

Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival

26th
–
29th
March
2020

THE STATE OF US

Festival
Programme

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Welcome by An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Shay Brennan



I am delighted to welcome you to Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival, the 12th year of a festival which has rapidly become one of the highlights of Ireland's literary calendar.

In advance of the Festival to celebrate International Women's Day, we have a truly fantastic line-up including one of our favourite chefs and food writers Darina Allen, followed by the courageous Vicky Phelan, author and campaigner – both Darina and Vicky are exceptional Irish voices who we look forward to welcoming to Dún Laoghaire.

The Festival is crammed full of wonderful fiction authors such as DLR locals Colum McCann and Anne Enright, Clare residents Niall Williams and Mike Hanrahan and we especially welcome Belfast Stories from Lucy Caldwell and Wendy Erskine in the company of Paul McVeigh. We look forward to meeting Christy Lefteri and Louise Doughty too on their first visit to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. In this election year and centenary of the Government of Ireland Act, we reflect on the current international state of play in our non-fiction programme, Present Tense. We link past and present through the eyes of Fintan O'Toole, newly elected Claire Hanna of the SDLP, Raja Shehadeh and Kavita Puri.

Our poetry programme once again takes centre stage with The Irish Times Poetry Now and Shine Strong Poetry Awards as always key to the Festival. In 2020 we feature renowned poets Paul Muldoon, Jane Clarke, Enda Wyley, Jackie Kay and we are really delighted to welcome the legendary Peggy Seeger. We are also delighted to welcome Carol Ann Duffy with her daughter Ella who has just been published for the first time. As always music

features and we look forward to hearing from Danny Diamond with poet Tom French, the wonderful Octavia poets and Lisa Lambe who will appear with Paul Muldoon.

Our Adopt an Author programme has grown and we are delighted to work with such a wonderful array of children's writers including Michael Rosen, Patricia Forde, Shane Hegarty, Chris Judge and the dlr Writer in Residence, Sadhbh Devlin.

Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival partners with many creative individuals and organisations and in particular I would like to thank the Irish Times and Shine for their continued support. I would also like to thank our fantastic venues particularly the Pavilion Theatre in Dún Laoghaire and the dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum.

On behalf of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council I would like to welcome all our participants and visitors to Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival 2020 and wish you all a most enjoyable Festival.

Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach, an Comhairleoir Shay Brennan

Tá áthas orm fáilte a chur romhat chuig an dara bliain déag de 'O Chuan go Sliabh', féile leabhar de chuid Chomhairle Contae Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin atá anois ar cheann de bhuaicphointí fhéilire iteartha na hÉireann.

Roimh an bhFéile, chun ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar Ld Idirnáisiúnta na mBen, tá clár fíormhath againn, lena n-áirítear duine de na cócairí agus scríbhneoirí bia is fearr linn, Darina Allen, agus ansin t-udair agus feachtasóir cróga, Vicky Phelan – beirt ghuthanna eisceachtúla iad Darina agus Vicky agus táimid ag súil go mór le fáilte a chur rompu go Dún Laoghaire.

Tá clár na Féile lán le húdair iontachta ficsin amhail na scríbhneoirí áitiúla Colum McCann agus Anne Enright, an bheirt Niall Williams agus Mike Hanrahan atá ag cur fúthu sa Chlár, agus cuirimid fáilte speisialta roimh Belfast Stories le Lucy Caldwell agus Wendy Erskine, i gcuideachta Paul McVeigh. Táimid ag súil go mór le féilte a chur roimh Christy Lefteri agus Louise Doughty ar a gcéad chuairt ar Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin. I mbliain seo an toghchóin agus an chomórtas céad bliain ar an Acht um Rialú na hÉireann, déanaimid machnamh ar an staid reatha idirnáisiúnta inár gclár neamhficsin, Present Tense. Ceanglamid an t-am atá thart agus an t-am romhainn trí shuíle Fintan O'Toole, an MP nuachtófa Claire Hanna de chuid an SDLP, Raja Shehadeh agus Kavita Puri.

Beidh ár gclár fillochta i lár an oinoigh arís, agus beidh na duaiséanna Irish Times Poetry Now agus Shine Strong Poetry Awards lárnach don fhéile mar is gnáth. I 2020, beidh na fill clúiteacha Paul Muldoon, Jane Clarke, Enda Wyley agus Jackie Kay le cloisteáil agus tá an-áthas orainn fáilte a chur roimh

an gceoltóir mór le rá, Peggy Seeger. Tá áthas orainn chomh maith fáilte a chur roimh Carol Ann Duffy lena hiníon Ella a bhfuil saothar léi díreach foilsithe den chéad uair. Mar is gnáth beidh ceol le cloisteáil ag an bhFéile agus táimid ag súil go mór le Danny Diamond a chloisteáil in éineacht leis an bhfíle Tom French, na fill iontachta Octavia, agus Lisa Lambe in éineacht le Paul Muldoon.

Tá ár gclár 'Adopt an Author' tar éis fás agus tá áthas orainn a bheith ag obair le réimse iontach de scríbhneoirí do leanóid, lena n-áirítear Michael Rosen, Patricia Forde, Shane Hegarty, Chris Judge agus Scríbhneoir Conraithe Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin, Sadhbh Devlin.

Tá méirín daoine agus eagraíochtaí cruthaitheacha mar pháirtithe ag an bhFéile leabhar 'O Chuan go Sliabh' agus ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil go háirithe leis an Irish Times agus le Shine as a geuid tacaíochta leanúnaí. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil chomh maith leis na hionadair iontachta, go háirithe Amharclann an Pavillion i nDún Laoghaire agus Amharclann an Mhúilinn i nDún Droim.

Thar ceann Chomhairle Contae Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin, ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur roimh ár geuid rampháirtithe agus cuairteoirí go léir chuig 'O Chuan go Sliabh', féile leabhar dlr, agus guímid go mbainfidh sibh ardtaitheamh as an bhFéile.



The present rearranges the past. We never tell the story whole because a life isn't a story; it's a whole Milky Way of events and we are forever picking out constellations from it to fit who and where we are.

Rebecca Solnit

Welcome to Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival as we, in the company of our 2020 guest Rebecca Solnit, take our annual springtime look at the range of constellations, the Milky Way of events, real and imagined, related to us by our many 2020 festival guests. The theme of this year's festival 'The state of us' is as much a question as a statement, an acknowledgement of uncertainty. As we consider how we are faring out in these changing times and take stock of where we are, we celebrate the power of words to stimulate, unite, delight, inspire and agitate.

Through poetry, novels and non-fiction events, M2C 2020 brings you an entertaining programme of conversations, featuring some of our best known and loved authors including, all the way from the USA, Curtis Sittenfeld along with Mary Cregan for a discussion of her hugely popular book *The Scar*. James Shapiro joins us to explore Shakespeare in America and the Bard's enduring ability to shed light on human nature. We have rich pickings where novels are concerned with splendid new tales to explore from Anne Enright, Colum McCann, Louise Doughty, Christy Lefteri and Niall Williams.

Poetry, as always, plays a starring role and this year's Lyric Note welcomes Lenn Sissay, Danny Diamond and Tom French, the Octavia Poetry Collective, Nidhi Zak, Peggy Seeger and Jackie Kay, Colette Bryce, Enda Wyley and Maureen Boyle. New voices Rachel Mann and Ned Denny share the stage with Shine Strong 2020 judge Tom McCarthy. We'll have readings from our shortlisted Shine Strong and Irish Times Poetry Now poets as usual and poet in residence Nell Regan will be present over the days of the festivals to host, workshop and hopefully pen a few poetic observations of her own.

In 2020, we thread our theme through Present Tense, our non-fiction strand commencing on March 6th with International Women's Day with two exceptional voices, Darina Allen, one of Ireland's food writers alongside the heroic Vicky Phelan, fearless advocate for women's health. We reflect on the twin "populist" explosions that occurred in 2016 in Britain and the USA. Politics on both sides of the Atlantic continually feed news cycles with the same mixture of apprehension and disbelief, painting portraits of extremely polarised countries. This year, we



explore the meaning of this polarisation and how it is reflected elsewhere, close to home in Northern Ireland and as far away as India and Pakistan as well as in Palestine and Israel. What's at stake for the global community, if a global community exists at all, from 2020 on? Expect to hear fascinating insights from Raja Shehadeh, Nikesha Shukla and Kavita Puri, Fintan O'Toole and Bridget Laffan, Malachi O'Doherty and newcomer Claire Hanna of the SDLP, Clare Daly, MEP and Peadar Kirby. We are honoured to host Rebecca Solnit who writes 'with cerebral ferocity' about everything from her knowledge of human culture, literature, wandering, politics, environment, myth, fairy tale, and the act of writing.

