



BELFAST BOOK FESTIVAL

Welcome



Come on in to the 13th edition of The Belfast Book Festival - we'd love to see you in our beautiful South Belfast home - The Crescent Arts Centre.

Alongside events there are games to be played, films to be watched, faces to get painted and VR to be experienced. If you're coming to an event, consider leaving some time to explore the building (which celebrates its 150th birthday this year and it's looking well on it!).

We are operating a Pay What You Decide Scheme for the second year - you will find multiple options at the point of booking. You told us last year that you liked a guide: our recommended price per event is £10. Workshops are priced differently.

All activity at The Crescent and the Belfast Book Festival is collaborative endeavour. Our thanks to Festival 2023 Associates **Natasha Cuddington, Sasha de Buyl, Neil Hegarty** and **Mícheál McCann** for their insights, perspectives and ideas (meet them on page 50, and please do come and chat at the FunFair (see page 22).

Our thanks go to all Festival supporters, including you! A particular nod to The Crescent's Principal Funder **The Arts Council of Northern Ireland**, and investment support from **Belfast City Council**. It is a pleasure to work with **Johns Elliot Solicitors** and **Translink**, supporters of the Festival over a number of years, and we welcome a new collaboration with **The Adrian Brinkerhoff Foundation**.

We look forward to seeing you!

Sophie/Team Crescent

Booking

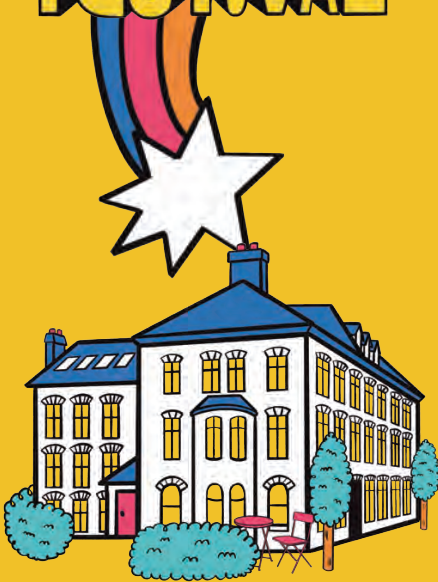


Online
BelfastBookFestival.com

By Telephone
028 9024 2338

In Person
The Crescent, 2-4 University Road
Belfast, BT7 1NH

BELFAST BOOK FESTIVAL



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Plan your visit

Welcome to The Crescent Arts Centre!

How to get here:

By Car

There is street parking at the side of the building/ around Crescent Park. There are also long stay car parks close by. Please note that there are no Disabled Parking Bays close to the building. We are doing our best to resolve this; unfortunately it may take a while.

By Train

Botanic Train Station is a 4 minute walk.

By Bus

Metro buses 8 and 9 serve the University Area. Belfast's main terminal, Europa Bus Station is 13 minutes walk from The Crescent.

By Bike

There are dedicated bicycle racks in front of the building. You will also find a Belfast Bike dock directly opposite.

Before you come into the building

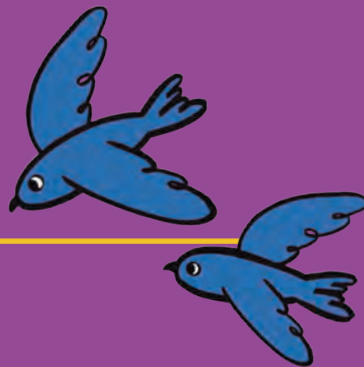
Listen/look out for our resident colony of swifts! They are with us annually from late April to August.

In our Front Garden:

Poetry Jukebox: Divining Dante

Throughout the Festival

We are proud to be a home to The Poetry Jukebox. Select a poem to listen to! The current selection 'Divining Dante', is inspired by Dante Alighieri's 700th birthday - listen to poetry in Italian and English. 20 of the contributors to Divining Dante, including poets from Ireland and Italy, recorded their poems for inclusion in the Poetry Jukebox. Some poems are read in English, some in Italian; all have Dante as their focus. Come have a listen.



In the building:

There is a cafe in the building, with seating provision inside and outside. You will also find the **No Alibis Festival Bookshop** and **The Crescent's Little Library** located here too.

All areas of the building are accessible by lift, and there is an accessible toilet on each floor.

On the Ground Floor there are three independent, bathroom cubicles and a Changing Places Facility designed to be completely accessible and provide sufficient space and equipment for those not able to use the toilet independently. Our thanks to the Department for Communities/Belfast City Council Access & Inclusion Grant Scheme, 2021.

You will find baby changing facilities in the First and Second Floor toilets - male and female.

Any questions please call 028 9024 2338 or email [Hello@CrescentArts.org](mailto>Hello@CrescentArts.org)

Our Neighbourhood:

As well as welcoming you into our Festival Home, we'd love to signpost you to the local neighbourhood:

- **No Alibis Bookshop** - One of Northern Ireland's best-loved independent bookshops and the official **Festival bookseller** - Buy your Book/Support Local
- **The Seamus Heaney Centre at Queen's** - Writers: you are welcome to pop in and say hello
- **Lower Crescent Park (Public space)** - Grab a coffee and take a moment to sit and enjoy some sunshine (not guaranteed) and read a book or simply watch the world and swifts go by!



Come on in and explore!



Free things to see & do!

3rd Floor

- Mercy Hunter Art Studio: 'One of the Family' - VR Installation
- The Crescent Swifts: ArtWork by Patrick Murphy

The Crescent Swifts!

Floor
3

2nd Floor

- Helen Lewis Dance Studio: Dancers at Work
- Helen Waddell Writers Room
- Music Room: Space to Write

Floor
2

1st Floor

- Arts & Crafts Room:
- 'A Swift Return' Sculpture
- Margaret Byers Boardroom

Helen Lewis
Room to Explore

Floor
1

Ground Floor

- Poetry Games
- Film Poems
- The Crescent's Free Little Library
- Exhibition: Leland Bardwell
- Festival Bookshop - No Alibis

