

Force 12

Writers' Festival 2006

Welcome to the sixteenth year of the Force 12 Writers Festival in Belmullet. The programme for the weekend is designed to be an informal and relaxed event. In addition to an excellent programme of readings by professional writers, it provides a platform for unpublished writers to read their own work and to meet other writers. Workshops in poetry, prose and writing for theatre will take place on Saturday, with readings and music on Friday and Saturday nights in An Chéibh (formerly The Anchor), Belmullet.

Over the weekend an exhibition of paintings by artist Fergus Lyons will be on display in Belmullet Library.

Fáilte go Féile Scríbhneoirí Force 12 atá a reachtáil don seisiú bliain déag i mBéal an Mhuirthead. Tá an Clár don deireadh seachtaine deisithe chun ócaid neamh fhormalta a chruthú. Chomh maith le scoith na leitheoireachtaí ó scríbhneoirí oillte, tugann an ócaid deis do scríbhneoirí nach bhfuil foilsithe a gcuid oibre a a chur í láthair agus casadh ar scríbhneoirí eile. Beidh Ceardlainn filíochta, prois agus scríobh don stáitse ar siuil ar an tSatharn agus leitheoireachtaí agus ceol ar siuil óiche hAoine agus óiche Shatharn sa Chéibh (anchor) i mBéal an Mhuirthead.

Beidh Taispeantas Ealaíon leis an Ealaíontóir Fergus Lyons ar taispeaint sa Leabharlann i mBéal an Mhuirthead i rith an deireadh seachtaine.



John F. Deane
Force 12 Director 2006

John F Deane was born on Achill and now lives and works in Dublin. He has published six books of poetry. His fiction includes short stories and three novels. He is also a renowned translator. John founded Poetry Ireland, and is the editor of The Dedalus Press. A member of Aosdána, he was shortlisted for the 2003 T.S. Eliot Award and this year for The Irish Times Poetry Now Award.



John Breen
Force 12 Writer in Residence 2006

John Breen is best known as the writer and Director of *Alone it Stands*, his first play, which was nominated for the Stewart Parker Award and Irish Times Award for best new play in 1999. He was awarded the Irish Times/ESB Theatre Award in 2000 for Best Director for *Alone it Stands*. His second play, *Charlie*, was produced to critical acclaim in 2003. He has collaborated with Yoshiko Chuma of *Dagdha* Dance Company, on *The Yellow Room*. He was appointed Artistic Director of Yew Tree Theatre Company, Ballina, in 1999. John is currently working on *Na Tarraing Bru* a screenplay for the *Oscailt* series on TG4, and a drama documentary on Michael Davitt for GMTV and TG4.

Force 12 Residency Programme

Since 2001, Mayo County Council has been developing the Writer in Residence programme associated with Force 12 Writers Festival. Previous writers who have held the residency include Ré Ó Laighléis, Sean Lysaght, Máire Holmes and Cathal Ó Searcaigh.

Throughout the Month of May and early June, John will complete an intense programme of readings, talks and workshops, working with writing groups and schools throughout the county.

guest writers



Thomas Kinsella

Thomas Kinsella was born in Dublin in 1928. Abandoning a Science Scholarship at UCD he entered the Civil Service in 1946 where he was assistant Principal Officer in the Dept of Finance. He has taught in the United States and established and administered the Irish Tradition study programme in Dublin, retiring in 1992. He was a director of the Dolmen Press and Cuala Press, Dublin, and in 1972 established the Peppercanister Press whose occasional publications now appear under the Dedalus imprint. His *Collected Poems* appeared from Carcanet in 2001. Kinsella has produced outstanding translations of *The Táin and Poems of the Dispossessed*, among other titles, and in 1986 edited the *New Oxford Book of Irish Verse*. This year there were two new publications from Peppercanister, *Marginal Economy and Readings in Poetry*.



Chris Agee

Chris Agee grew up in the United States and has lived in Ireland since 1979. He is the author of *In the New Hampshire Woods* (The Dedalus Press, 1992) and editor of *Scar on the Stone: Contemporary Poetry from Bosnia* (Bloodaxe Books, 1998) and *Unfinished Ireland: Essays on Hubert Butler* (Irish Pages, 2003). He teaches at the Open University in Ireland and is the editor of *Irish Pages*, a journal of contemporary writing based at The Linenhall Library, Belfast.



