

# Booking

Booking is strongly recommended for writing workshops and for Sunday Afternoon Afloat as places are strictly limited.

Advance booking is available for all events and unsold tickets will be available on the door to each event.

To book contact:  
Tel: 086 4401613 or  
Email: emhooker@eircom.net

# Social Media

Further information and updates:

[www.dromineerliteraryfestival.ie](http://www.dromineerliteraryfestival.ie)

[facebook.com/DromineerLiteraryFestival](https://www.facebook.com/DromineerLiteraryFestival)  
[twitter.com/dromineerlit](https://twitter.com/dromineerlit)

CREATIVITY  
CONNECTION  
COMMUNITY

11th Dromineer  
Literary Festival  
2nd- 5th October 2014

Dromineer  
Literary  
Festival

# Thanks



Lough  
Derg  
Yacht  
Club



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## Artists appearing at Dromineer Literary Festival in 2014

Mary Arrigan	Medbh McGuckian	Conor O'Callaghan
Paul Casey	Kobus Moolman	Donal Ryan
Gerald Dawe	Michael Murphy	Philip Ryan
Niamh Hogan	Nuala Ní Chonchúir	Eileen Sheehan
Kevin Higgins	Doireann Ní Ghríofa	Matthew Sweeney
Thomas McCarthy	Mary Noonan	
Afric McGlinchey	Liz Nugent	

[www.dromineerliteraryfestival.ie](http://www.dromineerliteraryfestival.ie)

# Fáilte

Building on the success of the past ten years, the Dromineer Literary Festival goes from strength to strength. It is testament to our Chairman Emeritus, Pat Kelly, and the sterling work of the committee that the Dromineer Literary Festival enjoys the reputation it has today. Our deepest thanks to Pat for his treasured leadership and inspiration. This year, I find myself in the privileged position of helping to continue this tradition.

It is with great fondness we remember our long-time committee member, Bryan McDermott, who sadly passed away earlier this year. Bryan brought laughter and joy to his role as Transition Year Workshops Co-ordinator. His enthusiasm and love of life inspired us as well as his pupils.

*These are our days,  
Walk them,  
Fear nothing.*

From: *Humankind* by Kerry Hardie

Our committee has worked tirelessly to produce another excellent programme. We are grateful to the Arts Council and the Arts Office of Tipperary County Council, for their continued support and to our generous local sponsors – listed overleaf. Our venue, the Lough Derg Yacht Club overlooking the lake, provides a breathtaking backdrop for events.

We are honoured to have Maureen Kennelly, Director of Poetry Ireland, launch this year's festival. Maureen will also be moderating our event in Nenagh *The Book That Most Influenced Me*. This promises to be a lively discussion with much admired writer Thomas McCarthy, poet Kobus Moolman, (over from South Africa), award winning author Nuala Ní Chonchúir, debut novelist, Liz Nugent and broadcaster and author, Michael Murphy.

At our poetry event, internationally acclaimed poet Matthew Sweeney will be joined by award winning poets Eileen Sheehan and Mary Noonan and we are delighted to introduce bilingual poet Doireann Ní Ghríofa. Is beidh gaeilge le cloisint comh maith!

In a special addition to our programme, *Gallery Goes...* is coming to Dromineer. We are excited to have three much lauded poets, Gerald Dawe, Medbh McGuckian and Conor O'Callaghan read Saturday afternoon, October 4. One of the tenets of the Festival has been to encourage young writers. Our competitions have delivered worthy winners over the last decade. Donal Ryan makes a welcome return as judge of our Flash Fiction competition. Mary Arrigan will judge the Children's School Competition; always a highlight at the festival launch.

Our event on the water, Reading Salmon on Lough Derg sees Salmon Poetry poets. Afric McGlinchey, Kevin Higgins and Paul Casey afloat on Lough Derg for a reading with a difference. Places are limited, early booking is advised for this, a favourite event.

Our Festival Exhibition, *Beyond Remembrance*, is by Nenagh artist Philip Ryan. Philip's extraordinarily evocative paintings will be available to view, and purchase, upstairs in Lough Derg Yacht Club throughout the festival weekend.