Ground
Floor

The Cube

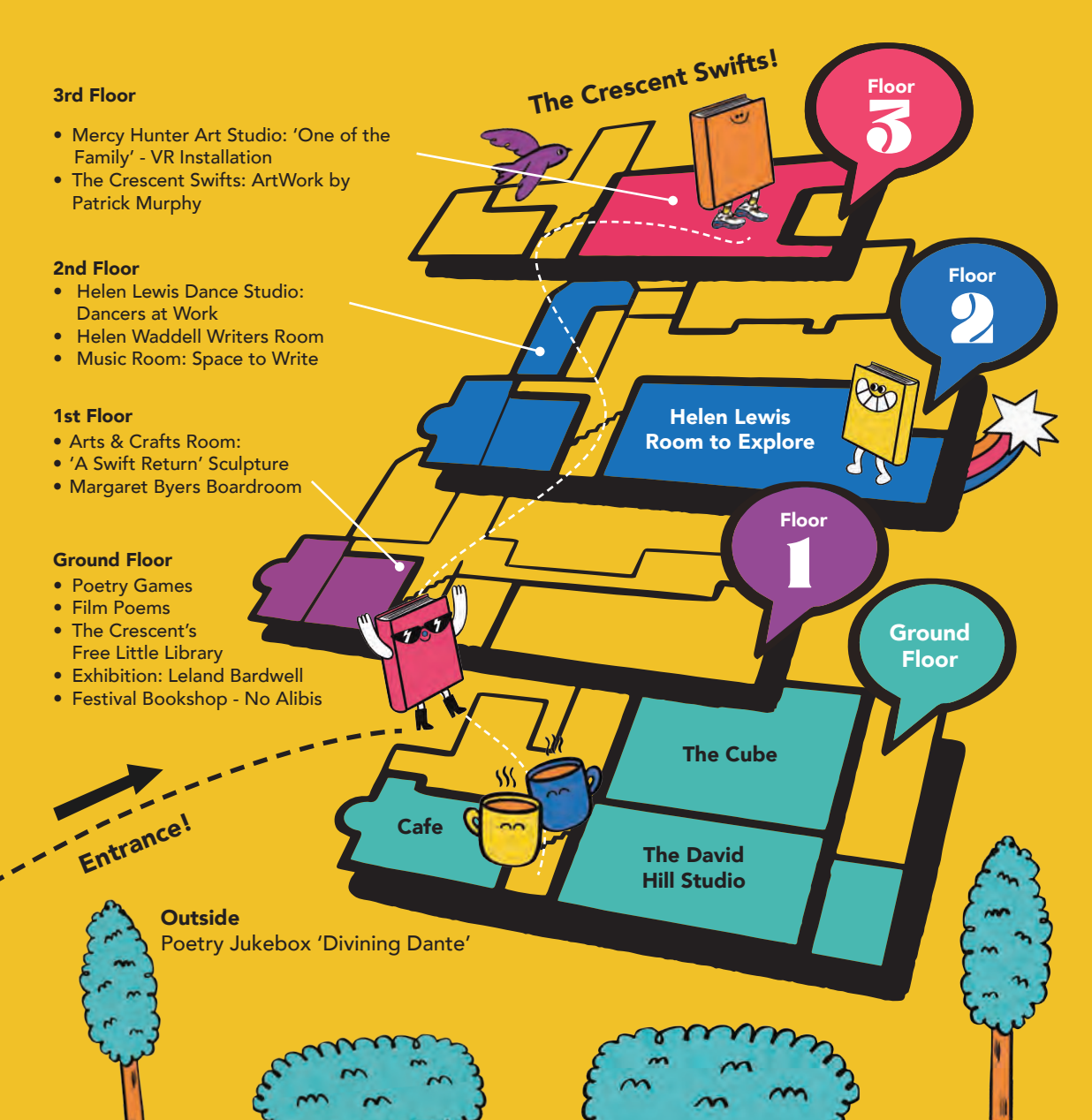
Cafe

The David
Hill Studio

Entrance!

Outside

Poetry Jukebox 'Divining Dante'



Ground Floor

Poetry Games

Throughout the Festival
Crescent Café

Come play games in the Café! There's a selection of physical games including Poetry Jenga, cards, and a Ouija board; and two digital works - one set in the Grand Theft Auto V universe, and a video game that writes poems!

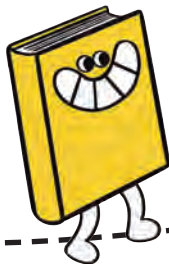
Our thanks to Playing Poetry for the loan of these works for Belfast, fresh from their stand-out exhibition at London's Southbank Centre.

FREE

List of games:

Poetry Jenga
Pyramid
Adversary
Geohedron
Phonetic Spiritboard
Rock, Star, North.
Émile Et Moi

Visit our website for more information about the games.



The Cube & David Hill Studio

Our largest event spaces are on the Ground Floor. Go to page 19 to start exploring

Film Poems

Throughout the Festival Crescent Café

During the Festival you can watch 3 new film poems, with artists **Leontia Flynn**, **Emma Must** and **Abby Olivera**. The works were shot in Northern Ireland in Spring 2023, by film-maker **Matthew Thompson**, and in partnership with **The Adrian Brinkerhoff Poetry Foundation**.

Film poems: Combine language, performance, music, and moving image, a film poem builds an immersive experience that invites viewers to reconnect with poetry.



The Adrian Brinkerhoff
Poetry Foundation

Crescent Word Birds

Limited Edition Prints for sale

Buy a print, and support the work we do!

Word Bird Prints are a Crescent Commission, by **Patrick Murphy**. A Limited Edition of 100.

Word Bird explores the motif of the swift with language: the Word Bird is the silhouette of a Swift with 17 translations of the word HOME that help make up the bird's distinctive outline and in response to The Crescent's role as a meeting point for the many nationalities present in contemporary Belfast.

The prints are on display in The Crescent foyer and can be purchased at Reception, or on the phone – come take a look and take home a Swift with you today.



Confetti

Bebe Ashley
Throughout the Festival

Belfast Book Festival 2022 invited Bebe Ashley (and her 3D printer) to be based in The Crescent Arts Centre Café where she used words and lines suggested by festival audiences to create a new poem. Bebe then coded and printed the poem onto Grade One Braille, and has kindly donated the work to The Crescent. The work is on display on the Ground Floor - come and have a read.



“A dog should die outside, the others said”: Incanting Leland Bardwell

An exhibition, curated by Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin & John McLachlan
Throughout the Festival

The Belfast Book Festival is honoured to mark the centenary of Irish poet and novelist **Leland Bardwell**. In our Ground Floor café you will find work by artists **Alice Maher** and **Geraldine O'Reilly**, handwritten work by Leland, and the sound collage “Dog-ear” (combining poetry spoken by Leland Bardwell with music) by composer, and the poet’s son, **John McLachlan**. Exhibition curated by **Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin** and **John McLachlan**.

Head to the website for more information.

Do join us for the launch of this installation at 4pm on Friday 16th June.

Leland Bardwell (1922-2016) was a poet and novelist from County Kildare. A co-founder of Cyphers, one of the longest running poetry magazines in the world, she also was an early member of the Irish Writers’ Co-operative in the mid-1970s, and a founding member of Aosdána, Ireland’s state-sponsored academy for creative artists. Her centenary year, 2022, was marked with a festival, A Single Rose in Sligo, and the publication of three new books: a poetry volume **My Name Suspended in the Air** (Lepus) with commentaries from 33 writers, a prose collection **The Heart and the Arrow** (Doire Press) and her **Collected Poems** (Salmon Poetry).



Come see our Partner Schools in action!

The Crescent works year-round with a number of schools: It's a treat to see their work presented in the Festival!

Educated Off Site

Educated Off Site is inspired by Willy Russell's 1977 play **Our Day Out**. The play is about a group of pupils from Mrs Kays 'Progress Class', who go on a school trip to Wales, supervised by the disciplinarian principal Mr Briggs. This class devised performance is the culmination of 6 exploratory school-based workshops with the focus on character, comedy and image theatre performed by Year 9 pupils.

Wednesday 14 June
11.30am

Partner School Lagan Integrated College



The Tree

The Tree is an ensemble performance celebrating how we can all learn from trees, take our time, look out for one another and look after ourselves and our planet. Our Primary School Partners ask how we can we all Be More Tree?

Thursday 15 June
11.30am

Millennium Integrated Primary School

Friday 16 June
11.30am

Fane Street Primary School

Margaret Byers Boardroom

Overlooking University Road this beautiful room is named after the former headmistress and founder of Victoria College, Margaret Byers. It was built as her private study, and is a lovely space for intimate conversations. See Events Section for further details.

Arts & Crafts Room

'A Swift Return' Collaborative Sculpture

Friday 16 - Sunday 18 June
10.00 - 5.00pm

Join artist **Ronan Lee-Smyth**, who will be nested in our Arts & Crafts room, to mould your own plaster feather to help create a giant pink swift! As home to one of the largest swift colonies on the island of Ireland, we hope this collaborative project will give festival-goers a creative opportunity to celebrate our building's natural heritage. The finished piece of art will be displayed in The Crescent.



Music Room

Thursday and Friday: A place to work

10.00 - 8.00pm

Looking for somewhere to work? Pop into our Music Room (drum kit removed!) where you will find:

- 6 desks
- Free wifi
- No booking required
- First-come, first-served

Saturday: for the younger ones!

