



New Writing from Ireland

Ireland Literature Exchange – Promoting Irish literature abroad

Welcome

Welcome to the 2005 edition of New Writing from Ireland.

This year's catalogue contains submissions from 24 publishers and features newly published writing by over 50 leading Irish novelists and poets.

We are tremendously excited to be introducing début titles by up-and-coming writers Órfhlaith Foyle, Karen Gillece, Jason Johnson, Sam Millar and Mark O'Sullivan. Renowned poet Brian Lynch also makes his fiction début, while established authors Deirdre Madden and Eoin McNamee try their hand at writing for children.

A glance through New Writing from Ireland reveals the diversity of preoccupations of our featured writers. Sebastian Barry, Tom Phelan and Dermot Bolger explore the effects of the first World War on Irish society, while Mark O'Sullivan's book is set during the Irish War of Independence. As ever in Irish writing, the rural landscape and society feature prominently in the books of P.J. Curtis, Joe Steve Ó Neachtain, Desmond Hogan and Alice Taylor. Urban Ireland is revisited in Oona Frawley's anthology of short stories in homage to James Joyce, New Dubliners. Publishers of Irish poetry have been exceptionally busy this year, with some of Ireland's leading poets – Pat Boran, Eva Bourke, Thomas McCarthy, Derek Mahon, Conor O'Callaghan, Gabriel Rosenstock and

Louis de Paor – bringing out new collections in 2005. For younger readers, our catalogue features books about cockroaches, time-travel, Viking Ireland, leprechauns and rogues aplenty!

We hope that publishers will apply to ILE for translation funding for the titles listed.

Máire Ní Dhonnchadha
Programme and Publications Manager

Sinéad Mac Aodha
Director

Please note: *Inclusion of a book in this catalogue does not indicate that it has been approved for a translation subsidy by ILE. Further information about ILE's translation-funding programme and about our other activities is available overleaf and on our website at www.irelandliterature.com*

Cover Image: *Summer Landscape* by Seán McSweeney, 2002.

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About Ireland Literature Exchange

What is Ireland Literature Exchange (ILE)?

Ireland Literature Exchange is the national agency for the international promotion of Irish literature i.e. writing in English and Irish. We do this primarily by offering translation grants to international publishers. We also offer residential bursaries to literary translators, organise translator and author events at international festivals and participate regularly in the major world bookfairs. In addition, we welcome applications from Irish publishers who wish to publish international literature in translation.

A not-for-profit organisation, ILE is funded by both Arts Councils in Ireland, by Culture Ireland and by Bord na Leabhar Gaeilge/The Irish Language Books Board. Established in 1994, ILE has funded the translation of over 800 books into 40 languages in 34 countries.

What does ILE do?

- Organises a Translation Grant Programme. This programme offers translation grants to publishers and funds the translation of literature from Ireland into foreign languages, and the translation of foreign literature into English or Irish. (Please note that translations from English into Irish and from Irish into English are ineligible for ILE grant aid).
- Runs a Residential Bursary Programme for literary translators.
- Organises international author and translator events.
- Provides information to publishers, agents, translators, writers and other interested parties.
- Publishes and distributes New Writing from Ireland.
- Attends international bookfairs and festivals.

- Participates in international literary translation projects.

Translation Grants

Who can apply?

International publishers who are seeking support for translations into foreign languages; Irish publishers seeking support for translations from foreign languages into English or Irish.

Which works are eligible?

Biography, children's literature, drama, literary fiction, history, poetry and literary criticism.

What is the level of grant aid?

ILE offers successful applicants a substantial contribution towards the translator's fees.

How do I apply?

Prepare your submission using the translation-grant application checklist provided in the box on the opposite page.

When should I apply?

Applicants are advised to submit their applications at least three months before publication of the translation.

The deadlines for receipt of applications in 2006 are 11 January, 22 February, 5 April, 28 July and 31 October.

How are applications assessed?

Once the sample translation has been assessed by an expert, the application is considered by the board of ILE, which meets five times per annum. If an award is approved, a letter of confirmation and a contract will be posted to the applicant shortly after the board meeting. Applicants will always be informed of the board's decision within a maximum of 6 weeks of the deadline.

Who receives payment?

The publisher of the translation, once ILE has received proof of payment to the translator and 6 copies of the finished work which must contain an acknowledgement of ILE's funding

The ILE Residential Bursary Programme for Literary Translators

ILE runs an annual programme of residential bursaries for translators. In 2005 these awards have been made to four literary translators from Latin America. Calls for applications for 2006 will be announced in Autumn, 2005.

Bookfairs

ILE attends the London and Frankfurt Bookfairs each year, as well as a number of other bookfairs from time to time.

Author and Translator Events

ILE runs a limited number of international author and translator events. For further information in relation to this programme, please contact us at info@irelandliterature.com

We welcome grant applications, general enquiries and feedback about our programme. If you would like more information about ILE or have any queries about how to apply for a grant, please contact us or visit us at the Frankfurt Bookfair.

To apply for a translation grant, please submit the following documentation to:

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Ireland Literature Exchange,
25 Denville Lane, Dublin 2, Ireland**

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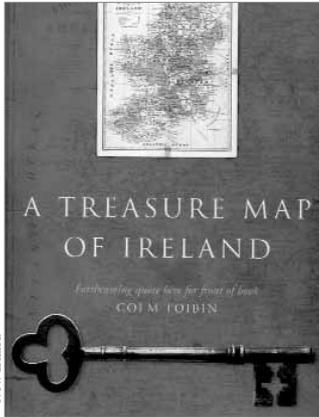
Grant Application Checklist

- » Copy of the signed contract between the publisher and the translation rights' holder.
- » Copy of the signed contract/agreement between the publisher and the translator.
- » 2 copies of a translation sample of the work completed to the highest standard (6 poems or 10-12 pages of prose). If more than one translator is involved (e.g. an anthology), please supply samples of work by 2 or more translators. Please number all pages.
- » 2 copies of the original work. Do not send photocopies.
- » The translator's fee in Euro. Please quote the total translation fee with a full breakdown of charges (i.e. fee per character, per line or per page).
- » A copy of the translator's c.v.
- » Details of (a) number of pages in the original work; (b) the title of the work in translation; (c) proposed publication date; (d) proposed print run and (e) the distribution and marketing plan for the work.
- » Bibliographic information, print run, price sales figures and reviews for the original work are useful for our work in ILE, but not essential to your application.
- » This application checklist can also be downloaded from our website (pdf, doc) www.irelandliterature.com

Rosita Boland

A Treasure Map of Ireland

300pp pb 190430 178 9 October 2005



'The first map I ever owned was The Educational School Map of Ireland, which we all had to buy in fourth class when I was nine. I think it cost sixpence.'

Inspired by a childhood map, *Irish Times* journalist Rosita Boland set out on a journey into the 32 counties of Ireland. Quickly realising that every map conceals as much as it reveals, she unearthed new stories about old places, each one unusual and distinct.

'I thought I already knew Ireland pretty well. I was completely wrong. The more closely you look at something, the bigger and more complex and more densely textured it becomes. To me, the biggest and best surprise was realising I will continually be surprised by Ireland.'

Surprising us about the very places we think we know, *A Treasure Map of Ireland* is a unique travelogue – the underside of the map of home.

Rosita Boland writes for *The Irish Times*. Her first book, *Sea Legs*, was also the first title published by New Island in 1992. She is the author of two poetry collections, *Muscle Creek* and *The Dissected Heart*.

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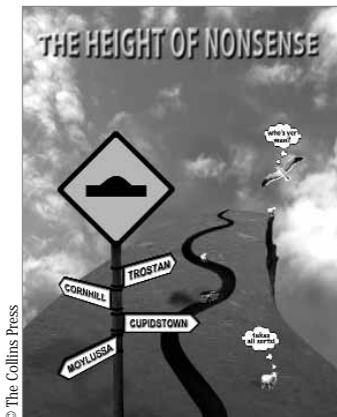
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Paul Clements

The Height of Nonsense

400pp 198 x 128mm pb 1 903464 69 2 March 2005



© The Collins Press

In the middle of 2002 Paul Clements went around Ireland searching for the highest point in each of the 32 counties.

The result is *The Height of Nonsense*, a book overflowing with stories and gossip from cafés and bars. Covering 8,000 miles, he meets witches, druids and poets, monks and drunks all willing to share their stories. Paul Clements spends time shooting the breeze with farmers, foresters, publicans, postmasters, gamblers, jokers and a cast of eccentric characters who regard him with suspicion and bewilderment.

This affectionate book gives a voice to the ordinary and extraordinary people of Ireland. *The Height of Nonsense* is the ultimate Irish road trip, a heady mix of historical titbits, local heritage and everyday life.

Paul Clements was born in Agher, County Tyrone in 1957. He works as an assistant news editor with the BBC, based in Belfast. He has worked for the BBC World Service Radio and National Television News in London. *The Height of Nonsense* is his second travel book about Ireland. In 1993, his book *Irish Shores, A Journey Round the Rim of Ireland*, an account of a hitchhiking trip, was published by Greystone Press.

Paul Clements has been walking the mountains of Ireland for more than 25 years. His interests also include travel, reading, music, bird watching and wild flowers. Paul Clements is married with one son and lives in Belfast.

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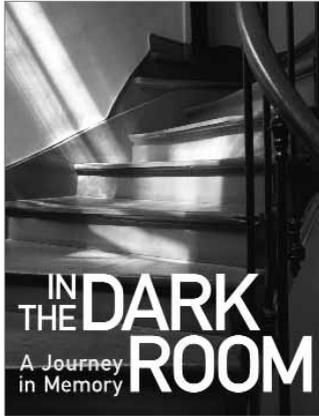
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In the Dark Room: A Journey in Memory

288pp 215 x 136mm hb 184488046X October 2005



Boldly combining the highly personal with the brilliantly scholarly, *In the Dark Room* explores the question of how memory works, emotionally and culturally. It is narrated through the prism of the author's experience of losing both his parents – his mother when he was sixteen, his father when he was on the cusp of adulthood – and of trying, after a breakdown some years later, to piece things together. Drawing on the lessons of centuries of literature, philosophy and visual art, Dillon interprets the relics of his parents and of his childhood in a singularly original and arresting piece of writing.

Brian Dillon was born in Dublin in 1969. He writes on literature and visual art for publications including the *TLS*, *Independent*, *New Statesman*, *Irish Times*, *Dublin Review*, *frieze*, *Art Review*, *Modern Painters* and *Cabinet*. *In the Dark Room* is his first book.