The legendary Michael Rosen pays a visit this year. Who amongst us doesn't own a well-thumbed copy of *We're going on a Bear Hunt* which this year celebrates its 30th birthday? We welcome Shane Hegarty, Patricia Forde, dlr Writer in Residence Sadhbh Devlin and Chris Judge who will visit schools, surprise and delight and encourage younger readers to craft tales of their own.

In 2020, we hope to challenge you to pick up a different kind of book, engage with an unfamiliar subject or to hear a different side to a familiar argument. So do join us, we look forward to welcoming you.

Liz Kelly
Programme Director
Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival 2020

STATE

THE

OF
US

Events at a glance

International Women's Day

An equal world is an enabled world. Let's all be #EachForEqual

—Page 12

Present Tense

We look at borders and the continuing polarisation of states.

—Page 28

The State of Us

Join us as we take stock of where we are, and consider how we are coping in these ever changing times.

—Page 14

Schools & Families

Come along and meet your favourite authors! Read, draw, play and create with us!

—Page 32

The Lyric Note

Poetry and music take centre stage under our spotlight.

—Page 20




Workshops

Hone your craft with guidance from our writers.







—Page 36

Friday 06.03









International Women's Day

 Time	Event	Venue	Page
18:30–19:30	 Food for the Soul with Darina Allen & Sarah Maria Griffin	d/r Lexicon, Level 4	13
20:30–21:30	 Vicky Phelan in conversation with Maia Dunphy	d/r Lexicon, Level 4	13


Thursday 26.03

 Time	Event	Venue	Page
11:00–12:00	 Schools: Family Traditions with Sadhbh Devlin	d/r Lexicon, Level 4	33
11:00–12:00	 Schools: <i>Booz!</i> with Shane Hegarty	d/r Mill Theatre	33
19:00–20:00	 The State of Home: Roja Shehadeh & Penny Johnson with Susan McKay	d/r Lexicon, The Studio	29
20:30–21:30	 True American: Curtis Sittenfeld in conversation with Maia Dunphy	d/r Lexicon, Level 4	15
21:30–22:30	 Festival club: What to bring when we leave with Tom French and Danny Diamond	Library Bar, Hoddington Hotel	21

Friday 27.03

 Time	Event	Venue	Page
11:00–12:00	 Schools: The World of Tiny and Teeny with Chris Judge	d/r Lexicon, The Studio	34
11:00–12:00	 Schools: Beag Bideacht with Sadhbh Devlin	d/r Lexicon, Level 4	34
11:00–12:00	 Schools: Mother Tongue with Patricia Forde	d/r Mill Theatre	34
14:00–15:30	 Poetry workshop with Nell Regan	d/r Lexicon, Rm 4, Level 5	36
16:00–17:00	 Róllickir 'Rhymes with Michael Rosen	Pavilion Theatre	35
19:00–20:00	 <i>Apeirgon</i> : Colum McCann with Síle Ní Chionnaígh Rami Elhannan and Bassam Aramin	Pavilion Theatre	15
21:00–22:00	 Lemn Sissy – My Name is Why with Evelyn O'Rourke	Pavilion Theatre	21

Saturday 28.03

	Event	Venue	Page
10:00–11:30	● PolITICAL writing Workshops with Malachi O'Doherty	dlr Lexicon, Room 4, Level 5	36
10:30–11:30	● Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival / Irish Times Poetry Now Awards	dlr Lexicon, Level 4	22
10:30–12:00	● American Bookclub with Curtis Sittenfeld	dlr Lexicon, Room 3, Level 5	36
11:00–12:00	● Murder most foul: Jane Casey/ Catherine Ryan Howard with Sinead Crowley	Pavilion Theatre	16
11:00–12:00	● Mary Cregan in conversation with Prof. Cláirdn Benson	dlr Lexicon, The Studio	29
11:00–14:00	● Tiny & Teeny drop in event with Chris Judge	dlr Lexicon Level 3	35
12:00–13:00	● Mnd Amháin: New poetry writing from Enda Wyley, Maureen Boyle and Jane Clarke	dlr Lexicon, Project Room, Level 3	22
12:30–13:30	● The State of India: Kavita Puri and Nikesh Shukla	dlr Lexicon, Level 4	29
13:30–14:30	● Belfast Stories: Paul McVeigh with Wendy Erskine & Lucy Caldwell	dlr Lexicon, Room 3, Level 5	16
13:30–14:30	● The Beekeeper of Aleppo Christy Lefteri with Sorcha Pollak	Pavilion Theatre	16
14:00–15:00	● Beyond the World of War: Peadar King with Clare Daly MEP	dlr Lexicon, Project Room, Level 3	30
14:00–15:30	● Family Traditions workshop with Sadhbh Devlin	dlr Lexicon, Room 1, Level 3	35
15:00–16:00	● Octavia Poetry Collective	dlr Lexicon, The Studio	23
16:00–17:00	● The State of the EU: Fintan O'Toole Bridget Laffan with Catriona Crowe	Pavilion Theatre	30
16:00–17:00	● Thomas McCarthy's Poetry Hour	dlr Lexicon, Project Room, Level 3	24
16:00–17:00	● The YA Word: Brian Conaghan Nikesh Shukla & Elaine Feaney	dlr Lexicon, Room 3, Level 5	17
17:00–18:00	● Carol Ann Duffy with Ella Duffy. Hosted by Olivia O'Leary	dlr Lexicon, Level 4	24
18:00–19:00	● The (dis) United States: what would The Bard say? Professor James Shapiro and Niall MacMonagle	dlr Lexicon, The Studio	30
19:00–20:00	● Anne Enright in conversation with Marjón Richardson	Pavilion Theatre	17
21:00–22:00	● Roots and Radicals: Jackie Kay with Peggy Seeger	Pavilion Theatre	24

Sunday 29.03

	Event	Venue	Page
10:30–12:00	● Maureen Boyle Poetry Workshop	dlr Lexicon, Room 4, Level 5	37
12:00–13:00	● The Shine Strong Poetry Award	dlr Lexicon, The Studio	25
12:00–13:00	● Fifty Years On: the state of the North. Malachi O'Doherty and Claire Hanna	dlr Lexicon, Level 4	31
13:30–14:30	● Colette Bryce and Jackie Kay chaired by Niall MacMonagle	Pavilion Theatre	26
13:30–14:30	● XBorders Refugee: 2020 Showcase	dlr Lexicon, Project Room, Level 3	18
14:30–15:30	● Platform Seven: Louise Doughty with Madeleine Keane	dlr Lexicon, The Studio	18
14:30–15:30	● The Summer Isles: A Voyage of the Imagination. Nell Regan with Philip Marsden	dlr Lexicon, Level 4	26
16:00–17:00	● Rebecca Solnit with Sinead Gleeson	Pavilion Theatre	31
17:00–18:00	● John McCauley, Katie Donovan and Nidhi Zak/Aria Eipe in association with Poetry Ireland	dlr Lexicon, Level 4	27
18:30–19:30	● This is Happiness Niall Williams and Mike Hamrahan	dlr Lexicon, The Studio	19
19:30–20:30	● Feminism Across Borders: Susan McKay	dlr Lexicon Level 4	19
21:00–22:00	● An evening with Paul Muldoon & Lisa Lambe	Pavilion Theatre	27

● The State of Us

● The Lyric Note

● Present Tense

● Schools & Families

● Workshops

International Women's Day

2020

#EachForEqual

We are celebrating International Women's Day 2020 on March 6th. We believe that an equal world is an enabled world.

Women all over the world will focus, for IWD 2020, on how each of us is responsible for our own thoughts and actions — all day, every day.

We can actively choose to challenge stereotypes, fight bias, broaden perceptions, improve situations and celebrate women's achievements.

Collectively, each one of us can help create a gender equal world.

Let's all be #EachForEqual.

