

FESTIVAL OF THE WRITING AND IDEAS

This is the 12th edition of this curious weekend of dialogue and discourse, gathering together intriguing minds from all over the world and inviting them to Borris Village for a few days. In the magnificent surroundings of Borris House, at the foot of the Blackstairs Mountains with the River Barrow meandering by, this is a place that the curious find inspiring. We would like to thank the Kavanagh family for having us, for caring about the festival, and for nurturing it every step of the way.

WHO DOES WHAT

Vivienne Guinness

BOARD

Hugo Jellett Mareta Doyle

Kathy Gilfillan

Creative and Executive Director: Hugo Jellett Chief Curator: Vivienne Guinness Production Manager: Annette O'Kelly Curatorial Advisor: Patsey Murphy Programming Assistance and Artist Liaison: Lara Olszowska Artist Liaison: Naoise Roo Callan Box Office: Thomas Emmet Camping Manager and Staff Welfare: Dominique Dorman Technical Director: Liam Mulvaney Financial Controller and Corporate Compliance: Breda O'Brien Auditor: Catherine Arthur, D.F. Dillon & Co. Sound and Light: Des Mahon Sound Artistic Director and Decor: Roz Jellett, Emperor's Robes Tentology: Charles Preston, LPM Bohemia Bookshop: Liz Meldon Team: Joel Greenbury, Fionn Breslin, Lily Guinness, Allegra Fitzherbert, Fiona Arakelian, Johnny Lloyd, Harriet Fernell, Amelia Conophy, Izzy Salt, Hayley Douglas, Ralph Sweetman, Shane Jackson





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WHAT IS NEW IN 2023

Apart from a brand new sweeping avenue (reinstating the original driveway of Borris House last in use in 1930) which brings you right to the heart of the festival, meaning not having to dodge in and out of cars as you walk between talks, there are some other exciting new developments:

Poetry Pharmacy - a clinic for those looking for a prescription for something that is troubling them, this ground-breaking private one-to-one with the incredible **William Sieghart** will open for just two hours each day. You must have an appointment. **poetrypharmacy@festivalofwritingandideas.com** to go on the cancellation list, with your mobile number please.

Paul's Kitchen - a pop-up lunchtime restaurant under the spell of chef **Paul Monaghan**, using ingredients from within 20 miles, such as the famous Borris lamb, Gallic escargot, Goatsbridge smoked trout, cheese from Elizabeth Bradley. Sittings at 12.40 and 2.20pm. Menu can be found on page 31 of this programme. You MUST reserve a table. **Note – you will have to forgo one talk to eat here**.

Here Comes the Night - this is a Dónal Dineen-curated series of 'happenings' in the village of Borris on Friday and Saturday nights. Programme can be found on each relevant day's schedule in the pages to follow.

The main social hub where you will find the food makers, craft makers, drink makers and lots of places to sit in the sun is the far side of the House from the Village.

There are four main venues for talks - The Rookery, The Owlery, The Wren's Nest and The Granary. The map overleaf will show these.





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FRIDAY 16th at a glance

		THE ROOKERY	THE OWLERY	THE WREN'S NEST			
	.45- .45pm	STATE OF US: Fintan O'Toole with David Puttnam	BLOOMSDAY: Jeremy Irons and Sinead Cusack				
4.	.50pm	BOOK SIGNING with Fintan O'Toole (Bookshop)					
5.	•5.55pm	TALES OF WONDER: Edmund de Waal and Dorothy Cross	THE PRICE OF COMPLACENCY: Ian McEwan with Alex Clark	ESCAPES FROM THE CASTLE: Ben Macintyre with Kirsty Lang			
6	pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with Ben Macintyre, Ian McEwan, Edmund de Waal (Bookshop)					
	10 - 05pm	FINGER TO THE FIDDLE AND FEET TO THE FLOOR: Bill Whelan and Emma Dabiri, joined by musicians Zoë Conway (fiddle) & John McIntyre (guitar)	CENSORSHIP IN COMEDY: David Baddiel and Natalie Haynes	HOLD YOUR TONGUE, AND LET ME LOVE: Katherine Rundell and Colin Greenwood			
7.	10pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with Bill Whelan, Emma Dabiri, Katherine Rundell, David Baddiel, Natalie Haynes (Bookshop)					
33	.25 - 20pm	BAD SEED: Warren Ellis with Fiachna Ó Braonáin	CHANGING TIMES IN AMERICA: Richard Ford with Fintan O'Toole	SHADY BUSINESS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN: Philippe Sands with Gary Younge			
8.	8.20pm BOOK SIGNINGS with Richard Ford, Warren Ellis, Philippe Sands (Bookshop)						

HERE COMES THE NIGHT

Music in Borris Village, assembled by Dónal Dineen. The mix is bodhrán to vinyl, accordian to skiffle.