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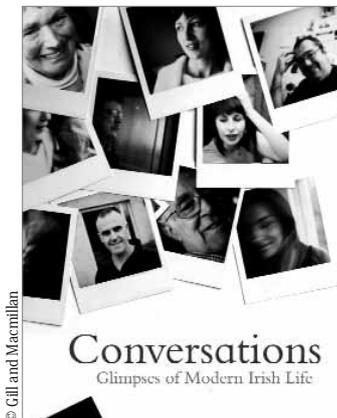
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Conversations: Glimpses of Modern Irish Life

Foreword by Studs Terkel

288pp 234 x 156mm hb 0 7171 3785 6 October 2005



In the 1960s, renowned U.S. broadcaster Studs Terkel began the gargantuan task of piecing together and editing transcripts of thousands of interviews he had accumulated over the years. The result was a series of truly groundbreaking books which, by allowing ordinary people to relate in their own words the whys and the wherefores of their everyday lives, depicted a reality very different from the idealised images favoured by the media of the day.

Inspired by Terkel's work, *Conversations* offers the reader a unique insight into life in Ireland at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Availing of a simple but highly effective interview technique developed by Terkel himself, the author talks with more than sixty people from all over the island about their everyday lives, and the reasons – both inspirational and mundane – which compel them to live as they do. We gain a privileged insight into what

fascinates us most about other people – how they live, what makes them tick, why they go on....

Originally from County Kildare, Darragh MacIntyre graduated in history and politics at University College Dublin. He worked as a reporter in New York, London and Belfast, and then as the Ireland producer for BBC national news. After a career break in north-west Donegal, he returned to Northern Ireland, and to broadcasting in 2002. Married with two children, he now lives in Belfast.

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David McWilliams

The Pope's Children

256pp 216 x 135mm hb 0 7171 3971 9 November 2005

The Pope's Children is a book about the new Irish generation born in the early 1980s in the wake of the Pope's visit, as 1980 was the height of the Irish baby boom. This generation is now about twenty-five years old and about to inherit the new Ireland. Who are they? What makes them tick? Where are they taking us?

David McWilliams – economist, lecturer and broadcaster – focuses on the leaders of the new Ireland, on the high achievers in the knowledge economy. His analysis is provocative and unflinching. The new elite are talented, selfish, uninterested in social cohesion, indifferent to religion and tradition, an aristocracy of knowledge in the making. Voting doesn't matter to them; politics is a pantomime; they consume and display and, enabled by their education, they are the people in charge.



David McWilliams is one of Ireland's most widely respected broadcasters and commentators, appearing on both radio and TV, as well as writing a weekly opinion column in *The Sunday Business Post*.

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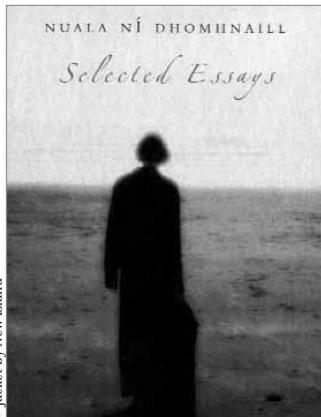
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Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill

Selected Essays

250pp pb 190430132 0 May 2005



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Since publishing her first collection of poetry, Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill has been hailed as the foremost of contemporary Irish-language poets.

Selected Essays gathers together, for the first time, the prose work of this exceptional poet. Here we enter another world, the poet's own world of people and pathways, of strands and stretches of recovered time. From her childhood in west Kerry to contemporary pilgrimages to Glendalough, Kerry and Turkey, Ní Dhomhnaill muses on writing, on the Irish language, on folklore and mythology.

Written over a period of two decades, *Selected Essays* provides a new perspective on a changing Ireland, a window into what the poet calls the 'psychic realities' of Irish culture. Mending the nets that allow us to catch hold of our elusive traditions, Ní Dhomhnaill reveals not only what it means to be part of a linguistic community, but also an imaginative one.

Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill is one of the most popular of contemporary Irish poets. Her work draws upon themes of ancient Irish folklore and mythology, combined with contemporary themes of femininity, sexuality, and culture. Born in Lancashire, England in 1952 to Irish physicians, Ní Dhomhnaill was sent to live with relatives in the Irish-speaking areas of Counties Kerry and Tipperary at the age of five. She studied English and Irish at UCC, and became part of the 'Innti' school of poets. In 1973, she married Turkish geologist Dogan Leflef and lived abroad in Turkey and Holland for seven years. She published her first collection of poetry in Irish in 1981, *An Dealg Droighin*. She is a member of Aosdána. Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill lives near Dublin with her husband and four children.

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Fintan O'Toole

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White Savage: William Johnson and the Invention of America

382pp 234 x 153mm hb 0 571218 40 7 August 2005



The first book in a trilogy about the Irish experience in America, *White Savage* describes the extraordinary character who became known as the 'White Indian'. Johnson (properly MacShane) came from County Meath. He arrived in New York as a clerk in a trading company, and soon established himself as a kind of feudal lord in the Mohawk Valley in New York State. His intimate relationship with the Iroquois Indians made him a pivotal figure in the creation of the United States.

The second book in this trilogy will deal with the story of Billy the Kid, and the third with the strange relationship between the Irish and the blacks in 19th-century America, as exemplified in the film *Gone With The Wind*.

Fintan O'Toole is a columnist on *The Irish Times*, and former theatre critic of the *New York Daily News*. He was named Irish Journalist of the Year in 1996 for his work on the beef tribunal scandal, a story he developed into a bestselling book, *Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch* (Vintage). His biography of Richard Brinsley Sheridan was published in 1997 by Granta to great acclaim. He is a regular contributor to *The New York Review of Books* and *The New Yorker*.

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Cesca's Diaries: A Biography of Francesca Trench

450pp 245 x 180mm pb illustrated 0 9534293 77 November 2005

Elizabeth Bowen remembered her cousin, the artist Cesca Trench (better known by her adopted name Sadhbh Trinseach) as a handsome young girl. Born into an Irish Unionist clerical family in England, Frances Chenevix Trench (1891 – 1918) became a convinced Nationalist while at school and quickly involved herself actively in the movement for Home Rule and political freedom in Dublin despite the disapproval of her family who were close to her. She left seven manuscript journals describing life in the Irish College in Achill and at art school in Paris on the eve of the First World War, her interest in pan-Celticism and her participation in the Howth gun-running and Easter Week 1916, as well as the personal tensions she experienced when reconciling her emotional desires with an extreme political loyalty. Selected passages from the journals (written in English, Irish and French) have been edited and translated, accompanied by the drawings that illustrate them.

Reproductions of paintings, cartoons and revolutionary posters which she made during her short lifetime also illustrate the text.

Hilary Pyle, art critic and biographer, has published poetry and art criticism as well as biographies of James Stephens, Jack B. Yeats and Susan L. Mitchell. Her previous publications with The Woodfield Press are *The Sligo-Leitrim World of Kate Cullen* and *Red-Headed Rebel: A Biography of Susan Mitchell*.

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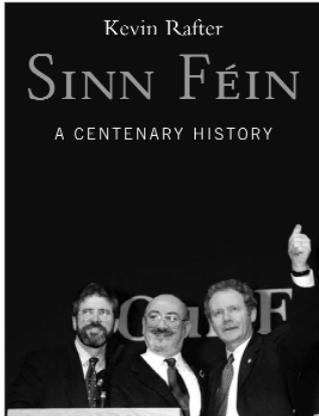
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Kevin Rafter

Sinn Féin: A Centenary History

256pp 234 x 156mm hb 0 7171 3992 1 November 2005



Sinn Féin started in 1905 as a minor nationalist pressure movement founded and led by Arthur Griffith. Although it had no republican ties until 1917, Griffith's genius as a publicist made the British imagine that the 1916 Rising was 'a Sinn Féin rebellion', a name that stuck. As nationalist politics changed in the period immediately after the Rising, with the rise of republicanism and the decline of the old Irish Parliamentary Party, Sinn Féin became the name for the political side of Irish republicanism.

The Republicans lost the Civil War in 1923 following the split in the movement over the terms of the Treaty. Thereafter, Sinn Féin spent a generation in the wilderness.

Sinn Féin changed direction in the 1960s, embracing a left-wing ideology. This change of policy did not survive the outbreak of the Troubles. Like the IRA, Sinn Féin split into Official and

Provisional parties, with the Provisionals retaining the Sinn Féin name. It was they who began the revival of the party's political strength under Gerry Adams in the 1980s.

Kevin Rafter has written biographies of Martin Mansergh and Neil Blaney as well as *From Malin Head to Mizen Head: the definitive guide to local government in Ireland* with Noel Whelan. A well-known journalist, he has written for *The Irish Times* and other newspapers and has broadcast on RTÉ radio.

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Judi Curtin

Alice Next Door

208pp 196 x 130mm pb 0 86278 8986 September 2005



Best friends **NEED** to be together.
Don't they?

Poor Megan! Not alone is she stuck with totally uncool parents, and a little sister who is too cute for words, but now her very best friend, Alice, has moved away. Now Megan has to go back to school and face the dreaded Melissa all on her own.

The two friends hatch a risky plot to get back together. But can their secret plan work?

Judi Curtin grew up in Cork and now lives in Limerick where she is married with three children. A former teacher, she is the author of two novels, *Sorry, Walter* and *From Claire to Here*. *Alice Next Door* is her first novel for children.

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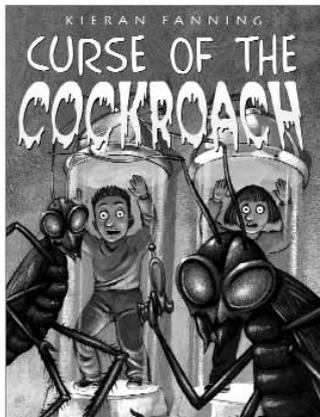
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Kieran Fanning

Curse of the Cockroach

126pp 210 x 148mm pb 184210 293 1 June 2005



The fourth in the exciting *Code Cracker* series, this adventure began millions of years ago on a distant planet, when a curse was written in dead cockroaches. Now, in the twenty-first century, creatures called Blats intend to fulfil their ancestors' prophecy.

A current tabloid runs an article on *Curse of the Cockroach*. A week later it is forgotten – but not by everybody. Planet Earth is in serious danger, and the future of the human race now depends on three people: Sam, Lisa and the reader!

This is not an ordinary book. It is not meant to be read straight through from beginning to end. The reader must find clues, crack codes and solve tricky puzzles in order to find out what page to turn to next. Answers are given at the back of the book for anyone who gets stuck!

Kieran Fanning is from Stratford-on-Slaney, County Wicklow. After obtaining a Bachelor of Education degree in St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, he returned to further studies and received an M.A. in Children's Literature. He works as a primary school teacher in Skryne, County Meath.