Friday
06.03



Food for the Soul with Darina Allen

- **Date:** Friday 06/03
- **Time:** 6.30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Join Darina Allen, Ireland's best-known food ambassador and the bestselling author of *Balypinabe Cookery Course* in conversation with Sarah Maria Griffin, foodie, writer and podcaster as they discuss Darina's long career as writer and educator. Continuing the theme of women's culinary reflections, we will consider how food writing underpins recurring political projects and the theme of equality. Food and its role in the construction of individual, community and larger civic identities will be explored in what promises to be a fascinating discussion. Darina Allen is author of *Forgotten Skills of Cooking*, which won the prestigious André Simon award in 2009. She campaigns for local produce, is a member of Slow Food Ireland and set up Ireland's first farmers' market. She has won many awards including the Guild of Food Writers' Lifetime Achievement award in 2013. •



Vicky Phelan in conversation with Maia Dunphy

- **Date:** Friday 06/03
- **Time:** 8.30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

When Vicky Phelan delivered an emotionally-charged statement from the steps of the Four Courts in April 2018 — having refused to sign a non-disclosure agreement in the settlement of her action against the HSE — she unearthed the medical and political scandal of our times affecting the health and well-being of thousands of Irish women. Did she unearth yet another peculiarly Irish example of how one woman's personal tragedy unleashes a torrent of stories that reveal unequal and unfair treatment of women at the hands of the state? Join Vicky as she shares her inspiring personal story of rare resilience and power with writer and broadcaster, Maia Dunphy. Vicky Phelan is a campaigner and mother. She is a lifelong learner and has always worked in the education field. She credits her education with giving her the tools to take on her greatest challenge — fighting for her life. By going public on her court action against the HSE in 2018, she broke the cervical cancer scandal, where 221 known sufferers, including herself, were not told of a clinical audit that had revised their earlier negative smear tests; their cancers could possibly have been prevented. Since then she has become a household name in Ireland, for her powerful advocacy work to ensure that standards and accountability are brought to bear within the Irish health service so that what happened to her and others cannot happen again. Her memoir *Overcoming* was a number one Irish bestseller and shortlisted for two Irish Book Awards. •

The State of Us

The theme of this year's Festival The State of Us considers how we are faring in these changing times. As we take stock of where we are, we celebrate the power of words to stimulate, unite, delight, inspire and agitate. During M2C 2020, we bring you some of our best-known and loved authors including all the way from the USA, Curtis Sittenfeld. We have rich pickings where novels are concerned with splendid new tales to explore from Anne Enright, Colum McCann, Louise Doughty and Niall Williams.

Thursday

26.03



True American:
Curtis Sittenfeld in
conversation with
Maia Dunphy

- **Date:** Thursday 26/03
- **Time:** 8.30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

With moving insight and uncanny precision, Curtis Sittenfeld writes what we're all thinking—if only we could express it with the wit of a supreme satirist, the enchantment of an old-fashioned storyteller, and the vision of an American original. Join Curtis for this broad

ranging discussion with writer and broadcaster Maia Dunphy, of her five best-selling novels: *Prep*, *The Man of My Dreams*, *American Wife*, *Sisterland* and *Eligible*. We are especially interested in her first short story collection, *You Think It, I'll Say* published in 2018, in which she upends assumptions about class, relationships, and gender roles in a nation that feels both adrift and viscerally divided. On her first visit to Ireland, do not miss an opportunity to hear first-hand from this bestselling American author who has managed the trick of simultaneously being an enormously popular conventional storyteller and a gifted writer of the literary novel. •

Friday

27.03



Apeirigon

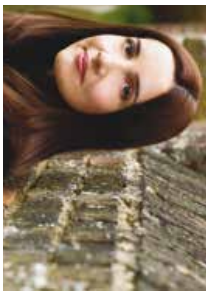
- **Date:** Friday 27/03
- **Time:** 7:00pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Join National Book Award winning author, Colum McCann, Sile Nic Chonaonaigh and special guests Bassam Aramin and Rami Elhanan for a discussion of Colum's most ambitious work to date, *Apeirigon*—named for a shape with a countable infinite number of sides. The novel tells the intertwining stories of Palestinian Bassam Aramin and Israeli Rami Elhanan. They inhabit a world of conflict

that colours every aspect of their daily lives, from the roads they are allowed to drive on, to the schools their daughters, Abir and Smadar, each attend, to the checkpoints, both physical and emotional, they must negotiate. Their worlds shift irrevocably after ten-year-old Abir is killed by a rubber bullet and thirteen-year-old Smadar becomes the victim of suicide bombers. Rami and Bassam will join Colum for this very special discussion of his new novel which he has crafted out of the universe of fictional and non-fictional material, stitching together time, art, history, nature, and politics in a tale both heartbreaking and hopeful. •

Saturday

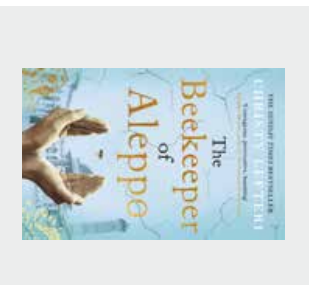
28.03



Murder most foul

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 11:00am
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Join Jane Casey, Catherine Ryan Howard and Sínead Crowley for a wide-ranging discussion of crime writing. One of the most popular genres of literature amongst dlr Library users, this event explores the latest offerings from these much-loved crime writers. Sínead Crowley, herself an award-winning crime writer and Arts correspondent with RTE will chair this event which is sure to prove popular with the Festival audience. •



The Beekeeper of Aleppo. Christy Letteri in conversation with Sorcha Pollak

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 1:30pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Christy Letteri's *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* was born out of her time working as a volunteer at a UNICEF-supported refugee centre in Athens. This unforgettable novel puts a human face on the Syrian war with the immigrant story of Nuri, a beekeeper, his wife, Afra an artist, and the triumph of spirit when the world becomes unrecognisable and all they love is destroyed by war. Escaping Syria will be no easy task: Afra has lost her sight, leaving Nuri to navigate her grief as well as a perilous journey through Turkey and Greece toward an uncertain future in Britain. "Courageous and provocative, *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* is a beautifully-crafted novel of international significance that has the capacity to have us open our eyes and see." —Heather Morris, author of *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*. •



Belfast Stories

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 1:30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Room 3, Level 5
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Chaired by novelist Paul McVeigh, we are pleased to welcome two of Belfast's most compelling voices, Wendy Erskine and Lucy Caldwell for discussion and readings from *Belfast Stories*. This collection of short fiction presents a composite view of local life which invites us to view Belfast afresh through the imaginations of some of its finest writers. Join us and hear each of our guests pay homage to contemporary Belfast in all its vivacity, multiplicity, and complexity. •



The YA Word

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 4:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Room 3, Level 5
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

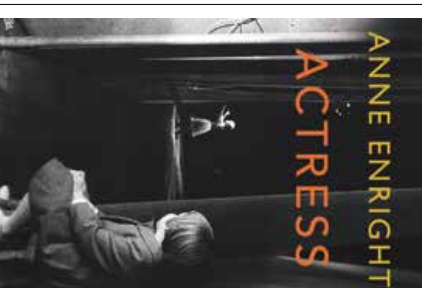
Young Adult fiction is intended for people below the age of 18 but over half of its readers are actually older. Our guests are Brian Conaghan and Nikesh Shukla whose novels and podcasts tackle real issues (mental health, sexuality, drug addiction) that young people are facing now. In Brian Conaghan's *The M Word*, Maggie has taken so many hard knocks she's earned the nickname Conker. Both Brian and Nikesh's YA novel *Coconut Unlatched* masterfully capture the voices of closed off teenagers. Join novelist and poet Elaine Feeney as she explores Brian and Nikesh's novels and podcasts in a wide ranging conversation about grief, resilience and hope. •



Anne Enright in conversation with Marian Richardson

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 7:00pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Anne Enright's latest novel *Atress* is described as a brilliant and moving novel about fame, sexual power, and a daughter's search to understand her mother's hidden truths. Anne tells the story of Irish theatre legend, Katherine O'Dell, as written by her daughter Norah, of early stardom in Hollywood, of highs and lows on the stages of Dublin and London's West End. Katherine's life is a grand performance, with young Norah watching from the wings. "This romance between mother and daughter cannot survive Katherine's past, or the world's damage. As Norah uncovers her mother's secrets, she acquires a



few of her own. *Atress* is about a daughter's search for the truth: the dark secret in the bright star, and what drove Katherine finally mad. Brilliantly capturing the glamour of post-war America and the shabbiness of 1970s Dublin, *Atress* is an intensely moving, disturbing novel about mothers and daughters and the men in their lives. •

Sunday

29.03



XBorders Refuge: 2020 Showcase

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 1.30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Project Room, Level 3
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

XBorders is a cross-border project from the Irish Writers Centre that brings emerging writers together to explore and write about selected themes through fiction or non-fiction. The XBorders Refuge programme engages writers to develop artistic responses to pressing social and political issues with practical supports for writers through mentoring. This spring 12 shortlisted writers were challenged to create a new piece of writing within a condensed 3 month learning and development period. This event showcases the work of the writers and their mentors, writer Maria McManus and editor of Blackstaff Press Patsy Horton.