STEP HOUSE



9pm (seated) Dónal Lunny, Andy Irvine & Cora Venus Lunny

0'SHEA's



9.30pm Louise & Michelle Mulcahy

10.10pm *Junior Brother*

10.55pm Dónal Dineen

JOYCE's



9.15pm Niamh Bury

9.55pm Inni-K

10.15pm

Zoë Conway & John McIntyre



FRIDAY IN MORE DETAIL

State of Us

3.45-4.45pm | The Rookery

Fintan O'Toole opens the festival with a look at where we find ourselves - housing, healthcare, education, and a very different government coming down the tracks - with new Irish citizen **David Puttnam**.

Fintan will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 4.50pm.

Fintan O'Toole is a columnist with The Irish Times, Professor of Irish Letters at Princeton University, and author (most recently) of We Don't Know Ourselves: A Personal History of Ireland Since 1958, and Heroic Failure: Brexit and The Politics of Pain.

Lord David Puttnam is Chair of Atticus Education, a recent member of the House of Lords for 24 years (with a focus on Environment and Climate Change), and producer of films including The Mission, The Killing Fields, Chariots of Fire, Midnight Express, Bugsy Malone and Local Hero. He became an Irish Citizen in 2022.

Bloomsday

3.45-4.45pm | The Owlery

Jeremy Irons and Sinead Cusack read from *Ulysses*, including the Calypso and Molly chapters. Directed and contextualized by **Annie Ryan**.

Jeremy Irons and Sinead Cusack (husband-andwife) are actors - he of such films as The French Lieutenant's Woman, Dead Ringers and Reversal of Fortune, and she of a long association with The Gate and Abbey Theatres. They live a good deal of time in West Cork. Annie Ryan is Artistic Director of The Corn Exchange.

Tales of Wonder

5.00-5.55pm | The Rookery

Artists **Edmund de Waal** (*The Hare with Amber Eyes*) and **Dorothy Cross** (*Crossing*) in conversation about life, work and place.

Edmund will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 6pm.

Edmund de Waal is an internationally acclaimed artist and writer, best known for his large-scale installations of porcelain vessels. De Waal is also renowned for his bestselling family memoir, *The Hare with Amber Eyes* (2010), and *The White Road* (2015). His most recent book, *Letters to Camondo*, a series of haunting letters written during lockdown. **Dorothy Cross** is an artist whose work ranges from object to opera: working with sculpture, photography and video. The 2022 publication *Crossing* is a visual retrospective spanning over 35 years of her work. She lives in Connemara.

The Price of Complacency

5.00-5.55pm | The Wren's Nest

Ian McEwan (*Lessons*) charts the moral failure of post war generations, from Berlin Wall optimism through Brexit and the storming of the US Capitol - in conversation with **Alex Clark.**

lan will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 6pm.

Ian McEwan is the critically acclaimed author of seventeen novels and two short story collections, including *Amsterdam*, *Atonement*; *On Chesil Beach*; *Machines Like Me*, and most recently *Lessons*.

Alex Clark is a journalist and broadcaster, often seen in the pages of *The Guardian*, *The Observer* and *The Times* Literary Supplement, and heard on BBC Radio Four (*Front Row* and *Open Book*). She has been a judge of the Booker Prize. She is co-host of The Graham Norton Book Club. She lives in Kilkenny.

Escapes from the Castle

5.00-5.55pm | The Owlery

Historian and wartime chronicler **Ben Macintyre** (*Colditz*) tells journalist **Kirsty Lang** about the notorious prisoners of war held in this Nazi stronghold, known as Oflag IV-C.

Ben will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 6pm.

Ben Macintyre is the multimillion-copy bestselling author of books including Agent Sonya, SAS: Rogue Heroes, The Spy and the Traitor, Agent Zigzag, Operation Mincemeat and A Spy Among Friends. He is a columnist and Associate Editor at The Times.

