Featured Artists 2018

John Banville
John Connell
Maurice Devitt
Sinead Gleeson
Julian Gough
Sophie Gorman
Lisa Harding
Jessica J. Lee
Sue Leonard
Roisin Meaney
Geraldine Mitchell
Rick O'Shea
Ruth Padel
Nigel Quinlan
Liz Quirke
Ronan Ryan
James Scully
John W. Sexton
Eileen Sheehan

Artwork by Iro Tsavala
A Chairde,

Is mór an onóir domsa (mar Chathaoirleach ar Choiste na Féile seo) pháilte a chur romhaibh go Féile Litriochta Dhrom Inbhir 2018. Feicfidh síb go bhfuil clár taisneachadh, cruthaitheach is spreagúil os bhur gcomhair.

In my first year as Chairperson, it gives me great pleasure to announce our exciting and innovative programme for the 15th Dromineer Literary Festival.

Last October saw the retirement of our wonderful poet Chairperson, Eleanor Hooker, who had been with the festival from its inception. Eleanor had worked tirelessly and with such energy and enthusiasm to help build the festival to its highly esteemed position today, as one of the highlights of the Irish literary calendar. The new committee aims to maintain the standards of our great festival and have worked very hard in the past year to ensure our participants and audience enjoy this year’s programme. A huge thank you to everyone for their dedication and support.

This year sees the introduction of some new elements. We have two wonderful poets from Kerry, Eileen Sheehan and John Sexton, who will read and entertain in Cinnamon Alley and Country Choice on Saturday morning. Novelist, Roisin Meaney, will chat and read in Steeple on Sunday morning.

We have also decided to have a writer in residence this year. The residency will support a writer to develop a piece of work and contribute to the festival also.

As usual, we are eagerly looking forward to seeing all the entries from the many Primary School children. Their poems will be judged by Geraldine Mitchell who has been a great friend of the festival for the past few years. We are always so impressed with the standard of the children’s poems and really appreciate the work and dedication of the teachers and schools who participate.

This year we have an exciting free event at Nenagh Library on Saturday morning for our 8 to 11-year-old friends when Nigel Quintan will enthral them with his story writing workshop.

Thanks to the support of director Eva Birdthistle and the staff of Nenagh Arts Centre through whom we have a great venue to host our writers. To open our festival this year, we are delighted to welcome, one of our own, Julian Gough who will read from his well-received new novel ‘Connect’. Sharing the bill will be Lisa Harding who won the Kate O’Brien award for her debut novel ‘Harvesting’. On Friday evening we have the very interesting pairing of, internationally acclaimed poet/novelist, Ruth Padel (great, great granddaughter of Charles Darwin) and publishing sensation of the year John Connell, author of ‘The Cow Book’. This event will be chaired by Sinead Gleeson. We are very grateful to local company, ABP, who have partnered us to sponsor John Connell’s participation. On Saturday night we are honoured to welcome, Man Booker prize winner, John Banville who will be interviewed by Sophie Gorman.

We are privileged to live in one of the most beautiful places in the country. Our guests and visitors love our festival for its range of venues and inspiring locations. On Sunday morning we highlight again our beautiful Dromineer and Lough Derg when we welcome Jessica Lee to join us on Teddy Knight’s ‘Ku–Ee-Tu’ for our ‘Afloat’ event. We will sail from Dromineer harbour and Jessica will read from her novel ‘Turning’ in which she describes swimming in all the lakes around Berlin during the course of a year.

Our final event takes place in our atmospheric and beautifully restored Nenagh Castle on Sunday afternoon when James Scully, historian and storyteller will enthral us with the story of Emily Brontë’s honeymoon in Banagher, Co. Offaly. (She married local man Arthur Bell Nicholle.) Come and hear Emily’s description of meeting her Irish in-laws for the first time. Members of The Nenagh Players will join James to dramatize these events. We also have two incredibly talented singer/songwriters, Claire Watts and Shona Blake, providing music and song for what promises to be a memorable event.