This event is presented by the Irish Writers Centre and supported by Arts Council of Northern Ireland. •



Platform Seven

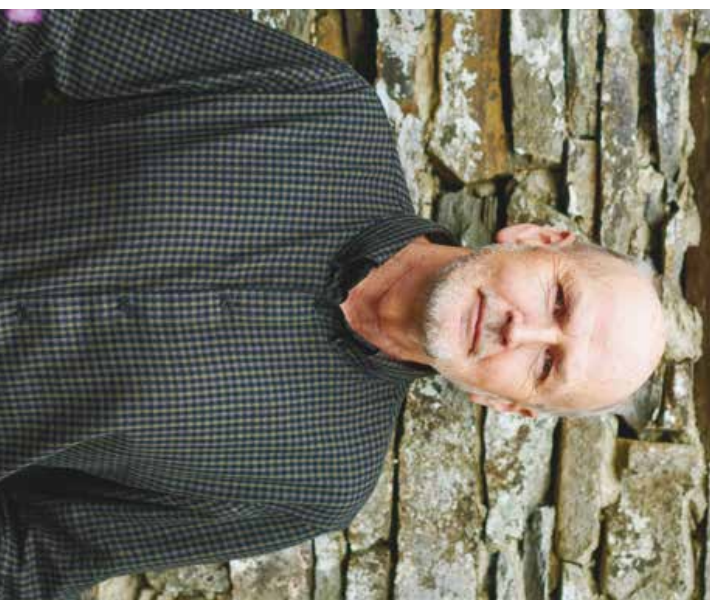
- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 2.30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, the Studio
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Join author Louise Doughty in discussion with Madeleine Keane of her writing career, including her latest novel, *Platform Seven*, a gripping, brilliant, original and eerily-timely novel, and her best-selling and critically-acclaimed title, *Apple Tree Yard*, which was adapted into a hit BBC TV series. Two deaths on Platform Seven of Peterborough Railway Station. Two fatalities in eighteen months — surely they're connected? No one is more desperate to understand what connects them than Lisa Evans herself. After all, she was the first of the two to die. One of Doughty's successes in this novel is examining characters with ostensibly quite ordinary existences and imbuing



their lives with complexity and yearning. She is also thoughtful in exploring difficult subjects such as emotional abuse, suicide and grief. Although *Platform Seven* covers bleak territory, this is a hopeful novel — *The Times*. •

www.mountainstosee.ie



This is Happiness

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 6.30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, The Studio
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Join Niall Williams, acclaimed author of Man Booker-longlisted *History of the Rain* and author of the enchanting *This is Happiness*, his latest novel which is set in 1950s Faha, Co Clare. With the coming of electricity, seventeen-year-old Noel Crowe is idling in the unexpected sunshine when Christy makes his first entrance, bringing secrets he needs to atone for. As Noel navigates his own coming-of-age and his failings in and out of love, Christy's past gradually comes to light, casting a new glow on a small world. *This Is Happiness* is a tender portrait of a community — its

www.mountainstosee.ie



Feminism Across Borders: Susan McKay

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 7.30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Susan McKay's commitment to social issues, the North and feminism have been central to her work for almost 30 years, in her journalism, writing, and as a broadcaster for radio and television. Her writing has been influential in changing Irish attitudes to issues in the North, including child abuse and domestic violence, and the legacy of violent conflict. In this event, the award-winning writer will reflect on the transgenerational impact of a history of violence in Northern Ireland. Susan will discuss how feminist movements have worked towards breaking down borders across the island, from grassroots campaigns for marriage equality to the fight for reproductive rights.

This event is presented by the Irish Writers Centre and supported by Arts Council of Northern Ireland. •



19

The Lyric Note

Poetry, as always, plays a starring role at Mountains to Sea and this year's Lyric Note welcomes Lemn Sissay, Peggy Seeger and Jackie Kay, Carol Ann Duffy, Paul Muldoon and many more. We'll have readings from our shortlisted Shine Strong and Irish Times Poetry Now Award poets as usual and poet in residence Nell Regan will be present over the festival weekend to host, chair a workshop and hopefully pen a few poetic observations of her own.

Thursday
26.03



Festival Club: What to bring when we leave

- **Date:** Thursday 26/03
- **Time:** 9.30pm
- **Venue:** The Library Bar, Haddington Hotel
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

A collaborative commission of spoken word and music, culminating in a unique continuous live performance by Tom French and Danny Diamond. Each artist stretches the other's narratives in spoken and unspoken arts, finding solace in the unexpected places between. Tom French's poetry draws on the traditional arts, folklore and rural Irish life; he writes vividly about traditional music, the people who play(ed) it, and the context in which it lives. As a traditional fiddle player, music archivist and researcher, Danny Diamond's compositions bring a corresponding unconventional sensitivity to a similar sphere that informs French's work. •

Friday
27.03



Le mn Sissay: My Name Is Why

- **Date:** Friday 27/03
- **Time:** 9:00pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

We are thrilled to welcome Lemn Sissay to Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival! Hosted by Evelyn O'Rourke, Lemn will be reading from his memoir, the Sunday Times No.1 Bestselling *My Name Is Why* reflecting on a childhood in care, self-expression and Britishness, and in doing so exploring the institutional care system, race, family and the meaning of home. This is Lemn's life story: a story of neglect and

determination, misfortune and hope, cruelty and triumph. Infused with all the lyricism and power you would expect from one of the UK's best-loved poets, this moving, frank and timely event is the result of a life spent asking questions, and a celebration of the redemptive power of creativity. Lemn Sissay MBE is a poet, playwright and broadcaster. He has read poetry all over the world and was awarded an MBE for services to literature. He is the Chancellor of The University of Manchester and was the first poet commissioned to write for the London Olympics. He is a regular contributor to radio and TV and a prolific speaker, inspiring audiences on a daily basis across the globe. •

Saturday

28.03



Irish Times Poetry Now Award

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 10.30am
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** Free event but booking required via mountainstosea.ie

Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival and The Irish Times once again present the Poetry Now award in which the winner of the best collection of 2019 is announced. This year's judges are poets Collete Bryce, Jackie Kay and Niall MacMonagle. •



Shortlist:

- **Jane Clarke**
When the Tree Falls (Bloodaxe Books)
- **Vona Groarke**
Double Negative (Gallery Press)
- **Medbh McGuckian**
Marine Cloud Brightening (Gallery Press)
- **Paul Muldoon**
Frolic and Detour (Faber & Faber)
- **Eilean Ni Chuilleanáin**
The Mother House (Gallery Press)



This event is supported by:

THE IRISH TIMES



Mhá Amháin: New poetry writing from Enda Wyley, Maureen Boyle and Jane Clarke

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 12.00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Project Room, Level 3
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

We are delighted to bring together Enda Wyley, Maureen Boyle and Jane Clarke for a reading of their recently-published new collections. Jane Clarke will read from her latest collection *When the Tree Falls*.

Described as 'Clear, direct, lovely' by Anne Enright, Enda Wyley will read from *The Painter on His Bike*. Her writing has been described by George Szirtes as 'intimate and celebratory... celebrating love and poetry itself with tenderness and grace.' Maureen Boyle's *The Work of a Winter* contains poems written over sixteen years, giving a voice to women and men whose voices we haven't often been able to hear. Hosted by Claire Cunningham of the ever popular RTE 1 Poetry Programme. •



Octavia Poetry Collective

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 3.00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, The Studio
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Octavia is a poetry collective for women of colour founded by Rachel Long in response to the lack of inclusivity and representation in literature and academia. Octavia is housed at Southbank Centre, London. Octavia have read at venues from Tate Modern to Latitude Festival. They've led workshops at The Poetry School and The Serpentine Galleries, as well as featured in The Guardian, ASOS Magazine and on BBC's World Service. We welcome Octavia to Mountains to Sea where Rachel Long, Amal Said and Sunia Juxan will blend music, film and poetry in an extraordinary event. •



Saturday

28.03



Thomas McCarthy's Poetry Hour: hosted by Nell Regan

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 4:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Project Room, Level 3
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Join Thomas McCarthy for a Poetry Hour during which you will hear from Cork, Manchester, Belfast and Galway-based poets: Thomas, our judge for the 2020 Shine Strong Poetry Award, needs no introduction as to Mountains to Sea audiences as he treats us to a reading from his newest collection *Prophecy*. Newcomers to Mountains to Sea, Manchester-based Rachel Mann's *A Kingdom of Love* was published in 2019 by Carcanet and Ned Denny's *Uncertainty Toys: Poems and Marks* won the Seamus Heaney Centre Poetry Prize in 2019. •



Carol Ann Duffy with Olivia O'Leary

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 5:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Meet one of the boldest and most original poets of our times, Carol Ann Duffy, together with an exciting new voice, her daughter Ella Duffy, who has just published her first collection, *New Hanger*. Since the publication of *Stanhope Female Nude* in 1985, Carol Ann has been voicing, unparalleled, her own imagination and the signs and rous of the world around her. Her latest collection, *Sincerity*, is a vibrant testament to her poetic powers. Join us for this special evening, where Carol Ann and Ella will join author and journalist Olivia O'Leary for a reading and conversation about writing and their passion for words, interspersed with poetry readings. •



Roots and Radicals: with Jackie Kay and Peggy Seeger

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 9:00pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