Kirsty Lang is a British journalist and broadcaster who works for BBC Radio and Television, and contributes, on occasion, to publications including *The Times* and *The Guardian*.



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Finger to the Fiddle and Feet to the Floor

6.10-7.05pm | The Rookery

Bill Whelan (The Road To Riverdance) talks to Emma Dabiri (Don't Touch My Hair) about his journey from Limerick to Grammy-winning composer. Bill will then be joined by Zoë Conway (fiddle) and John McIntyre (guitar) for a music performance.

Bill will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 7.10pm.

Bill Whelan has composed music for theatre, film and orchestra, most notably the Grammy Award winning music for *Riverdance* - a show now seen by over 22 million people. As a producer in the studio he has worked with U2, Van Morrison, Kate Bush, Richard Harris, The Dubliners, and Planxty, and scored music for films including "Dancing At Lughnasa". In 2022 he wrote his memoir *The Road To Riverdance*.

Emma Dabiri is an Irish-Nigerian academic, broadcaster and bestselling author. She is the author of two highly acclaimed books and she co-presents *Britain's Lost Masterpieces* on BBC4.

Zoë Conway and John McIntyre are a

husband-and-wife folk duo who perform arrangements of traditional Irish music, old and new.

Fiercely Funny

6.10-7.05pm | The Owlery

A rollicking session with writers and comedians **David Baddiel** and **Natalie Haynes** about what makes people laugh now on social media, TV, stage and screen.

David and Natalie will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 7.10pm.

David Baddiel (*The God Desire*) is a comedian, author, screenwriter and television presenter including hit TV shows *The Mary Whitehouse Experience* and *Baddiel & Skinner Unplanned*. He returned to stand-up comedy in 2013 and his latest show *Trolls: Not the Dolls*, toured until 2021.

Natalie Haynes is an award-winning comedian, journalist, and broadcaster. She left standup comedy when she realised she preferred tragedy, and has subsequently authored A *Thousand Ships* and *The Children of Jocasta* and, most recently, *Stone Blind*.

Hold your Tongue, and Let Me Love

6.10-7.05pm | The Wren's Nest

Biographer **Katherine Rundell** and Radiohead's **Colin Greenwood** on John Donne - scholar of law, sea adventurer, MP, priest, and perhaps the greatest love poet.

Katherine will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 7.10pm.

Katherine Rundell is a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford, and world renowned for her children's books. She is the author, for adults, of Super-Infinite: The Transformations of John Donne, which won the Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction.

Colin Greenwood is the bassist of the band Radiohead. He reviews non-fiction for *The Spectator*.

Bad Seed

7.25-8.20pm | The Rookery

Warren Ellis talks to Fiachna Ó Braonáin about his maverick work as a musician, composer for films, and lifelong collaboration with Nick Cave.

Warren will sign copies of Nina Simone's Gum in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 8.20pm.

Warren Ellis is an Australian multiinstrumentalist and composer, best known for his work as collaborator and bandmate with Nick Cave, in both the Bad Seeds and Grinderman, as well as his own band, Dirty Three. As a film composer his soundtrack work includes The Proposition, The Road, The Assassination of Jesse James and most recently Jeffrey Dahmer: Mind of a Monster. In 2021, he co-founded Ellis Park, Sumatra, a forever home for animals with special needs - and published his first novel Nina Simone's Gum.

Fiachna Ó Braonáin is a musician and broadcaster. He plays guitar with The Hothouse Flowers and is involved in many other collaborations.



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...FRIDAY

Changing Times in America 7.25-8.20pm | The Owlery

Richard Ford (*Be Mine*) has, over 40 years, crafted an incisive view of American life through the eyes of Frank Bascombe. He talks to **Fintan O'Toole** about his work and the US - then and now.

Richard will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 8.20pm.

Richard Ford is an American Pulitzer Prize winning novelist and short story writer. His bestknown works are the novel *The Sportswriter* and its sequels, *Independence Day*, *The Lay of the Land* and *Let Me Be Frank With You*. His latest book *Be Mine* is the final novel in the world of Frank Bascombe, one of the most indelible characters in American literature.

Fintan O'Toole is a columnist with The Irish Times, Professor of Irish Letters at Princeton University, and author of many books, including Post Washington: Why America Can't Rule the World (2005).