Our visual artists for this year also have strong local links. In 2016 Nenagh writer Henry Martin and illustrator Iro Tsavala published a picture book called Yappo which was supported by a Tipperary Artist Award. Prints from the book can be viewed upstairs in Lough Derg Yacht Club and in Country Choice, Kenyon Street, Nenagh.

On a sombre note I would like to pay tribute to local poet/translator, Toomevara man Seamus Hogan, who sadly passed away recently.

I would like to thank volunteers who come on board at the festival time to make sure things run smoothly! We express our deepest gratitude to our local accommodation providers, cafés, pubs, shops, and restaurants who look after our guests and visitors. We also greatly appreciate Noreen Cavanagh and her staff at The Thatched Cottage, Ballycommon who provide us with a venue for our meetings. A special word of thanks goes to Melanie Scott, Tipperary Co. Council Arts Officer and her staff for their steadfast support. I would also like to thank you, our audience, for supporting the events and buying the books! Finally, a huge thank you to all our generous, and I’m delighted to say, growing number of sponsors, whose support makes all this possible.

I look forward to welcoming you to this year’s festival and hope you will go away inspired!

Geraldine McNulty
Chairperson
Dromineer Literary Festival Committee
**“YAPPO”, SAID THE MAN – Festival Exhibition**

Can be viewed at Lough Derm Yacht Club and Country Choice, Kenyon Street, Ennagh. Entry: Free
Recipient of a Tippingary Artist Award, YAPPO is an elegant and poetic picture book featuring a wasp-adora, mermaid, milliner and dog. Suitable for adults and children, and beautifully produced, YAPPO will take readers on a short journey into the imagination.

―YAPPO‖, SAID THE MAN is an exhibition of prints from YAPPO and in collaboration between the Drummer Literary Festival and the creators of YAPPO: Iola Travella and Henry Martin.

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 4**

**Flying Start: Opening Night**
8.00pm
Ennagh Arts Centre, Buntleigh Square, Ennagh.
Entry: £12/£10
See Bookings for details
Liz Harling and Julian Gough discuss their recently published novels, both dealing with contemporary issues. The event will be chaired by Rick O’Shan.

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 5**

**Secondary Schools’ Transition Year Workshops**
9.00am - 3.00pm
Lough Derm Yacht Club
Poets and groups
Friday Forum
8.00pm
Ennagh Arts Centre, Buntleigh Square, Ennagh.
Entry: £12/£10
See Bookings for details
Sinead Gleece chats with prize winning poet, novelist and conservationist, Ruth Padel, and John Denton, journalist, film maker, writer and farmer. An exciting combination of voices and disparate experiences.

With thanks to ASP for their generous support for John Denton’s appearance.

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 6**

**CAFÉ TRAIL**
10.30am - 11.15am
Country Choice, Kenyon Street
11.30am - 12.15pm
Cinnamon Alley, Harry’s Place
Eileen Sheehan and John W. Sexton will read and chat at Country Choice and Cinnamon Alley.

**Children’s Event**
10.30am - 12.30pm
Ennagh Library, O’Rahilly Street
Ennagh. Entry: Free
Booking is essential **Maximum 20 participants**
Aligel Quinton will conduct a workshop for children 8-11 yrs in Ennagh Library. Aligel will give a talk which will be followed by a workshop, based on his book ‘The Cloak of Feathers’. The children will get the opportunity to write their own story. "Wild High energy! Fascinating!" are just some of the words used to describe this experience!

**Masterclass Poetry Workshop**
9.30am - 12.30pm
Lough Derm Yacht Club
Eileen Sheehan (inno, delicious home-made lunch)
Booking is essential **Maximum 15 participants**
Aligel Quinton and John Denton are pleased to announce the unveiling of Eileen Sheehan’s New Book, as part of the presentation and performance at this masterclass poetry workshop. This is a great opportunity to learn from a master-class and an exciting day to be had!