Eva Bourke

Eva Bourke is a poet and translator. Originally from Germany, she has been living in Galway for many years. She has published five collections of poetry, the most recent being *The Latitude of Naples* (Dedalus Press, 2005). She has published two anthologies of Irish Poetry and has received numerous awards and bursaries. She is a member of Aosdána.



Harry Clifton

Harry Clifton has published five collections, all from the Gallery Press. His stories are collected as *Berkeley's Telephone* (The Lilliput Press, 2000). His awards include The Patrick Kavanagh Award. He has lived in various parts of the world and is a member of Aosdána.



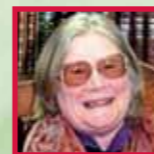
Padraig J. Daly

Born in Dunarvan, Co Waterford, 1943. Poet, Augustinian priest, RTE Radio Broadcaster, translator. Daly's poems have found wide release in journals both nationally and internationally. Some of Daly's works have been translated into Italian for broadcast on Italian radio. He currently works as an Augustinian priest in Dublin.



George Evans

George Evans has published three books of poetry in England, and a recent collection, *Sudden Dreams*, in the United States. A recipient of fellowships from the Lannan Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, he is the editor of *The Complete Correspondence of Charles Olsen* and of *Streetfare Journal*, a national program that displays poetry and art on posters in buses.



Jennifer Johnston

Jennifer Johnston was born in Dublin in 1930. Her novels have been published in many countries. Her works include the novels *The Captains and the Kings* (London, Hamish Hamilton, 1972); *How Many Miles to Babylon?* (Hamish Hamilton, 1974) and *The Gingerbread Woman* (Review, 2000). Her drama includes the short plays: *Three Monologues*; and *The Nightingale* and *Not the Lark*, published by Raven Arts Press, Dublin. She has received many awards, including the Robert Pitman Award; the Yorkshire Post Award; the 1979 Whitbread Award and the Giles Cooper Award for Best Radio play (1989). Her work was shortlisted for Daily Express best book of the year and the Booker Prize. She is a member of Aosdána and lives in Derry.



Jack Harte

Jack Harte was born in Killeenduff, near Easkey, Co. Sligo. His most recent collection of stories, *'From Under Gogol's Nose'*, was published to acclaim in 2004, and is due out in translation in Russia and India later this year. A Bulgarian translation of one of his earlier books resulted in a film of one of his stories and a novel is due out in Bulgarian shortly. Sligo County Council awarded him a commission under the Per Cent for Art Scheme to write the novel, *'In the Wake of the Bagger.'*



Hugo Hamilton

Hugo Hamilton was born in Dublin in 1953. He is the author of five highly acclaimed novels and one collection of short stories. He has worked as a writer-in-residence at many leading universities, including most recently at Trinity College, Dublin. He has recently spent a year in Berlin as a writer-in-residence.



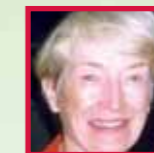
Claire Kilroy

Claire Kilroy was born in Dublin in 1973. Her first novel, *All Summer* (London, Faber & Faber 2003) won the 2004 Rooney Prize for Irish Literature, and was shortlisted for the 2004 Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award. Her second novel, *Tenderwire*, will be published this year. She lives in Dublin.



Pat Boran

Pat Boran is a poet and writes short fiction for adults and children, as well as four non-fiction titles. In 2005, his *New and Selected Poems* was produced by Salt Publishing, UK, and New Island published an expanded and updated edition of his popular writers' handbook, *The Portable Creative Writing Workshop*. He is Programme Director of the annual Dublin Writers Festival. Boran is also editor of the Dedalus Press and presenter of the weekly half-hour poetry programme *The Enchanted Way* on RTÉ Radio 1.



Sheila O'Hagan

Sheila O'Hagan has published two collections of poetry: *The peacock's Eye* (Salmon Publishing, 1992) and *The Troubled House* (Salmon Publishing, 1995). Her awards include The Goldsmith Award for Poetry, 1988; The Patrick Kavanagh Award, 1991 and The Hennessy / Sunday Tribune Award for New Irish Poet of the Year, 1992. She lives in Dublin.