10.00 - 12.00pm

2.00 - 4.00pm

**Stories with Paul Howard
Children's Books Belfast:
Colleen Larmour; Clive
McFarland; Ellan Rankin;
and Erin McClean**

For other Children's Activity on Saturday:

11.00 - 2.00pm

12.45 - 1.30pm

**Face Painting in the Café
The Book Who Wanted to Be
Loved (Storytime)**

Plus join Artist in residence **Ronan Lee Smyth**, to get crafty in our Arts & Crafts Room on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (see page 12)

Helen Lewis Studio

Dancers at Work: Maiden Voyage

Are you interested in observing how a dancer prepares for the day? **Maiden Voyage** are making a new work for presentation in 2024. This new work is a dance and music collaboration between Composer **Steve Davis** and Choreographer **Sarah Golding**.

You are invited into the rehearsal room to watch company class and have a chat with the dancers:

Friday 16th June from 9.00 to 10.30am.

Helen Waddell Writing Room & Languages Room

New to Belfast: a range of artist-led Workshops.

Name	With	Date	Time	For more information
Fiction Writing with Mythology	Yan Ge	Wednesday 14	11.00 - 1.00pm	Page 24
Film Poem	Helen Dewbery	Thursday 15 & Friday 16 June	10.00 - 1.00pm	Page 28
Demystifying contracts and authors' rights	The Society of Authors	Thursday 15 June	11.00 - 12.00pm	Page 28
Drop-In Information Session	The Society of Authors	Thursday 15 June	12.00 - 1.00pm	Page 29
Why Your Writing Is Broken and How to Fix It	Jan Carson	Thursday 15 June	2.00 - 4.00pm	Page 29
Poetry in Translation	Keith Payne	Friday 16 June	10.00 - 1.00pm	Page 34
Bilingual Poetry: The Art in Between	Parwana Fayyaz	Saturday 17 June	10.00 - 1.00pm	Page 42



In the Studio with...

One of the Family / Barnardos NI & SARC

Wednesday 14 - Sunday 18 June

Festival Duration



A participatory project with Barnardo's Fostering and Adoption NI and SARC: Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Sound and Music, Queen's University Belfast

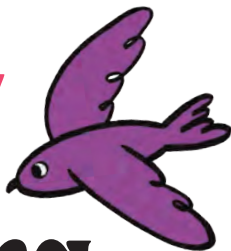
The team from SARC has been working with Barnardos NI and participating families, to create an immersive experience that combines sound, 360° video and projection, to tell foster and adoption stories from a first person perspective. Exploring the everyday, the places and experiences of families, this participatory artwork provides a unique insight into what it is like to be part of a family who foster or adopt in Northern Ireland.

The Studio will be open for the duration of the Festival and you are welcome to pop by. As viewing spaces will be limited, and to avoid disappointment, we recommend booking your slot in advance.

By Pedro Rebelo with Georgios Varoutsos, Andrew Finnerty, Brian Byrne and Vanessa Haynes



Poetry In The Building



Floor

3

A Poetic Journey through The Crescent

The Crescent is home to one of the largest colonies of swifts on the island of Ireland. We work hard to ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of a Swift Apus breeding colony in and around the roof of our listed building. Those looking at the building from any distance will notice the yellow bricks introduced to welcome our aeronautical friends, and you may see/hear them nesting in the eaves. Pop into the building to see how we have reflected their journey in poetic form:

Start your journey on the 1st floor, and then make your way down through the building reading work inspired by the theme of flight. Work by:

- Patrick Murphy
- Nataalka Bilotserkivets
- Mary Montague





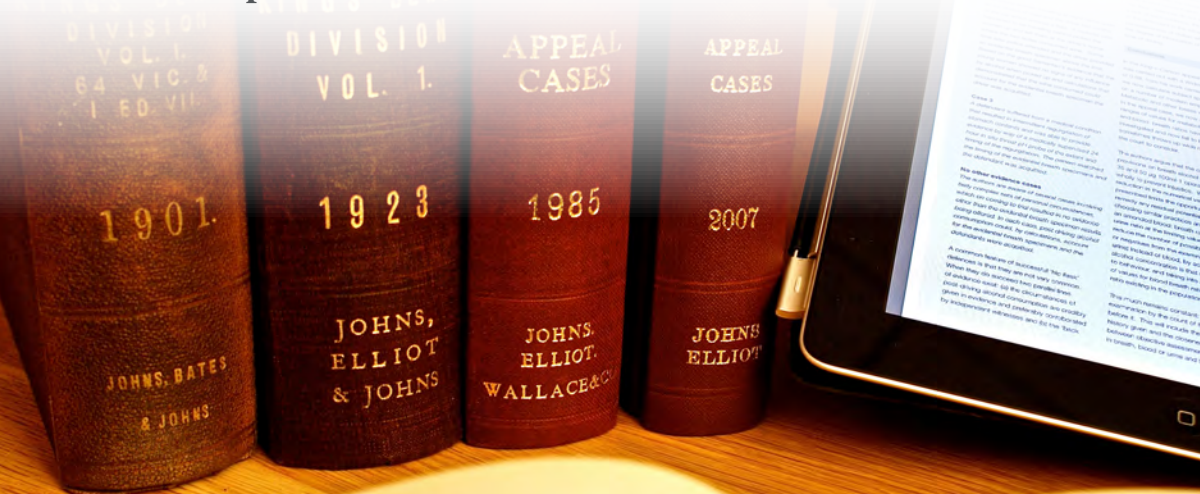
JOHNS ELLIOT

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Since 1837

40 Linenhall Street
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Proud sponsors of the Belfast Book Festival & The Crescent



Tuesday
13th June



Patron's Picks: Lucy Caldwell Wendy Erskine & Yan Ge

Join us for the first event of Festival 2023! **Lucy Caldwell**, Patron of the Festival and one of Northern Ireland's leading literary lights, in conversation with two stellar short story writers, **Wendy Erskine** and **Yan Ge**.

6.30 - 8.00pm

Pay What You Want

Bullitt Hotel



Wednesday
14th June



The FunFair

How do you access support, advice and connections in the world of books and writing?

Join us for the first Belfast Book Festival FunFair; a social afternoon with and for folks active and interested in books and writing. Resource organisations, journals and funders will be set up in spaces across The Crescent, ready to meet you: come on in and have a chat.

If you're not quite sure who/what to ask, check in with one of our friendly Book Festival Associates (our resident Agony Aunts and Uncles) who will be on hand to point you in a direction.

Participating organisations include; Irish Writers Centre, BBC Writersroom, Film Poem (Helen Dewbery and Csilla Toldy), Literature Ireland, The Society of Authors, Blackstaff Press, Irish Pen, NIPR, CILIP Ireland, Poetry Ireland, The Stinging Fly, The Tangerine, The Young Publishers Society, The Pig's Back, Abridged and the Honest Ulsterman, Arts Council of Northern Ireland, The Irish Writer's Union, BBC Radio Ulster, Children's Books Ireland, Fighting Words NI and the Seamus Heaney Centre at Queens.

Check the Belfast Book Festival website for the full list of participating organisations and individuals.

A few practical notes:

Registration to attend the FunFair is not essential. However, if you do register, we will be able to send you in advance an up to date list of confirmed Organisations/Individuals

It's informal - the Festival isn't in a position to pre-arrange meetings or connect you in advance to specific organisations/individuals.

If you have childcare responsibilities that mean that attending will be impossible or very challenging, please contact the team at esm@rescentarts.org to see if we can help accommodate your little ones.

2.00 - 5.00pm

Pay what you want

The Crescent



Headshots @ The FunFair

Neil Hainsworth

Need a (new) headshot? The Belfast Book Festival photographer **Neil Hainsworth** will be in residence during the FunFair - taking professional photos at a reduced rate. £15 will get you a professional headshot (in colour and/or black and white). It's a 30 minute slot. Booking Essential!