**Fiction Workshop**
9.30am - 12.30pm
Lough Derm Yacht Club
Entry: £40 (incl. delicious home-made lunch)
Booking is essential **Maximum 15 participants**
Julie Gough, award winning author, and experienced tutor will lead this workshop.

**Competition Results, Judge’s Citations & Readings**
2.30 - 3.30pm
Lough Derm Yacht Club
Entry: Free
In keeping with our tradition of introducing new writing, this year we are featuring poets Liz Quirke and Maurice Devitt, whose work will be introduced by Ruth Padel.
First time novelist, Ronan Ryan, will be introduced by Julian Gough.

**Saturday Night Special Guest**
8.00pm
Ennagh Arts Centre, Buntleigh Square, Ennagh.
Entry: £15/£13
See Bookings for details
Meet John Bennville, one of Ireland’s most highly acclaimed writers, and Man Booker Prize Winner will be in conversation with Sophie Gummon.

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 7**

**CAFÉ TRAIL**
10.40am - 11.15am
Steeples Cafe, O’Rahilly Street, Ennagh.

**Sunday Afternoon Afloat**
12.00pm - 2.00pm
Onboard The Ku-Ez-Tu Drummer Harbour. Entry: £12/£10
Places are limited - BOOKING AT THE HARBOUR
Hear Jessica J. Lee’s fascinating description of swimming in S2 takes around Berlin through all four seasons. Jessica tells of her recovery from heartbreak and loss. A breakthrough through the human power of water. This event will be chaired by Sue Leonard.
With thanks to Waterways Ireland for their support for this event.

**Bronte Event – Local Links**
4.00pm - 5.15pm
The Angel, 3 Pearse St, Ennagh.
Entry: £12/£10
Dress warmly and even bring a cushion
This event is not wheelchair accessible, see bookings for details.
Historian, James Scully, in association with The Ennagh Bicycle Club will unveil the map when Charlotte Bronte met her Irish in-laws on arrival for her honeymoon with her husband, native man, Arthur Bell Nicholls, in Bangor, Co. Antrim. See a new map of Charlotte Mews and Shirley Girls will enhance the evening with their unique and inimitable voices.
Thanks to The OPW and Tipperary Heritage Office for their support for this event.
John Banville was born in Wexford, Ireland, in 1945. He is the author of several novels including The Sea, which won the 2005 Man Booker Prize. In 2011 he was awarded the Franz Kafka Prize, and in 2013 he was awarded the Irish PEN Award for Outstanding Achievement in Literature in Ireland and in 2014 he was the Prince of Asturias Award, Spain's most important literary prize. His most recent novel is Mrs Osmond. He lives in Dublin.

John Connell is a film maker, actor and screenwriter. He lives on his family farm in Birchview, Co. Longford. The Cow Book is his first book.

Maurice Devlin is from Dublin. His work has appeared in numerous newspapers and magazines. He won the 2015 Trocadero Poetry/Irish Creativity Competition. Maurice is an avid history collector, Growing Up in Colour has just been published.

Sinéad Glesiar is a writer, TV presenter and freelance broadcast and journalist. Her debut essay collection, Constellations, will be published by Picador in spring 2019, and is the editor of three short story anthologies.

Julian Gough was born in London to Irish parents, grew up in Ireland, and now lives in Berlin. As a youth, he sang on four albums with his band, Toasted Hamlet. Since then, he has published three novels for adults, and three award-winning books for children (Black Cat in the Field). He has written the exciting adventures of Rabbit and Bambi, and he was also a witness to the ending of the world’s most popular computer game, MindCraft. He won the BBC National Short Story Award.

Seaghe Gorman is an arts journalist, broadcaster, critic and columnist who works in print, radio and television.