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From the *Code Crackers* series: *Trapdoor to Treachery* (Czech), *Voyage to Victory* (Czech), *Tempest of Trouble* (Czech).

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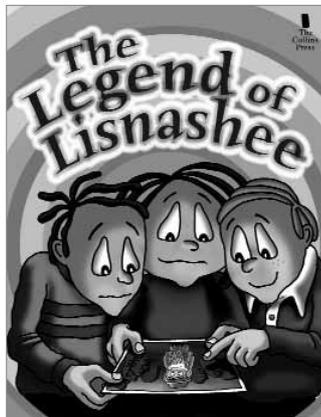
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Mary Gallagher

Legend of Lisnashee

60pp 216 x 138mm pb 1 903464 71 4 August 2005



Sinead O'Shea is an ordinary kid trying to live an ordinary life – by avoiding contact with adults as much as possible! But with a Gran who openly discusses her toilet habits in public, a health-fanatic aunt and uncle, and twin brothers with the unfortunate names of Sylvester and Stanley, trying to be 'cool' as a twelve-year-old is not as easy as it sounds. When Sinead has to do a school project on leprechauns she faces the improbable task of making people believe they exist or faces losing her street credibility for good!

Sinead and her two best friends embark on an investigative journey to prove the existence of leprechauns in Lisnashee, despite the fact she needs convincing herself! Can Sinead discover the truth behind the legend?

Mary Gallagher is a former primary school teacher and is married with four children. She has written plays for the primary schools drama festival and teenage plays for her local youth club, the most recent being performed at The Grianán Theatre in Letterkenny.

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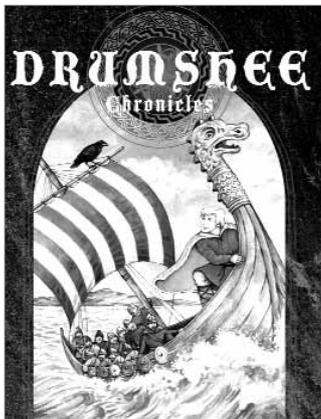
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Cora Harrison

Doomed to Die

Series Title: Drumshee Chronicles

166pp 198 x 129mm pb 184210 291 5 August 2005



Doomed to Die is a historical novel set in eleventh-century Ireland. It is the story of two boys whose grandfather was a Viking. Both boys are aged sixteen, both have blond hair and blue eyes, both take part in the Battle of Clontarf and both have heard doom forecast. One lives, and one dies.

The living boy, dressed in Irish clothing, is found wounded and unconscious beside the dead body of Brian Boru and of Brodar the Viking and his son. Fintan, who will soon be married to the beautiful Nessa of Drumshee, takes him back to Drumshee. Nessa nurses her brother while caring for her blind and very sick mother. She is puzzled because Lochlann has no fever and yet will not speak. However, one night, Nessa reads a letter that she finds in Lochlann's pouch. Suddenly she realises that this boy is not Lochlann. Dramatic events ensue, and Nessa finds herself in great danger.

A story of great tension and excitement, this third story in the new *Drumshee Chronicles* is bound to captivate the reader.

Cora Harrison was born in Cork and taught in England for twenty-five years. She was one of the pioneers for the 'Real Books in the Classroom' experiment which used a wide range of books in order to teach children how to read. Cora Harrison is author of the successful *Dragonfly* series, published by Mentor Books, which are easy-to-read picture books aimed at the beginner reader. She is the author of the extremely popular *Drumshee Timeline* series, where adventurous children go back in time to experience different events throughout history.

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Vincent McDonnell

Children of Stone

170pp 210 x 148mm pb 1 903464 88 9 August 2005

A long time ago when the earth was made of stone, the people of Marn faced many dangers. Foreign invaders constantly threatened the village, seeking slaves. The villagers were vulnerable to starvation due to insufficient food supply. Gaelen, the village chief, visits the neighbouring city of Sarnay where a more productive grain grows. He also seeks protection from the invaders. But Marn is left open to further dangers. One villager, Nevel, seizes the opportunity to take control. Gaelen's children Bolan, Alina and Vanu learn of this and realise they face certain death. They flee across the country in search of their father.

On the way, they encounter wolves, bears and other dangers. Nevel and his hunting party have also set out to kill the fleeing children. A near-drowning experience brings them in contact with nomads. Will they help Bolan, Alina and Vanu to outrun the ever-approaching Nevel? Will they reach their father in time?

Vincent McDonnell is from County Mayo and now lives near Newmarket, County Cork. In 1989 he won the GPA First Fiction Award, after being recommended by Graham Greene. He has since published five novels for children and one other for adults. Many of his short stories have also been published and he has won numerous other prizes. He has been writer in residence at a variety of locations and has given workshops and readings all over Ireland.

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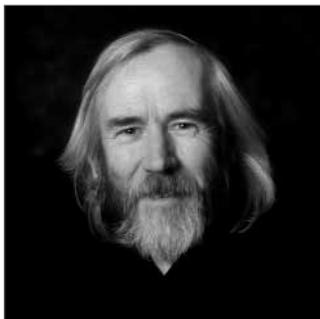
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Also by Vincent McDonnell - *Can Timmy Save Toyland?*, the action-packed sequel to *The Boy Who Saved Christmas*.

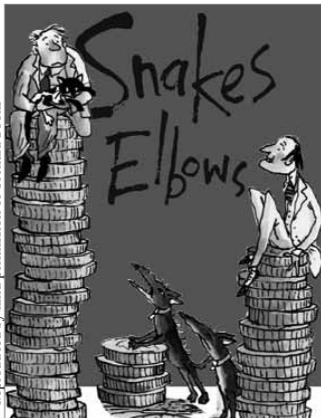
138pp 210 x 148mm pb 1-903464-86-2
August 2005



Deirdre Madden

Snakes' Elbows

224pp 197 x 129mm hb 1 84362 639 X April 2005



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Barney and Jasper are both millionaires living in the town of Woodford. There any similarity ends. Barney has returned to his hometown after a very successful career as a musician. Jasper is a 'specialist in the area of material supplies for international conflict resolution'. What's more, Jasper doesn't at all like the idea of someone moving into the neighbourhood who might be even richer than he is. When Barney outbids Jasper at an auction for a famous painting, things really do start to get out of hand.

Deirdre Madden is from Toomebridge, County Antrim, in Northern Ireland. She was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and at the University of East Anglia. She has travelled widely in Europe and has spent extended periods of time in both France and Italy. Her novels include *The Birds of Innocent Wood*, for which she was awarded the Somerset Maugham Prize; *Remembering Light and Stone*, *Nothing is Black*, *One By One in the Darkness*, which was shortlisted for the Orange Prize, and *Authenticity*. *Snakes' Elbows* is her first book for children.

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The Birds of the Innocent Wood: French (Hatier); Greek (Hadjinicoli); Norwegian (Gyldendal Norsk); Spanish (Akal); Swedish (T Fischer).

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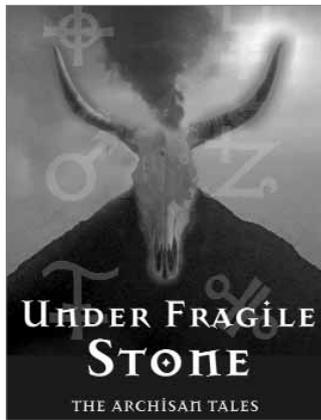
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Oisín McGann

Under Fragile Stone

384pp 196 x 130mm pb 0 86278 835 8 September 2005



Taya and Lorkrin's shape-changing Myunan tribe faces an invasion by Noran, which is intent on mining the valuable iron ore from their sacred mountain, Absaleth. But the mountain is haunted and fights back with supernatural powers. Then a mine tunnel collapses and the miners are trapped. With them are Taya and Lorkrin's parents, Nayalla and Mirkrin, who had been searching for their unruly children.

Taya and Lorkrin are terrified for their parents. But help arrives in the form of their Uncle Emos. He and his friend Draegar know there is one chance for the trapped people – another entrance to the caves far back in the mountain range. A rescue party sets out as the mountain starts to collapse in on itself.

Oisín McGann grew up in Dublin and Drogheda. A freelance illustrator/artist, he has worked in Britain and Ireland in publishing, design, copywriting and film animation. He is the author of Part One of *The Archisan Tales: The Harvest Tide Project*. He has also written *The Gods and Their Machines*, and four titles for younger readers: *Mad Grandad's Robot Garden*, *Mad Grandad and the Flying Saucer*, *Mad Grandad and the Mutant River* and *Mad Grandad and the Kleptoes*. He is a regular guest at children's literature events and is very active in school and library workshops.

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Eoin McNamee

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The Navigator

320pp 216 x 135mm hb 0 00 7209762 February 2006

Returning from his den to his home one day, Owen meets a strange little man who beckons urgently for him to follow. They come to the workhouse, a place Owen knows as deserted but which now appears to be a hive of activity. Thus does Owen become involved in a thrilling adventure in which, among other strange things, time is flowing backwards. The little man is the Sub Commandant, a leader of the Resisters, and Owen quickly finds himself caught up in their struggle against the terrifying Harsh, the Resisters' sworn and enduring enemies. Alongside his new friend Cati, the Sub Commandant's daughter, Owen finds himself taking up the struggle against the Harsh. But there are mysterious things going on in the Convoke, where the leaders debate their strategies, and it becomes clear to Owen that he has some special status and role in all of this. In the course of his adventures, Owen comes to understand his own history and to face his destiny.

Eoin McNamee was born in County Down, Northern Ireland, in 1961. His first book was a collection of two novellas, *The Last of Deeds*, which was shortlisted for the 1989 Irish Times/Aer Lingus Award for Irish Literature, and *Love in History*. He was awarded the Macaulay Fellowship for Irish Literature in 1990. *Resurrection Man* (Picador, 1994), was described by the *Irish Times* as 'one of the most outstanding pieces of Irish fiction to come along in years'. It was adapted by McNamee into a film starring Stuart Townsend. *The Blue Tango* (Faber, 2001), was long-listed for the Booker Prize, and short-listed for the Irish Times Award for Irish Literature.

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The Blue Tango: French (Gallimard); German (Beck); Greek (Alexandria); Italian (Einaudi); Swedish (Norstedts).