The Nenagh Players, performing on Sunday night at the Whiskey Still, will draw our eleventh festival to a close. The Whiskey Still in Dromineer village is the location for our festival club, where we'll meet up and chat following each event.

Welcome to Dromineer – we look forward to sharing with you our love of the written, spoken and visual arts.

Paul O'Dwyer  
Chairman

## Festival Team:

Paul O'Dwyer, Chairman  
Eleanor Hooker,  
Programme Curator & PR  
Deborah Powell,  
Secretary  
Hjordis Goodbody,  
Treasurer  
Pat Kelly  
Patrick Rowley Brooke  
Mary Ryan  
Stuart Andrew  
Pat Harrold  
Margaret Kennedy  
Theresa Hassey  
Melanie Scott,  
Tipperary Arts Officer  
Bernie McGrath,  
Festival Co-ordinator

Cover image:  
*Swimmer - Twilight*  
by Philip Ryan

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Time	Event	Venue	Fee
<b>THURSDAY OCTOBER 2</b>			
8.00pm	<b>Dromineer Festival Poetry Evening</b> – with Matthew Sweeney, Mary Noonan, Eileen Sheehan and introducing Doireann Ní Ghríofa	Lough Derg Yacht Club	€10
<b>FRIDAY OCTOBER 3</b>			
9.00am-3.00pm	<b>Secondary Schools Transition Year Workshop</b> with Poet Paul Casey	Lough Derg Yacht Club	Pre-booked group event
7.30pm	<b>Official Opening 2014 Festival</b> Maureen Kennelly, Director of Poetry Ireland will launch the festival. Cheese & Wine Reception	Lough Derg Yacht Club	Free
8.00pm	<b>Competition Results and Readings</b>	Lough Derg Yacht Club	Free
<b>SATURDAY OCTOBER 4</b>			
10.00am - 12.30pm	<b>Poetry Workshop</b> with Kobus Moolman	Lough Derg Yacht Club	€15 (lunch included)
10.00am - 12.30pm	<b>Short Story Workshop</b> with Nuala Ní Chonchúir	Lough Derg Yacht Club	€15 (lunch included)
4.00pm - 5.00pm	<b>Gallery Goes to Dromineer</b> with Gerald Dawe, Medbh McGuckian & Conor O'Callaghan	Lough Derg Yacht Club	€10
8.00pm - 10.00pm	<b>The Book That Most Influenced Me</b> , followed by readings with Thomas McCarthy, Kobus Moolman, Nuala Ní Chonchúir, Michael Murphy and Liz Nugent. Chaired by Maureen Kennelly.	Nenagh Arts Centre, Banba Square, Nenagh	€12/€10
10.30pm	<b>The Festival Club</b>	The Whiskey Still	Free entry
<b>SUNDAY OCTOBER 5</b>			
3.00pm - 5.00pm	<b>Reading Salmon on Lough Derg</b> with Afric McGlinchey, Kevin Higgins and Paul Casey	Aboard The Spirit of Killaloe from Dromineer Harbour	€12/€10
6.00pm - 8.00pm	<b>Sunday Night Finale</b> with The Nenagh Players	The Whiskey Still, Dromineer Village	Free entry
<b>THURSDAY TO SUNDAY</b>			
Thursday to Sunday	<b>"Beyond Remembrance"</b> – An Exhibition by Philip Ryan. This year's Festival Artist is Philip Ryan. Philip's paintings will be on view throughout the weekend.	Lough Derg Yacht Club	Free entry

# Events

THURSDAY OCTOBER 2

## Dromineer Festival Poetry – All Ireland Poetry Day

with *Matthew Sweeney, Mary Noonan, Eileen Sheehan, Doireann Ni Ghríofa*

8.00pm, Lough Derg Yacht Club, €10.00 entry

Internationally acclaimed poet Matthew Sweeney, will be joined by award winning poets, Mary Noonan, Eileen Sheehan and Doireann Ni Ghríofa, in what promises to be an exceptional evening of poetry.