10.00 - 4.00pm
£15 per session
The Crescent



The Big Top: Readings with the Stinging Fly

Join **The Stinging Fly** in celebrating their 25th year with a series of readings featuring their Northern contributors. Drop into this event during The FunFair to hear some of the most exciting writers working today. Keep an eye on our website for participating writers.

2.00 - 4.00pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent



Mairtín Crawford Awards – Announcing The Winners!

Announcing the Winners of the Mairtín Crawford Award for Poetry and Short Story 2023: Join judges including **Lucy Caldwell** (Chair, Short Story) and **Moyra Donaldson** (Chair, Poetry) for the announcement of the winners for 2023, plus short readings from the Winners.

The **Mairtín Crawford Award for Poetry**, named in honour of the writer and poet who was a significant figure in Northern Ireland's literary community, is in its 7th year. The 2023 Poetry Judges are **Moyra Donaldson** and **Annemarie Ní Churraéin**. The **Mairtín Crawford Award for Short Story Award** is in its 6th year. The 2023 Short Story Judges are **Lucy Caldwell** and **Rachael Kelly**, with support from **Chris Wright**.

Our thanks to **CILIP Ireland** and **Bullitt Hotel** for their support of the Award.

This celebratory event concludes with **Damian Smyth** saying a few words to honour and celebrate writer and poet **Helen Waddell**, one of the most influential and yet underappreciated figures in Irish and British literature. In The Crescent's 150th year we reflect on Helen's work and legacy, and are delighted to name our creative writing room in her honour.

5.00 - 6.00pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent

BULLITT

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IRELAND

For library
and information
professionals





Yan Ge: Fiction Writing with Mythology

In this workshop, you will seek inspiration from literary archetypes in Chinese mythology and carry out various literary experiments where you will reinterpret, deconstruct and incorporate these images into your own writing. You will close-read and analyse texts from **The Classic of Mountains and Seas** and discuss the narrative means which were used in 4th century China: can we tell these stories more dexterously, applying instead modern narrative techniques? Or will we become better storytellers if we return to our pre-modern innocence and develop a piece of fiction using ancient artistry?

11.00 - 1.00pm

£22 | £20

The Crescent

Cracking the Menopause

Alice Smellie, Marie Louise Connolly & Ciara Geraghty
Hosted by Fiona Bell

Join us for frank and honest chats about a topic that half the population will experience, but barely anyone really talks about. Our contributors include health journalist **Alice Smellie**, one of the authors of **Cracking the Menopause**, **Ciara Geraghty**, author of the heartwarming novel **Queen Bee**, and BBC NI's Health Correspondent **Marie-Louise Connolly**. Designed to equip you with the knowledge you need to manage your symptoms from perimenopause onwards, **Cracking The Menopause** separates the myths from the reality and offers expertise, hope and advice – with a generous side order of humour.

7.30 - 9.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Deirdre Madden

in conversation with Wendy Erskine



The Belfast Book Festival is honoured to welcome **Deirdre Madden** to a special event at The Crescent. Deirdre's first novel, **Hidden Symptoms**, was published by Faber in 1986, and since then she has established a reputation as one of Ireland's most significant and emotionally resonant writers.

Her novels, including **Molly Fox's Birthday**, **Authenticity**, **One by One in the Darkness**, and **The Birds of the Innocent Wood**, have opened windows onto the troubled heart of Northern Ireland, women's lives and experiences in contemporary Ireland, and the relationship between art and life. Join us for a memorable conversation with Belfast writer **Wendy Erskine**.

6.30 – 8.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Thursday
15th June





Film Poem Workshop

Helen Dewbery

If you're interested in poetry film, or might want to take your first steps towards making your own, come along to this workshop with experienced filmmaker **Helen Dewbery**. During this 2-part workshop, you will: take a brief look at the historical context of poetry film; look at different styles, genres, and types, as well as who is making them; identify similarities between film and poetry and what putting these together can offer; and discuss in detail what you need to make a poetry film and the skills required. Participants will have the opportunity to make a poetry film on their own phone or tablet.

Thursday AND Friday

10.00 - 1.00pm

£55 | £50

The Crescent



Demystifying Contracts & Authors' Rights

The Society of Authors

So, you've written your work and have been offered a contract. What next and what does it mean? **Society of Authors** Contracts Advisors, **Elizabeth Haylett Clark** and **Johanna Clarke**, will explain common contractual terms you might encounter and flag pitfalls you'll want to avoid. Also up for discussion are the fundamentals of your rights as an author including your copyright and moral rights.

11.00 - 12.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



DROP IN
SESSION

The Society of Authors

Information Session

Grab a cuppa and meet fellow authors and **Society of Authors** members at this informal drop-in session hosted by The Society of Authors. Make connections, expand your network and chat to like-minded authors. **Society of Authors** contracts advisors **Elizabeth Haylett Clark** and **Johanna Clarke** will be on hand to answer any questions you have about the industry. This is also a chance to meet **Hilary McCollum**, the new Senior Policy and Liaison Manager for Northern Ireland. Open to all writers, come along and connect with authors in your area.

12.00 - 1.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Why Your Writing Is Broken & How to Fix It

Jan Carson

This interactive and informative workshop focuses on the mistakes almost every writer makes and how to avoid making them in your own writing. There'll be space to look at how you approach the act of writing, identifying areas where you could significantly improve upon your creative process, as well as time set aside to explore where your writing's going wrong on a sentence by sentence basis. This workshop will be incredibly practical, easy to understand and full of hard-learned advice. All participants should come with a working draft of a piece of writing they're keen to edit. The workshop is particularly aimed at prose fiction writers but there will be something in it for everyone

2.00 - 4.00pm

£22 | £20

The Crescent



Greens, Tolls, Weeds

Zaffar Kunial, Jess McKinney & Emma Must



Alert to pressures of the climate crisis and contested grounds, but also the radical potential in gestures of naming, this year's festival joins together three poets - **Zaffar Kunial**, **Jess McKinney** and **Emma Must** - whose recent publications crisscross endangered biomes with humane paths, unbinding landscape in voluptuously detailed poetry.

4.30 - 6.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Memory, Regrets & Disputed Facts

Sarah Gilmartin & Kathleen McMahon
In conversation with Andrea Carter



Join **Sarah Gilmartin** and **Kathleen McMahon** as they discuss their new, gripping and finely observed novels with **Andrea Carter**. Their work shares many subjects close to home - of the impact of deeply-buried family secrets, of the way memories and regrets of those families shape their children's lives long into the future, and how the truths of the past become blurry the further they reach into the past.

6.30 - 8.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Translink's Novel Journeys: Richard Ford & Michael Magee

With Tara McEvoy

We are delighted to welcome Pulitzer prize winning American author **Richard Ford**, and local hero **Michael Magee**, author of the acclaimed **Close to Home**, for a conversation on writing life with editor and essayist **Tara McEvoy**.

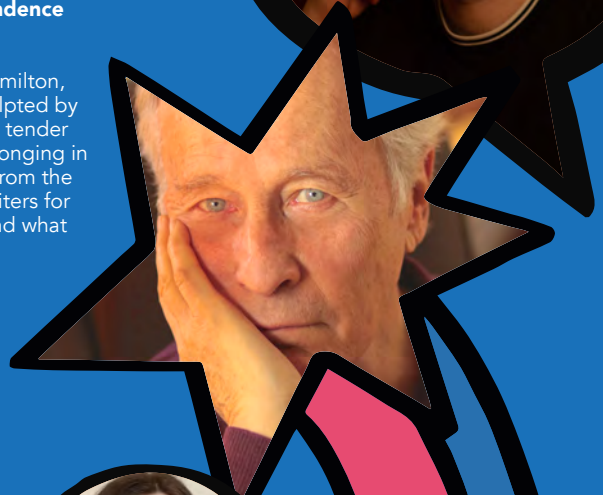
Richard Ford has been called the “quintessential American novelist”, and is the author of 8 novels, including **The Sportswriter** and its sequels, one of which, **Independence Day**, won him the Pulitzer prize.