We are delighted that Jackie Kay will host Peggy Seeger for an evening of conversation and above all, wonderful song. Peggy Seeger is one of folk music's most influential artists and songwriters. Steeped in music and left-wing politics she, as a US student in the 1950s, travelled to Russia and China and married Ewan McColl with whom she shared three children and thirty-three years. Together, they helped lay the foundations of the British folk revival. Peggy inspired one of Ewan's and the twentieth-century's most popular love songs, *The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face*. Come hear Peggy share with us her rollovercoat life with Festival friend and Scots Makar Jackie Kay. Now three years into her stint as Makar, Jackie Kay's exuberance and insight have helped her bring poetry to the people. Expect songs, lively conversation and some thought-provoking dissection of 2020 Britain. •

Sunday

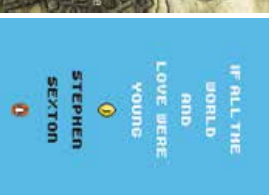
29.03



The Shine Strong Poetry Award

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 12:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, The Studio
- **Tickets:** Free event but booking required via mountainstoseae.ie

This event features readings by the poets shortlisted for this year's Shine/Strong Award, as well as the presentation of the Award. The Award is presented annually to the author of the best first collection of poems published by an Irish poet in the previous year. Previous



Shortlist:

- **Dairena Ni Chinnéide** Deleted (Salmon Poetry)
- **Stephen Sexton** *If all the World and Love were Young* (Penguin Books)
- **Ashley O'Neal** *The Wren is Near: An Dreoilín in dr Measc* (Eridanus Press)
- **Derek Coyle** *Reading John Ashbery in Cast Coffee, Carlow* (Magnus Grehn förlag)
- **Eithne Lannon** *Earth Music* (Turis Press)

This event is supported by:



Sunday

29.03



Colette Bryce and Jackie Kay: chaired by Niall MacMonagle

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 1.30pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

We are delighted to welcome our Irish Times Poetry Now Award 2020 judges Colette Bryce and Jackie Kay for a special reading of their latest work. Jackie Kay will read a selection of new poems inspired by her travels around Scotland as Scots Makar. She has written plays, poetry and short stories; as something of a Scottish National Treasure, we're pleased to host her alongside Colette Bryce. Colette is a poet from Derry. She has published four collections with

Picador, the latest of which, *The Wake of Rain-damned Universe* (2014), received a Christopher Ewart-Biggs Award in memory of Seamus Heaney. *Selected Poems* was the recipient of the Pigott Prize for Irish poetry in 2017. She is the incoming editor of *Poetry Ireland Review* in 2020 and she will share with us poems from her new collection, *The M Pages*.



The Summer Isles: A Voyage of The Imagination with Philip Marsden and poet Nell Regan

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 2.30pm
- **Venue:** dlr lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Travel writer Philip Marsden's wonderful new book, *The Summer Isles: A Voyage of The Imagination*, gives an unforgettable account of the search for actual places, invented places, and those places in between that shape the lives of individuals

and entire nations. Sharing with us his experience of sailing the Atlantic seaboard, he sets sail from his home in Cornwall, for the Summer Isles, a small archipelago near the top of Scotland that holds for him a deep and personal significance. On the way, he must navigate the west coast of Ireland and the Inner Hebrides. It is a mythical frontier as rich in story as anywhere on earth. Through the people he meets and the tales he uncovers, Marsden builds up a haunting picture of these shores — of imaginary islands and the Celtic otherworld, of the ageless draw of the West, of the life of the sea and perennial loss — and the redemptive power of the imagination.



John McAuliffe, Katie Donovan and Nidhi Zak/ Aria Eipe

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 5.00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

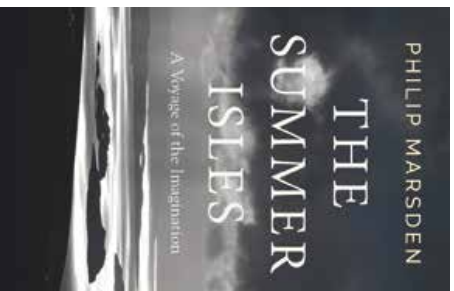
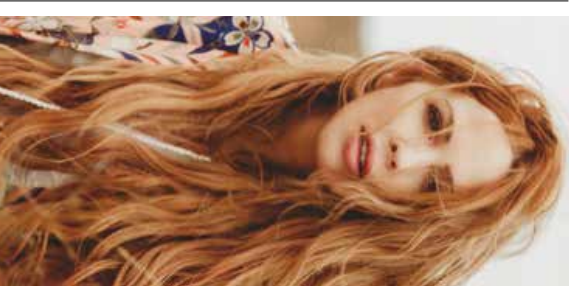
In association with Poetry Ireland, we are delighted to welcome Festival friend John McAuliffe for a reading from *The Kabul Olympics*. Described as a book of impossible places, the poems in this new collection pit individual lives and ordinary days and hours and minutes against the sweeping historical events and catastrophes which would sweep them away. Alongside John, we will hear from Katie Donovan, author of wonderful recent collections *Days of the Dead* and *to* (Bloodaxe 2016). Katie Donovan's recent collections *Day of the Dead* (Tarset, UK, Bloodaxe Books, 2002); *Roasting: New and Selected Poems* (Bloodaxe, 2010) and *Off Duty* (Bloodaxe, 2016). Nidhi Zak/Aria Eipe's poetry has been published in Poetry Ireland Review, *The Irish Times*, Writing Home; The New Irish Poets Anthology; broadcast on RTÉ Radio 1's The Poetry Programme and the Poetry Ireland podcast. Hosted by Maureen Kennedy, Director, Poetry Ireland.



An evening with Paul Muldoon and Lisa Lambe

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 9.00pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

We end Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival 2020 with a very special evening of poetry and song from Paul Muldoon and Lisa Lambe. Paul Muldoon's latest collection, *Frolic and Detour* has all the passion and provocation we associate with his writing, reminding us that the sidelong glance is the sweetest, the tangential approach the most telling. Joining him will be Lisa Lambe, who shared the stage with Glen Hansard and Martin Hayes for his 'Muldoon's Picnic' during summer 2019. She will perform songs from her new album, *Juniper*.



Present Tense

At Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival 2020, a US election year looms with Brexit and borders still occupying time and space here and in the UK. The twin “populist” explosions that occurred in 2016 remain the central drama in our extremely polarised world, feeding news cycles with the same mixture of apprehension and disbelief. This year, in the centenary year of the Government of Ireland Act, we explore the meaning of this polarisation and its effects on Northern Ireland, India and Pakistan as well as Palestine and Israel.

Thursday

26.03



The State of Home

- **Date:** Thursday 26/03
- **Time:** 7:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, the Studio
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Ramallah in reflection: *Going Home: A Walk Through Fifty Years of Occupation* is Raja Shehadeh's absorbing account of a day-long walk through Ramallah, his Palestinian home, on the anniversary of its occupation. As he walks, he considers the changes that he has seen in the city of his birth and his memories of people and place. Joining Raja will be Penny Johnson who has recently published *Companions in Conflict, animals in occupied territory* described as a humorous and beautiful creature in its own right, a 'Where the Wild Things Are' for adults. Intriguing! Join us for a conversation between Raja and Penny chaired by acclaimed writer and broadcaster, Susan McKay. •

Saturday

28.03



Mary Cregan in conversation with Prof. Ciaran Benson

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 11:00am
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, The Studio
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

The Scar: A Personal History of Depression and Recovery is a graceful and penetrating memoir interweaving Mary Cregan's descent into depression following the death of her infant daughter with a medical and cultural history of this illness. Her perceptive, intimate, and elegantly written memoir vividly depicts the pain and ongoing stigma of clinical depression, giving greater insight into its management and offering hope for those who are suffering. Ciaran Benson is Professor Emeritus of Psychology, University College Dublin is our host for this event. In addition to his role in the world of psychology, he has long been active in the arts in Ireland as a policy-maker, occasional curator and critic. •



The State of India

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 12:30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

100 years ago this year the Government of Ireland Act established our own border with Northern Ireland whilst in other parts of the world, the establishment of borders gave rise to the displacement of millions of people and the division of vast swathes of territory. One such border is the subject of BBC journalist Kavita Puri's *Partition Voices: Untold British Stories*. As Britain left India, the partition of the country created Pakistan, splitting the country into two, producing division between Hindu, Muslim and Sikh and displacing twelve million people. We are delighted to welcome Kavita Puri to Mountains to Sea for a discussion with Nikesh Shukla writer and author of *The Good Immigrant*, in which she will recount some of the first-hand accounts of those who lived through partition, drawing on the breath-taking tapestry of human experience, extraordinary journeys and daring rescue missions that reverebrate with pain, loss and compassion. •

Saturday

28.03



Beyond the World of War

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 2:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Project Room, Level 3
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Peadar King has, since 2004, filmed the RTÉ Television Series *What in the World?* in over fifty countries across Africa, Asia and The Americas. In his new book *Beyond the World of War*, he focuses on war and its consequences, examining the context of war, the military industrial complex, the colonial legacy and the economic dividend of war. Peadar will explore and expand upon some of the human stories he has encountered along the way, with Claire Daly MEP who wrote the foreword for the book. Accompanying publication of the book is an Irish Aid supported exhibition of images that capture the people and places visited by the *What in the World?* programme over the years. •



The State of the EU

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 4:00pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

In the aftermath of a convulsive Brexit – both negotiations and aftermath have not been easy as we all know only too well – how can the EU ‘gather itself’ and recover from the trauma? Join Fintan O’Toole and Prof. Brigid Laffan for a fascinating discussion of how the EU with its ever-expanding kaleidoscope of languages, nationalities, and local identities, can shape a future for itself that embraces inclusiveness and openness. It can never be a single cultural monolith and as Brigid Laffan has argued will continue to work towards greater integration and co-operation while celebrating the patchwork of cultures which exist in member states. Given the choice between a place in that patchwork and a final embrace of our destiny as the 51st State of the Union, it is not so hard to see where we belong! (Fintan O’Toole) Hosted by Catriona Crowe. •



The (dis) United States: what would The Bard say?