## "Beyond Remembrance" An Exhibition by Philip Ryan

Lough Derg Yacht Club, from Thursday to Sunday, Free Entry

Philip's art concerns itself with the relationship between man and nature and with the meeting ground on which they converge. His work reflects this encounter with paint applied in a manner to suggest flux. His use of light and shadow is a visual metaphor for this moment of union, as figures and landscape flow into each other.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 3

## Secondary Schools Transition Year Workshop

with *Paul Casey*

Pre-booked group  
9.00am - 3.00pm, Lough Derg Yacht Club

Poet, Paul Casey is an experienced teacher and greatly respected workshop facilitator. Paul will be reading his own poetry on the event afloat, Sunday afternoon. The objective of these workshops is to introduce young writers to fresh approaches to writing, to offer triggers for inspiration as well as an introduction to writing techniques.

The transition year workshops are organised directly with local schools and are therefore closed events.

## Official Opening 2014 Festival

7.30pm, Lough Derg Yacht Club, Free Entry

Launch by Maureen Kennelly, Director of Poetry Ireland. Cheese and wine reception.

We are delighted that Maureen, as well as launching our festival, will be chairing our *Meet the Authors* event on Saturday evening in Nenagh Arts Centre.

## Competition Results & Readings

8.00pm, Lough Derg Yacht Club, Free Entry

Poetry	Judge: Matthew Sweeney
Flash Fiction	Judge: Donal Ryan
Something Fishy	Judge: Mary Arrigan

Readers: Niamh Hogan and Ronan Dodd

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4

## Poetry Workshop

with *Kobus Moolman*

10.00am – 12.30pm, Lough Derg Yacht Club.  
€15 Fee includes a light lunch.  
NB Booking is essential.

Maximum participants, 15. Each should bring 16 copies of one poem, maximum 40 lines.

We are excited to have South African Poet Kobus Moolman give this year's workshop. Kobus has published six previous collections of poetry, as well as several plays, and edited an anthology by South African writers living with disabilities. He has won numerous awards for his poetry and his plays. He teaches creative writing at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

## Gallery Goes...

with *Gerald Dawe, Maeve McGuckian, Conor O'Callaghan*

4.00pm - 5.30pm, Lough Derg Yacht Club.  
€5 Fee

It is with great pleasure that we host three outstanding Irish Poets, published by Gallery Press, at a reading on Saturday afternoon, October 4.

## Short Story Workshop

with *Nuala Ni Chonchúir*

10.00am - 12.30pm, Lough Derg Yacht Club.  
€15 Fee includes a light lunch.  
NB Booking is essential.

Maximum participants, 15. Each should bring 16 copies of one piece of prose, maximum 500 words.

Nuala Ni Chonchúir is an experienced and much in demand workshop facilitator. Her second novel *The Closet of Savage Mementos* (New Island) appeared April 2014 to excellent reviews. Penguin USA and Penguin Canada will publish Nuala's third novel, *Miss Emily*, about the poet Emily Dickinson and her Irish maid, in 2015.

## Meet The Authors - The Book That Most Influenced Me

with *Thomas McCarthy, Michael Murphy, Kobus Moolman, Nuala Ni Chonchúir, Liz Nugent and chaired by Maureen Kennelly*

8.00pm - 10.00pm

**NOTE VENUE:** Nenagh Arts Centre, Banba Square, Nenagh  
€12.00/€10.00  
**Entry:** Nenagh Arts Centre  
**Bookings:** 067 34400  
**Tel:** www.nenagharts.com  
**Web:**

This promises to be an outstanding evening of readings and conversation from five exceptionally talented writers. We are fortunate to have the dynamic Maureen Kennelly chair the event.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 5

## Sunday Afternoon Afloat

with *Kevin Higgins, Afric McGlinchey, Paul Casey*

3.00pm - 5.00pm  
**On board *The Spirit of Killaloe***  
**Entry:** €12.00/€10.00  
**NOTE:** Places Strictly Limited, Booking is Essential  
**Email:** info@dromineerliteraryfestival.ie

Our event afloat, Reading Salmon on Lough Derg sees award winning and vibrant poets, Afric McGlinchey, Kevin Higgins and Paul Casey (all published by Salmon Poetry) take to the waters of Lough Derg for a reading with a difference.

## Sunday Night Finale

with *the Nenagh Players*

6.00pm - 8.00pm. The Whiskey Still, Dromineer Village. Free Entry

Following the Sunday Afternoon Afloat event, the festival committee invite you to join them for the festival finale with a sketch by the superb actors from the Nenagh Players. We may coax a song or two from amongst the talented residents of Dromineer.