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Alfie Green and the Magical Gift

80pp 177 x 130mm hb 0 86278 936 2 September 2005



© Illustration by Jean Texier



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Alfie Green is a lively, loveable rogue who has inherited his grandad's love of gardening – and that's not all. A rusty key opens a dusty box hidden in Alfie's Grandad's shed. Inside is an old, old book – with magical powers. The book promises Alfie a gift, but first he must take the crystal flower across Sleepy Meadows full of Snapping Dragons to the crooked tree that is guarded by Giant Hogweeds. It's a world where trees, flowers and even garden tools are able to talk. And Alfie can talk back to them. But when Alfie brings his new gift back to his own garden in his ordinary suburban house, it causes all kinds of trouble!

Read Alfie's next adventure in *Alfie Green and a Sink Full of Frogs*, also published by The O'Brien Press in September 2005.

Joe O'Brien is a young Dubliner who runs his own award-winning landscape gardening company. He also has a regular slot on a local radio station and has appeared on national television.

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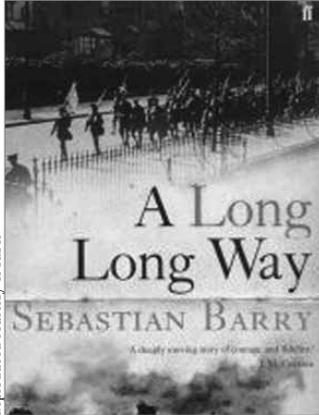
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Sebastian Barry

A Long Long Way

304pp 234 x 153mm pb 0571218008 April 2005



Reproduced courtesy of Faber

Willie Dunne is the son of a Dublin policeman, a gifted, sensitive boy with a fine singing voice. Not tall enough to follow in his father's footsteps, when General Kitchener's call comes for volunteers to go to the trenches he willingly enlists. From the Battle of the Somme to near the end of the war, he sees and participates in terrible things. And for Willie, as for many of his compatriots, there is the strange ambivalence felt over fighting for the British when at home the British are fighting their kith and kin. Willie finds himself caught up in the Easter Rising of 1916, when British troops are slaying the rebels on the streets of Dublin. He is now defined by war, perhaps peculiarly completed by it. But war has a final surprise in store for him.

Novelist, poet and award-winning playwright Sebastian Barry was born in Dublin in 1955 and attended Trinity College, Dublin. He has written for the theatre since 1986, with his play *Our Lady of Sligo* receiving rave reviews. His latest play, *Whistling Psyche*, was produced in the spring of 2004 at the Almeida Theatre in London, and starred Claire Bloom and Kathryn Turner. His first novel, *The Whereabouts of Eneas McNulty*, was published in 1998 to great acclaim. His second novel, *Annie Dunne*, was published in 2002.

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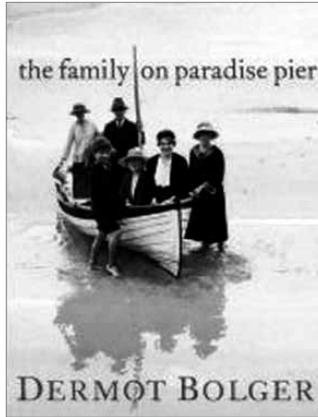
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Dermot Bolger

The Family on Paradise Pier

550pp hb 0 00 715409 7 April 2005



The Family on Paradise Pier describes an extraordinary family, the Goold Verschoyles, in the period between the outbreak of the First World War and the end of the Second. The family is a product of the Anglo-Irish ascendancy. They sense their privileges eroding, their traditional way of life coming to an end. A new generation, born in the early years of the twentieth century, sets out to find meaning in the world. The boys, Art, Brendan and Thomas, will find it through politics of one sort or another, through the embracing of causes. Maud will emigrate to South Africa. And it will fall to Eva to attempt to maintain continuity with the past. *The Family on Paradise Pier* tells their individual stories in a powerfully dramatic way.

Based on the experiences of a family known to Dermot Bolger, it represents a departure for him, and an exploration of a new narrative form and territory. It is a magnificent achievement.

Dermot Bolger was born in Finglas in Dublin in 1959 and is one of Ireland's most prolific and best-known writers. His first play, *The Lament for Arthur Cleary*, won the prestigious Samuel Beckett Award. His award-winning novels include *Night Shift*, *The Journey Home*, *The Woman's Daughter*, *Father's Music*, *Temptation* and *The Valparaiso Voyage*. He is also the editor of the *New Picador Book of Contemporary Irish Fiction*.

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The Journey Home: French (Les Presses de la Renaissance); German (Hitzeroth); Italy (Fazi); Swedish (Bonnier).

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Ingne Dearga Dhaideo

160pp 140 x 215mm pb 1 902420 93 4 July 2005

A mother grieving over the death of her child; a conflicted Garda Chief Superintendent looking back on his life the morning after his retirement; an anxious father lying awake waiting for his wayward teenage daughter to return home; an elderly spinster determined to maintain the integrity of her holding, while all around her land is devoured by housing developments and motorways; three drowned champion rowers, whose death anticipates the death of an entire island community; two hags who engage in an epic stone-throwing battle in Manhattan: these are but some of the characters in Pádraic Breathnach's latest collection of short stories, *Ingne Dearga Dhaideo*, where he returns to such themes as alienation, the natural world, the wonder of seeing the world through the eyes of a child, the clash between tradition and modernity, and questions whether, in our headlong rush to embrace change, we have ever stopped to think why we do so.

Pádraic Breathnach is from Moycullen, County Galway. He is a lecturer in Irish in Mary Immaculate College at the University of Limerick. He is a novelist, essayist and short story writer, and is renowned as a stylist and nature lover. His work has been translated to English and to other languages. He is married with three children.

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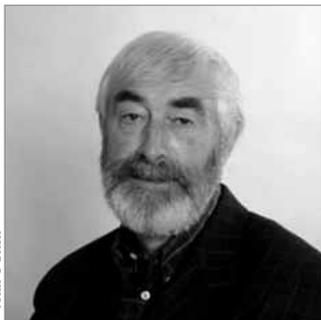
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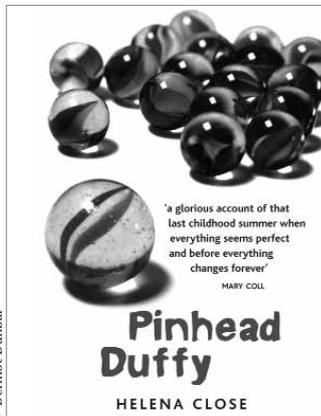
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Helena Close

Pinhead Duffy

256pp 198 x 129mm pb 0 85640 767 4 March 2005



It's the start of the summer, and like his friends Dodge, Eyebrows and Pinhead, thirteen-year-old Sean 'Nod' Hickey is looking forward to a good one. But the summer doesn't turn out as the boys expect. The long hot days of swimming, hurling, and great laughs cannot gloss over the tensions that begin to surface as awakening sexuality and family pressures erupt into jealousy, aggression and revenge.

Helena Close captures perfectly the raw energy, vulnerability, pain and downright hilarity that are part of growing up. Set in 1970s Limerick, *Pinhead Duffy* is a moving, funny and multi-layered evocation of the lives of four teenage boys as they struggle to make sense of friendship, love, and most painfully of all, a suicide in their midst.

'A tender yet hilarious narrative.'
Irish Examiner

Helena Close was born in Cork in 1959. A keen writer since childhood, she has worked in public relations and journalism but now writes full-time. She is co-author, along with her lifelong friend Trisha Rainsford, of *Hot Property* (2003) and *Gazumped!* (2004), both written under the pen name Sarah O'Brien. They are currently working on two more books. Helena Close is an obsessive sports fan and is mad about rugby and Liverpool FC. She lives in Limerick with her husband, three of her four children, her dog and a three-legged cat.

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Translation rights sold for other works by the author (co-authored as Sarah O'Brien): *Hot Property*: German (Knaur); Russian (Geleos); Croatian (Marjan Tisak).

Gazumped!: German (Knaur); Russian (Geleos); Indonesian (Binarupa).

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The Lightning Tree

288pp 234 x 156mm pb 0 86322 347 8 Spring 2006

A haunting novel based on the life and voice of an old wise woman living on the west coast of Ireland.

The year is 1954. The place is the Burren, a wild, rugged limestone region, a world of old customs, strong traditions and deeply held religious and social values. It is also a pagan place, of ghosts and spirits, old beliefs and superstitions.

She is, however, regarded by many as a woman to be avoided. Some say her power is a gift from God; others that it comes from the Devil, that she is a witch.

Here lives Mariah, a wise woman and the last of a long line of renowned healers. For several generations people have flocked from far and wide to her cottage to avail of her family's ancient power to cure all manners of physical – and often psychological – ailments.

PJ Curtis has brought to extraordinary life the voice of a woman he knew when he was a young man in the 1950s. He is well-known in Ireland and the US as a professional broadcaster, record producer, author and music historian. He has worked in Nashville, Memphis and Phoenix. He has won many awards for radio documentaries and other work, and he is the author of three books: a novel, *One Night In The Life of RV Mulrooney*; *Notes From The Heart – A Celebration of Irish Traditional Music*, and *The Music of Ghosts – A Burren Miscellany*.

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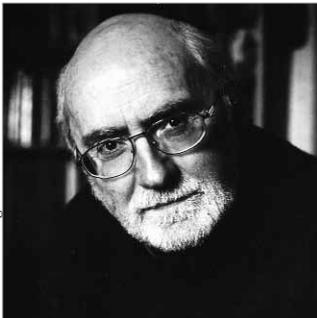
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Catherine Dunne

Something Like Love

275pp 234 x 139mm 140508 8400 2006

In Catherine Dunne's new novel, she returns to the themes which have informed her previous novels: *In The Beginning*, *A Name for Himself*, *The Walled Garden* and *Another Kind of Life*.

Catherine says 'the belief which drives my writing is that there is no such thing as the ordinary. My concern has always been with the hidden life, the psychological and emotional gulfs that exist between the public and the private face. Underneath the calm surface of the apparently unremarkable, lies the complexity of human relationships and the highly charged dramas of family life.'

Catherine Dunne writes with great warmth and insight about what keeps families together and what threatens to tear them apart. *Something Like Love* is a finely wrought and beautifully balanced exploration of family dynamics and parental love. Her stories have a universal resonance

and have found commercial success and critical acclaim in many countries around the world.

Catherine Dunne is a former teacher. She is now a full-time writer who lives in Dublin. Her work has been read on radio and adapted for television. *The Irish Independent* described her previous novel as 'a hugely gratifying book; something to feed the spirit again and again ... surely one of Ireland's – maybe even the English language's sweetest writers.'

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A Name for Himself: Italian (Guanda); Danish (Centrum/Lindhardt & Ringhof).

Another Kind of Life: Italian (Ugo Guanda Editore); Danish (Centrum/Lindhardt & Ringhof).

