

# 2012<sup>13</sup> Cork International Short Story Festival

SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> – 23<sup>RD</sup> 2012



[www.corkshortstory.net](http://www.corkshortstory.net)





# The 2012 Seán Ó Faoláin International Short Story Competition

Photos © John Minihan



2004 winner  
Jon Boilard



2008 winner  
Julia Van Middlesworth



2011 winner  
PG O'Connor

Deadline:  
31 July 2012

Judge:  
Ian Wild

## 1st Prize €2000

(\$2690.82/ £1685.27 @ xe.com on 27th February 2012)

a week-long residency at Anam Cara Writers' Retreat  
and publication in *Southword* Journal.

**2nd Prize €500**, publication in *Southword*

Four runners-up to be published in *Southword* and receive  
€120 publication fee.

*Brought to you by the Munster Literature Centre & the Cork  
International Short Story Festival (19 - 23 September 2012)*

For more info, email [info@munsterlit.ie](mailto:info@munsterlit.ie) or visit

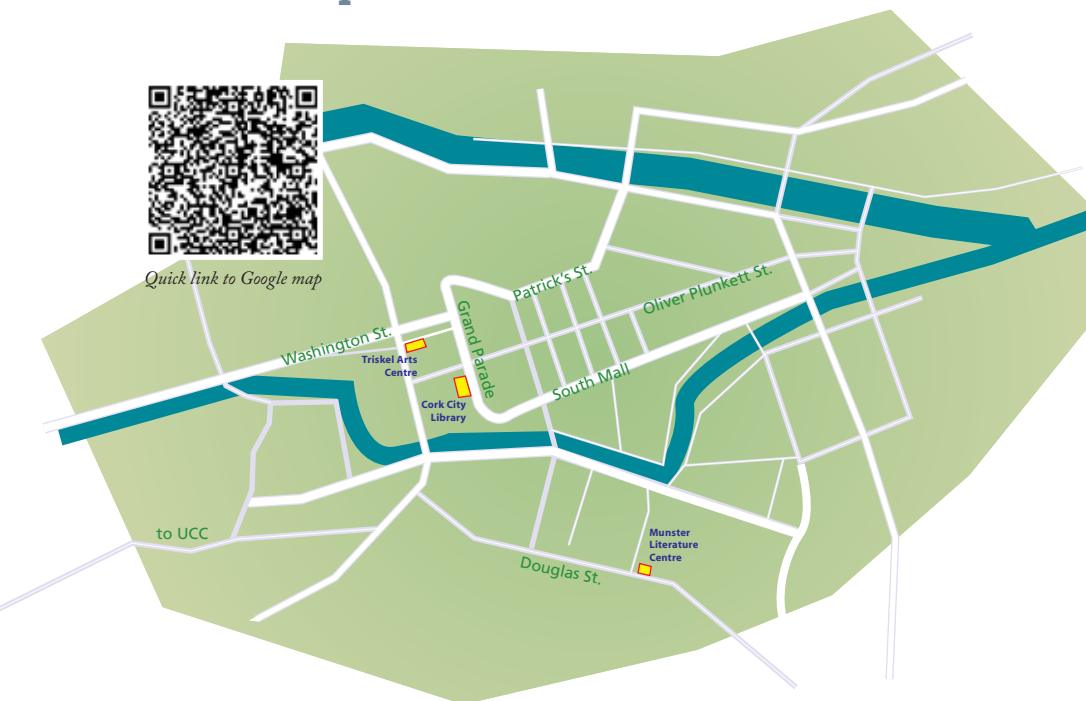
# www.munsterlit.ie



## Venue Map



Quick link to Google map



## Bookings

*Bookings can be made by credit card through the website [www.corkshortstory.net](http://www.corkshortstory.net) until Sunday 16th September. Thereafter, all purchases must be in cash at the event door. Discounts of 20% off the non-concession rate for Triskel Christchurch events apply to Book Clubs or Writers' Groups of 8 or more. Discounts of 50% off the non-concession rate for Triskel Christchurch events apply to Workshop attendees. The concession rate is the lower of the two admission prices displayed and applies to pensioners, students and the unemployed. Admission may be blocked after an event begins. Refunds will be given only if an event is cancelled.*

**The Munster Literature Centre | Tigh Litríocht an Deiscirt**

**t. + 353 (0)21 4312955**

**or email [info@munsterlit.ie](mailto:info@munsterlit.ie)**

**or pay through credit card/paypal on**

**[www.corkshortstory.net](http://www.corkshortstory.net)**

## Welcome

Welcome to the world's oldest and biggest short story festival. Every year we attract writers and readers from across the globe to Cork to enjoy the craic and intellectual stimulation of an art form which is as varied as music in its tones and rhythms, its humours and subject matter. Here in Cork we take pride in our association with, not only the great writers who were born here, like Frank O'Connor, Sean Ó Faolain, Elizabeth Bowen and William Trevor, but also some of the world's greatest practitioners of contemporary fiction who have come to this festival and keep coming back. This is the tenth edition I have curated and I take delight in seeing the festival get better and better every year. Not only do we feature the big names known by regular readers – but we seek out and include writers of excellence destined to become the big names of tomorrow. This year the festival takes place mainly at Triskel Christchurch – a site historically associated with Edmund Spenser.

Cork is a picturesque city of hills and waterways, grand Georgian parades and characterful 17th century alleyways leading off streets which twist and turn to fit in with the topography. Restaurants with international reputations serve the best of local produce, and a proliferation of traditional pubs boast of the best in live music.

Come to Cork to experience all this and the Cork International Short Story Festival. You'll get a huge welcome and you would be following in the footsteps of:

Richard Ford, Jhumpa Lahiri, Colm Toibín, Yiyun Li, Louis de Bernières, Edna O'Brien, David Means, Stephen Dobyns, Anne Enright, James Lasdun, Julia O'Faolain, Dan Rhodes, Bernard MacLaverty, Rebecca Miller, Etgar Keret, Val McDermid, Miranda July, Rick Moody, Claire Keegan, Kevin Barry, Clare Wigfall, Philip Ó Ceallaigh, ZZ Packer, Simon Van Booy, Helen Dunmore, Glen Patterson, Valerie Trueblood, Wells Tower, Tess Gallagher, Ron Rash, Karen Russell, David Vann, Eilís Ní Dhuibhne, Peter Stamm, Silke Scheuermann, Nuala Ní Chonchúir, Ludmila Ulitskaya and many, many others.

**Patrick Cotter**

Festival Director

# Programme Outline

Wednesday 19th - Saturday 22nd September 2012

## Wednesday 19th

9.30 - 12.30pm | Workshops (see p.42)

2.30pm, Library | Admission Free

### Library Book Launch

New Cork Writer **Joyce Russell**

3pm, Library | Admission Free

**Siobhan Parkinson** *Reading & Interview for young people*

4pm, Library | Admission Free

### Journal Launch

*Five Dials*

7.15pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

**John F. Deane & Christine Dwyer Hickey**

9.15pm, Triskel Christchurch | Admission €8 & €6

**Joe Dunthorne & Mike McCormack**

## Thursday 20th

9.30 - 12.30pm | Workshops (see p.42)

