Ireland's winemakers.

Wed Oct 9th | 19:00 & 21:00 | Riverbank Arts Centre

Susan Boyle loves wine. What's more she knows what she's drinking and talking about. She's got 2,000 years of Irish wine history to back her up! So, sit back, let her fill your glass while she takes you on a trip with the tenacious Irish people who transformed the wine world and didn't let coming from a grape-free land stop them. This hour-long one woman theatrical performance fuses interactive wine tasting with storytelling in a warm, inviting setting. Audience members will have the opportunity to put their senses to use and hopefully leave with a new insight to a drink that has been part of Ireland's history for much longer than we might think. Wine will be served and is included in the ticket price. www.awinegoosechase.com



Three Men Talking

About things they kinda know about...

Thur Oct 10th | 20:00 | Riverbank Arts Centre

In an interwoven slam-poetry session, three of Ireland's leading performance poets take you on an emotional journey about what it really means to be a man. Venturing where few men have gone before they talk life, love, family and feelings in a show about universal truths, the things that make us human and the things that mess us up. Three men, different histories, same s**t.

*Explicit language used throughout.



Little Room of Comics



Fri 11th - Sat 12th | All Day | Riverbank Arts Centre

Join Little Room Productions at their pop up shop at the festival selling only home-grown Irish comics from Little Room, Atomic Diner Comics, Punt Press, Ger Hankey, Cardboard Press, Blackshapes Comics, Simon J Bolger, and many many more. Proving that Irish comics are alive and thriving, you can expect amazing work from original characters to crazy caricatures, from superheroes to satire and from the everyday to the bizarre. Little Room produced the highly acclaimed comic *If Only I Was A Waterproof Watch* in 2011, and was nominated for Best Irish Comic Book and Best Writer in the irishcomicnews.com awards 2012.

Kate Dempsey and Poetry Divas

Fri Oct 11th | 19.00-19.20 | Riverbank Arts Centre



The Poetry Divas are a collective of women poets who are well published and experienced performers of their own work. They promise a deliciously infectious show that's bound to touch a nerve and blur the wobbly boundaries between page and stage. Maybe you haven't heard a poem since school. Maybe you write yourself. Come along anyway and listen to poems on love and death, camping and drinking, babies and buns, science and science fiction.

Launch of KRF: 3 Artist's Notebook Project

Sat Oct 12th | 17:30 | Riverbank Arts Centre



If you only ever see one exhibition in your lifetime, this is the one to see! The KRF:3 Artist Notebook Project now extends to 200 moleskine notebooks made by writers, film makers and visual artists from all over the world. By open invitation, artists were invited to write, draw, paint, paste, construct/deconstruct a standard A5 Moleskine notebook in a creative way. Each notebook has been kindly donated by participating artists to Kildare County Council to become part of a permanent touring collection. An exhibition of the notebooks will be on display from 9th-16th October as part of the Kildare Readers Festival. Prof. Philip Napier, Head of Fine Art, National College of Art and Design will formally launch the exhibition.

Presentation of Cecil Day Lewis Literary Bursary Award

Sun Oct 13th | 11:00 | Riverbank Arts Centre

The Cecil Day Lewis Literary Bursary Award is an annual award provided by Kildare County Council to support new writings from Kildare. The award will be presented to two artists, one established and one emerging to acknowledge the breadth of talent in the county.

TIME	EVENT	VENUE	PRICE
Thursday, October 3rd			
20:00	<i>Fringe Event:</i> Three Women, One Guitarist	Alice's Restaurant, Naas	FREE
Wednesday, October 9th			
19:00 & 21:00	<i>Fringe Event:</i> Susan Boyle's Wine Goose Chase	Riverbank Arts Centre	€10
Thursday, October 10th			
20:00	<i>Fringe Event:</i> Three Men Talking	Riverbank Arts Centre	€12
Friday, October 11th			
19.00-20:30	<i>Fringe Event:</i> Kate Dempsey & Poetry Divas followed by Lilly Higgins: Author of Make, Bake, Love & Dream Deli	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
All Day	<i>Fringe Event:</i> Little Room of Comics (Open Friday 11 th & Saturday 12 th)	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
Saturday, October 12th			
10.00-11.30	10 Books You Should Read: Mary Shine Thompson & Peter Sheridan	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
12.00-13.15	KRF Author Panel: Niamh Boyce, Caroline Finnerty, & Louise Phillips	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
14.15-15.15	Just Mary: an afternoon with Mary O'Rourke	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
15.30-16.30	Brian McGilloway & Declan Hughes in conversation with Declan Burke	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
16.30-17.30	James Durney: The War of Independence in Kildare	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
17.30-19.00	<i>Fringe Event:</i> Launch of KRF 3: Artist's Notebook Project	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
19.30-21.00	Strumpet City Revisited: A Conversation through Literature and History with Pádraig Yeats, Angela Harding, Mary Corcoran and special guest.	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE
Sunday, October 13th			
11.00-12.30	Jennifer Johnston in conversation with Dermot Bolger	Riverbank Arts Centre	FREE

Book tickets online on www.riverbank.ie or call box office on 045 448327



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