The Walled Garden: Italian (Ugo Guanda Editore); Portuguese (Presença); Danish (Lindhardt & Ringhof); Dutch (Uniboek); Swedish (Egmont Richters).

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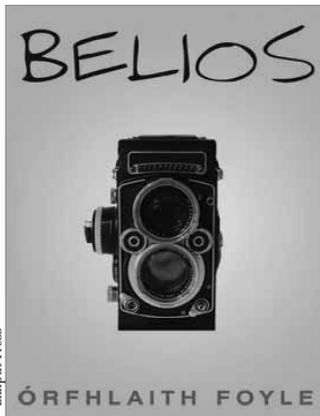
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Órfhlaith Foyle

The Lilliput Press | www.lilliputpress.ie

Belios

200pp 215 x 136mm pb 184351 067 7 March 2005



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Narrator Noah Gilmore is researching the biography of William Belios, an ex-missionary and once famous photographer, and spends a week in his household at Oughterard, County Galway. Belios is Gilmore's nemesis, his quarry, mirroring his own desires and uncertainties, as he determines to unearth family secrets: the dead wife buried in Africa and the blighted lives of three grown-up children. The eldest Medbh, an erotic illustrator, guides Gilmore down the labyrinth. Their futures demand an erasure of a troubled past as its layers are unpeeled and its perverse roots become exposed.

This haunting tale concerns the unravelling of private lives; it offers a world in which the undertow of the imagination makes the reader complicit in its workings. *Belios* is a startlingly mature and exciting début.

'*Belios* is a dark, rough, funny novel about a dying genius and his crazed biographer. It rages with a wild vitality oddly touched by tenderness. Órfhlaith Foyle has fire in her belly.' Patrick McGrath, author of *Dr. Haggard's Disease*

Órfhlaith Foyle was born in Nigeria to Irish missionary parents and lived in Kenya and Malawi before emigrating to Australia, where she received a Bachelor in Humanities. She travelled to Russia and Israel and taught in London's East End for two years before returning to Ireland to work as a freelance journalist and edit a community magazine. She has been widely published in various literary journals and in the Arlen House anthology of Western women writers.

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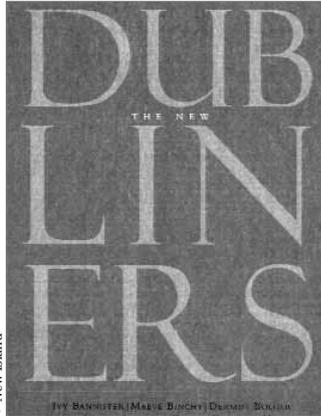
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New Dubliners: Stories to Celebrate 100 Years of Joyce's Dubliners

250pp B format hb 1 90430 172 X June 2005



A collection of short stories by: Ivy Bannister, Maeve Binchy, Dermot Bolger, Roddy Doyle, Anthony Glavin, Desmond Hogan, Bernard MacLavery, Colum McCann, Frank McGuinness, Joseph O'Connor and Clare Boylan.

It has been one hundred years since James Joyce wrote his celebrated stories about Dublin and its people, holding up his 'nicely polished looking glass' and preserving on paper a legendary snapshot of Dublin, 1904.

But would Joyce recognise the Dublin of today? *New Dubliners* presents twelve individual, contemporary Dublins, each fresh from the pen of a leading Irish author, each a vivid portrait of Dublin 100 years on.

Dense with quiet epiphanies and tautened by a peculiar grace, *New Dubliners*, like the city it honours, is a unique collection: startling, evocative, and, like the original, deeply human.

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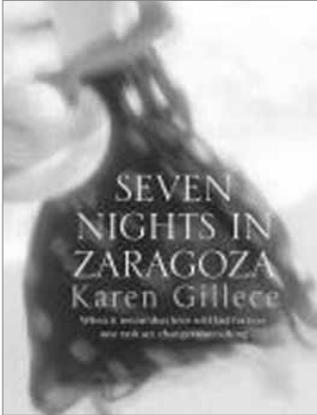
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Karen Gillece

Seven Nights In Zaragoza

295pp 234 x 156mm pb 0 340 84121 4 February 2005



In this remarkable debut Karen Gillece weaves a compelling tale of secrets revealed, regrets faced, lives re-evaluated – and a death that changed lives and caused the loss of innocence.

Henry and Elena had it all, until he lost everything on a foolish investment, and she let the ghosts of her past seep into their marriage.

Meeting Adam, her former lover, at a class reunion, Elena suddenly finds herself caught up in a storm of memories, unearthing questions about a past that has not been faced and a relationship that was wrenched apart.

But while Elena reconciles herself to what really happened in Spain that summer, Henry is at home struggling with a crisis of his own.

'Gillece handles her subject with delicacy and insight...It's hard to believe such an assured offering is a debut.'

Books Ireland

Karen Gillece was born in Dublin in 1974. She studied Law at University College Dublin and worked for several years in the telecommunications industry before turning to writing full-time. She was short-listed for the Hennessy New Irish Writing Award in 2001, and her short stories have been widely published in literary journals and magazines. *Seven Nights in Zaragoza* is her first novel.

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Desmond Hogan

Lark's Eggs: New and Selected Stories

256pp 215 x 136mm hb 1 84351 071 5 April 2005

Desmond Hogan is one of the most exciting literary talents to have come out of Ireland. *Lark's Eggs* reaffirms his stature, displaying anew a compressed lyricism, ferocity and prismatic brilliance in these twenty stories from previous collections and twelve fresh ones.

Cressida Connolly called 'Airedale', in William Trevor's *The Oxford Book of Short Stories*, 'profound, moving and exquisitely executed. Hogan is one of the finest writers alive today'. Joyce Carol Oates described 'Winter Swimmers', in the *Times Literary Supplement*, as 'an elegiac, daringly sustained prose poem...a collage of meticulously rendered Irish scenes that weaves in and out of tales of tinkers and youths'.

Hogan's compelling tales of diaspora and exile merge landscape with mindscape. His history-burdened, fragmented personae are distinctly Irish, while exhilaratingly, wholly universal. The Lilliput Press is proud to reintroduce Desmond Hogan to a twenty-first century readership.

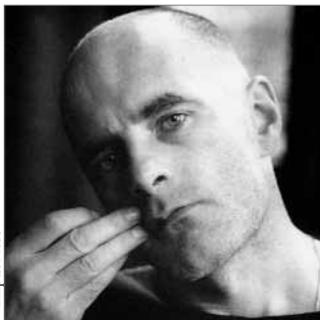
Desmond Hogan was born in east Galway and lives in southwest Ireland. He was awarded the John Llewellyn Rhys Memorial Prize in 1981 and a DAAD Fellowship in Berlin in 1991. In 1989 he was writer-in-residence at the University of Alabama, and in 1997 taught at the University of California, San Diego.

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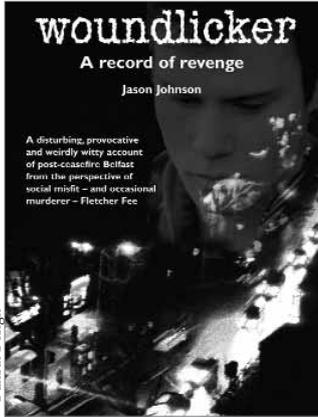


Jason Johnson

Blackstaff Press | www.blackstaffpress.com

Woundlicker

224pp 198 x 129mm pb 0 85640 774 7 October 2005



Maverick misfit Fletcher Fee is a deeply scarred individual with a black sense of humour. Incensed by attacks on 'wee Blondie', his teenage muse, he responds with binge-like acts of revenge that threaten to derail the uneasy peace process in Northern Ireland.

Living on the edge, Fee moves invisibly through a gritty post-ceasefire Belfast, outwitting the police and paramilitaries and exposing a dark network of lies and collusion.

A monologue presented in the form of a classified British government report, Jason Johnson's *Woundlicker* is a page-turning thriller from an exciting new voice in Irish fiction.

Jason Johnson was born in Enniskillen in 1969. After leaving school, he moved to London where, over a two-year period, he worked in a shoe shop, a car wash, as an apprentice stonemason and as a barman. He moved back to Northern Ireland to continue his education and trained as a journalist. He worked as a freelance journalist for *The Belfast Telegraph* and *Irish News* before becoming Chief Reporter, and ultimately News Editor, for the Northern Ireland edition of *The Sunday People* in 1998. He gave up his job in 2004 to concentrate on writing. He currently lives in Belfast.

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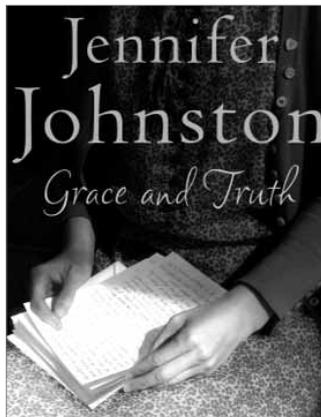
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Jennifer Johnston

Grace and Truth

224pp hb 0 7472 6752 9 November 2005



Sally, a successful actress, returns to her house in Goatstown from a European tour, just wanting to rest and to see her husband, Charlie, again. When Charlie announces that he's leaving her, Sally angrily forces him to pack his bags at once. But maybe, she wonders later, she really is too hard to live with? Hoping for some glimmer of insight into the family secrets that have always dogged her, Sally turns to her grandfather, the frosty old Bishop she has never really known. This is an acute study of a family with a dark secret at its heart.

Jennifer Johnston is one of the foremost Irish writers of her, or any, generation. She has won the Whitbread Prize (*The Old Jest*), the Evening Standard Best First Novel Award (*The Captains and the Kings*), the Yorkshire Post Award, Best Book of the Year (twice, for *The Captains and the Kings* and *How Many Miles to Babylon?*). She has also been shortlisted for the Booker Prize with *Shadows on Our Skin*.

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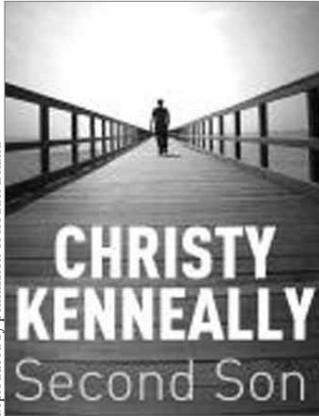
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Christy Kenneally

Second Son

313pp 234 x 156mm pb 0 340 89619 1 April 2005



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An island of secrets, struggling to stay quiet...

When Gabriel Flaherty plunges to his death from a cliff in suspicious circumstances, it is left to his brother Michael, a priest from New York, to return home to The Island and uncover what has happened.