2.30pm, Library | Admission Free

*The Contemporary Canadian Short Story*

3pm, Library | Admission Free

**Witi Ihimaera** *Interview & Reading for young people*

**4pm, Library** | Admission Free

*Flash Fiction with* **Tania Hershman & Nick Parker**

**7.15 pm, Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

**Nuala Ní Chonchúir & D.W. Wilson**

**9.15pm, Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

**Witi Ihimaera & Lysley Tenorio**

## Friday 21st

**9.30 - 12.30pm** | Workshops (see p.42)

**2.30pm, Library** | Admission Free

**Discussion:** *Is Flash Fiction a True Literary Art Form or Just Something for Chancers?*

**3pm, Library** | Admission Free

**Kevin Stevens** *Interview & Reading for young people*

**4pm, Library** | Admission Free

**Short Story Stakeholder Showcase**

*Exhibition by Short Story Journals and Competition Organisers*

**7.15pm, Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

**Johanna Skibsrud & Stephanie Powell Watts**

**9.15pm, Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

**Zsuzsi Gartner & Sarah Hall**

**11pm-Midnight** | Admission Free

**Flash Fiction Rapid Fire**



## Saturday 22nd

9.30 - 12.30pm | Workshops (see p.42)

2.30pm, **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

**Kate Bernheimer** *Modern Fairy Tale Anthology, Reading & Discussion*

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

**Kevin Barry & Will Boast**

7.15pm, **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

**Fiona Kidman & Éilís Ní Dhuibhne**

9.15 pm, **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €15 & €13

**John Banville & Lydia Davis**

## Sunday 23rd

7.30pm, **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission: €10 & €8

### Award Presentation

Presentation of Sean Ó Faoláin Prize and Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award, followed by a reading by 2012 O'Connor Laureate, Nathan Englander.





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SIOBHÁN PARKINSON



WITI IHIMAERA



KEVIN STEVENS

## Young Adult Programme

Venue: **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission free

**A series of readings & interviews on three consecutive afternoons moderated by librarian and writer Paul Cussen.**

**Wednesday 19th 3pm**

**Siobhán Parkinson** was Ireland's inaugural children's laureate, Laureate na nÓg. She writes fiction for children and young people (and occasionally for adults). She has published more than twenty books since 1992, and her work has been translated into as many languages. She has won the Bisto Book of the Year award, she has received Bisto Merit and Honour Book awards four times, as well as two IBBY Honours and several White Ravens. Most recently she won an Oireachtas award. She is currently commissioning editor and publisher with Little Island.



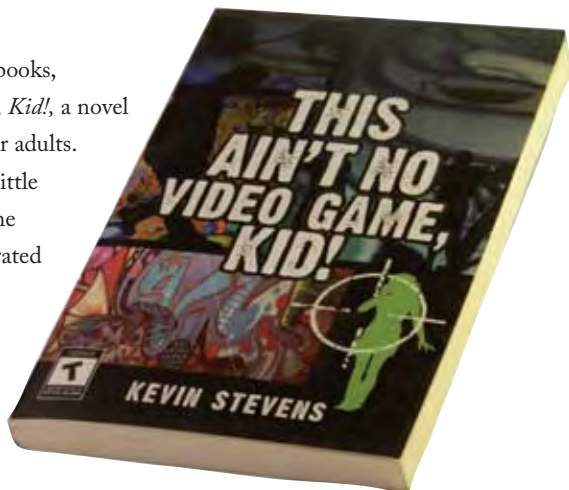
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 3pm

**Witi Ihimaera** is a New Zealand author of Māori and Anglo-Saxon descent. Ihimaera was the first Māori writer to publish both a book of short stories and a novel and most of his work consists of these genres. As a world leader in indigenous and Pacific literature, he has written a considerable number of books, with many notable works such as *Tangi*, *Pounamu*, *Bulibasha* and *The Whale Rider* (the last of which became a successful film of the same name). His stories generally portray Māori culture in modern New Zealand and his work often focuses on problems within contemporary Māori and New Zealand society.



Friday 21<sup>st</sup> 3pm

**Kevin Stevens** is the author of six books, including *This Ain't No Video Game, Kid!*, a novel for young adults, and two novels for adults. He is also a consultant editor for Little Island, responsible for helping in the development of two series of illustrated stories for children.



# Joyce Russell Book Launch

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>, 2.30pm, **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission free



We are pleased to host the launch of a new collection of stories by a Cork writer and from a Cork publisher.

**Joyce Russell** is a journalist and writer. Born in England she settled in West Cork more than thirty years ago and started writing short stories a decade ago. Her stories have won many prizes including: the RTÉ Francis MacManus Short Story Award, the Sean O'Faolain Short Story Prize, the START Chapbook Prize and the Real Writers Short Story Award. Stories have been included in several anthologies and have been broadcast

on radio. *Bloodline And Other Stories* is her first collection and is published by the Mercier Press.



## Five Dials Launch

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> 4pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission free



*Five Dials* is a highly respected online literary journal published by Hamish Hamilton in London but not limited to Hamish Hamilton authors. Edited by Craig Taylor, *Five Dials* has published poems, essays, memoir, short fiction and novel extracts from prestigious authors from all over the world. Distributed in Portable Document Format (PDF), *Five Dials* is best downloaded, printed out and enjoyed away from the computer. Typographically it is a work of art and every issue features wonderful, commissioned illustrations. For the September issue Craig Taylor has assembled a special issue drawing exclusively on writers participating in the Cork International Short Story Festival. The issue will go live internationally at this launch and Craig Taylor will be on hand to talk about *Five Dials* and his editorial priorities. Readings from the contributing writers will take place throughout the festival.

PHOTO: MICHAEL SCHEMLING



**Craig Taylor's** non-fiction has appeared in the most prominent newspapers in three countries: *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, and *The Globe And Mail*. His fiction has appeared in *The Mississippi Review*. He is the author of *One Million Tiny Plays About Britain* originally for *The Guardian's Weekend* magazine. Three of these plays were printed on handbags and given to the winners at the Cannes Film Festival. He has published his own photocopied magazines, including *The Review of Everything I've Ever*

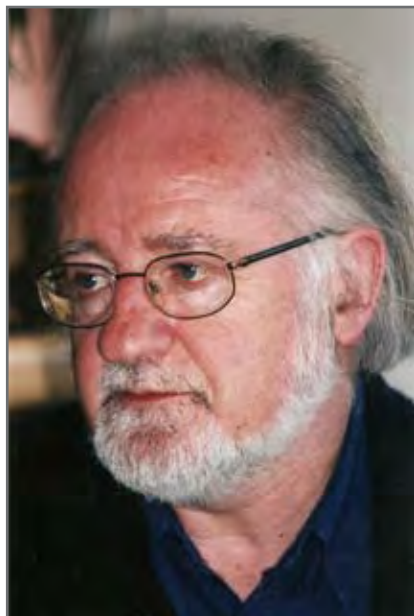
*Encountered* and *Dark Tales of Clapham*. His first book, *Return To Akenfield*, was published by Granta in 2006. More recently he has published *Londoners: The Days and Nights of London Now—As Told by Those Who Love It, Hate It, Live It, Left It and Long for It* (Granta 2011).



## Reading & Discussion

# John F. Deane & Christine Dwyer Hickey

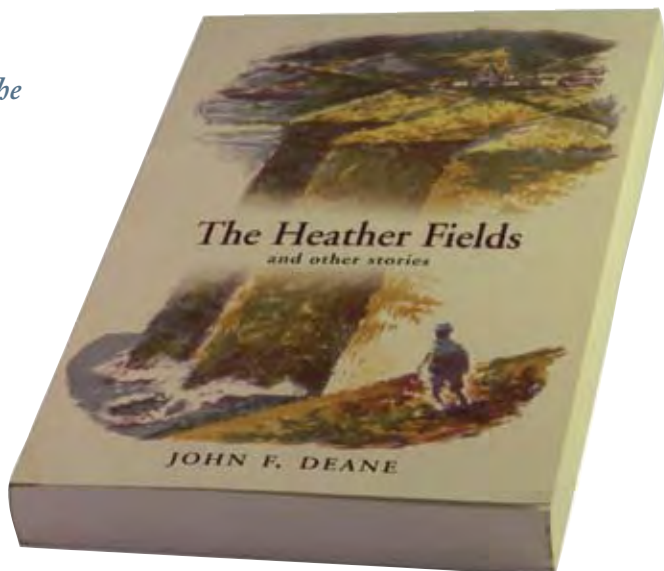
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> 7.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



**John F. Deane** founded Poetry Ireland - the National Poetry Society - and *The Poetry Ireland Review* of which he is currently editor. He has published several collections of poetry and three novels with Blackstaff Press. With the Blackstaff Press he has also published several collections of short stories, notably *The Coffin Master and Other Stories*, (2000) and most recently *The Heather Fields and Other Stories* (2007). Some of his fiction has been translated into German and published in that country and several collections have also been published in India.

