



The SEAMUS
HEANEY
CENTRE
for POETRY



SPRING EVENTS

2014

at the
CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE

All events are free and unticketed unless otherwise stated.
Presented in collaboration with the Crescent Arts Centre.



CLEMENT McALEER

The Open Field: the John Clare Series

Tuesday, 28 January from 6pm to 8pm

at the Naughton Gallery, Lanyon Building, Queen's University

You are invited to a preview of the paintings inspired by John Clare's account of his escape from the asylum, 'Journey Out of Essex'.

BOOK LAUNCH

CAOLINN HUGHES AND RORY WATERMAN

Friday, 7 February at 5.30pm at the Crescent Arts Centre

Come and join the Seamus Heaney Centre and Carcanet press in a celebration of two debut collections of poetry.

Caoilinn Hughes did her MA at Queen's and is now studying for a PhD at the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. A selection of poems from her book *Gathering Evidence* won the 2012 Patrick Kavanagh Award, and also the 2013 Cúirt New Writing Prize, the 2012 STA Travel Writing Prize and the 2013 Trócaire /Poetry Ireland Competition.

Rory Waterman was born in Belfast and grew up in rural Lincolnshire. He teaches English Literature and Creative Writing at Nottingham Trent University. He was a Hawthornden Fellow in 2012 and currently co-edits *New Walk* arts magazine. His collection *Tonight the Summer's Over* is a Poetry Book Society Recommendation.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JOHN CLARE: WITH MICHAEL LONGLEY AND PAUL FARLEY

Thursday, 13 February at 8 pm at the Naughton Gallery,

Lanyon Building, Queen's University

John Clare has been called a 'poet's poet'. Among those who have been touched by him are Edmund Blunden, Geoffrey Grigson, Patrick Kavanagh, R. S. Thomas, John Ashbery, Seamus Heaney, and Tom Paulin. Not least among his admirers are Michael Longley and Paul Farley, whose own work has been influenced by Clare's meticulous and loving description of the flora and fauna of his native fen and heath. Michael and Paul will be reading from Clare's work and their own, and talking about his influence on that work, in the presence of Clement McAleer's paintings inspired by Clare.

PAULA MEEHAN

Thursday, 6 March at 8 pm in the Crescent Arts Centre

Those who were present at Paula Meehan's inaugural lecture as Ireland Professor of Poetry last November will long remember the occasion for the panache, wit and passion of her delivery. Her reading from her own work promises to be no less memorable.

JOHN LYNCH

Thursday, 27 March at 8 pm in the Crescent Arts Centre

John Lynch's work as an actor has garnered great praise for his roles in films such as *Cal*, *In the Name of the Father*, and *Some Mother's Son*, among many others. Now his work as a novelist is beginning to have an equal impact. His debut novel *Torn Water* (2007) was described by the *Independent on Sunday* as 'a tale of great delicacy and originality, in which the fierce intensity of adolescence and, even more, the paranoia and yearning of childhood are evoked with precision, grace and overwhelming conviction.' This was followed by *Falling Out of Heaven* (2010), published to similar acclaim.

MAUREEN McLANE AND RICHARD PRICE

Thursday, 3 April at 8 pm in the Crescent Arts Centre

This reading, open to the public, is part of the Expanded Lyric conference organized by our PhD students Alice Lyons and Andy Eaton.

Maureen N. McLane is a poet and critic at New York University. Her poetry books include *This Blue: poems* (forthcoming), *World Enough: poems* (2012) and *Same Life: poems* (2010), all published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

Richard Price's poetry collections include *Lucky Day* (2005), *Greenfields* (2007), *Rays* (2009) and *Small World* (2012), all published by Carcanet. *Small World* won Poetry Book of the Year in the 2013 Scottish Book Awards. *Lucky Day* was shortlisted both for the Forward and the Jerwood-Aldeburgh Prizes for Best First Collection as well as the Whitbread Award.

SEAMUS HEANEY: A CONFERENCE AND COMMEMORATION

10-13 April

Various times and locations

For details of this major conference, see our website at

<http://go.qub.ac.uk/heaneyconference>

'PLAYS THAT JUST WON'T GO AWAY' WITH JIMMY McALEAVEY AND OWEN McCAFFERTY

Thursday, 1 May at 8 pm in the Crescent Arts Centre

Jimmy McAleavy has written numerous plays for stage and radio. His *Sign of the Whale* won the Stewart Parker Major Bursary and was nominated for the Meyer-Whitworth. His BBC Radio 3 play *Moonmen* was described by *The Daily Mail* as 'the perfect radio play'. He is currently under commission with the Abbey Theatre and Tinderbox. Jimmy is a lecturer in the Seamus Heaney Centre, where he teaches scriptwriting for stage, radio and screen.

Owen McCafferty is one of Ireland's most celebrated playwrights. His work has been produced by the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, the National Theatre in London and every major theatre company in Northern Ireland. His play *Scenes from the Big Picture* (2003) earned him the John Whiting Award, The Charles Wintour Award for New Playwriting and the Meyer-Whitworth Award: the first time a playwright had won all three awards in one year.

FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS READING WITH LIZ ROSENBERG AND ELISABETH SHEFFIELD

Thursday, 8 May at 8 pm in the Crescent Arts Centre

Every Spring semester the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry welcomes two Fulbright Scholars, giving us the opportunity to benefit from the presence of the finest writers from the U.S.A.

Liz Rosenberg is Professor of Comparative Literature and Creative Writing in the Department of English and Creative Writing, College of Arts and Sciences, State University of New York at Binghamton. She has published numerous highly commended novels, including *Home Repair* (Harper Collins, 2009) and *Heart and Soul* (Harcourt Brace, 1996), and numerous collections of poetry, including the Pulitzer Prize-nominated *Demon Love* (Mammoth Press, 2008).

Elisabeth Sheffield is Associate Professor of English and Creative Writing in the Department of English and Creative Writing, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder. She has held teaching appointments at various institutions in the USA, Germany and Cyprus and is the author of the critical monograph *Joyce's Abandoned Female Costumes, Gratefully Received* (Associated University Presses, 1998) as well as two well-reviewed experimental novels *Gone* (2003) and *Fort Da: A Report* (2009) from the highly innovative publishing group Fiction Collective Two in the USA.

'POST-SECULARISM AND THE TRANSATLANTIC AVANT-GARDE': A SEMINAR WITH ROMANA HUK

Thursday, 29 May at 5 pm in the Seamus Heaney Centre Seminar Room

Romana Huk is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame. She is co-editor of *Contemporary British Poetry: Essays in Theory and Criticism* (SUNY Press, 1996), editor of *Assembling Alternatives: Reading Postmodern Poetries Transnationally* (Wesleyan UP, 2003), and author of *Stevie Smith: Between the Lines* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005).

M. A. READINGS

Thursday, 29 May at 8 pm in the Crescent Arts Centre

One of the most popular events in our programme, featuring readings by our Creative Writing students.