Michael Magee's debut **Close to Home** (Hamish Hamilton, 2023), is a stirring portrait of modern masculinity sculpted by class, trauma, and love, “a staggeringly humane and tender evocation of class, violence and the challenge of belonging in a world that seems designed to keep you watching from the sidelines.” (The Guardian). Join these spectacular writers for a fascinating conversation about masculinity, class and what writing means to them.

6.00 - 7.30pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Seamus Heaney Centre Fellows:

Roddy Doyle, Conor Mitchell & Kae Tempest

With Dane Holt

We are delighted to welcome to the Belfast Book Festival the **Seamus Heaney Centre's** 2022-23 Fellows, multi-disciplinary poet and performer **Kae Tempest**, novelist **Roddy Doyle** and the Belfast Ensemble's composer, director and songwriter **Conor Mitchell**, for a fascinating evening of conversation with SHC Publishing Fellow **Dane Holt** about their different forms of storytelling. Each working across different mediums, these three writers will engage in a lively and constructive conversation about their practice, where it diverges, and where they intersect.

8.00 - 9.30pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

THE SEAMUS HEANEY
CENTRE

Friday
16th June





Poetry in Translation

Keith Payne

"The Limits of my Language / are the Limits of my World" (Gra Wells) is a poetry in translation workshop that aims to focus the ear on the sound the poem makes, and how this can guide your approach to translation. This workshop is open to all levels and participants should have a familiarity with a second language as well as an interest in poetry. Citizens whose first language is not English are particularly encouraged.

10.00 - 12.00pm

£22 | £20

The Crescent



The Voice of Carers & The Power of Writing

Dr Shelley Tracey & collaborators

Join us for readings from the new anthology **Carers Collective Creations: Voices of Carers**, a new book written by carers in the **Northern Trust** area about their experiences of caring. The Anthology includes poems, stories and reflections on the challenges and rewards of caring, as well as advice for other carers. **Dr Shelley Tracey**, who facilitated the writing process, will host discussions on the important role writing can play in self-expression and self-care, and guidance for any community group hoping to create a collective piece of writing.

11.00 - 12.30pm

Pay What You Want

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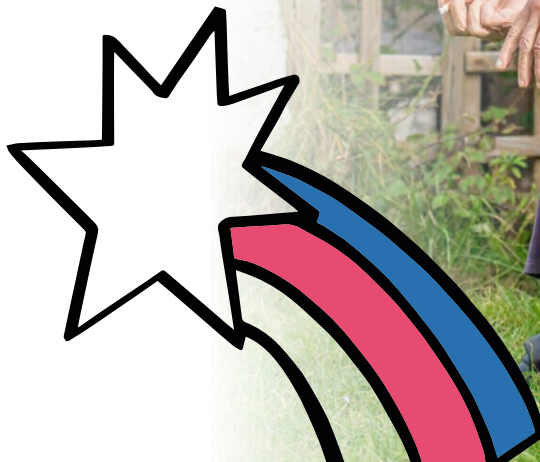


Exhibition Launch: Incanting Leland Bardwell



The Belfast Book Festival is honoured to mark the centenary of Irish poet and novelist **Leland Bardwell**. In our Ground Floor café you will find work by artists **Alice Maher** and **Geraldine O'Reilly**, handwritten work by Leland, and the sound collage "Dog-ear" (combining poetry spoken by Leland Bardwell with music) by composer, and the poet's son, **John McLachlan**. Exhibition curated by **Natasha Cuddington**, **Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin** and **John McLachlan**.

4.00 – 4.30pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent



Crossed Paths: Translation Communities (Anthologies)

Moyra Donaldson, Sasha Dugdale, Katherine M. Hedeem, Keith Payne, Víctor Rodríguez Núñez & Zoë Skoulding with Chair Lorna Shaunessy

Join us to celebrate two recent anthologies – **A Different Eden: Ecopoetry from Ireland and Galicia** (Dedalus Press, 2021) and **Poetry's Geographies: A Transatlantic Anthology of Translations** (Shearsman, 2022) – whose inclusive transnational and multilingual approaches to translation blur the reductive nature of political boundary. Thoughtfully edited to refasten locales, lingual stocks and cultural trajectories, each of these publications forge community in an era of increasing social division.

4.30 - 5.30pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent

Translations & New Worlds

Maylis Besserie, Olivia Fitzsimons & Ilaria Oddenino
In conversation with Clíona Ní Ríordáin

How does translation transform a novel? We welcome a panel teaming writers and translators – **Mayliss Besserie** and **Cliona Ní Ríordáin**, **Olivia Fitzsimons** and **Ilria Oddenino** – to discuss the reimaginings that come with translation. In **Scattered Love** and **Yell, Sam, If You Still Can**, **Cliona Ní Ríordáin** translates into English **Maylis Besserie's** marvellously reimaged end-lives of Samuel Beckett and WB Yeats, Irish literary icons with intimate connections to France. And in **Le Voci Non Si Fermano**, **Ilaria Oddenino** transforms into Italian prose the Northern Ireland idiom of **The Quiet Whispers Never Stop**, **Olivia Fitzsimons's** darkly powerful debut novel.

5.30 - 7.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Writing Home

Jane Clarke, Eoghan Daltun & Sally Huband
In conversation with Anja Murray



How do we make and maintain a home in a world assailed by the climate emergency? We welcome **Jane Clarke**, **Eoghan Daltun** and Sally Huband to a discussion with Anja Murray on the connectedness of humanity and the world. Eoghan's **An Irish Atlantic Rainforest** offers a powerful manifesto on how nature and the world can be reclaimed for the common good. In **A Change in the Air**, Jane explores how landscape and nature shape us. And Sally's **Sea Bean** follows the currents of ocean and history in a remarkable meditation on healing.

6.30 - 8.00pm

Pay What You Want

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Seas, Margins, Dreams

Eilish Martin, Víctor Rodríguez Núñez & Zoë Skoulding



With a formal dexterity, and a willingness to experiment, acclaimed poets **Eilish Martin**, **Víctor Rodríguez Núñez** and **Zoë Skoulding**, chart our species' "current direction of travel" within troubled biological territories. Merging nuanced soundscapes and a haiku-like density, their poetry sings of environmental concern and the hope for attention's transformative acts; witnessing, and radical hearing.

7.30 – 9.00pm

Pay What You Want

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Poetry Slam



Poetry NI presents the **Belfast Book Festival Slam 2023**. Open to all poets of all styles and experiences, we invite you to take the mic and share your work in front of a lively and appreciative audience, with first time entrants always welcome. Poets will be marked on composition and delivery as scored by our panel of judges. The winner will receive the Brian Bailey Memorial Cup and be our **2023 Festival Slampion!** For full slam rules, please see poetryni.com/slam-rules

7.30 - 10.00pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent



Salon: 'his [sic] art'



Tara Bergin & Leontia Flynn
In conversation with Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin

Don't miss an evening with two of Ireland's leading and most accomplished poetic voices at the apex of their careers: **Tara Bergin**, who was born in Dublin, and **Leontia Flynn**, born in County Down in the same year. These acclaimed poets will trace their respective touchstones, and their anxieties of influence, with the eminent poet-translator **Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin**.

8.00 - 9.30pm
Pay What You Want
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Saturday
17th June



Making Stories

Paul Howard



Join us for a story making session with Author, illustrator and current **Children's Writing Fellow NI Paul Howard**, perfect for kids aged 4-8. Paul will work with participants to craft an exciting new story for Paul's wonderful characters, who children will recognise from books such as **The Owl Who was Afraid of the Dark**. In association with the **Seamus Heaney Centre**.