*“Deane is a brave writer and one of the finest living Irish storytellers”*

~ THE TIMES

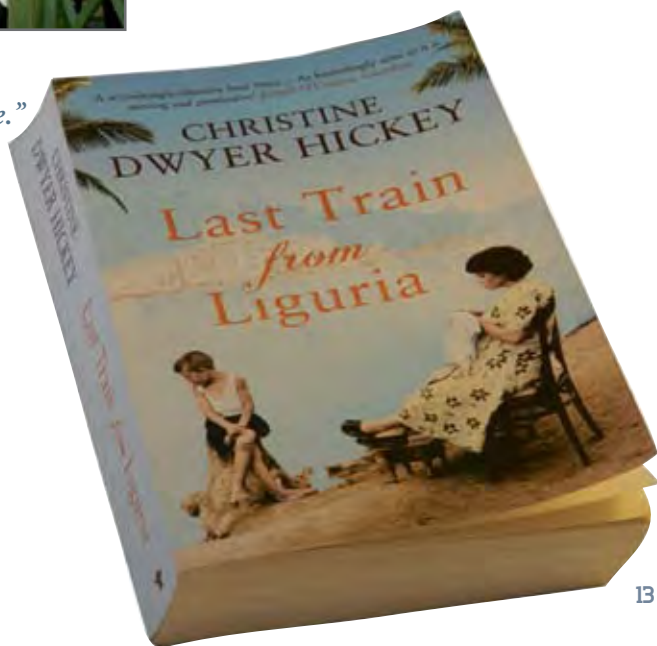




**Christine Dwyer Hickey** has published six novels. She has not yet published a collection of short stories but she has been twice winner of the Listowel Writers' Week short story competition, as well as a winner in the Observer/Penguin competition. Her short stories have been published in several anthologies and world- wide literary magazines. For the past few years, she has been the adjudicator of the Listowel Writers' Week annual short story competition which attracts hundreds of entries from all over the world. She is a member of Aosdána.

*"Hesitatingly wise...  
moving and persuasive."*

~JOSEPH O'CONNOR,  
THE GUARDIAN



## Reading & Discussion

# Joe Dunthorne & Mike McCormack

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> 9.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

Photo: Angus Muir

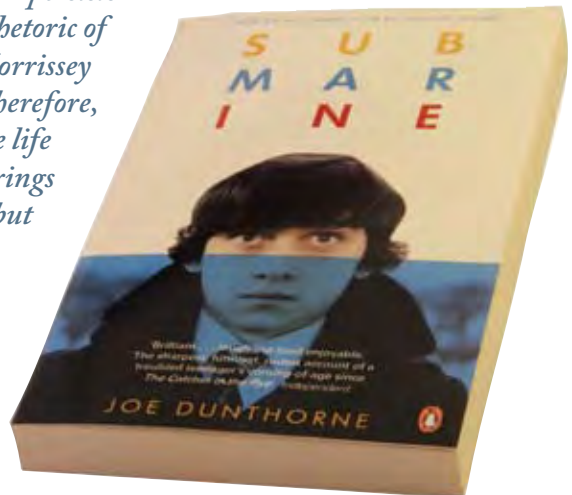


**Joe Dunthorne** was born and brought up in Cork's sister city, Swansea. His debut novel, *Submarine*, was translated into fifteen languages and adapted into an award-winning film. He was shortlisted for the Sunday Times EFG Short Story Award and has been a judge for the BBC National Short Story Award. His second novel, *Wild Abandon*, is out now.



*"It is 60 years since JD Salinger invented teenage anxiety. The voice of the fragile Glass family and Holden Caulfield – damaged, precocious, confessional, self-obsessed, wearing irony against the emptiness of things – persists as about the most influential rhetoric of our lives: you can't imagine Morrissey or MySpace without it. It is, therefore, remarkable how much genuine life and surprise Joe Dunthorne brings to it in his perfectly pitched debut novel Submarine."*

~THE GUARDIAN







**Mike McCormack** was born in 1965 and comes from the west of Ireland. He is author of two novels *Crowe's Requiem* and *Notes from a Coma* which was shortlisted for Irish Novel of the Year. His two collections of short stories are *Getting it in the Head* (Cape, 1996) and *Forensic Songs* which has just been published by Lilliput Press.



*“Gives Ian McEwan and Edgar Allan Poe a run for their money... The Irish short story is thriving and in the hands of writers like Mike McCormack it can only continue to.”*

~INDEPENDENT (LONDON)





ZSUZSI GARTNER (p.28)



JOHANNA SKIBSRUD (p.26)



D.W. WILSON (p.21)

## Discussion

# The Short Story in Canada

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free

On this side of the Atlantic when the subject of the Canadian short story arises people think of just two authors: Alice Munro and Alistair MacLeod. But Canada has a vibrant short story culture which sees dozens of books published each year by exciting voices. Here festival director Patrick Cotter leads three such voices in a discussion to enlighten us on the state of the contemporary Canadian Short Story: **Zsuzsi Gartner, Johanna Skibsrud** and **D.W. Wilson**.

## **Frank O'Connor speaking to the BBC in 1961:**

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

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



## **Proudly working to create a city life without limits!**

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

## Reading

# Tania Hershman & Nick Parker Read Their Flash Fiction

Thursday 20th 4pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free



**Tania Hershman's** first collection of short stories and flash fiction, *The White Road and Other Stories* (Salt, 2008), was commended in the 2009 Orange Award for New Writers. Her second collection, consisting of 55 very short fictions, *My Mother Was an Upright Piano: Fictions*, was recently published by Tangent Books. She is currently writer-in-residence in the Science Faculty at Bristol University, working on a new collection of biology-inspired stories, funded by an Arts

Council England grant. She is also founder and editor of *The Short Review*, an online journal which reviews short story collections and interviews their authors. She has been a fiction editor of *Southword Online* and a former judge of the Seán Ó Faoláin Short Story Competition.

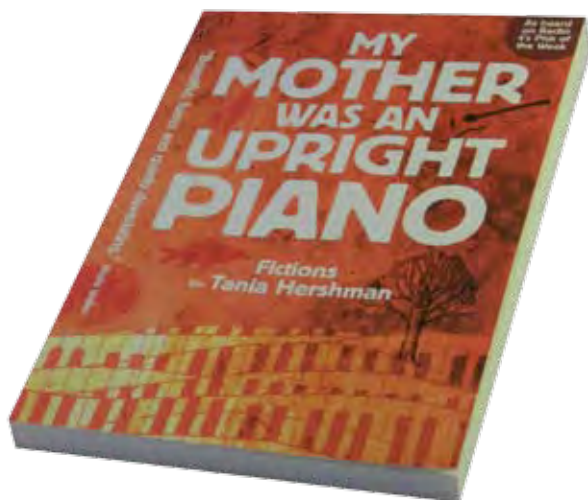


PHOTO: ARRY WORTH



By night, **Nick Parker** writes tiny tales, at an excruciatingly slow pace. They frequently turn up in anthologies and on the radio. His first collection, *The Exploding Boy and other tiny tales* (2011) was the first self-published fiction book ever to be reviewed by *The Guardian*. They said it was ‘astonishing... proof that the short story remains a public good.’ By day he is creative director of the language consultancy The Writer. Ages ago he wrote a book all about toast, which Waterstone’s described as a ‘cult hit’. Before that, he was a cartoonist for *Viz*. He lives on the outskirts of town.



