

# Our Festival

Kildare Readers Festival is brought to you every year in October by Kildare County Library and Arts Service. Our ethos is to connect our readers with authors and artists, working to bring the very best from the world of literature to our audiences through the provision of exciting, innovative and accessible events. As always, our events are free. Visit our website [www.kildarereadersfestival.ie](http://www.kildarereadersfestival.ie) or our social media channels to keep up to date.

 **KildareReadersFestival**

**#KRF2021**

 **KildareReaders**

**#KildareReadersFestival**

 **kildarereadersfestival**

*Kindly supported by*



Kildare County Library & Arts Service  
and Kildare County Council presents

**Kildare  
Readers  
Festival**



**1-17 October 2021  
Programme of Events**

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



# Kildare Readers Festival

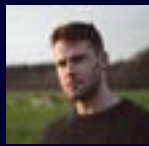
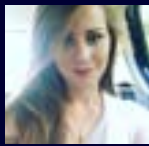


The Kildare Readers Festival 2021 committee invite you to join us both online and in person this year.

Our packed programme takes place via Zoom, our Vimeo channel and in the Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge, bringing the world of literature to readers across Kildare and beyond.



Look for the symbols beside the event listings to determine how they will be delivered



Live Zoom



Riverbank Arts Centre



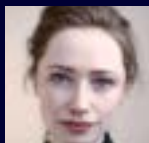
Vimeo premiere



Other location



Please note, in line with new Government guidelines, you will be required to show your EU COVID Certificate and Valid ID for entry to the auditorium for all events in the Riverbank Arts Centre. Please see Riverbank Arts Centre's COVID safety information in advance of your visit: <https://www.riverbank.ie/your-visit-covid-safety-information/>



**The Outnumbered Poet:  
Dennis O'Driscoll Poetry Walk**

26th September 11am 📍

Join us on our annual guided walk as we celebrate internationally renowned poet Dennis O'Driscoll. Meet at the Dublin Road entrance to Naas Racecourse.

**Sophie White with Margaret Scott**

4th October 8pm 📺

Sophie White is an author and podcaster whose books have been bestsellers and award nominees. She will be speaking to Kildare-based author Margaret Scott.

**MANTLES: Heritage, Place, Collaboration  
with Shauna Gilligan and Margo McNulty**

5th October 2pm 📺

Artist Margo McNulty & writer Shauna Gilligan will revisit their work on Brigid in the light of what the other has created - thereby having art & writing re-ignite the process.

**Shelving: Darran Anderson, Claire-Louise  
Bennett and Suzanne Walsh**

5th October 7pm 📺

This event will feature presentations/performances by three writers & artists who will talk about works they've previously shelved, abandoned, or reconfigured.

**States of Flux: Ways of Writing Poetry with  
Ellen Dillon, Kit Fryatt and Dimitra Xidou**

6th October 8pm 📺

In an event deviating from the usual reading and panel discussion format, three contemporary poets give short talks on their writing process.

**Short Stories: Deirdre Sullivan  
with Moira Fowley**

7th October 7pm 📺

Join author Deirdre Sullivan as she discusses her new short story collection for adults *I Want to Know That I Will Be Okay* with fellow author Moira Fowley.

**Kildare Debuts: Louise Nealon & Fíona  
Scarlett with Eoghan Smith**

8th October 8pm 📺

Writer & academic Eoghan Smith talks to Kildare-based authors Louise Nealon & Fíona Scarlett, whose stunning debut novels *Snowflake* & *Boys Don't Cry* were published this year.

**Brigid & Heritage: Creative Writing & Visual  
Art with Margo McNulty & Shauna Gilligan**

9th October 2pm 📺

A two-hour collaborative, interactive and participatory workshop invites adults in the community to engage in an exploration of Brigid through the theme of place using written and visual forms.

**Brigid & The Sacred Feminine: Creative Writing & Visual Art with Margo McNulty & Shauna Gilligan**

9th October 7pm 

A two-hour workshop of guided and prompted oral and visual storytelling. Particular focus will be on the relationship of the heritage of Brigid and the sacred feminine.

**Angela Keogh in conversation with Oisín Fagan**

10th October 5pm 

Join Angela Keogh and Oisín Fagan as they discuss her recently published historical fiction novel, *The Winter Dress* set in the winter of 1358.

**Quiet Nature: Lynn Buckle with Ryan Dennis**

10th October 8pm 

A discussion on fictional nature writing from the unique perspective of Lynn Buckle, deaf author of the evocative novella *What Willow Says*, with Ryan Dennis.

**Una Mannion & Jamie O'Connell with Chandrika Narayanan-Mohan**

11th October 8pm 

Join us for what promises to be a fascinating discussion with two writers garnering huge praise & attention for their debut novels, Una Mannion & Jamie O'Connell.

**Anne Griffin with Margaret Bonass Madden**

12th October 7pm 

We look forward to welcoming back Anne Griffin for an evening of discussion about her novel *Listening Still*, with book reviewer Margaret Bonass Madden.

**An Tolg Liteartha with Maynooth University**

13th October 7.15pm 

Imeacht á eagrú ag Ollscoil Mhá Nuad & Leabharlanna Chill Dara i bpáirt le hOireachtas na Gaeilge, agus RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta. Tolg fíorúil i mbliana is ea é, ach féasta na litríochta, gan amhras: bígí linn chun na gaiscí litríochta Gaeilge seo in 2021 a scagadh agus a cheiliúradh.