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 6:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, The Studio
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Shakespeare in a Divided America is Prof. James Shapiro’s latest book. Join James, America’s leading authority on Shakespeare, with Niall MacMahonagle as they trace the unparalleled role of Shakespeare’s 400-year-old tragedies and comedies in making sense of so many of these issues on which the American identity has turned. Reflecting on how Shakespeare has been invoked at pivotal moments, Shapiro takes us from President John Quincy Adams’s disgust with Desdemona’s interracial marriage to Obello, to Abraham Lincoln’s and his assassin, John Wilkes Booth’s competing obsessions with the plays, up through the fraught debates over marriage and same-sex love at the heart of the adaptations Kiss Me, Kate and Shakespeare in Love. Shapiro argues that by better understanding Shakespeare’s role in American life, the USA might begin to mend itself. •

Sunday

29.03



Fifty Years On: the state of the North

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 12:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

In his new book *Fifty Years On: The Troubles and the Struggle for Change in Northern Ireland*, journalist and commentator Malachi O’Doherty charts the North’s social evolution over the past half-century. One of the essays highlights the role of women in shifting the discourse in the 80s and 90s. Of late newer faces have entered the mix, notable among them is Claire Hanna who has been active in politics for many years and already notable for her contributions to debate at Westminster. Chaired by writer and filmmaker Derek O’Connor. •



Rebecca Solnit in conversation with Sinéad Gleeson

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 4:00pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

We are delighted to welcome Rebecca Solnit on her first visit to Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival. In this conversation with Sinéad Gleeson, Rebecca explores her latest book, *Recollections of My Non-Existence*. A memoir set against the backdrop of a 1980s San Francisco rife with gender violence and trauma, *Recollections of My*

Non-Existence paints a portrait of a young artist finding her voice through writing, relationships, and punk rock. ‘Fierce and often scathing’ (Salon), activist, historian, and author Rebecca Solnit’s more than 20 books include *A Field Guide to Getting Lost*, *Wanderlust: A History of Walking*, and *Men Explain Things to Me*. Her many honours include two NEA fellowships for literature, the Kirkus Prize for Nonfiction, and—for her book *River of Shadows: Endangered Mythbirds and the Technological Will West*—a Guggenheim, the National Book Critics Circle Award in Criticism, and Harvard’s Mark Lynton History Prize. •

Schools & Families



Welcome to Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival 2020 where once again lots of local schools have adopted an author and where everyone aged zero and over can join in three fun days of chats, draw-alongs, readings and quizzes. We've added handy curricular links to each event for schools and parents.



Schools Events

Thursday

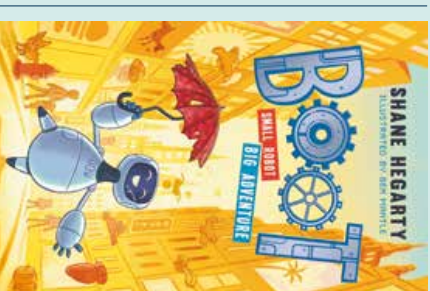
26.03



Family Traditions with Sadhbh Devlin (2nd class*)

- **Date:** Thursday 26/03
- **Time:** 11:00am
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €3

Join Writer in Residence Sadhbh Devlin for a special interactive introduction to the work of classic Irish writer Ellis Dillon, who was born 100 years ago. Learn about *A Family of Foxes* washed up upon the Western Shore and The Wild Little House that got up on its legs and went searching for adventure. Explore Irish traditions and superstitions against a backdrop of thrilling escapades. • **Curricular Links:** ART; PLC; SPHE; SE.



BOOTS! With Shane Hegarty (2nd Class*)

- **Date:** Thursday 26/03
- **Time:** 11:00am
- **Venue:** dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum
- **Tickets:** €3

Meet BOOTS! the small robot who embarks on a big adventure to find the little girl who may have lost, or worse, discarded him. Join Shane Hegarty (BOOTS! Darlington series) for a special interactive event, where you can meet BOOTS! and his friends, brainstorm some ideas for robots of your own, and find out about the next installment of BOOTS! adventures. •

Curricular Links: ART; PLC; SPHE; SE.

M2C festival events are inclusive and accessible to all. If you have any questions about accommodating individual needs, please email director@mountainstosea.ie. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Schools Events

Friday

27.03



The World of Tiny and Teeny with Chris Judge

(Junior Infants – 2nd Class)

- **Date:** Friday 27/03
- **Time:** 11:00am
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, The Studio
- **Tickets:** €3

Meet Tiny and Teeny, two teeny tiny friends who live in a miniature world. Join author Chris Judge in a specially-created miniature world, for a reading and draw-along and an opportunity to add your own details to the "tittle-bitty sung of a place" where Tiny and Teeny and their friends live. •

Curricular Links: ART; PLC; SPHE; Ma



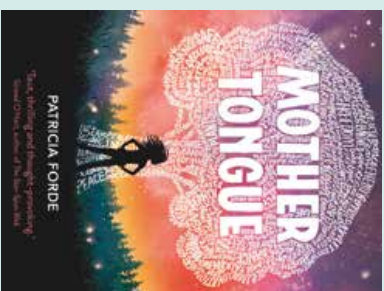
Beag Bideach! le Sadhbh Devlin

(Junior Infants – 2nd Class)

- **Date:** Friday 27/03
- **Time:** 11:00am
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 4
- **Tickets:** €3

Nina loves her little brother Jimi, but sometimes little brothers can be annoying. Nina wants to be 'Beag Bideach' (teeny tiny) so she can go and live with her doll friends. Wouldn't life in a doll's house, with no Jimi, be wonderful?!

Curricular Links: ART; PLC; SPHE; Ma



Mother Tongue with Patricia Forde

(5th/6th class, 1st/2nd Year)

- **Date:** Friday 27/03
- **Time:** 11:00am
- **Venue:** dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum
- **Tickets:** €3

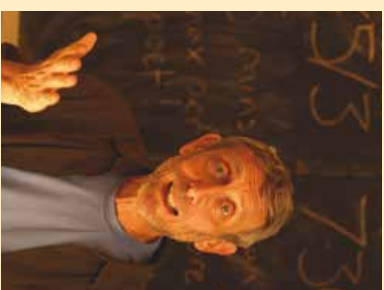
Welcome to the world of Ark, where Global Warming has caused the seas to rise, all technology had been drowned, and people have access to only five hundred words. Is it possible to dream when you have such a limited language? That's what Letra wants to know. Join writer Patricia Forde to hear about Letra's adventures and a world that looks a little like our own, but is very, very different. •

Curricular Links: ART; PLC; SPHE; SE

Family Events

Friday

27.03



Rollickin' Rhymes with Michael Rosen (all ages)

- **Date:** Friday 27/03
- **Time:** 4:00pm
- **Venue:** Pavilion Theatre
- **Tickets:** €7 / €5, Family ticket €20 for 4 incl. 1 adult.

Join best-selling author Michael Rosen, for a unique performance of some of his best-loved stories and poems. From funny limeticks to side-splitting anecdotes, this is an all ages event for the book-sly, as well as the book-lover. Former UK Children's Laureate, Michael Rosen is the bestselling author of children's classics *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, *The Sad Book* and, most recently, *The Missing: The True Story of My Family in World War II*. •

Saturday

28.03



Tiny and Teeny with Chris Judge (all ages)

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 11:00am-2:00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Level 3
- **Tickets:** Free event. Sessions starting on the hour.

Meet Tiny and Teeny, two teeny tiny friends who live in a miniature world. Join author Chris Judge in a specially-created miniature world, for a reading and draw-along, and an opportunity to add your own details to the "tittle-bitty sung of a place" where Tiny and Teeny and their little friends live. •



Family Traditions Workshop with Sadhbh Devlin (6yrs+)

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 2:00-3:30pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Rm. 1, Level 3
- **Tickets:** €3, Max 12.