## Reading and Discussion

# Nuala Ní Chonchúir & D.W. Wilson

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 7.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

Photo: Emilia Karsztoriak



**Nuala Ní Chonchúir** was born in Dublin in 1970 and lives in Galway; she is a short story writer, novelist and poet. Her fourth short story collection *Mother America and other stories* was published this year. She has won many short fiction awards including The Jane Geske Award (USA) RTÉ radio's Francis MacManus Award, the Cúirt New Writing Prize, the inaugural Jonathan Swift Award and the Cecil Day Lewis Award. She was shortlisted for the European Prize for Literature. She has also published *You*, a novel and several poetry collections. [www.nualanichonchuir.com](http://www.nualanichonchuir.com)





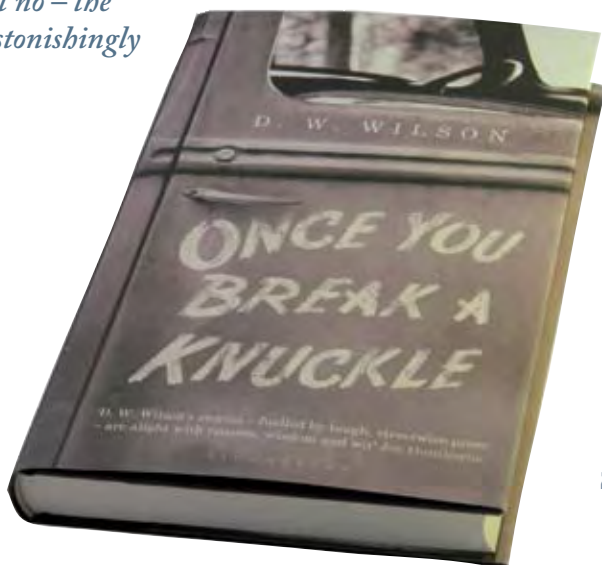
**D.W. Wilson** was born and raised in British Columbia. He is the recipient of the University of East Anglia's inaugural Man Booker Prize Scholarship. His stories have appeared in literary magazines across Britain, Canada and Ireland (including *Southword*). 'The Dead Roads' won the BBC National Short Story Award in 2011. His first collection of stories *Once you Break a Knuckle* has been published on both sides of the Atlantic this year.

Wilson's stories reveal to us how our best

intentions can be doomed to fail or injure, how our loves can fall short or mislead us, how even friendship can be something dangerously temporary.

*“‘The Dead Roads’ was the stand-out winner of the 2011 BBC Short Story Award. My worry was that it might also be the stand-out story in this debut collection, but no – the standard is consistently, astonishingly high throughout.”*

~GEOFF DYER



## Reading & Discussion

# Witi Ihimaera & Lysley Tenorio

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 9.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



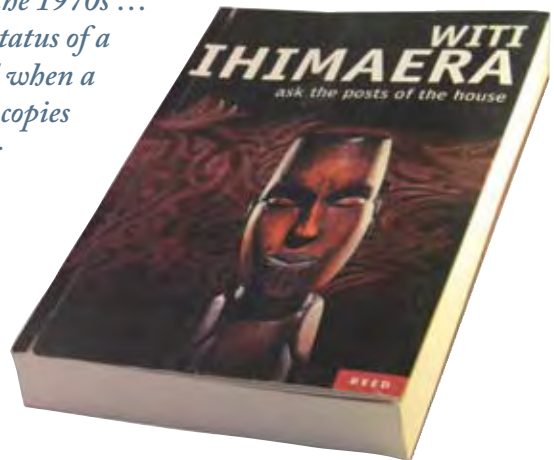
**Witi Ihimaera** is a multi-award-winning novelist descended from various tribes of New Zealand's North Island. His first book, *Pounamu Pounamu*, a collection of stories, was followed by *Tangi* in 1973, which was the first novel by a Māori writer to be published. He is the author of thirteen novels, six collections of short stories and he has edited and compiled some highly regarded anthologies and works of non-fiction. His 1987 novel, *The Whale*

*Rider*, was made into an internationally acclaimed film in 2002. His stories generally portray Māori culture in modern New Zealand and his work often focuses on problems within contemporary Māori and New Zealand society.

*‘Pounamu Pounamu changed the face of literature in Aotearoa New Zealand, paving the way for what would later be known as the Māori Renaissance, an unprecedented flowering and recognition of Māori arts and literature in the 1970s ...*

*The book long ago achieved the status of a platinum bestseller (determined when a book has sold more than 50,000 copies in New Zealand), as have other subsequent books of Witi’s.’*

~FIONA KIDMAN.





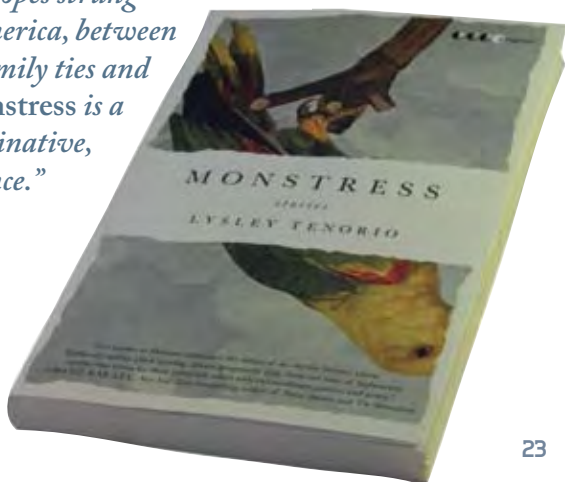


**Lysley Tenorio** is the author of the story collection, *Monstress*, published by Ecco/HarperCollins. His stories have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Zoetrope: All-Story*, *Ploughshares*, *Manoa*, *The Chicago Tribune*, and *The Best New American Voices* and *Pushcart Prize* anthologies. A former Stegner Fellow at Stanford University, he is a recipient of a Whiting Writer's Award, the Nelson Algren Award for Short Fiction, a National Magazine Award nomination, and has received many other fellowships. Born in the Philippines, he currently lives in San Francisco, and teaches at Saint Mary's

College of California. *Monstress* introduces a bold new writer who explores the clash and meld of disparate cultures. Tenorio reveals the lives of people on the outside looking in with rare skill, humour and deep understanding.

*“Tenorio’s characters walk tightropes strung between the Philippines and America, between illusions and reality, between family ties and the need to strike out alone. Monstress is a wonderful read: poignant, imaginative, somehow sad and funny all at once.”*

~ANTHONY DOERR





# Is Flash Fiction a True Literary Art Form or Just Something for Chancers?

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> 2.30pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free

As a promotional gesture, Bloomsbury publishers in London, unilaterally proclaimed 2012 “The Year of the Short Story”. But if anything 2012 has turned out to be the year enthusiasm for **Flash Fiction** has gone viral, with competitions for short fiction pieces less than 500 or 200 words proliferating on radio, television and on the web. 2012 saw the British have their first National Day of Flash Fiction. On the Irish scene Powers Whiskey has offered the dizzying amount of €10,000 for a 450 word short story and the Irish Times started publishing flash fiction on a weekly basis. While the term flash fiction is a relatively recent coining to describe what used to be called short shorts, some people maintain that flash fiction has been around a long, long time and that Kafka and Borges were among the most eminent practitioners of the last century.