Lisa Harding is an actor, playwright and writer. Her short stories have been widely published and anthologised. She was the winner of the Martin in creative writing from Trinity college Dublin in 2011. She is now an actively first novel acclaimed, inspired by her involvement in a public campaign against the Children’s Rights Alliance in 2012 of called Stop Sex Traffic Child Victims of Child売ing. Young People. It won the Kate O’Brien award, a prize that is considered to be the best newcomer at the Irish Book Awards 2017.

Jessica Lee was born in Canada in 1985. Her books include:

Susan Leonard is a writer and journalist. She has interviewed numerous authors including eleven winners of The Man Booker Prize.

Roisin Meany (Kilkenny, Limerick based) is the author of fifteen adult (thirteen with Hatchets Books) and one children’s. Her books have been translated into several languages. She is a fan of cats, chocolate, baking and kindness.

Germaine Mitchell is Dublin-born but lives on the Co. Mayo coast, not far from Louisbourg. She is a Patrick Kavanagh Award winner and her most recent collection of poems, Macrocarpa for Breakfast, was published in 2017.

Ruth O’Shea is a broadcaster with RTÉ and Ireland’s largest book club. She is the author of over 20,000 members is a member of the literary festival curator. He is also be in deputy ambassador for Galway and one of the judges for the 2018 UK Costa Book Awards.

Ruth Padel is an award-winning Professor of Poetry at the University of London. Her recent collection includes A Life in Poems, a verbose biography of her great-great-grandfather Charles Darwin, The Mara Crossing on human migration and the English landscape. Writing to Make an Oud in Nazareth on the Middle East, and Tidings, a narrow poem on homelessness and Christmas. She is also the writer for the Rowan Poetry Prize of the UK and as well as the Royal Society of Literature. She was Chair of Judges for the 2015 T. S. Eliot Prize, Judge for the 2016 inaugural Man Booker International Prize.

Nigel Quinlan is a poet and author who lives in Cloughjordan Co Tipperary. He has two children and their pet dog, Rug. He has a new book called The Clock Of Feather, and his previous book was The Mainly’s Magical Weatherbox. He looks just like his photo, only with more hair. Nigel spends all his time trying to write and not silly things on twitter @NigeTheQuin

John W. Sexton was born in 1956 and lives in South Kerry. He is the author of poet collections, the most recent of which is native Irish (Salmon Poetry 2018). Under the ironic pseudonym of S.W. Johnson he has recorded an album with singer Stephen’s act., Hugh Kemm, entitled Sons of Shiva, which has been released on Track Record. He is past poet for The Homeless Literary Review and his poem ‘The Green Owl’ was the Lisbon Poetry Prize 2001. Also in 2007 he was awarded a Patrick and Katherine Kavanagh Fellowship in Poetry.

Liz Quirke is originally from Tralee, Co. Kerry but living in Spiddal, Co. Galway. She was the winner of the 2017 Undiscovered Writers Short Poem Competition, the Irish Times Poetry Festival Flash Fiction Competition. She holds degrees from Oxford, Dublin City University and NUI Galway. She is a PhD researcher and a member of the Interface Irish Artist Residency Programme.

Ronan Ryan is an Irish writer, born in Dublin, but originally from Cill Mhíthil. He has an MSc in Creative Writing from the University of Edinburgh and a PhD in English literature from Victoria University of Wellington. He has won an Arts Bursary Award in Literature from Dublin City Council. His debut novel, The Chess of Jimmy Dietz, was named by the Irish Independent Review as one of their Books of the Year.

James Trimble is from Tullamore and has resided in Ratoath, County Offaly, Ireland, Eyrecourt, County Galway for some time. Among his interests is the local history interests are the many literary associations with Banagher, especially with Charlotte Bronte, Anthony Trollope, Sir Michael O’Reilly and a host of others.

Eileen Shohan is from Scarcraghten, rowing in Kilmany. Currently Eileen’s poetry has appeared in many anthologies. Her work features on Poetry Ireland’s Visual Web. Her collections include Bright Night to the Sunlight (Dagshouse Books), her third collection, ‘The Narrow Way of Souls’ was published in 2018 by Salmon Poetry. A poem of her has been featured in the Leaving Cert English syllabus 2019 - 2022.