Michael finds his childhood home much changed. With the opening of a factory, the sea that had given the islanders their livelihoods, as well as claiming so many of their lives, is no longer paramount. But along with steadier incomes and easier lives, the factory has brought suspicion and jealousy.

Michael confronts the demons from his past including his estranged father, an old priest who influenced his life, and his first love. But although he had prepared himself for the ordeal, he uncovers an evil that touches everyone he knows.

When the close-knit islanders realise the full extent of what is going on, they unite to avenge their own, seeking justice of a different kind. As the net tightens, they hold their breath, waiting to see who will survive.

Christy Kenneally is a well-known Irish TV presenter and scriptwriter. He presented RTE's *'No Frontiers'* travel series and has been published on numerous occasions. *Maura's Boy*, *The New Curate* and *Life After Loss* have all featured on Ireland's bestseller list. Christy Kenneally is married and lives in Dublin.

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Roman Song

320pp 234 x 156mm pb 0 340 83231 2 September 2005

When Fergal Flynn's remarkable singing talent is discovered by world-famous opera star Alfredo Moretti, the young man leaves his native Belfast and sets out for Rome, where he will undergo training to become an opera singer.

In a city of culture and beauty, he is an innocent abroad, and Fergal finds his life turned upside-down as he tries to adjust to this new, mysterious world. And when Fintan arrives on the scene – a young man from a background altogether different to his – Fergal struggles with his difficult past in an attempt to bridge the gulf between them and discover what love really is.

Moving back through the decades, *Roman Song* also tells the story of Fintan's parents – Amelia, the beautiful, widowed countess, and Mario Fischetti, world-renowned singer, who meet during a tour of Tosca – and the strange love triangle that surrounds their union.

Roman Song is as enchanting as its predecessor, as Fergal spreads his wings and begins to make his mark on a world full of promise, and sometimes danger.

Brian Kennedy was born in 1966, one of six children, and was brought up in Belfast. He discovered his natural singing voice when he found he could repeat a note pitch-perfect at school and harmonise along with the radio. Brian Kennedy is one of Ireland's best-loved singer-songwriters. *The Arrival of Fergal Flynn* – a semi-autobiographical story set in his hometown of Belfast – was his first foray into fiction. He now lives in Dublin.

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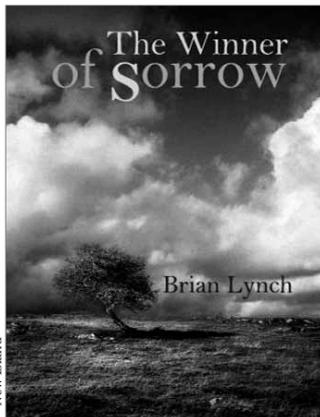
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Brian Lynch

The Winner of Sorrow

300pp hb 190430 180 0 October 2005



© New Island

William Cowper was the most famous poet of his day. Jane Austen was foremost among his fans, Wordsworth knew his work by heart and William Blake ranked him alongside Milton.

Today, Cowper is all but forgotten. Obsessed with God and suicide, loved by many women, his life was tragically cut short by the profound mental illness that dogged his every day.

Yet despite the obsessions that made him a virtual recluse, William Cowper lived out a love-story as intense as any in English literature.

The Winner of Sorrow brings to life a forgotten giant. Intense, exhilarating and masterful in its evocation of the period, this is literary fiction at its finest. It is a novel of intense accomplishment, profundity and perfection.

Brian Lynch was born in Dublin in 1945 and is a well-known poet and screenwriter. He is also a much praised poet, and Samuel Beckett made special note of his 'exceptional talent'. Now, in his first novel, Brian Lynch has crafted an astonishing piece of fiction based on the life of this legendary English poet. His last film, *Love and Rage*, starred Greta Scacchi and Daniel Craig. His most recent film work is an adaptation of *Europa* by Tim Parks, shortlisted for the Booker Prize. A former Jacobs Award winner, Brian Lynch won the Banff International TV Festival Award for best drama. Brian Lynch is a member of Aosdána.

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Gerard Murphy

Death Without Trace

256pp 198 x 128mm pb 1 903464 83 8 March 2005



Recently separated Madigan – part-time private eye and shift supervisor in a Dublin brewery – desperately needs to brighten up the drab mid-winter Dublin days. When the sexy and wealthy wife of a professor of neurobiology asks him to tail her husband, Madigan agrees, against his better judgement. Before long he is embroiled in the underworld of crime and out of his depth. The crime gangs will stop at nothing, murder is a matter of course, and Madigan is on their hit list for digging up the dirt. But how far is Madigan prepared to go to expose the truth? His ex-wife, son and the beautiful young woman who finds him attractive – are they also at risk?

Madigan is the crime investigator for the new millennium; not completely untainted by the world he operates in, but honest with himself at least. This dark, gripping, sexy read takes an ironic look at Celtic Tiger Ireland, where corruption is an everyday normality.

Gerard Murphy was born in Cork in 1956. He lived an idyllic rural childhood in Glenville, northeast Cork. His first book, an autobiographical novel, *Once in a New Moon*, was published to critical acclaim in 1997. Before turning to writing Gerard Murphy worked as a research scientist in industry until 1993 when he began lecturing in biotechnology at the Institute of Technology, Carlow, where he still works. Gerard Murphy is currently writing the sequel to *Death Without Trace*. He is married with three children.

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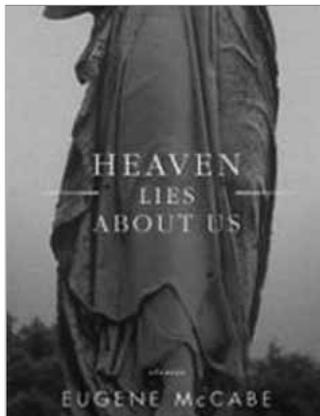
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Eugene McCabe

Heaven Lies About Us

320pp 233 x 152mm pb 0 22407 340 0 January 2005



In these twelve stories, Eugene McCabe plumbs the soul of the Irish border counties, where confusion, divided loyalties and heightened emotions are part of everyday life. Celebrated as a playwright and the author of one of the finest Irish novels of recent years – *Death and Nightingales* – Eugene McCabe here demonstrates his mastery of the short story form.

‘One day, great twentieth-century prose in the English language will be acknowledged to include Eugene McCabe’s breathtaking facility and the deep, necessary anguish of his fictional universe.’

Alan Warner

Eugene McCabe was born in Glasgow to Irish parents in 1930. His work includes *Heritage and Other Stories* (Gollancz, 1978) and *Death and Nightingales* (Secker & Warburg, 1992). His short novel, *Victims*, won the Holtby Award from the Royal Society of Literature (1976). Eugene McCabe has also written a number of plays. He currently lives near Clones in County Monaghan.

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Death and Nightingales: French (Marval/Kaer); Italian (Fazi).

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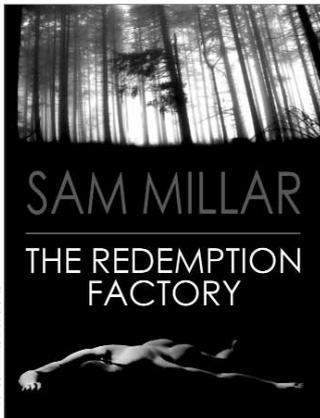
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The Redemption Factory

256pp 216 x 135mm pb 0 86322 339 7 May 2005



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A man is murdered, an anarchist suspected by his own group of being a police informer, but the killer has his doubts.

Years later in a deserted wood a corrupt businessman, Shank, silences a whistleblower, but the killing is witnessed and leads by way of brutal interrogation back to the first murder and its consequences.

Lurking sometimes at the edge of the action, sometimes at the centre, is the deeply dysfunctional family of Shank and his two strange daughters, and their gruesome abattoir.

'An extraordinary book... a gripping story of his life in prison to best-selling author... readers of *On the Brinks* will be on the edge of their seats waiting for another from Millar.'
Belfast Telegraph

'Has all the makings of a Hollywood blockbuster.'
Books Ireland

Belfast-born Sam Millar weaves a compelling story about the struggle to acknowledge a wrong, about loyalty and corruption, life and death. He brings to crime fiction the strengths that made *On the Brinks* such an exceptional memoir. He has won the Martin Healy Short Story Award, the Brian Moore Award for Short Stories, the Cork Literary Review Competition, and the Aisling Award for Art and Culture. He has been described as 'a powerful writer' by Anne-Marie Duquette and his short stories have been praised for their 'fluency and courage of language' by Jennifer Johnston.

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Lia Mills

Nothing Simple

320pp 216 x 135mm pb 1 844 88057 5 April 2005



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© Mark McCall

When Ray left Ireland to follow Dermot to America, she had her doubts about moving. But Dermot convinced her that it was where their future lay, and she was too young and too in love to fight. So they settled in a hot and murky Texan suburb where nothing turned out to be quite what it seemed. Now, ten years and four children later, recession has hit Texas, Dermot's career – like their marriage – has stalled, and he says that the family has to move back to Dublin.

As they get ready to leave, their daughter disappears. In the desperate hours that follow, Ray tries to figure out how she's ended up with a life that's only beginning to make sense now that everything in it is under threat.

'Mills' talent for narrative and suspense remain undiminished and her eye for detail is superb.'
Books Ireland

Lia Mills lives in Dublin where she is currently working on her third novel. Her previous novel, *Another Alice* (1996), was shortlisted for *The Irish Times* Fiction Award. *The Sunday Tribune* called it 'an important book, an emotional epic; structurally accomplished, it is brave, honest and strong and its prose has the explosive density of poetry.'

The Irish Times described it as '...a tense, woman-centred novel in which she handles the issue of ruptured childhood with consummate care and understanding. It is as fine a piece of writing as we will see this year.'

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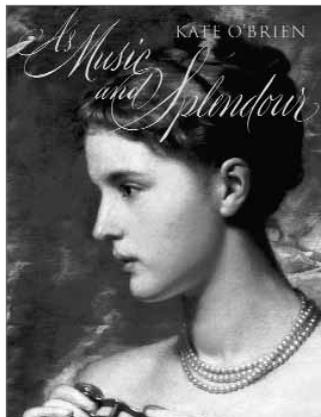
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Kate O'Brien

As Music and Splendour

352pp 198 x 129mm pb 1 84488 064 8 August 2005



Set in the 1880s and 1890s, *As Music and Splendour* tells the story of two young Irish girls who are sent to Rome for training as opera singers. Rose – red-haired, big-hearted and big-voiced – is soon on track to become a prima donna soprano; Clare, also a soprano but subtler and less glamorous, is more at home with sacred music. While Rose juggles the affections of various men, Clare embarks on a passionate affair with her fellow student Luisa. *As Music in Splendour*, Kate O'Brien's forgotten last novel, is a thrillingly readable and romantic work from one of the truly important Irish writers of the twentieth century.