For those who feel it impossible to be satisfied by fiction without the meaty verisimilitude of a novel, the short story is a pallid, insubstantial thing. Many short story enthusiasts look similarly askance at flash fiction. This event wishes to examine whether such an attitude has any validity, asking is flash fiction a true literary art form or just something for chancers? Patrick Cotter will lead a selection of festival guest authors in discussion.

## Short Story Showcase

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> 4pm **Grand Parade City Library** | Admission Free



**Short Story Showcase** is an exhibition by major players with a stake in the Irish short story. Exhibitors include the Irish Writers' Centre and key literary journals with a vested interest in keeping the short story alive and kicking in Ireland. *Southword*, *the Stinging Fly* and *the Moth* will all be represented. Come meet and greet the editors and discover some fabulous publications. There may also be the opportunity to meet book publishers and competition organisers.

## Reading & Discussion

# Johanna Skibsrud & Stephanie Powell Watts

Friday 21st 7.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



**Johanna Skibsrud** is the author of the short fiction collection *This Will Be Difficult to Explain and Other Stories* (Hamish Hamilton Canada 2011/William Heinemann 2012); the 2010 Giller Prize winning novel, *The Sentimentalists* (William Heinemann 2011), recently short-listed for the Commonwealth Book Prize and two collections of poetry *Late Nights With Wild Cowboys* (Gaspereau 2008) and *I Do Not Think That I Could Love A Human Being* (Gaspereau 2010). Originally

from Nova Scotia, Canada, Johanna currently lives in Tucson, Arizona where she is working on a second novel.

*“This Will Be Difficult To Explain And Other Stories is every bit as wise, poetic and probing as The Sentimentalists. Characters find themselves embedded in great – often tragically comic – misunderstandings, grappling to communicate with each other while fighting through the fog of their limited perspectives.*

*~Now (TORONTO)*

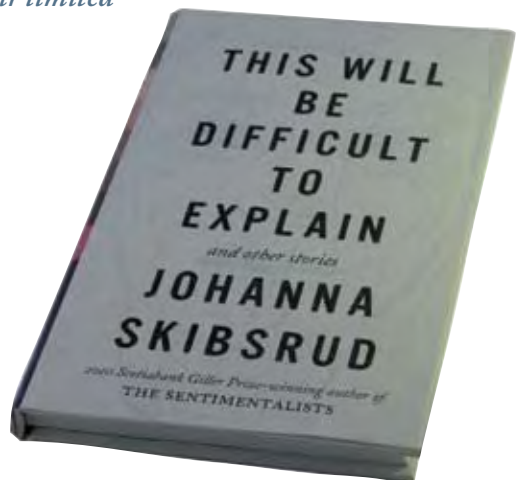


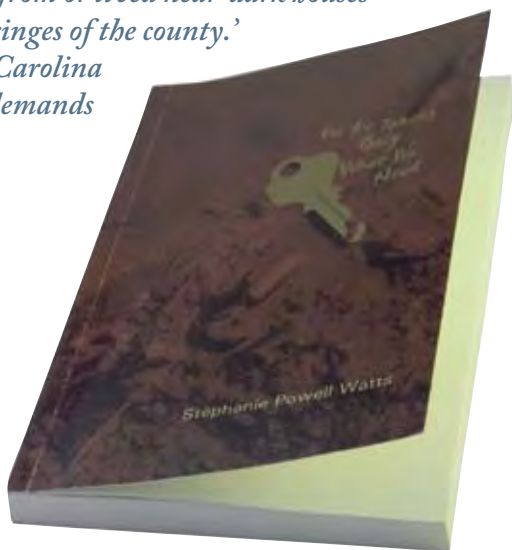
Photo: Doue Benderer



**Stephanie Powell Watts** is an associate professor at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA. Her debut short story collection *We Are Taking Only What We Need* was published earlier this year by BkMk Press of the University of Missouri-Kansas City and has been a 2012 PEN / Hemingway finalist, a Chautauqua award finalist, a finalist for the John Gardner Fiction Book Award, a ForeWord Reviews finalist and a USA BookNews finalist. Her short fiction has appeared in a number of journals and anthologies including the 2008 Pushcart Prize anthology and the 2007 and 2009 editions of the New Stories from the South.

*“In a strong debut Watts chronicles in ten stories the lives of black North Carolinians who come from or lived near ‘dark houses on tangled dirt roads on the fringes of the county.’ The kind of love found in the Carolina Hills – and in these stories – demands tribute.”*

~PUBLISHERS WEEKLY



## Reading & Discussion

# Zsuzsi Gartner & Sarah Hall

Friday 21st 9.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



**Zsuzsi Gartner** is the author of the short fiction collections *Better Living Through Plastic Explosives* and *All the Anxious Girls on Earth*, the editor of *Darwin's Bastards: Astounding Tales from Tomorrow*, and the creative director of Vancouver Review's *Blueprint BC Fiction Series*. Her stories have been widely anthologized and broadcast on CBC and NPR's *Selected Shorts*. She has received numerous nominations and awards for her magazine journalism,

and a 2007 National Magazine Award for fiction. She has been on faculty for the Banff Centre's Literary Arts Programs and is an adjunct faculty member for UBC's Optional Residency MFA in Creative Writing. Zsuzsi lives in Vancouver.

*"Zsuzsi Gartner is a brilliant, mind-expanding writer, the kind who sneaks up on you with her darkness, her wit, her imagination, her humour, her political savvy."*

~THE GLOBE AND MAIL

*"Zsuzsi Gartner's writing is dazzling, effortless and clear as a bell. She's able to crystallize a cultural moment in a way entirely her own that is both instantaneous and eternal."*

~DOUGLAS COUPLAND

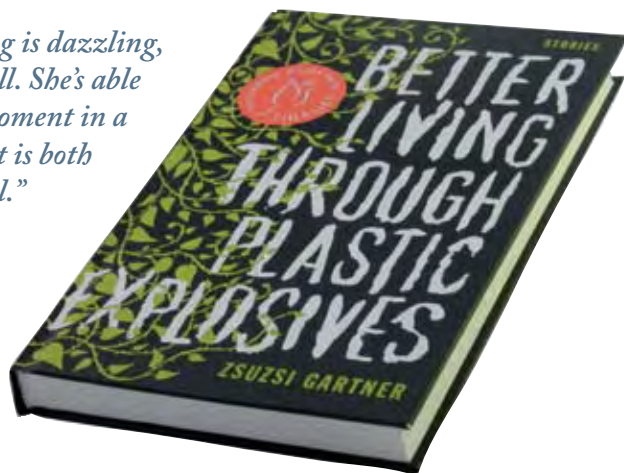


PHOTO: RICHARD THWAITES



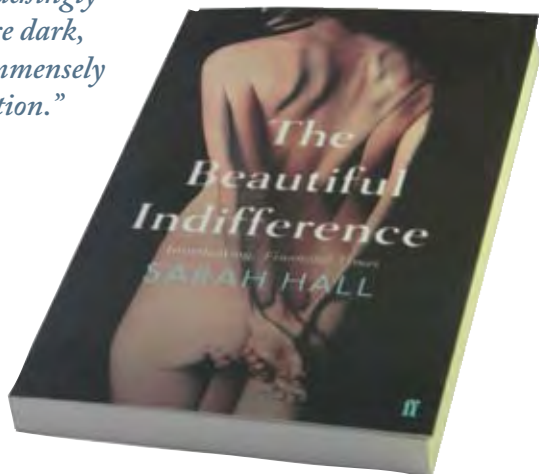
**Sarah Hall** was born in Cumbria in 1974. She is the author of four novels, *Haweswater*, *The Electric Michelangelo*, *The Carhullan Army* and *How to Paint a Dead Man*, and winner of, amongst others, the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the Betty Trask Award, the John Llewellyn Ryhs Prize and the Portico Prize for Fiction. *The Electric Michelangelo* was also shortlisted for the Booker Prize and longlisted for the Orange Prize for Fiction.