Write In Residence. Poet and playwright Paul McNeera will be writer in residence at An Gorta Mhór. His show Quarter Life Crisis won the Galway Fringe Spoken Word Award 2019. Special thanks to Nenagh Arts Centre for hosting the writer.

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<tr>
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<td>10.30am - 11.15am</td>
<td><strong>Café Trail</strong></td>
<td>Country Choice, Kenyon Street</td>
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<td>11.30am - 12.15pm</td>
<td><em>Eileen Sheehan</em> and <em>John W. Sexton</em></td>
<td>Cinnamon Alley, Hanly’s Place</td>
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<td>Workshop for children 8yrs - 11yrs with <em>Nigel Quinlan</em></td>
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<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
<td><strong>Competition Results, Judge’s Citations &amp; Readings</strong></td>
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<td>with <em>Geraldine Mitchell</em></td>
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<td>3.45pm - 4.45pm</td>
<td><strong>The Launching Party</strong></td>
<td>Lough Derg Yacht Club</td>
<td>€5</td>
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<td><em>Liz Quirke and Maurice Devitt</em> introduced by <em>Ruth Padel</em></td>
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<td><em>Jessica J. Lee</em></td>
<td>Dromineer Harbour</td>
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<td>4.00pm - 5.15pm</td>
<td><strong>Brontë Event - Local Links</strong></td>
<td>Nenagh Castle</td>
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BOOKINGS

To book contact:

Online booking: www.nenagharts.com/index.php/tickets
Email: info@dromineerliteraryfestival.ie
Programme details: www.dromineerliteraryfestival.ie

For further information:

www.dromineerliteraryfestival.ie
F: facebook.com/DromineerLitFestival
T: twitter.com/DromineerLit

*Booking is strongly recommended for writing workshops and the event at Nenagh Castle as places are strictly limited.

**Booking is essential for the Children’s Event on Saturday October 6 as places are strictly limited. To book contact Nenagh Library on 067 34404.

Don’t forget to like and follow us to stay up to date with our latest events.

Festival Team

Geraldine McNulty, Chairperson
David McAvinchy, Vice Chairperson
Margaret Kennedy, Secretary
Geraldine Cronin, Treasurer

Virginia O’Dowd
Margaret Folan
Marcella Dillon
Niamh Herriot
Eileen Brannigan
Deborah Powell
Leisa Gray and her predecessor,
Liz Powell, Tipperary County Council Festivals Coordinator

The programme was curated by Geraldine McNulty and committee members in conjunction with Eimear O’Herlihy, Director of West Cork Literary Festival.

A SPECIAL THANKS

Bank Of Ireland
AIB Bank
Nenagh Credit Union
Echo IT
Arrabawn Co-Op
Cronin Architects
Patrick F. Treacy and Co.
David Peters
James O’Brien and Co.
Jacques Lumbroso
James and Margaret Dodd
Dr. Paul O’Farrell
Colm and Dearbhla Chadwick
Dr. Christine O’Malley
Donal and Marie Whelan

Charles Stanley Smith
Elizabeth McGrath
Peter and Margaret Kennedy
Steeples Cafe
Country Choice
Cinnamon Alley
Slattery’s of Nenagh
Richard and Betty Gough
Lyon’s Garage Nenagh
Eddie Guerin
Alan Kelly T.D.
Maurice and Maire Foley
Expert Electrical
John and Fidelma Tierney
Quigleys Bakery

The Bookshop
Denis Finnerty
P.J. and Sally Slattery
The Thatched Cottage, Ballycommon
O’Connors Kenyon Street Market
Ger Gavins House of Gifts
Florrie Purcell, The Scullery
The Peppermint
Derg Cheese
Hanly Tweeds
Rocky’s Bar
The Lake Cafe, Dromineer
The Whiskey Still, Dromineer
Abbey Machinery