Children may also enjoy our session with Belfast Children's Books later in the day, where authors will read stories and lead illustration sessions.

10.00 - 12.00pm
Pay What You Want
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QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

THE SEAMUS HEANEY
CENTRE



**FIGHTING
WORDS NI**

The write to right.

Facepainting

Catherine McLaughlin

Bring along the kids on Saturday to the Belfast Book Festival for an extra special treat! Be transformed into your favourite characters from your bedtime stories, like the Tiger who came to tea, the hungry caterpillar and the princess and the pea! Pop by anytime between 11 - 2pm where Catherine will be facepainting in the café.

11.00 - 2.00pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent



The Book Who Wanted to Be Loved



John Bittles & Rebecca Elliott

Join us for the launch of *The Book Who Wanted to Be Loved* written by **John Bittles**, illustrated by **Rebecca Elliott**, and published by No Alibis Press. There will be a storytelling session by the authors, followed by a chat about the book and its inspirations. *The Book Who Wanted to Be Loved* is a heartwarming and thrilling tale about belonging, friendship and more. A celebration of the magic of bookshops, stories and books, this debut by a duo of long-time book lovers will win anyone over.

12.45 - 1.30pm

Pay What You Want

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Children's Books Belfast Presents:



Colleen Larmour, Erin McClean, Clive McFarland, & Ellan Rankin

Children's Books Belfast presents an afternoon of storytelling and craft making with homegrown picture book talent **Colleen Larmour**, **Erin McClean**, **Clive McFarland** and **Ellan Rankin**. They will be reading their new picture books, followed with a fun art and craft activity for the children to enjoy and take home. Come and meet the artists behind the books beloved by little readers. Colleen and Clive will lead the 2pm storytelling and activity. Erin and Ellan will lead the 3pm storytelling and activity.

2.00 - 4.00pm

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Bilingual Poetry: The Art in Between



Parwana Fayyaz

If you know more than one language (even a little familiarity is enough for a poem) —then this poetry workshop is for you. In this workshop, you will explore what lies between the unsaid and the unknown, in distinct languages that we grew up hearing or learnt in school, and how to make sense of emotions and memories through such languages. Can we cross the boundaries of languages and make poetry out of unfamiliar names, and unknown expressions? Are we to find ourselves walking into a beautiful poetic journey, where we are poets in a distinct linguistic landscape? Or is it something isolating and unknown still? Find for yourself with me.

10.00 - 1.00pm

£27 | £25

The Crescent



Taking the Stage



With Irish Writers Centre Young Delegates & Crescent Writers Read

New voices, new work: Join us for an afternoon of readings from the Festival's Young Writer Delegates, a programme led by the **Irish Writers Centre**, and participants from **The Crescent's** year-round programme of Courses and Workshops. Come along and hear a selection of work from both first time and seasoned writers, working across all genres, will share and read their work at this informal gathering.

1.00 – 3.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Queer Connections



Toby Buckley, Mary Montague & Leanne Quinn

Join us for poetry readings that celebrate the growing connections between different queer writers across generations. Three various and memorable poets, **Leanne Quinn**, **Toby Buckley** and **Mary Montague**, will consider a poet they admire from a different generation, and how their work can speak across time and experience. With the welcome explosion of queer publishing, this event celebrates intergenerational relationships between queer writers. The guest readers will be announced closer to the event.

4.00 - 5.30pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



Writing Girlhood

Maureen Boyle, Parwana Fayyaz & Rachel Long
With Shanon Kuta Kelly

Join us for an intimate reading event with **Maureen Boyle**, **Parwana Fayyaz** and **Rachel Long**, hosted by Shannon Kuta Kelly. We will celebrate an array of recent poetry collections that voice dazzling accumulations of identity in defiance of bias, political turmoil and personal adversity.

4.00 – 5.30pm

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Artists: Estates, Legacy, Money, Control

Eamonn Forde & Conor Mitchell
with Charlotte Dryden

The life of an artwork - a piece of music - a poem - does not end when an artist passes. Who looks after it; who promotes its legacy; who controls how it is used? Join **Eamonn Forde**, author of **Leaving the Building: The Lucrative Afterlife of Music Estates** and **Conor Mitchell**, Director of the Belfast Ensemble, for a conversation about estates, control, access to information...and money! Hosted by **Charlotte Dryden**, Director, Oh Yeah Music Centre.

5.00 - 6.00pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent



Worlds of Motherhood

Doreen Cunningham & Kerri ní Dochartaigh
In conversation with Alice Kinsella

We are delighted to welcome **Doreen Cunningham** and **Kerri ní Dochartaigh** to a discussion with **Alice Kinsella** on the relationship between motherhood and the world. Doreen's Soundings: **Journeys in the Company of Whales** traces the journey taken by a mother and toddler following the grey whale migration to the Arctic, in a time of climate change. Kerri's **Cacophony of Bone** charts a year of change – a pandemic, a new child, a new home in a new world. And Alice's **Milk: On Motherhood and Madness** examines the effects of pregnancy and motherhood against the context of an ostensibly changing Ireland.

6.30 - 8.00pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent



Formal Promiscuities



Sasha Dugdale, James Conor Patterson &
Nidhi Zak / Aria Eipe
With Natasha Cuddington

Join us for readings from **Sasha Dugdale**, **James Conor Patterson** and **Nidhi Zak / Aria Eipe**, whose recent collections deform and reform the lyric. These three poets write in ferocious virtuosity of form that extend from abecedarian to ballad, cento to concrete poetry; using modes of voice that, for example, recast narratives from the ancient Greek to “Newy street and Scots and Irish-inflected English”.

6.30 – 8.00pm

Pay What You Want

The Crescent



If the River Is Hidden



Craig Jordan-Baker, Eimear McGeown & Cherry Smyth

Join writer **Craig Jordan-Baker**, musician **Eimear McGeown** and poet **Cherry Smyth** for a unique performance based on their pilgrimage of the River Bann. Their book, **If the River is Hidden** (époque press, 2022), reflects the shape of the Bann in a hybrid, prose and poetry form: long, sinewy poems bridged by a lyric essay. This hybridity speaks to the third space emerging in the North, as well as how belonging starts with the words we inherit.

8.30 - 10.00pm

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The Crescent



Feelgood Feminist Fiction

Anne Booth & Sheena Wilkinson
With Sue Leonard

Come along to this lively celebration of feelgood fiction, featuring authors **Anne Booth** (*Small Miracles*) and **Sheena Wilkinson** (*Mrs. Hart's Marriage Bureau*) in conversation with **Sue Leonard** (*Whispering Hope, An Act of Love*). They will discuss writing for both adults and younger readers, what differences they found in writing those forms, the strong women that define their work, and the necessity of stories that make you feel good in today's world.

8.30 - 10.00pm

Pay what you want
The Crescent



Sunday
18th June

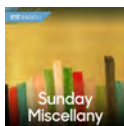


RTÉ Sunday Miscellany: Live at Belfast Book Festival



This June, join us for a special Belfast edition of the popular, long-running RTÉ Radio 1 programme. Recorded live at The Crescent, this will be a rare, special recording. A magical mix of spoken word and live music. Since 1968, Sunday Miscellany has been a weekend institution on Irish radio, broadcasting a magical mix of spoken word and music on RTÉ Radio One each Sunday morning. Produced by **Sarah Binchy**.

12.00 - 1.30pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent



The Big Italian Quiz



With **Federica Ferrieri & Laura Zambianchi**

“Oh yes, life is like a quiz” is the title of an old Italian song suggesting that “we play, and play again, and don’t give up until we win”; but it’s also the title of **Federica Ferrieri** and **Laura Zambianchi**’s delightful little book for students and teachers of Italian, as well as lovers of ‘all things Italian’. Come along to this interactive and fun event and put your knowledge to the test (anonymously!) by answering questions on Italian vocabulary, grammar, spelling, idioms, sports, art and architecture, food and wine, cinema and theatre! In the Big Italian Quiz there is room for endless laughter and new discoveries – plus, we won’t give up until YOU win!