*"Monstrous events happen offstage over the course of these seven stories: beatings, maulings, suicide and abandonment. But their force is felt all the more powerfully through the measured precision of Hall's prose, which is always grounded in the exact immediacy of everyday detail."*

~THE GUARDIAN

*"Balancing muscularity with achingly beautiful prose, these stories are dark, raw and heartbreaking. An immensely satisfying and haunting collection."*

~CLARE WIGFALL





# FESTIVALS CORK

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Your online guide to Cork's  
biggest and brightest festivals

[www.festivalscork.com](http://www.festivalscork.com)



## Flash Fiction Rapid Fire

Friday 21st 11pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission Free

In celebration of National Culture Night – a free event consisting of rapid fire readings by a selection of festival authors and specially invited others. Also taking part will be five authors drawn from the Flash Fiction Festival Workshop who will have the opportunity to compete for the Farmgate Cafe €200 flash fiction award. Listen to humour, tragedy and sometimes sheer weirdness. Each story will be less than 500 words long so feel free to stay until midnight or come and go as you please.



# My Mother She Killed Me, My Father He Ate Me

Saturday 22nd 2.30pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



In this event emeritus professor of folklore Gearóid Ó Cruaí leads editor/contributor Kate Bernheimer and contributor Ilya Kaminsky on a discussion of the place of the fairytale in adult reading in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. There will be readings from the book and a chance for questions from the floor.

Neil Gaiman, Michael Cunningham, Neil Labute, Joyce Carol Oates and more than thirty other extraordinary writers celebrate fairy tales in this thrilling volume—the ultimate literary costume party. Spinning houses and talking birds. Whispered secrets and borrowed hope. Here are new stories sewn from old skins, gathered from around the world by visionary author and editor **Kate Bernheimer** and inspired by everything from Hans Christian Andersen’s “The Snow Queen” and “The Little Match Girl” to Charles Perrault’s “Bluebeard” and “Cinderella” to the Brothers Grimm’s “Hansel and Gretel” and “Rumpelstiltskin” to fairy tales by Goethe and Calvino. Fairy tales are our oldest literary tradition, and yet they chart the imaginative frontiers of the twenty-first century as powerfully as they evoke our earliest encounters with literature. This exhilarating collection restores their place in the literary canon.

*“I cannot remember a time I had more fun reading a book! Many of these contemporary tales rival the originals in creepiness, joy, and impact.”*

~ DARCEY STEINKE





**Gearóid Ó Crualaíoch** is a Cork born graduate in Arts from UCC and an alumnus in Folklore and Anthropology from the Pennsylvania U and the L.S.E. Author of *The Book of the Cailleach: Stories of the Wise-Woman healer*. C.U.P. (2003), he has published various articles in Irish and English on the literary qualities of traditional narrative and on traditional life-cycle ritual. Until retirement, he was head of the Department of Béaloideas/Folklore and Ethnology at UCC.

**Kate Bernheimer** was born in Massachusetts and teaches a graduate fiction workshop at the University of Louisiana as their Writer in Residence. She lives and writes in the American Southwest the rest of the year. She concluded her trilogy of novels last year with the publication of *The Complete Tales of Lucy Gold*. She has published a story collection called *Horse, Flower, Bird*, which according to Booklist “redefines the fairy tale into something wholly original”. She is founder and editor of *Fairy Tale Review*. She has also written for children.



**Ilya Kaminsky** was born in Odessa, former Soviet Union in 1977. In 1993, his family received asylum from the American government and went to the United States. He has published several poetry collections including the multi-award winning *Dancing In Odessa*. Due to a childhood illness Kaminsky is deaf but this has not stopped him becoming renowned for the mesmeric qualities of his live readings which are delivered in a highly emotive Eastern European Shamanistic style.

## Reading & Discussion

# Kevin Barry & Will Boast

Saturday 22nd 4.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6



**Kevin Barry** is the author of the story collections *Dark Lies The Island* and *There Are Little Kingdoms* and the novel *City Of Bohane*. He recently won the Sunday Times EFG Short Story Prize. He has also been awarded the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature and was shortlisted for the Costa First Novel Prize and the Hughes & Hughes Irish Novel of the Year. His stories have appeared in *the New Yorker*, *Best European Fiction*, *the Granta Book of the Irish Short Story* and many other

journals and anthologies. His plays have been performed in Ireland and the US. He also works on screenplays, essays, and graphic stories. He lives in County Sligo.



PHOTO: DAN HUDSON



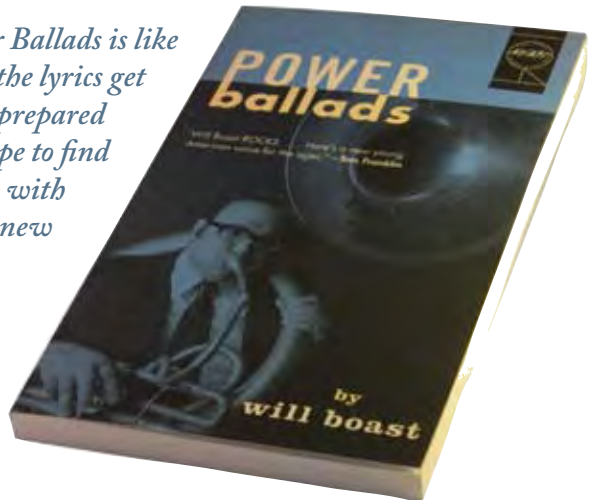
**Will Boast** was born in England and grew up in Ireland and Wisconsin and currently lives in San Francisco. His story collection, *Power Ballads*, won the 2011 Iowa Short Fiction Award. His fiction and essays have appeared in *Best New American Voices*, *Narrative*, *Salon*, *Glimmer Train*, *The American Scholar*, and *The New York Times*, among other publications. He's been a Stegner Fellow in fiction at Stanford University and a Charles Pick Fellow at the University of East Anglia.

He's currently working on both a novel and a memoir.

*Power Ballads* is not only a deeply felt look at the lives of musicians but also an exploration of the secret music that plays inside us all.

*“Reading the stories in Power Ballads is like getting to know a new band: the lyrics get to you when you feel the least prepared and you laugh and cry and hope to find someone who laughs and cries with you. Will Boast is an exciting new voice.”*

~YIYUN LI



## Reading & Discussion

# Fiona Kidman & Éilís Ní Dhuibhne

Saturday 22nd 7.15pm **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €8 & €6

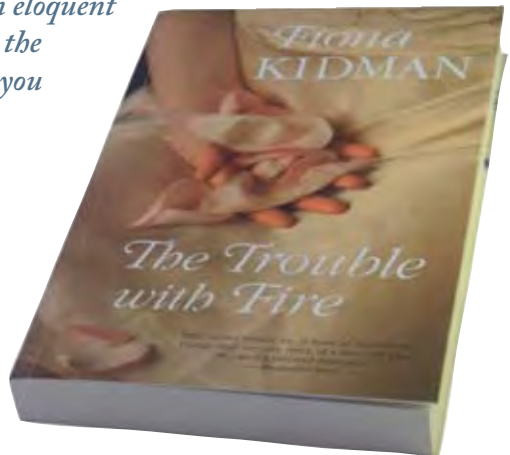


**Fiona Kidman** has written more than twenty books, mainly novels and collections of short stories. Her most recent novel, *The Captive Wife*, was a joint winner of the Readers' Choice Award and a finalist for the Deutz Medal for Fiction at the 2006 Montana New Zealand Book Awards. Among her awards are the Mobil Short Story Award, the Victoria University Writers Fellowship, and the OBE for services to literature. Fiona Kidman is a Dame Commander of the New Zealand Order of Merit, a Chevalier

de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, and a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honour. She lives in Wellington.