**Photo Credits:**  
Gerald Dawe by Bobbie Harvey/The Gallery Press. Conor O'Callaghan by Eve O'Callaghan/The Gallery Press. Medbh McGuckian by Suella Holland/The Gallery Press

# Biographies

**Mary Arrigan** studied at the National College of Art Dublin, and Florence University. Awards include The Sunday Times Crime Writers Association Award and The Hennessy Short Story Award. *The Rabbit Girl* was on the 2012 United States Board Of Books For Young People list. Three of her Milo adventures have just been published.



**Paul Casey** has had poetry published in five of his six spoken languages. His debut collection is *Home More Or Less* (Salmon Poetry, 2012). His second collection is due from Salmon in 2015. He is the founder/director of the Ó Bhéal reading series in his home city, Cork



**Gerald Dawe** was born in Belfast and now lives in County Dublin. He is inaugural director of the Oscar Wilde Centre for Irish Writing, Associate Professor in English and a Fellow of Trinity College Dublin. The Gallery Press has published six collections including *The Lundys Letter* for which he received the Macaulay Fellowship in Literature. His Selected Poems appeared in 2012. A new collection, *Mickey Finn's Air*, will be published October 2014.



**Kevin Higgins's** poetry features in the generation defining anthology *Identity Parade - New British and Irish Poets* (Ed Roddy Lumsden, Bloodaxe, 2010) and one of his poems is included in the forthcoming anthology *The Hundred Years' War: modern war poems* (Ed Neil Astley, Bloodaxe April 2014). Kevin's fourth collection of poems *The Ghost In The Lobby* (Salmon, Spring 2014) is just published.



**Niamh Hogan** an actor with the Nenagh Players, has collaborated with the Dromineer Literary Festival for many years. She has performed in the All Ireland Drama Festival in the Open Category, and has, over the years, won several awards on the circuit. In 2014 she was nominated Best Actress in the all Ireland finals for her role as Peg in Bruce Graham's *The Outgoing Tide*.



**Maureen Kennelly** will officially launch the 2014 Festival. Ms Kennelly is the Director of Poetry Ireland. She has also worked in a number of Arts organisations including as: Primary Curator with the Mountains to Sea DLR Book Festival for 2012/13, Programme Director of the Cúirt International Festival of Literature, Galway for 2009/10 and curator of the All Ireland Performing Arts Conferences held in Belfast and in Derry for the past two years. She was also previously director of Kilkenny Arts Festival. She is a member of the boards of Kilkenny Arts Festival, the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Barabbas Theatre Company and The Dock Arts Centre, Carrick-on-Shannon. She was appointed to the Expert Advisory Committee of Culture Ireland earlier this year.



**Thomas McCarthy** was born in Cappoquin, Co. Waterford, in 1954. Educated at UCC. Winner of the Kavanagh Award, 1977, Hunt Bartlett Prize, 1980 and O'Shaughnessy Prize, 1991. A member of Aosdána, he is the author of eight collections of poetry, two novels and a memoir. His new book *Pandemonium* is due from Anvil Press Poetry in late 2014.



**Afric McGlinchey's** collection, *The lucky star of hidden things*, was published by Salmon in 2012. A Pushcart nominee, she won the 2010 Hennessy Poetry Award and 2012 Northern Liberties poetry prize, and has been placed, commended and shortlisted in a number of competitions, including the Magma and Bridport.



**Medbh McGuckian** was born in Belfast where she lives and teaches at the Seamus Heaney Centre, Queen's University, Belfast. The Gallery Press has published more than a dozen of her collections, among them *The Flower Master* and *Other Poems*. *Had I a Thousand Lives* and *The High Caul Cap*. She has received the Rooney Prize, the American Ireland Fund Literary Award and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Aberdeen. She is a member of Aosdána.



**Kobus Moolman** lives in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. He has published six collections of poetry, as well as several plays, and edited an anthology by South African writers living with disabilities. He has won numerous awards for his poetry and his plays. He teaches creative writing at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.