Gerard Smyth

Gerard Smyth was born in Dublin in 1951. He has published five collections of poetry and he lives in Dublin where he is a journalist with The Irish Times.



Daisy Zamora

Daisy Zamora was born in Managua, Nicaragua and during the revolution Zamora was a combatant in the National Sandinista Liberation Front and director of Radio Sandino's clandestine programs. After the Triumph she served as the Vice-Minister of Culture and the Executive Director of the Institute of Economic and Social Research of Nicaragua. She has published three books of poetry as well as the anthology, *The Nicaraguan Woman in Poetry*. In addition to her achievements in poetry, Daisy Zamora is well-known as a painter and psychologist.

MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL

Force 12

Writers' Festival 2006

guest writers

This event is organised by Mayo County Council Arts Service and is supported by the Arts Council of Ireland, Poetry Ireland and the Irish Writers' Centre.

If you wish to attend any of the events or require further information please contact:

Oifig Ealaíon Chomhairle Chontae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council Arts Office,
Aras an Chontae, Castlebar
Tel: 094 9024444, ext. 7558 & 7560
E-mail: artsstaf@mayococo.ie

Attendance at readings and workshops is free to the public. Workshop places are limited therefore please book before Friday 2nd June.

Céide



Céide A six piece folk /traditional music group from the Westport area. Céide released their debut album *Like a Wild Thing* in 2001 and earlier this year they released their long awaited second album, *Out of Their Shell*. Produced by ex-Dervish man and highly accomplished musician, Seamie O'Dowd, *Out of their Shell* exudes energy and creativity and features some spirited adaptations of traditional tunes. They will perform a mixture of traditional tunes and some contemporary folk songs in An Chéibh on Saturday night.

On Shore

An exhibition of paintings by Fergus Lyons.



Fergus Lyons was born in Portlaw, Co. Waterford. He now lives Keash, near Ballymoate, Co. Sligo. He studied in Waterford Art College and the National College of Art & Design. This exhibition is comprised of paintings of the west coast; Kerry (Great Blaskets), Galway and Mayo. The exhibition will be officially opened by Force 12 Director John F. Deane, at 7pm on Saturday evening in Belmullet Library. The exhibition will continue until Friday 23rd, June.

MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL

Force 12 PROGRAMME 2006

Friday 9th June

An Chéibh, Barrack Street, Belmullet. 9pm
Official Opening by Cllr. **Henry Kenny, Cathaoirleach**, Mayo County Council. Followed by readings with: **Claire Kilroy, Padraig J. Daly, Eva Bourke, Pat Boran, Hugo Hamilton, & John Breen**

Saturday 10th June

Workshops: All workshops take place in Erris Training Centre, Chapel Street, Belmullet

10.30am - 12.30pm

- Fiction with **George Evans**
- Poetry with **Pat Boran**
- Poetry with **Eva Bourke**

2.00pm - 4.00pm

- Writing for Theatre with **John Breen**
- Presentation on Irish Pages & Informal reading with **Chris Agee, Jack Harte & Gerard Smyth**

4.30pm - 5.30pm, An Chéibh

Participating writers read their work

5.30pm An Chéibh

Buffet Meal

Writers' Festival

7.00pm Belmullet Library

On Shore - an exhibition of paintings by artist **Fergus Lyons**.
Official opening by **John F. Deane, Force 12 Director**

8.00pm An Chéibh

Readings with: **John F. Deane, Jennifer Johnston, Sheila O' Hagan & Harry Clifton.**
Thomas Kinsella, guest of honour, will be presented the Ted McNulty prize by Poetry Ireland.
Followed by music with **Céide** in the front lounge

Sunday 11th June

10.00am Bus Trip to Aughleaam

Turas go hEachléim
Bus leaves from outside An Chéibh

11.00am - 12.30 pm, Teach John Joe, Aughleaam. Readings with **George Evans & Daisy Zamorra**, followed by participating writers readings.

12.30pm Lunch

2.00pm Bus departs for Belmullet

3.00pm Bus ag fágáil

music

exhibition



Force 12 Programme 2006



Mayo County Council would like to thank all those who have been involved in this Festival.

MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL
**Force 12
Writers' Festival**

BELMULLET, CO. MAYO
Friday 9th, Saturday 10th,
Sunday 11th June 2006