12.30 - 2.00pm
Pay What You Want
The Crescent



Love Poetry Today:



Bebe Ashley, Leeanne Quinn & Stephen Sexton
With Mícheál McCann

Come along for a conversation on the ever-present and ever-changing nature of love poetry, with **Leeanne Quinn**, author of two collections of poems with Dedalus Press and the co-editor of **Romance Options: Love Poems for Today** (Dedalus), **Stephen Sexton**, author of two poetry collections, including the Forward Prize winning **If All the World and Love Were Young**, and **Bebe Ashley**, a poet, translator and sign-language poet innovator, and most recently the author of **Gold Light Shining** (Banshee).

In a world that is constantly changing, economies and environments failing, yet love poems still persist. Please join us for a wide-ranging conversation that will ask why do we feel compelled to write and read them, and how love poetry might be transforming to face our current age.

2.30 - 4.00pm

Pay What You Want
The Crescent



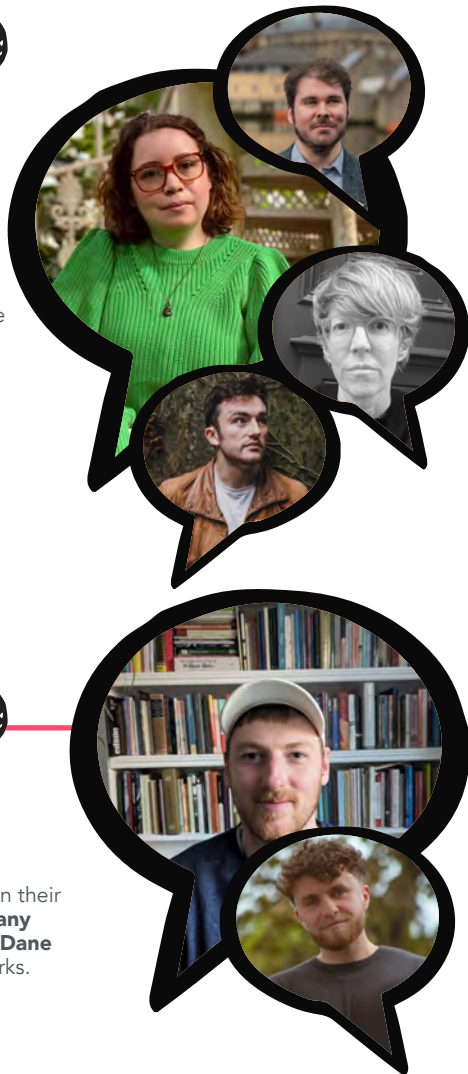
The Lifeboat Press

Dane Holt & William Keohane Pamphlet Launch

The Lifeboat Press are delighted to launch two new pamphlets in their long-running series: *Son*, an essay by **William Keohane**, and **Many Professional Wrestlers Never Retire**, a poetry pamphlet from **Dane Holt**. This evening will be selected readings from these new works.

8.00 - 9.30pm

Pay What You Want
The Sunflower Bar



Associates

Activity at The Crescent and Belfast Book Festival is a collective endeavour. For Festival 2023 we worked with a group of Associates who brought their expertise, ideas and range of perspectives to our programme. Thank you to Natasha Cuddington, Sasha de Buyl, Neil Hegarty and Mícheál McCann.

Bios



Natasha Cuddington was born in Saskatchewan. Her translations, essays and reviews have appeared variously. In 2017, she was announced as the recipient of the Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary. An assistant editor of *Cyphers*, her début poetry collection, *Each of us* (our chronic alphabets) was published by Arlen House in 2018. Together with Ruth Carr, she co-edited the anthology *Her Other Language: Northern Irish Women Writers Address Domestic Violence and Abuse* (Arlen House: 2020).



Mícheál McCann is a poet from Derry. His poems have appeared in *The Poetry Review*, *The Stinging Fly* and *Poetry Ireland Review*. He has published pamphlets of poems, most recently *Waking Light* (Skein Press) and *Keeper* (14publishing). He was a co-editor of *Hold Open the Door* (UCD Press), *Trumpet* (Poetry Ireland) and is a founder and editor of *Outburst Arts'* catflap magazine. He lives in Belfast where he is completing a PhD in the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry.



Sasha de Buyl is a literature development professional who works nationally and internationally to share the joy of books and reading. They were the Director of *Cúirt International Festival of Literature* in Galway from 2019 – 2022 and prior to this managed *Scottish Books International*, developing projects and partnerships

for Scottish literature overseas. Sasha spent two years working as Literature Officer at Creative Scotland, and five years managing reader development projects, including the programme for *Book Week Scotland*, while at *Scottish Book Trust*. Over their career, they have held roles with *Stanza International Poetry Festival*, *Edinburgh International Book Festival* and *Aye Write Book Festival* in Glasgow. They are currently Literature and Ideas Programmer at *International Literature Festival Dublin* and a board member of *GAZE: Dublin's International LGBTQ Film Festival*.



Neil Hegarty grew up in Derry. His novels include *The Jewel*, described by the *Irish Times* as 'a vital book for our time', and *Inch Levels*, which was shortlisted for the *Kerry Group Novel of the Year* award in 2017. Neil's non-fiction titles include *Frost: That Was the Life That Was*, a biography of David Frost; *The Secret History of our Streets*, which tells the story of twentieth-century London; and *The Story of Ireland*, which accompanies the BBC television history of Ireland. His essays and short fiction have appeared in the *Dublin Review*, *Stinging Fly*, *Tangerine* and elsewhere; he is a regular literary reviewer with the *Irish Times*; and is co-editor with Nora Hickey M'Sichili of the essay collection *Impermanence*, published by *No Alibis* and recently adapted for radio by RTÉ. Neil lives in Dublin.

The Festival Thanks:

Festival Associates 2023:

Sasha de Buyl
Natasha Cuddington
Neil Hegarty
Micheál McCann

Festival Patrons:

Lucy Caldwell
Glenn Patterson
Paul Muldoon

Crescent Arts Centre /

Belfast Book Festival Team:

Chief Executive: Sophie Hayles
Communications Manager: Gail Jones
Customer Services Manager: Sheelagh Johnston
Technical Manager: Gareth Doran
Finance Manager: Mave Dempster O'Neil
Coordinator: Derbhla McDermott
Festival Administrator: Dara McWade
The Crescent's Customer Services Team: Scott Ashcroft; Jack Corbett; Nat Creighton; Darcey Dugan; Clement Lesbarreres; Paul Maxwell; Niamh McCreight; Xavier Mercade-Costa; Chasity O'Neill-Rankin; Amy Sweeney-Ortiz; Marlena Wysocka.
With the support of a talented team of Volunteers.

Board:

Evelyn Hoy (Chair); Eileen Branagh; Kate Beggs,
Michael Campbell, Jillian Kirk, Olivia O'Kane,
Rachel Hooper, Cormac Maguire, Catriona Holmes,
Niamh Shannon, Kelly Anne Collins,

Primary Funders:

Arts Council of Northern Ireland
Funded by Belfast City Council: The Crescent is
an Anchor Organisation in Belfast City Council's 'A
City Imagining' Strategy'

Festival Sponsors:

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Translink
The Adrian Brinkerhoff Poetry Foundation

Supporters and Partners

No Alibis Bookstore
Seamus Heaney Centre at Queen's
Barnardo's NI
SARC

Hotel Partner: Bullitt

Next at The Crescent:

Join us for our Autumn Course & Workshop
Programme from Monday 11 September 2023.
Booking opens in mid-August. Sign up to our
Newsletter for more information crescentarts.org

About The Crescent

The Crescent is an Arts Centre, a registered charity, and a company limited by guarantee. Our Mission is to be a vibrant and welcoming hub where everyone can experience the power of the arts and develop their creativity. Our vision is a society which actively values and promotes creativity and the arts for everyone.