**Michael Murphy** is a native of Castlebar, County Mayo. A psychoanalyst and award-winning senior television producer, director and newscaster with RTE, his highly acclaimed literary memoir, *At Five in the Afternoon - My Battle with Male Cancer*, published in 2009, was a number one best-seller. In 2013, his poetry collection, *The Republic of Love - Twenty-five Poems*, and his second volume of prose, *The House Of Pure Being*, both published in 2013, were met with great acclaim. In 2013, Michael Murphy was awarded an honorary MA by NUIG, Galway, in recognition of his 'important and valuable contribution to Irish society and beyond'.



**Nuala Ni Chonchúir** was born in Dublin in 1970; she lives in East Galway. Her second novel *The Closet of Savage Mementos* appeared April 2014 from New Island. Penguin USA and Penguin Canada will publish Nuala's third novel, *Miss Emily*, about the poet Emily Dickinson and her Irish maid, in 2015. [www.nualanichonchuir.com](http://www.nualanichonchuir.com)



**Doireann Ni Ghríofa** is the Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary recipient 2014-2015. Pushcart Prize nominee, Doireann is a bilingual poet based in Cork. Her Irish language collections *Resheoid* and *Dúlasair* are published by Coiscéim and her bilingual chapbook *A Hummingbird, Your Heart* is available from Smithereens Press. Her first collection of poems in English is forthcoming



**Mary Noonan** has been awarded a place on the prestigious Aldeburgh Eight, with a residency at Bruisyard Hall, Suffolk, this winter. Mary's poems have appeared in *Cyphers*, *The Dark Horse*, *The North*, *Poetry Review*, *Poetry London*, *The Stinging Fly* and *The Threepenny Review*. She won the Listowel Poetry Collection Prize in 2010. Her first collection *The Fado House* (Dedalus, 2012) was shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Centre Prize and the Strong/Shine Award.



**Liz Nugent** has spent the last 20 years working in Irish film, theatre and television. For the last decade, she has been an award-winning writer of radio and television drama and has written short stories for children and adults. *Unravelling Oliver*, published in March, is Liz's first novel. It has been a critical and commercial success.



**Conor O'Callaghan** was born in Newry, County Down, and grew up in Dundalk. The Gallery Press has published his four collections. *The History of Rain*, published in 1993, was shortlisted for the Forward 'Best First Collection' Prize and won the Patrick Kavanagh Award. *Fiction* (2005) was a Poetry Book Society Recommendation. *The Sun King* was published in 2013.



**Donal Ryan** originally from Nenagh, lives in Limerick with his wife Anne Marie and their two young children. His debut novel, *The Spinning Heart*, won the 2012 Irish Book Awards, Book of the Year, was long-listed for the 2013 Man Booker Prize and won the 2013 Guardian First Book Award. It was shortlisted for the 2014 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and long-listed for the 2014 Desmond Elliot Award. Donal's second novel, *The Thing About December*, was shortlisted for Irish Novel of the Year in 2013 and the Kerry Group Novel of the Year for 2014.



**Philip Ryan** was born in Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. He attended Limerick School of Art & Design from 1979-83 where he obtained a degree in Graphic Design. Philip set up a Sign/Design business in Nenagh, and after this, moved to the USA in 1994, where he worked for publishers. Philip has been painting full time since 2001 with his first solo exhibition in Dublin, in 2013. He is currently working on paintings based on the Shannon.



**Eileen Sheehan** is from Co Kerry. Her collections are *Song of the Midnight Fox* and *Down the Sunlit Hill* (Doghouse Books). Anthology publications include *The Watchful Heart: A New Generation of Irish Poets* (Ed Joan McBreen/Salmon Poetry) and *The Poetry of Sex* (Ed Sophie Hannah / Penguin).



**Matthew Sweeney** has published ten collections of poems, most recently *Horse Music* (Bloodaxe 2013), for which he received the inaugural Pigott Poetry Prize at Listowel Writers' Week, earlier this year. He is co-author with John Hartley Williams of the satirical thriller, *Death Comes for the Poets* (Muswell Press, 2012). Two pamphlets are appearing in 2014 - *The Gamera Notebook* (Shoestring) and *Twentyone Men and a Ghost* (The Poetry Business) - and Bloodaxe will publish a new collection, *Inquisition Lane*, in 2015.