Kate O'Brien was born in Limerick in 1897. *For Without My Cloak* (1931), her first novel, she was awarded the Hawthornden and James Tait Black Memorial prizes. Subsequent novels were *The Ante-Room* (1934), *Mary Lavelle* (1936), *Pray for the Wanderer* (1938), *The Land of Spices* (1941), *The*

Last of Summer (1943), *That Lady* (1946), *The Flower of May* (1953), and, finally, *As Music and Splendour* (1958). Her non-fiction works include *Farewell Spain* (1937) – which caused the Franco regime to bar her from the country until 1957 – *Teresa of Avila* (1957), and *Presentation Parlour* (1963).

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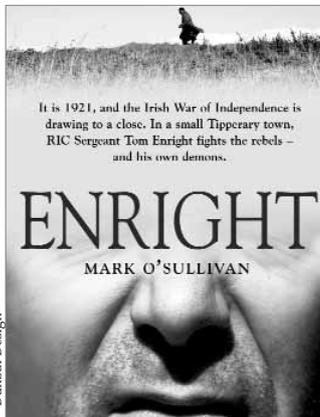
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Mark O'Sullivan

Blackstaff Press | www.blackstaffpress.com

Enright

416pp 198 x 129mm pb 0 85640 773 9 September 2005



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It is 1921, and the Irish War of Independence is drawing to a close. In a small Tipperary town, RIC Sergeant Tom Enright fights the rebels – and his own demons.

Traumatised at an early age, Enright is destined to constantly re-enact the roles of hunter and hunted. In closely interwoven storylines, he relives his years at sea, the battles at the Somme, lying among the living dead in a British Columbia sanatorium and subsisting on a Canadian Army Land Grant farm before moving back to Ireland.

Mark O'Sullivan's gripping novel is as forceful as the character of Enright himself. The story hovers between the real and the imagined, between tenderness and violence, between myth and memory. Enright's voice haunts, revolts, sometimes amuses, and ultimately reveals the secret of survival – defiant tenacity.

Mark O'Sullivan is an award-winning writer for children and young adults. *Enright* is his first novel for grown-ups. He was born in England in 1954 and educated in Ireland. Previous titles include *Melody for Nora* (1994), *Wash Basin Street Blues* (1995), *More Than a Match* (1996), *White Lies* (1997), *Angels Without Wings* (1997) and *Silent Stones* (1999). His short stories have been published in *The Sunday Tribune*, *Passages* (Belfast), *Panurge* (England) and elsewhere. Awards include the Eilís Dillon/Bisto Book of the Year Award for First Novel (1995) and two Reading Association of Ireland Children's Book Awards (1999 and 2001).

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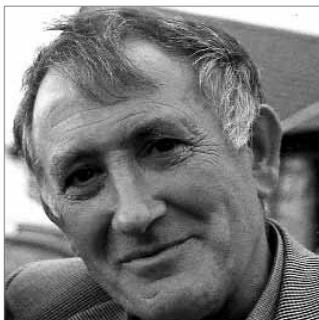
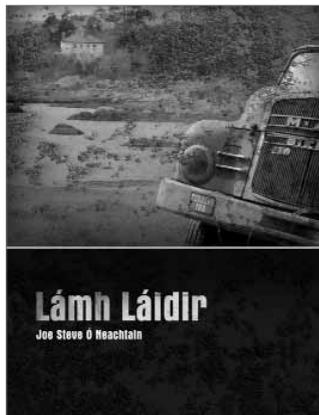
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Joe Steve Ó Neachtain

Lámh Láidir

477pp 140 x 215mm pb 1 902420 79 9 October 2005



This dramatic novel has a plot that spans three generations and describes a gripping story that is at times tragic and at other times terribly funny. The book provides an insight into the social history of Connemara. It explores the daunting authority of the Church, the chasm that divided the English-speaking elite from the Irish-speaking working-class and the painful reality of emigration. Born and raised in Connemara, it is this area, its culture and its people that Ó Neachtain brings to life in his writing. His natural ability to alternate between the roles of comic, historian and storyteller make his writing effortless. The authentic and amusing dialogue is particularly effective, bringing the colourful characters of this novel to life. This book was awarded prizes in the Cló Iar-Chonnachta and Oireachtas literary competitions.

Joe Steve Ó Neachtain was born and raised in Spiddal, County Galway, where he still resides. He is well-known throughout Ireland for his part in the television soap opera '*Ros na Rún*'. A prolific writer, this is his second novel, and he has also written short stories, pantomimes, plays, songs, poetry, scripts and sketches. He wrote the drama series '*Baile an Droichid*' which ran for ten years on the Irish radio station Raidió na Gaeltachta. He has been awarded several literary prizes for his work.

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Tom Phelan

The Canal Bridge

256pp 215 x 136mm pb 1 84351 075 8 November 2005

A story set in the trenches of Flanders and the Irish midlands, which tells of two friends who join the British Army and the devastating effect the First World War has on their lives.

Con and Matt witness and participate in the terrible savagery of the Somme, Ypres and Passchendale. Back home, Kitty, Con's sister, gives a focus to their childhood and hopes for a future. Matt survives and returns to Kitty and to an Ireland transformed by the 1916 Rising. During the 1920s, in the aftermath of both conflicts, the Big House becomes a target for the IRA, and the brutality of war is re-enacted on a local stage.

Phelan's masterly narrative conveys with sheer lyric power the physicality of warfare, and the trials of peacetime, capturing its ravages and repercussions for the human spirit, in a country on the cusp of nationhood. *The Canal Bridge* is a memorable, complex and dynamic triumph of

story-telling that will endure in the memory.

Tom Phelan was born in 1940 and raised in County Laois. He was ordained in 1965, emigrated to the USA in 1970 and left the priesthood in 1977. He now lives in New Jersey, where he teaches English. He is the author of two previous novels, *In the Season of the Daisies* (1993) and *Iscariot* (1999).

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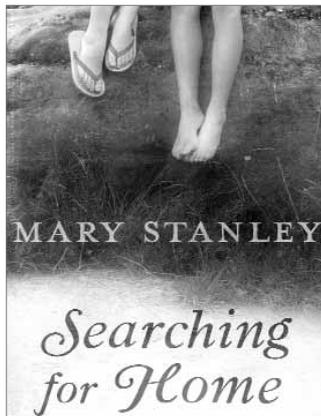
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Mary Stanley

Searching for Home

384pp pb 0 7553 2506 0 June 2005



Ireland, 1944. In a violent storm, a German plane heading for Britain is blown west, far off course. The pilot, completely disorientated, plunges down on to an Irish hillside and what follows shatters a young family.

The children who survive that terrible night try to leave the past behind, but it will not let them go. Rescued by their Aunt Lucy, Amelia and Mattie need to start afresh, but Lucy too has lost her way. And as all three search for a place to call home, they accidentally uncover the cruellest secret of all.

Mary Stanley's enthralling new novel moves from 1940s Ireland through post-war England to golden Malta. Her vibrant characters and beautifully perceptive writing bring to life a compelling tale of survival and self-discovery.

Mary Stanley was born in England and educated in Ireland. A graduate of Trinity College Dublin, she has worked in England, Italy and Germany. She now lives in Dublin.

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Revenge: Danish (Cicero), Dutch (de Fontein).

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Alice Taylor

Brandon/Mount Eagle | www.brandonbooks.com

House of Memories

288pp 234 x 156mm pb 0 86322 345 1 September 2005

Alice Taylor's best and most moving novel to date, this sequel to *The Woman of the House* and *Across the River* is a story of love for the home place and of the passions and jealousies it can inspire. Following his brutish father's unlamented death, young Danny Conway strives to rescue the family farm from ruin. When all seems hopeless, help comes from the most unexpected quarter.

House of Memories tells a story of resilience in the face of family tragedy; a story, too, of bereavement and grief, and of trying to cope with loss. No one knows the warp and weft of country life as Alice Taylor does, and in her third novel she again displays her unique ability to capture its rhythms and cadences.

'Alice Taylor is an outstanding storyteller.'

The Irish Times

'Ireland's Laurie Lee: a chronicler of fading village life who sells and sells.'
The Observer

Alice Taylor is the author of the five biggest selling books ever published in Ireland. Her first memoir *To School Through the Fields* remains the most remarkable phenomenon in Irish publishing history, and many of her books, including both her memoirs and her novels, have been translated and sold widely internationally.

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To School Through the Fields: North America (St Martin's Press); German (Lamuv); Japan (Shinjuku); Poland (Pax); Slovakia (Slovensky Spisovatel).

Quench the Lamp: North America (St Martin's Press); German (Lamuv); Japan (Shinjuku); Poland (Pax).

The Woman of the House: North America (St Martin's Press); German (Lamuv).

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New and Selected Poems

208pp 216 x 140mm pb 1 844711 10 2 April 2005



© Michael Boran

New and Selected Poems by Pat Boran is a generous selection of poems, spanning 15 years, from one of Ireland's best-known younger poets. 'A writer of great tenderness and lyricism' (according to *Agenda* magazine), Boran makes poems which often examine the changing nature of contemporary Ireland but which are 'shot through with a hunted, almost visionary light'. *Poetry Ireland Review*.

Pat Boran was born in Portlaoise, Ireland, in 1963, and currently lives in Dublin where he is Programme Director of the Dublin Writers' Festival. In recent years he has been Dublin City Writer-in-Residence, and has held residencies at Dublin City University and with Dublin City Libraries. A frequent contributor to books and arts programmes on RTÉ Radio 1, he presents the RTÉ Radio 1 poetry programme, 'The Enchanted Way'. He has conducted writing workshops throughout Ireland, and a revised and expanded edition of his popular writers' handbook, *The Portable Creative Writing Workshop*, originally published in 1999, will be reissued in 2005.

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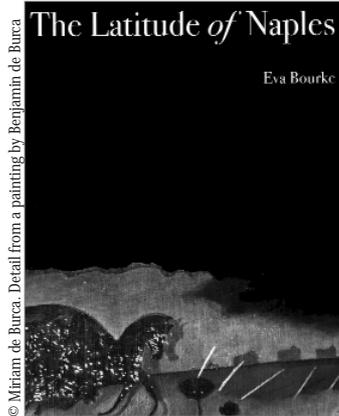
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Eva Bourke

The Dedalus Press | www.dedaluspress.com

The Latitude of Naples

96pp 145 x 210mm pb 1904556 29 9 (paper) 1904556 30 2 (bound) April 2005



The fifth collection of poems by the well-known German-born poet, who has lived for many years in Galway. She was recently elected to Aosdána, the Irish academy of arts and letters.