What does it mean when your left hand is itchy? What happens when you spill salt or break a mirror? Have you ever counted mages? Join dlr Writer in Residence Sadhbh Devlin for a special intergenerational workshop where families can learn about Irish traditions, superstitions, and record their own family traditions. •



Workshops

Friday

27.03



Poetry Workshop: with Nell Regan

- **Date:** Friday 27/03
- **Time:** 2.00pm
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Room 4, Level 5
- **Tickets:** €20/€15

Join Mountains to Sea Writer in Residence Nell Regan for a workshop packed with exercises to get you writing new poems and ideas for redefining ones that aren't quite working. Nell Regan is a poet and non-fiction writer and recent recipient of the Patrick and Katherine Kavanaugh Fellowship. She is an educator and her latest collection *One Still Thing* has been described as a 'beautifully distilled collection' by Poetry Review.

Workshop duration: 1.5 hrs

Saturday

28.03



Polemical writing workshop: with Malachi O'Doherty

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 10.00am
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Room 4, level 5
- **Tickets:** €20/€15

Join Malachi O'Doherty for a workshop navigating the world of polemical writing. How do you write on controversial topics and from an oppositional point of view – and stay out of trouble? Malachi is a freelance writer and broadcaster based in Belfast, Northern Ireland and he writes for the BBC, the Belfast Telegraph, The Irish Times and others. He has published six books including *The Trouble With Guns*; *The Telling Year*; *Belfast 1972*; *Empty Pulpits*; *Ireland's retreat from religion*; and recently, *Fifty Years On: The Troubles and the Struggle for Change in Northern Ireland*, his memoir of the Troubles. He is a regular contributor to political discussion and no stranger to the polemical himself.

Workshop duration: 1.5 hrs



The American Bookclub: with Curtis Sittenfeld

- **Date:** Saturday 28/03
- **Time:** 10.30am
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Room 3, Level 5
- **Tickets:** €15/€12

Have you ever felt that there's a whole world of recent American novels that you'd like to hear about but don't know where to start? Join Festival guest Curtis Sittenfeld as she steers us through some of her own favourites and leads a discussion about American novels that she would recommend. Curtis is looking forward to a lively discussion about these three outstanding 21st Century American novels: *A Lady Man* by Jamel Brinkley; *Look How Happy I'm Making you* by Polly Rosenwaikie and *The Best American Sport Stories 2019*, edited by Anthony Doerr. Bring your notebooks!

Workshop duration: 1.5 hrs

Sunday

29.03



Poetry workshop: with Maureen Boyle

- **Date:** Sunday 29/03
- **Time:** 10.30am
- **Venue:** dlr Lexicon, Room 4, Level 5
- **Tickets:** €20/€15

Join poet and educator Maureen Boyle for a poetry workshop aimed at those who are already writing poetry and who would like to hone their writing skills. Maureen has facilitated workshops at most major literary festivals in Ireland. A published poet, her debut collection, *The Mark of a Winter* was published by Arlen House. She has won the Ireland Chair of Poetry Prize, the Fish Short Memoir Prize and the inaugural Ireland Chair of Poetry Travel Bursary.

Workshop duration: 1.5 hrs

The Painter on his Bike

by Enda Wyley
for James Hanley

balances his father –
sketched in pencil –
wrapped in paper
on his handlebars.

As he cycles down
Heytesbury Street
the twist of string
around the frame

loosens for a second
catches in the wheel
the painter's breath
caught too

by the sudden sight
of his dead father's eyes.
They saw me
before I saw myself...

He stops at the kerb,
tugs at the twine, frees it
from the spokes, sets off
again, the bike wobbling,

bumping over
potholes and tramlines,
the picture beating
against his knee.

He is cycling
the portrait home.
And later, a fire lit,
the paper unbound -

father, whose eyes
rise up, from the face
your son drew,
like two dark lost moons.

With the kind permission
of Dedalus Press

Exhibition Programme



Municipal Gallery, Level 3
13 Feb – 29 March

Our Colours: artworks from the dlr County Collection

This exhibition features a range of diverse work from the Collection and includes several recent acquisitions. This is the first time that these artworks from the dlr County Collection have been exhibited together. Many of the artists represented in the County, living or coming from here. The Collection includes works purchased from younger artists, recent graduates and from degree shows. Work by Imogen Stuart, Carey Clarke, Maeve McCarthy, Lee Welch, Paul Hallowan, Fiona Hackert, Clifford Collic, Alison Kay and Kate McDonagh, amongst others, will be on show. •

Image: *The Smilti Roof*, Brett McEntagart RHA



dlr Lexicon, Level 3
16 – 30 March

What in the World? 50 countries, 50 stories

KNIF Productions, Irish Aid and RTE present *What in the World?* based on the very popular TV series presented by Padar King and filmed in over 50 countries across Africa, Asia and the Americas since 2004. Telling the compelling stories of 50 people, the exhibition features photographs, quotations, along with a montage of footage from the series. Join Padar King for a discussion of his book *War, Suffering, and the Struggle for Human Rights*, with Clare Daly MEP on 28th March 2020. •

Image: *Syria*, Antoine Makdis



dlr Lexicon, Level 3
26 February – 31 March

Digging up the Raj

Following extensive research at Deansgrange Cemetery, local historian Shabnam Vaisiht has discovered the remarkable achievements of a wide range of Irish people who lived and worked in India during British rule. There were servicemen who fought in the Indian Mutiny; hard-working civil servants and eminent judges; and missionaries who aimed to convert sun-worshipping heathens to muscular Christianity. Shabnam's quest was to bring these extraordinary people to our attention. This revealing exhibition and accompanying book links in with our Festival event 'The State of India on Saturday 28th March at 12.30pm. Join Kavita Puri and Nikesh Shukla to discuss the partition of India in 1947, the creation of Pakistan and the subsequent displacement of twelve million people. •

Image: Shabnam Vaisiht Card Collection



dlr Lexicon, Level 4
26 – 29 March 2020

Ellis Dillon 1920-2020: A Centenary Celebration

Ellis Dillon was a prolific author of children's books, publishing some 40 of them between 1948 and 1992. Widely travelled and an innovator in every sense, her first works were published in the Irish language and those and subsequent stories were rooted in the landscape of South Connemara. This exhibition in dlr Lexicon will celebrate her life, her writings and some of the themes from her work such as the sea, island life and folk beliefs. dlr Writer in Residence Saadhbh Devlin will deliver a workshop for young readers based on her books as part of the Mountains to Sea Family Programme. •

Image: *Ellis Dillon*, Radha Sloss



dlr Lexicon, Level 4
10 February – 31 March

Leinster Printmakers and Seamus Heaney

In June 2019, The Leinster Printmaking Studio was invited to devise an exhibition especially for the Festival Handese in Bassano, Italy. The work of poet Seamus Heaney was selected as the theme. Artist members and invited guests chose a poem as inspiration. They produced an eclectic body of work using a variety of traditional processes, including etching, drypoint and woodcut. Thirty-one artists created a beautiful exhibition of 43 prints. The Mountains to Sea Festival Team are delighted that this exhibition coincides with the 2020 Festival, a festival much loved by Seamus Heaney himself, and is an extra treat for our poetry audience! •

Image: *Pastoriza*, William Finnie



dlr Lexicon, Level 5
25 Jan – 31 March

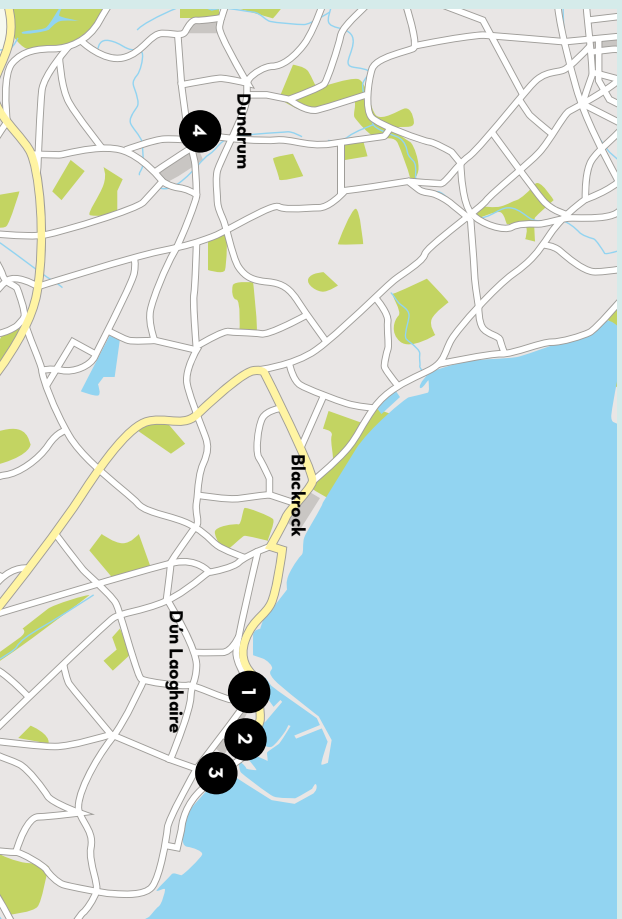
Jennifer Johnston

Arising from a generous donation by Jennifer Johnston in 2019, dlr Libraries are delighted to present an exhibition about Jennifer, in partnership with her family to celebrate her 90th birthday in January 2020. Last year Jennifer donated her writing desk and nearly 2,000 of her books to dlr Libraries. Her book collection includes numerous translations of her novels, signed gifts received by many fellow writers, dramatists and artists and a large collection of her own books. The Mountains to Sea Festival Team are delighted that this exhibition coincides with the 2020 Festival, given that Jennifer Johnston has been such a friend and supporter of the Festival and has appeared many times over the years. •