*"We cannot talk about writing in New Zealand without acknowledging her... Kidman's accessible prose and the way she shows (mainly) women grappling to escape from restricting social pressures has guaranteed her a permanent place in our fiction... Her writing is candid and encompassing...an eloquent portrayal of time passing and the acceptance that the place that you start from shifts and alters."*

~NEW ZEALAND BOOKS





**Éilís Ní Dhuibhne** was born in Dublin and is a graduate of UCD. She has Ph.D in Irish Folklore and her interest in folklore informs much of her own writing. She worked for many years as a librarian and now teaches creative writing at Trinity College Dublin and for the Faber Writing Academy. She has published more than twenty books, including six collections of short stories. She writes in Irish and English, for adults and children. Her stories are widely translated

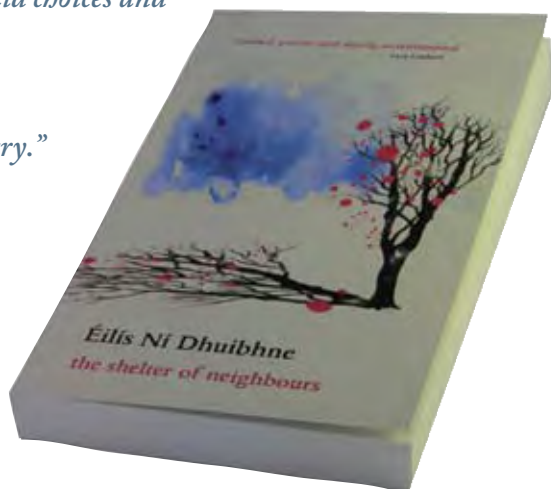
and anthologized, most recently in the *Granta Book of the Irish Short Story* and in *Best European Fiction 2011*. Her latest collection of short stories, *The Shelter of Neighbours* (Blackstaff Press), was published in March 2012. She has been the recipient of many awards including the Stuart Parker Award, three Bisto Awards and several Oireachtas awards.

*“Fiction, graced with head-versus-heart knowingness, about people on whom Ireland imposes timid choices and straitened lives.”*

~ THE NEW YORK TIMES

*“Her prose shimmers like poetry.”*

~ EDNA O'BRIEN, THE OBSERVER



## A Reading & Discussion

# John Banville & Lydia Davis

Saturday 22nd 9.15pm, **Triskel Christchurch** | Admission €15 & €13

PHOTO: DOUGLAS BANVILLE



**John Banville** was born in Wexford in Ireland in 1945. Regarded as the most stylistically elaborate Irish writer of his generation, John Banville is a philosophical novelist concerned with the nature of perception, the conflict between imagination and reality, and the existential isolation of the individual. He has published one short story collection *Long Lankin*. His latest novel is entitled *Ancient Light*. He has been a recipient of the Booker Prize,

the James Tait Black Memorial Prize, the Guardian Fiction Prize, the Premio Nonino and the Franz Kafka Prize. He is sometimes mistaken for the novelist Benjamin Black.





Photo: Theo Corte



**Lydia Davis** is an American story writer, novelist, and translator. She is the author of six collections of stories and one novel, *The End of the Story* and most recently *The Collected Stories of Lydia Davis*. She is also the translator of numerous works of avant-garde French literature, including fiction by Maurice Blanchot and the autobiographical essays of Michel Leiris, as well as the Penguin Classic: *Swann's Way* by Marcel Proust (Penguin UK, 2002) and *Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert (Penguin UK, 2010). Among many other honours, she was named a Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French government in 1999 and was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in 2003. She currently teaches at SUNY Albany and New York University.



## Presentation of the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award and Sean O'Faolain Prize

with a reading and interview by the O'Connor laureate: Nathan Englander

Sunday 23rd 7.30pm Triskel Christchurch Admission €10 & €8

First presented in 2005 when Cork City was European Capital of Culture the **Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award** remains, at €25,000, the world's most lucrative award for a collection of short stories. By the high calibre of its past winners (Yiyun Li, Haruki Murakami, Miranda July, Jhumpa Lahiri, Simon Van Booy, Ron Rash and Edna O'Brien) it has carved out a place for itself as the world's most prestigious international short story award. Established and presented by the Munster Literature Centre it is generously funded by Cork City Council. This year's judges include the poet James Harpur, the novelist Mary Leland and the literary programmer Ann Luttrell.

**The Sean O'Faolain Prize** is worth €2,000 and is presented each year to the best single short story under 3,000 words entered in competition. This year's judge has been Ian Wild and at time of going to press the winner is unknown.



AN EXHIBITION OF THE  
WORK OF RENOWNED  
PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN  
MINIHAN SHALL TAKE  
PLACE IN CITY HALL,  
CORK FROM SEPTEMBER  
6TH TO NOVEMBER 30TH

**O'Connor Laureate**

## Nathan Englander



**Nathan Englander** is the author of the story collections *What We Talk About when We Talk About Anne Frank* and *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*, as well as the novel *The Ministry of Special Cases*. In 2012, along with the publication of *What We Talk About*, Englander's play *The Twenty-Seventh Man* premiered at The Public Theater, and his translation *New American Haggadah* (edited by Jonathan Safran Foer) was published by Little Brown. He also co-translated Etgar Keret's *Suddenly A Knock at the Door*. He lives in Brooklyn, New York and Madison, Wisconsin.



The jury for the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award were taken by Englander's powerful, resonant, collection of credible stories.

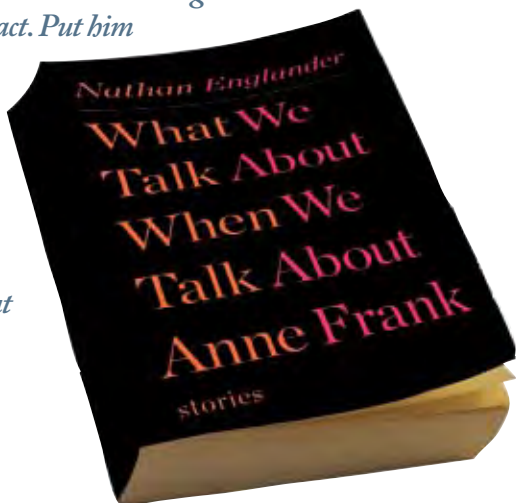
They were impressed by the seasoned maturity shown by the author in stories multi-layered in meaning and written in an austere, contemporary idiom applied to ancient ethnic themes.

*"Courageous and provocative. Edgy and timeless. In Englander's hands, storytelling is a transformative act. Put him alongside Singer, Carver, and Munro. Englander is, quite simply, one of the very best we have."*

-COLUM McCANN

*"The depth of Englander's feeling is the thing that separates him from just about everyone."*

-DAVE EGGERS





# Workshops

## General Information

All workshops will run concurrently Wednesday 19th to Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 9.30am to 12.30pm, at a number of venues in Cork City centre, each no more than a ten minute walk from the main festival venue: the Triskel Arts Centre on South Main Street. The exact venue for each workshop will be determined by the number of participants and mobility considerations. **Maximum number of participants in each workshop is 15.**

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

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

Refunds will be given only if a workshop is cancelled.