Our Activity Strands:

Creative Learning

Explore a hobby, earn a qualification, discover your creative talents or try something new. We offer Courses and Workshops across four Terms. Try Burlesque Barre, take an introduction to British Sign Language; practice your creative writing skills; start life drawing.

Crescent Live

This is our Events platform, held mainly in our beautiful space 'The Cube'. We're a hub for Festivals, and a platform for showcasing talent, ideas and conversations.

Belfast Book Festival

Our annual June festival celebrates today's bestselling authors, award-winning poetry and spoken word. We showcase the wealth of local talent that defines our thriving literary community.

Crescent Arts Youth Theatre

Our Education and Talent Development Programme for 14-19 year olds.

Creative Hub

We are a home to professional arts companies and seek to be an affordable place for creative activity – rehearsals, development, meetings. We are particularly proud of our facilities for dance.

Our Building and History

The Crescent is a Grade II listed building on the corner of University Road and Lower Crescent Park, South Belfast. The Centre was built originally (in 1873) as a school for girls at a time when academic education for young women was not widely available, and we're really proud of all the entrepreneurial, creative and spirited voices that have shaped who we are today.

The blue plaques on the façade celebrate the building's founder Margaret Byers, and dancer, choreographer and Holocaust Survivor Helen Lewis who founded the Belfast Modern Dance Group at The Crescent, and after whom our Dance Studio is named.

The

National Lottery Supporting great art

PRINCIPAL FUNDER



Belfast Book Festival 2023

Supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland

#ACNISupported

#BBF23

At a glance

THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

VR Experience: One of the Family

Tutors Exhibition

Come & Get Crafty: A Swift Return:
A collaborative Sculpture

Come & Play: Poetry Games

Exhibition: Leland Bardwell

Come & Listen: Film Poems

Poetry in the Building

TUESDAY 13 JUNE

Patron's Picks: Lucy Caldwell: Wendy Erskine & Yan Ge	6.30 - 8.00pm	Fiction
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WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE

Fiction Writing with Mythology with Yan Ge	11.00 - 1.00pm	Workshop
Partner School Lagan Primary Presents	11.30 - 11.45pm	Come & Watch
Headshots @ The FunFair	10.00 - 4.00pm	Professional Development
The Belfast Book Festival FunFair	2.00 - 5.00pm	Professional Development
The Big Top: The Stinging Fly at 25	2.00 - 4.00pm	Readings
Mairtín Crawford Awards – Announcing The Winners!	5.00 - 6.00pm	Celebration
Deirdre Madden in Conversation with Wendy Erskine	6.30 - 8.00pm	Fiction
Cracking the Menopause: Ciara Geraghty, Alice Smellie & Marie-Louise Connolly with Fiona Bell	7.30 - 9.00pm	Non-Fiction

THURSDAY 15 JUNE

Partner School Millenium Forum Presents	11.30 - 11.45pm	Come & Watch
Film Poem Workshop with Helen Dewbery	10.00 - 1.00pm	Workshop
Demystifying Contracts and Authors' Rights with The Society of Authors	11.00 - 12.00pm	Workshop
Society of Authors Membership Event	12.00 - 1.00pm	Drop-in
Why Your Writing Is Broken and How to Fix It with Jan Carson	2.00 - 4.00pm	Workshop
Greens, Tolls, Weeds: Emma Must, Zaffar Kunial & Jess McKinney	4.30 - 6.00pm	Poetry
Translink's Novel Journeys: Richard Ford & Michael Magee	6.00 - 7.30pm	Fiction
Memory, Regrets, Disputed Facts: Sarah Gilmartin & Kathleen McMahon with Andrea Carter	6.30 - 8.00pm	Fiction
Seamus Heaney Centre Fellows: Roddy Doyle, Conor Mitchell & Kae Tempest	8.00 - 9.30pm	In Conversation



FRIDAY 16 JUNE

Partner School Fane Street Primary School Presents	11.30 - 11.45pm	Come & Watch
Poetry in Translation with Keith Payne	10.00 - 12.30pm	Workshop
The Voice of Carers & The Power of Writing	11.00 - 12.30pm	Non-fiction
Film Poem Workshop Screening	1.30 - 2.30pm	Non-fiction
Exhibition Launch: Incanting Leland Bardwell	4.30 - 5.30pm	Exhibition
Crossed Paths: Translation Communities (Anthologies)	4.30 - 5.30pm	Poetry
Translation & New Worlds: Maylis Besserie, Olivia Fitzsimons & Ilaria Oddenino with Cliona Ní Riordáin	5.30 - 7.00pm	Fiction
Writing Home: Jane Clarke, Eoghan Dalton & Sally Huband with Anja Murray	6.30 - 8.00pm	Non-fiction
Seas, Margins, Dreams: Eilish Martin, Victor Rodriguez Núñez & Zoe Skoulding	7.30 - 9.00pm	Poetry
Poetry Slam	7.30 - 10pm	Poetry
Salon: "his [sic] art" Featuring Leontia Flynn & Tara Bergin with Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin	8.00 - 9.30pm	Poetry

SATURDAY 17 JUNE

Bilingual Poetry: The Art in Between	10.00 - 1.00pm	Workshop
Making Stories with Paul Howard	10.00 - 12.00pm	Family
Face Painting!	11.00 - 2pm	Family
The Book Who Wanted To Be Loved: John Bittles & Rebecca Elliott	12.45 - 1.30 pm	Family
Children's Books Belfast Presents: Colleen Larmour, Clive McFarland, Eilan Rankin & Erin McClean	2.00 - 4.00pm	Family
Taking the Stage: The Irish Writers Centre Young Delegates & The Crescent Writers Read	1.00 - 3.00pm	Readings
Queer Connections: Toby Buckley, Mary Montague & Leeanne Quinn	4.00 - 5.30pm	Poetry
Writing Girlhood: Maureen Boyle, Parwana Fayyaz & Rachel Long with Shannon Kuta Kelly	4.30 - 6.00pm	Poetry
Artists: Estates, Legacy, Money, Control: Eamonn Forde & Conor Mitchell with Charlotte Dryden	5.00 - 6.00pm	Non-fiction
Formal Promiscuities: Sasha Dugdale, James Conor Patterson, Nidhi Zak / Aria Eipe with Natasha Cuddington	6.30 - 8.00 pm	Poetry
Worlds of Motherhood: Doreen Cunningham & Kerri Ní Dochartaigh with Alice Kinsella	6.30 - 8.00pm	Non-fiction
Feminist Feel Good Fiction: Sheena Wilkinson & Anne Booth with Sue Leonard	8.30 - 10.00pm	Fiction
If The River is Hidden: Craig Jordan Baker, Eimear McGowan & Cherry Smyth	8.30 - 10.00pm	Music & Words

SUNDAY 18 JUNE


RTÉ Sunday Miscellany: Live at the Belfast Book Festival	12.00 - 1.30pm	Music & Words
"The Big Italian Quiz" * With Federica Ferrieri & Laura Zambianchi *	12.30 - 2.00pm	Non-fiction
Love Poetry Today: Leeanne Quinn, Bebe Ashley & Stephen Sexton with Micheal McCann	2.30 - 4.00pm	Poetry
The Lifebloat Press: Dane Holt and William Kichane Pamphlet Launch	8.00 - 9.30pm	Poetry






BELFAST BOOK FESTIVAL

BelfastBookFestival.com | 13 - 18 June 2023

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