Image: *Jennifer Johnston*, Basil Blackshaw

General Information

Festival Venues



1. Pavilion Theatre
Marine Rd, Dún Laoghaire,
Co. Dublin, A96 Y959

2. dlr Lexicon
Haigh Terrace, Dún Laoghaire,
Co. Dublin, A96 H283

3. The Haddington House Hotel
9-12 Haddington Terrace, Dún
Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, A96 F2R9

4. dlr Mill Theatre Dundrum
Dundrum Town Centre,
Dublin 16, D16 C5X6

Booking for all festival events is now open

Book Online at

mountainstosea.ie
(no Booking Fee)

Telephone Booking:

**Pavilion Theatre
& dlr Lexicon events:**

Phone: 01 231 2929

(€1 Booking Fee applies)

Box Office Hours:

Mon to Sat 12pm – 5pm

Open 2 hours before
performances.

Booking information for school events:

dlr Lexicon

Phone: 01 280 1147

Email: dlrllexiconlib@dlr.cococo.ie

dlr Mill Theatre

Phone: 01 296 9340

Box office hours: Mon-
Sat 11:00am-5:00pm.

2 teachers free per class group.
Please arrive at least 30 mins
in advance to be seated or
to collect tickets. Latecomers
will only be admitted at the
discretion of the venue.

Useful Info

- Events last approximately one hour unless otherwise stated. Adult workshops are approximately 1.5 hours long.

- Children must be accompanied by a Parent or Guardian.

- Please arrive 15 minutes before events commence. Latecomers will only be admitted at the discretion of the venue.

- If you are collecting tickets, they must be collecting a minimum of 30 minutes before the event starts.

Travel and transport

Travel the Green Way and reduce traffic congestion.

Dublin Bus

There are regular services to Dún Laoghaire and Dundrum. Further information on dublinbus.ie

DART

There is a regular DART Service to Malin Station, Dún Laoghaire. Further information on irishrail.ie

Luas

There is a regular Luas service to Dundrum. Further information on luas.ie

The National Journey Planner provides journey planning, timetable and travel information from all licenced public transport providers across Ireland, including train, bus, tram, ferry and taxi services. You can use the Journey Planner online or download the App. See transportforireland.ie

Parking

Pay and Display parking applies on street within all town and harbour areas in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

Event Partners



Clár Fíneálais
Creative Ireland
Programme
2019-2022



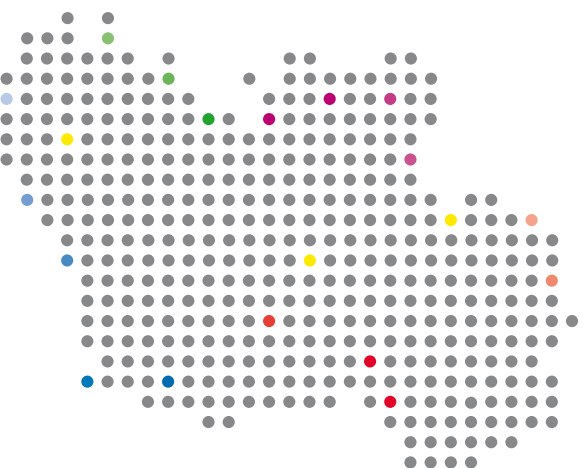
THE IRISH TIMES



International Women's Day



RTÉ supports
more than
120 arts events
nationwide
every year.



rte.ie/about/supportingthearts

Thanks & Acknowledgements

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Festival Director
Liz Kelly

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Lisa Murphy (dlr Libraries)

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PR
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PB Unique Promotions
& Distribution

Venues

The festival team would
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the venues involved:

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- dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum
- Pavilion Theatre, Dún Laoghaire
- The Haddington Hotel
- Oliveto Restaurant
- Ink Café

Special thanks

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and their staff.
Thank you – It couldn't
happen without all of you!

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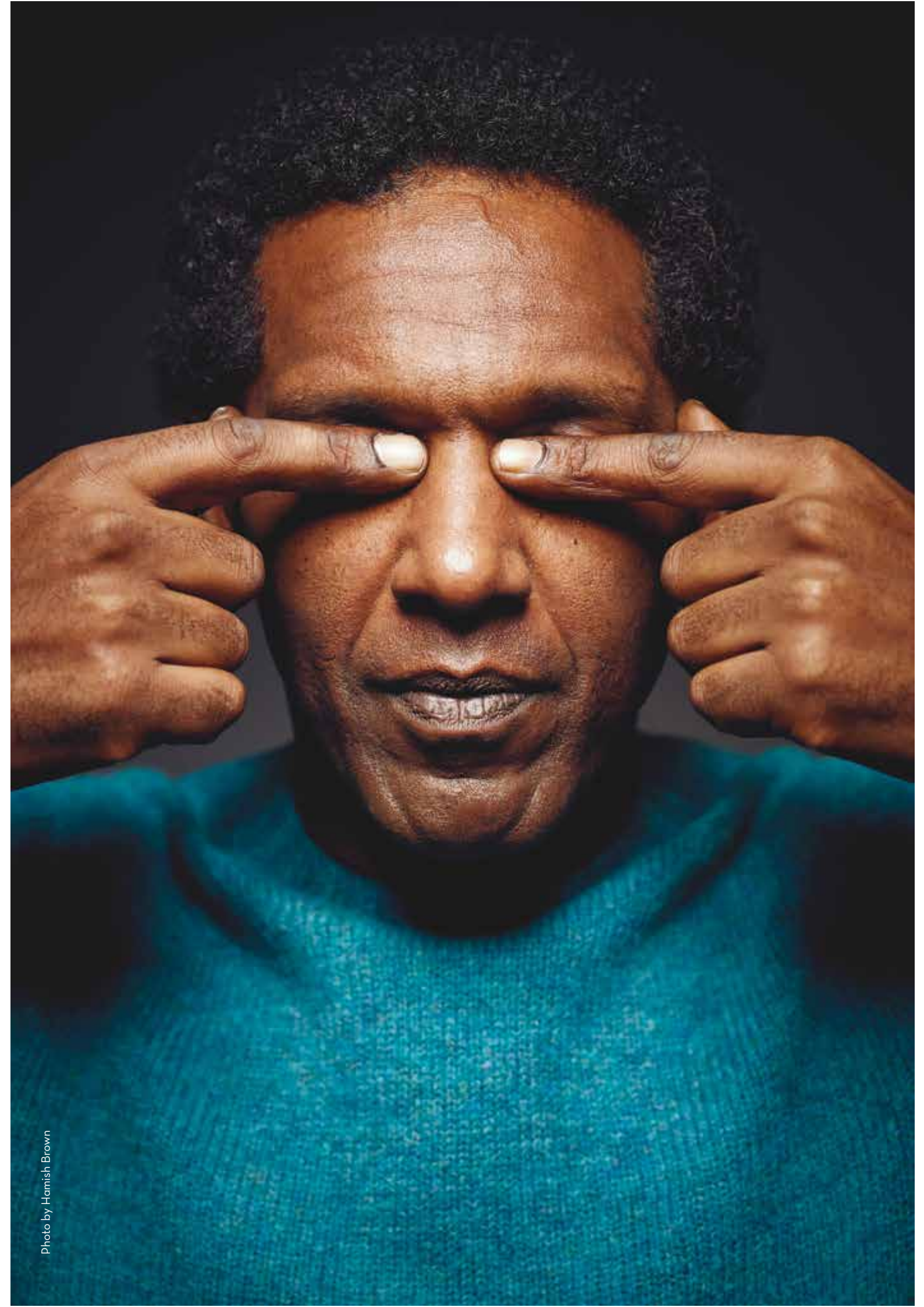


Photo by Hamish Brown