The workshop charge is €150. All workshop participants will be offered a 50% discount on festival reading tickets which go on sale in late July.

Participants with booked places will be informed in early September of exact venue. Any other relevant requirements

such as reading materials or submitted work (as indicated in some workshop descriptions) will be communicated to you in good time.

**As workshops sell out notification of such will be posted on [www.corkshortstory.net](http://www.corkshortstory.net)**

## How to Book

**We will be accepting workshop bookings from Monday April 16th.**

*Phone + 353 (021)4312955 Email [info@munsterlit.ie](mailto:info@munsterlit.ie)*

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

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

A separate, detailed Workshop Prospectus which includes descriptions of the sessions day by day and biographical information on all the tutors is available to be downloaded from [www.corkshortstory.net](http://www.corkshortstory.net) You may also check this website to see which workshops are booked out

## Short Stories for Beginners

COURSE TUTOR: NUALA NÍ CHONCHÚIR

This workshop is suitable for the first-time writer as well as those who have been writing for a while. The classes will provide a structured guide to short fiction writing. Participants will receive a daily handout at each workshop. There will also be the chance to discuss writing competitions, publishing opportunities, agents etc.

## Advanced Short Story Writing

COURSE TUTOR: ÉILÍS NÍ DHUIBHNE

This four day masterclass on the short story is suitable for writers who have already written and published short stories.

In the course of the workshops, we will examine and discuss the evolution of the modern short story, from Chekhov to Kevin Barry. Examples of great short stories by Irish and international authors will be analysed from a writerly point of view. Participants' own stories will be reviewed, using structured review guidelines.

If you are passionate about writing the short story, have experience of writing it, but would like to enhance your knowledge, share your experience of writing and reading, and hone your skills in a sympathetic and knowledgeable environment, this masterclass will suit you.

You will be invited to submit a short story, not longer than 3000 words, for review at the workshops. You will also be asked to read specific short stories in advance of the

classes, and be prepared to participate in discussions and workshop sessions.

## Writing Flash Fiction

COURSE TUTOR: TANIA HERSHMAN

Flash fiction: the shortest of short stories, the short story distilled to its essence — but also in many ways its own form, one that has been around for decades, with Borges, Kafka, Raymond Carver, Margaret Atwood and Richard Brautigan as some of its many proponents. Sometimes called microfiction, nanofiction, short shorts, ultra-short stories and even prose poems, we will be taking an in-depth look at the what, why, how and who of flash fiction and embracing brevity ourselves. You will have at least 4 complete flash stories by the end of the week to submit to the many publications and contests that want your flash!

## Writing Contemporary Fairy Tales

COURSE TUTOR: KATE BERNHEIMER

This workshop is suitable for any writer who likes fairy tales from any tradition or time, and whether by Oscar Wilde, Angela Carter, the Brothers Grimm or any number of other practitioners around the world. In this workshop you will learn more about fairy-tale techniques. This craft workshop is suitable for writers from published to emerging and new, realist to fabulist, and mainstream to experimental — for fairy tales lend themselves freely to all. Through reading, discussion, and brief writing exercises, we will work with the basic techniques of fairy tales. These



Society of St Vincent de Paul

**SVP, Ozanam House, 2 Tuckey St, Cork Tel: 021-4270444**

**Email: [info@svpcork.ie](mailto:info@svpcork.ie) [www.svp.ie](http://www.svp.ie)**

## HOW WE CAN HELP

If you need support with any of the following please do not hesitate to contact the Society of St Vincent de Paul we may be able to help

Visitation: Home; Hospital;

Prison

Budgeting

Resource Centres

Holiday Breaks

Education Grants

After School Projects

Breakfast Clubs

Youth Clubs

Hostels

Social Housing Projects

Outreach Work

Job Assistance

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

**Volunteer:** Home Visitation,  
Event Volunteering  
SVP Shops

**Fundraise:** Donate: Online at [svp.ie](http://svp.ie)  
Cheque  
Direct Debit  
Gift Certificates

Run an Event

Set up your own Fundraising Page on [www.svp.ie](http://www.svp.ie)



There's a wealth of music programming throughout the week on RTÉ lyric fm.



**Marty in the Morning  
(Mon-Fri, 7am-10am)**

Join Marty Whelan from 7am each weekday morning for a classic blend of music and entertainment with regular celebrity guests, news and travel updates.

For traffic calming at its best try music, music and more music with a little fun along the way!



**Niall Carroll's  
Classical Daytime  
(Mon-Fri, 10am-2pm)**

For the ideal accompaniment to your day, join Niall for four hours of great music from the heart of the classical repertoire. Plus, take time out for the Coffee Concert each morning at 11.00am.



**The John Kelly Ensemble  
(Mon-Fri, 2pm-4pm)**

John Kelly is essential listening for lovers of great music. From Bach to Brian Eno, from Billie Holiday to Sigur Rós, transform your afternoons with a sonic adventure like no other.



**Liz Nolan's Classic Drive  
(Mon-Fri, 4pm-7pm)**

The perfect soundtrack to your journey home accompanied by news, traffic, business and entertainment, plus Culture File each day at 6.40pm - a daily guide to creativity in the world around us.



**The Lyric Concert  
with Paul Herriott  
(Mon-Fri, 8pm-10pm)**

Full orchestral and chamber music concerts from Ireland and abroad, from baroque to modern, with great soloists and ensembles.



**The Blue of the Night with  
Carl Corcoran (Mon-Thurs)  
and Eamonn Lenihan  
(Fri -Sun), 10pm-1am**

Relax into the Blue of the Night's pick of the best tunes and songs from the ancient to the contemporary.

E: [lyric@rte.ie](mailto:lyric@rte.ie)

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include, but are not limited to: flatness, everyday magic, intuitive logic, equivalency, and abstraction. Working from a series of very short traditional tales, you will produce new prose works. This workshop welcomes writers of all styles interested in going under the influence of wonder.

Participants will receive a daily handout at each workshop. We will also have an opportunity to look at and discuss the many international journals that publish work that can be considered fairy-tale fiction; we will compare their different editorial lenses with an eye toward making submissions. You will also receive suggested reading lists for further investigation of this brilliant art form.

### **Writing Short Stories For Young People**

COURSE TUTORS: SIOBHAN PARKINSON & KEVIN

STEVENS

This course may be of interest to writers who have experience of writing for adults, but it is primarily designed for novice writers interested in writing for young audiences.

Each day's work begins with reading a poem together. The idea here is to help students to relax into a writing frame of mind by enjoying a short but complete piece of writing together and to allow them to exchange ideas about a piece of writing for which they are not responsible.





# The Gregory O'Donoghue International Poetry Competition *for a single poem*



2012 winner Suji Kwock Kim

**1st Prize €1000,**  
publication in  
***Southword Journal***  
and a trip to **Cork, Ireland\***.

\*( $\$1253.92$  USD/  $\pounds806.80$  GBP @ xe.com on 11th June 2012; The MLC will subvent travel costs for the winner up to  $\pounds600$  and provide hotel accommodation and meals for three days during the **Cork Spring Poetry Festival.**)

**2nd Prize €500, publication in *Southword***

**3rd Prize €250, publication in *Southword***

Ten runners-up published in *Southword* and receive  $\pounds30$  publication fee.

2013 Judge:

**Thomas McCarthy, author of  
*The Last Geraldine Officer***

*Deadline 15 December 2012*



*Brought to you by the Munster Literature Centre & the Cork Spring Poetry Festival*

For more info, email [info@munsterlit.ie](mailto:info@munsterlit.ie)  
[www.munsterlit.ie](http://www.munsterlit.ie)

