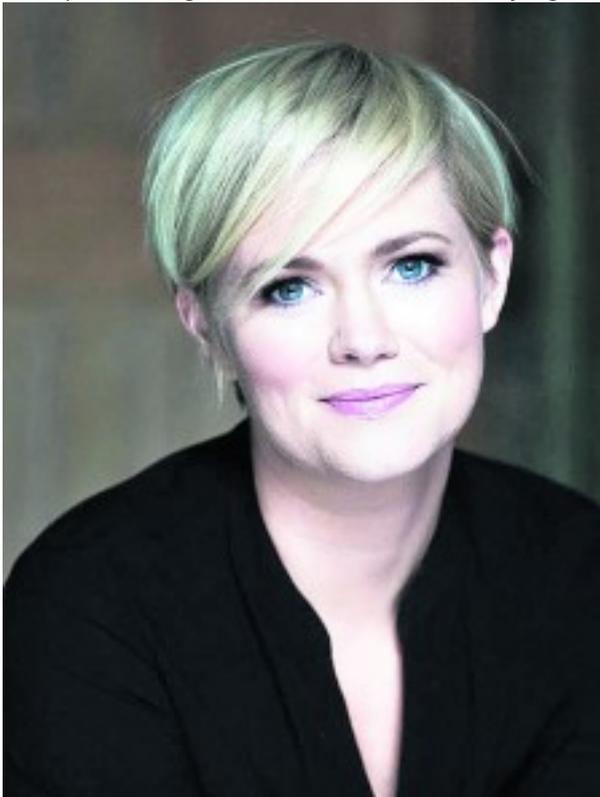


The Write Stuff

Waterford Writer's Festival packed with literary goodies!

The Waterford Writer's Weekend, which now forms a major element of the 17th annual Imagine Arts Festival (October 18th to 28th) is set to welcome some of Ireland's leading literary luminaries.

From readings to author interviews to book launches and even a 'What A Complete Aisling' table quiz (hosted by the book's authors at Revolution Bar on Friday, October 26th) to Lit panels, children's readings, poetry events and writing workshops, the weekend will offer a variety of over 20 unique events. Kicking things off on Friday, October 26th is a series of children's events at the Central Library on Lady Lane with Dave Ruddin and Graham Tugwell. Later in the afternoon The Irish Times Book Club Podcast will be live at the Book Centre with Martin Doyle and Helen Cullen and co-authors of the number one bestseller, 'What a Complete Aisling', Sarah Breen and Emer McLysaght will host a table quiz dubbed 'the ultimate Aisling Meet-up'!



On Sunday, October 28th, Rick O'Shea will interview Cecelia Ahern and John Boyne at Waterford's Central Library (4pm) as part of the Writer's Weekend, a rare opportunity to enjoy insights from two of the country's best-selling authors.

A variety of writing workshops all under differing themes will also on offer throughout the weekend with Sinead Gleeson, Jessica Traynor, Jane Casey and Derek Flynn.

On Saturday, October 27th a poetry event with Sarah Clancy, Elaine Feeney, Alice Kinsella, Erin Fornoff and Jessica Traynor titled 'Reeling From the Year' will be on offer at Downes Bar.

On Saturday evening (the 27th) curator of the Waterford Writer's Weekend broadcaster, Rick O'Shea will interview author Sarah Winman. And bringing Saturday evening to a close will be 'Don't Piss off the Fairies' a night of Fairytales and Folklore and all the secrets of the wild the wind of 'Banshees and Pookas' is set to take place at The Munster Bar.

On Sunday (the 28th) at noon, 'Books Beards and Begrudgerly' will see Shaun Bythell Interviewed By Bob Johnson. Shaun Bythell owns The Bookshop, Wigtown - Scotland's largest second-hand bookshop.

It contains 100,000 books, spread over a mile of shelving, with twisting corridors and roaring fires, and all set in a beautiful, rural town by the edge of the sea.

Johnston is the owner of The Gutter Bookshop in Dublin's Temple Bar and Dalkey and was awarded 'Independent Bookshop of the Year UK and Ireland' in 2017 and 'Irish Bookseller of the Year' in 2016. On Sunday afternoon, Aidan Comerford, Dr Harry Barry and food writer Aoife McElwain will host a free event discussing 'How To Mind Your Mind And Body' at The Book Centre

(2pm). That same afternoon from 4pm at the Central Library, Rick O'Shea will interview Cecelia Ahern and John Boyne together in a rare opportunity to enjoy insights from two of Ireland's best-selling authors.

Free events at the Waterford Writer's Weekend include The New Stars of Irish Writing with Caoilinn Hughes, John Connell and June Caldwell, The Lit Talks, The Future of Writing with Moderator Sarah Maria Griffin and a 'Silent Reading Party' event where bookworms are invited to enjoy coffee, cake and complete silence to get stuck in to a book for an hour.

It's a fantastically varied programme, and one hopes the book-loving public will get behind the weekend's events.

For further details on all Waterford Writer's Weekend events and for tickets see www.imagineartsfestival.com