Among her poetry collections are *Gonella* (1985), with drawings by Jay Murphy, *Litany for the Pig* (1989), *Spring in Henry Street* (1996) and *Travels with Gandolpho* (2000), the latter two titles published by Dedalus. A teacher and translator, she is also the editor of a major dual language English-German anthology of Irish poetry entitled *In Green Ink / Mit Gruner Tinte* (1996) and her other translations include an English language version of Elisabeth Borchers' *Winter on White Paper* (2002). At present she is working on translations of the German romantic poet Friedrich Hölderlin. Eva Bourke has received a number of awards and bursaries from the Arts Council of Ireland.

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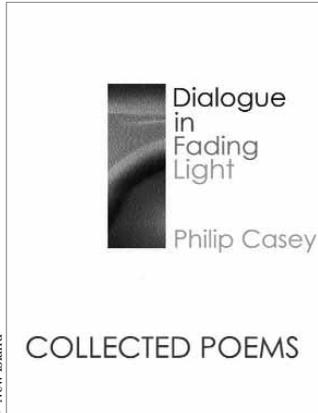
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Philip Casey

Dialogue in Fading Light

150pp pb 1904301819 October 2005



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Philip Casey's publications include the verse collection *The Year of the Knife: Poems 1980-1990* (Raven Arts Press, 1991) and three novels: *The Fabulists* (Dublin, The Lilliput Press, 1994), which won the inaugural Kerry Ingredients Novel of the Year; *The Water Star* (Picador, 1999); and *The Fisher Child* (Picador, 2001), which completes The Bann River Trilogy.

Along with his personal website, he initiated and maintains the websites Irish Writers Online and A Guide to Irish Culture. A member of Aosdána, he lives in Dublin.

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Ag Greadadh Bas Sa Reilig - Clapping in the Cemetery

180pp 140 X 215mm pb 1 902420 94 2 September 2005

Ag Greadadh Bas sa Reilig/Clapping in the Cemetery contains the author's own selection of poems drawn from four collections in Irish, *Próca Solais is Luatha* (1988), *30 Dán* (1992), *Seo, Siúd agus Uile* (1996), and *Corcach agus Dánta Eile* (1999).

Born in Cork in 1961, Louis de Paor has been involved with the contemporary renaissance of poetry in Irish since 1980 when he was first published in the poetry journal *Innti*. A four-times winner of the Seán Ó Ríordáin/Oireachtas Award, the premier award for a new collection of poems in Irish, he lived in Australia from 1987 to 1996. His first bilingual collection, *Aimsir Bhreicneach / Freckled Weather* was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Award for Literary Translation. He is the recipient of the Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award 2000, the first poet in Irish to achieve that distinction.

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Desmond Egan

The Outdoor Light

A Sequence in Memory of a Sculptor

56pp 214 x 135mm pb 1 87049103 3 May 2005

Desmond Egan's eighteenth collection of poems consists of a sequence of twenty-seven poems celebrating the life and work of the distinguished Irish sculptor James McKenna. This book has already attracted national and international praise.

Desmond Egan is one of Ireland's most widely translated poets. He has received many international prizes, including the National Foundation of Poetry Award (1983), the Osaka Citation (1986), the Chicago Haymarket Award (1987), the Bologna Literary Award (1998). He received an honorary doctorate from Washburn University in 1998.

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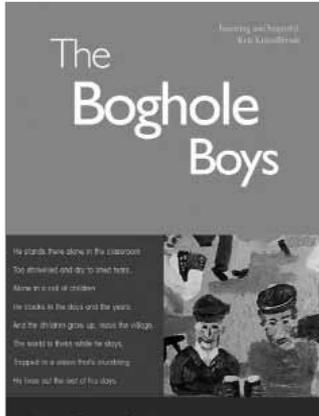
Gabriel Fitzmaurice

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The Boghole Boys

with introduction by Bernard O'Donoghue

128pp 198 x 129mm pb 1 86023 158 6 April 2005



Gabriel Fitzmaurice is well-known throughout Ireland for his penetrating observations, for his lyricism, his humour, simplicity and the pure beauty of his work. He has been dubbed 'poetry's answer to John B. Keane'.

Books Ireland.

He was born in 1952 in the village of Moyvane, County Kerry, where he still lives. He has taught in the local national school, of which he is principal, since 1975. He is the author of more than thirty books, including collections of poetry in English and in Irish. He frequently broadcasts on radio and television on education and the arts. His translations from the Irish are also available in *Poems from the Irish*.

Gabriel Fitzmaurice's *I'm Proud To Be Me! Poems for Children and Their Parents* (illustrated by Nicky Phelan) is also published by Mercier Books in 2005, and the poems in this volume cover everything from poo to religion, bullying to friendships, birth to death, and are ideal for reading alone or with mum and dad.

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New and Selected Poems

196pp 140 x 217mm 1 904556 34 5 (paper) 1 904556 35 3 (bound) April 2005

James J. McAuley
New & Selected Poems



© Detail from a painting by Ruben Tijo

This is the tenth collection of poems by James McAuley. McAuley was a freelance arts reviewer for *Hibernia*, *The Kilkenny Magazine*, *The Belfast Newsletter* and *RTE*. He lectured on art occasionally at the Municipal Gallery, and in Adult Education at Queen's University, Belfast. After emigrating to the United States in 1966, he received an MFA degree from the University of Arkansas in 1971, and from 1968 until his retirement in 1998 taught poetry and poetics, literature and Irish Studies courses at Lycoming College and Eastern Washington University, where he was also the founding director of their Creative Writing Programs. From 1979 until 1999, he directed the EWU Summer Writing Workshops at the Irish Writer's Centre, Dublin. From 1993-97, he was Director of EWU Press. *New & Selected Poems* is his tenth collection of poems.

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Thomas McCarthy

Merchant Prince

192pp 216 x 138mm pb 0 86546 375 2 June 2005



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As Cork celebrates her status as European Capital of Culture one of her most gifted residents offers a meticulously imagined poetic enquiry into his city's, and his country's, past. Thomas McCarthy's new book is a work of breathtaking formal dexterity. He tells the story of Nathaniel Murphy: his training for the priesthood, his temptation by an Italian seductress, the loss of his virginity and vocation, the loss of the family fortune to card sharps, his happy marriage and, finally, successful career as a Cork merchant.

Thomas McCarthy was born in County Waterford in 1954 and educated at University College, Cork. He has published six collections of poetry and two novels and a memoir. He has won the Patrick Kavanagh Award, the American-Irish Foundation's Literary Award, and the O'Shaughnessy Prize for Poetry. His work has been widely translated and has appeared in over thirty anthologies.

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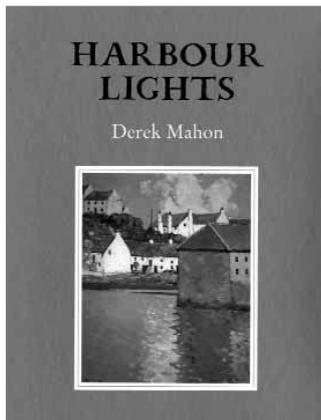
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Derek Mahon

Harbour Lights

80pp 214 x 138mm pb and hb 1 85235 384 8 pb 1 85235 385 6 hb April 2005



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When one of the finest contemporary poets produces a new collection containing some of his finest work our response is one of exhilaration and gratitude. The long, wide-ranging poems here ('Resistance Days', 'Calypso', 'Harbour Lights' itself) are interspersed with penetrating glances and a series of dazzling translations which enhance and extend their traditions; his version of 'The Seaside Cemetery' is a masterpiece. Together they form a book of rare organic unity and distinction. *Harbour Lights* is an act of faith, and a triumph.

Derek Mahon was born in Belfast in 1941, studied at Trinity College, Dublin, and the Sorbonne, and has held journalistic and academic appointments in Dublin, London and New York. A member of Aosdána, he has received numerous awards including a Lannan Award and the Scott Moncrieff Translation Prize. Recent titles published by The Gallery Press include *The Hudson Letter*, *The Yellow Book* and a new version of Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

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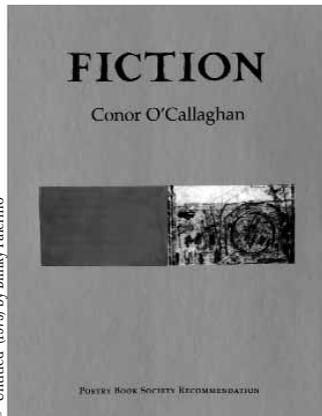
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Fiction

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Conor O'Callaghan's third collection navigates a channel between half-truth and deception. Narratives, at once private and impersonal, happen against the backdrops of desire and love's complexities.

Fiction is a collection of broad formal and thematic range. A pair of gloves becomes an erotic keepsake. An Irish family survives the morbid paranoia of contemporary wartime America. The meaning of 'hello' mutates through its relationship to the telephone. The creatures of 'Free State' coinage vanish from legal tender, and a young woman encounters her first poem in print.

If *Fiction* is often bleak — its version unreliable, its vision unforgiving — it is as often witty and tender and deceptively rhapsodic. It expands the achievement of one of Ireland's most original and engaging younger poets.

Conor O'Callaghan was born in 1968. His previous collections, published by The Gallery Press, are *The History of Rain* (1993) and *Seatown* (1999). In 2004, he co-held, together with his wife Vona Groarke, the Heimbold Chair in Irish Studies at Villanova University, Pennsylvania. For the past ten years he and his family have lived in Dundalk.

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Gabriel Rosenstock

Rogha Dánta - Selected Poems

Translated from the Irish by Paddy Bushe

150pp 140 x 215mm pb 1 902420 95 0 November 2005

Selected poems by 'Ireland's leading lyric poet' (Peter van de Kamp, editor *Irish Literature*) covering a period of over thirty years, wonderfully translated from the Irish by Paddy Bushe. The collection contains the famous Celtic-Aztec vision poem, *Xolotl*, stunning love poems and profound meditations in a variety of moods which reflect the emotional and spiritual range of Rosenstock's unique, universal voice.

Gabriel Rosenstock was born in Kilfinane, County Limerick, and has lived in Dublin for many years. He is author/translator of over 100 books, including poetry, children's books and novels. He has a particular interest in Japanese Haiku poetry. He is a member of the editorial staff of An Gúm publishing house. Rosenstock's poetry has been widely published internationally in *Akzente*, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *Poetry* (Chicago), and *World Haiku Review*. His work, in English and Irish, may be viewed on the website of *Poetry Chaikhana*, *Sacred Poetry from Around the World*.

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