**Unsettled: Rosaleen McDonagh in conversation with Susan McKay**

13th October 8.30pm 

Rosaleen McDonagh writes fearlessly about a diverse experience of being Irish. Her first book *Unsettled* (Skein Press) explores racism, ableism, abuse and resistance as well as the bonds of community, family and friendship.

**MMCF Writing Competition Awards**

14th October 7pm 

Kildare Town Library is delighted to host this very special online event to announce the winners of the fourth Michael Mullan Cancer Fund Short Story, Flash Fiction, Poetry and Kildare Micro-fiction Competitions 2021.

## John Bowman and Abie Philbin Bowman

15th October 8pm 🎟️

KRF are delighted to bring you this exclusive interview as they discuss John's book *Ireland the Autobiography: One hundred years of Irish life, told by its people.*

## Ten Books You Should Read with Simon O'Connor and Jason McElligott

16th October 10.30am 🎟️

10 Books You Should Read continues to be a favourite event at KRF. Its format is a simple one - our guests choose five titles each - conversation ensues, as recommendations - and the advocacy of same - volley back and forth.

## Dennis O'Driscoll Awards

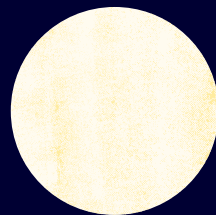
16th October 2pm 📖

Regarded as one of the best European poets of his time, Dennis O'Driscoll was a poet, essayist, critic, editor and mentor who made Naas, Co Kildare his home until his death. The Dennis O'Driscoll Literary Bursary Award is open to both established and emerging writers and critics in all genres.

## Old Ireland in Colour 2 with John Breslin & Sarah-Anne Buckley

16th October 5pm 📺

In *Old Ireland in Colour 2*, the much-anticipated sequel to their beloved bestseller, John Breslin and Sarah-Anne Buckley have delved even deeper into Ireland's historical archives to uncover captivating photographic gems.



## Luke Cassidy's Iron Annie Cabaret

16th October 8pm 🎟️

The *Iron Annie Cabaret* is a celebration of music, theatre and literature. Based on Luke Cassidy's debut novel *Iron Annie*, it tells the story of Aoife, a major figure in Dundalk's small-town underworld, and her fatal attraction to Annie, a magnetic and elusive force that barged into her life.

## Rónán Hession with Susan Tomaselli

16th October 8pm 📺

Dublin author and musician Rónán Hession has enjoyed runaway success with his debut novel *Leonard and Hungry Paul*, & his follow-up *Panenka*. He will be interviewed by founder and editor of *Gorse Magazine* Susan Tomaselli.

## Sunday Sessions with Michael O'Loughlin and Oisín Fagan

17th October 10.30am 📖

Always a favourite, this year poet Michael O'Loughlin will share a relaxed and intimate conversation with author Oisín Fagan, who is one of the Kildare Library & Arts Service/Maynooth University joint Writers in Residence for 2021/2022.

## The Alphabet of Birds

17th October 3pm 🎟️

The *Alphabet of Birds* is the second stage show from annual arts magazine *Holy Show*, who tour a new literary-hybrid production each year. Writer and artist Sara Baume covers wide ground in this spellbinding audio-visual essay.

# Festival Schedule

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## 26 September

11am - The Outnumbered Poet: Dennis O'Driscoll Walk

## 4 October

8pm - Sophie White with Margaret Scott

## 5 October

2pm - MANTLES: Heritage, Place, Collaboration with Shauna Gilligan & Margo McNulty

7pm - Shelving: Darran Anderson, Claire-Louise Bennett and Suzanne Walsh

## 6 October

8pm - States of Flux: Ways of Writing Poetry with Ellen Dillon, Kit Fryatt & Dimitra Xidou

## 7 October

7pm - Short Stories: Deirdre Sullivan with Moira Fowley

## 8 October

8pm - Kildare Debuts: Louise Nealon & Fiona Scarlett with Eoghan Smith

## 9 October

2pm - Brigid & Heritage: Creative Writing & Visual Art Workshop 1

7pm - Brigid & Heritage: Creative Writing & Visual Art Workshop 2

## 10 October

5pm - Angela Keogh in conversation with Oisín Fagan

8pm - Quiet Nature: Lynn Buckle with Ryan Dennis

## 11 October

8pm - Una Mannion & Jamie O'Connell with Chandrika Narayanan-Mohan

## 12 October

7pm - Anne Griffin with Margaret Bonass Madden

## 13 October

7.15pm - An Tolg Liteartha with Maynooth University

8.30pm - Rosaleen McDonagh in conversation with Susan McKay

## 14 October

7pm - Michael Mullan Cancer Fund Writing Competition Awards

## 15 October

8pm - John Bowman and Abie Philbin Bowman

## 16 October

10.30am - Ten Books with Simon O'Connor and Jason McElligott

2pm - Dennis O'Driscoll Awards

5pm - Old Ireland in Colour 2 with John Breslin & Sarah-Anne Buckley

8pm - Luke Cassidy: Iron Annie Cabaret

8pm - Rónán Hession with Susan Tomaselli

## 17 October

10.30am - Sunday Sessions with Michael O'Loughlin & Oisín Fagan

3pm - The Alphabet of Birds