Shady Business in the Indian Ocean

7.25-8.20pm | The Wren's Nest

International Human Rights lawyer **Philippe Sands** investigates the displacement of the people of the Chagos Islands by the British to facilitate a US military base, with journalist **Gary Younge**.

Philippe will sign books in the Bookshop immediately following this event at 8.20pm.

Philippe Sands KC is Professor of the Public Understanding of Law at University College London Faculty of Laws, and Samuel and Judith Pisar Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. He is a practising barrister and appears as counsel before the International Court of Justice and other international courts and tribunals. His most recent books are East West Street, The Ratline and The Last Colony: A Tale of Exile, Justice and Britain's Colonial Legacy.

Gary Younge is an award-winning author, broadcaster and a professor of sociology at the University of Manchester. Formerly a columnist at The Guardian, he has written six books, most recently *Dispatches from the Diaspora*. In 2015 he was awarded the David Nyhan Prize for political journalism from Harvard's Shorenstein Center. "It's the powerless on whose behalf he writes," said the Center's director.



9.00pm: Stephouse

Dónal Lunny, Andy Irvine, Cora Venus Lunny

This is a full length seated performance, featuring two pioneers of the Irish trad scene, Andy Irvine and Dónal Lunny, for an evening of breathtaking music – a mixture of traditional songs and original compositions. They will be joined by violinist Cora Venus Lunny.

The following performances are in two of Ireland's more special public houses, and are short interventions:

9.15pm: Joyce's: Niamh Bury

Niamh Bury is a rising star on the Irish folk scene, captivating audiences with stirring vocals, adept lyricism and interpretation of old songs.

9.30pm: O'Shea's: Louise & Michelle Mulcahy

"If you like the pure drop, here it is - traditional Irish music at its natural, unadulterated and most seductive." - The Irish Times

9.55pm: Joyce's: Inni-K

Inni-K's music draws on her extensive background in folk and traditional Irish music, combining ethereal vocals with deft musicianship.

10.10pm: O'Shea's: Junior Brother

Music both excitingly forward-looking and anciently evocative, his strange stories unfold with reckless abandon upon a distinctive guitar and foot tambourine accompaniment.

10.15pm: Joyce's: Zoë Conway and John McIntyre

With an exhilarating blend of eclectic fiddle and guitar music, this duo are "simply one of the best folk duos on the planet."

Winding up the night with...

10.55pm: O'Shea's: Dónal Dineen

A recovering DJ, filmmaker and broadcaster from Kerry, Dónal is the presenter of the acclaimed Irish music internet TV show This Ain't No Disco.





SATURDAY 17th at a glance

	THE ROOKERY	THE OWLERY	WREN'S NEST	GRANARY		
10.30- 11.25am	MIGRATION IS NOT THE PROBLEM - IT IS THE SOLUTION: Gaia Vince and Manchán Magan	START THE DAY WITH A CARTWHEEL: Katherine Rundell and William Sieghart	DARK ARTS OF PROPAGANDA: Carole Cadwalladr and Iain Overton	SEVENTH SON OF A SEVENTH SON: Kathleen Murray and Olivia O'Leary		
11.25am	BOOK SIGNING with Gaia Vince, Manchán Magan, Katherine Rundell, Iain Overton, Kathleen Murray (Bookshop)					
11.40am- 12.35pm	BOOKS TO LIVE BY: Mariella Frostrup and Richard Ford	HAPPY GIRLS GET DEPRESSION: Ruby Wax and lain McGilchrist	A HAZY LINE BETWEEN TRUTH AND INVENTION: John Banville and Mark O'Connell	FROM NELSON MANDELA TO BLACK LIVES MATTER: Gary Younge and Kathy Sheridan		
12.35pm	pm BOOK SIGNINGS with Richard Ford, Ruby Wax, John Banville, Mark O'Connell, Gary Younge (Bookshop)					
1.20 - 2.15pm	A HUMAN LIFE AS A MURDER WEAPON: lain Overton and Jason McCue	WAKE, EAT, BREATHE: Imelda May and Fiachna Ó Braonáin	MY OWN LABEL: Osman Yousefzada and Emma Dabiri	FISH SOUP: Finn van der Aar and Vincent Doumeizel with Lorna Siggins		
2.15pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with Iain Overton, Imelda May, Osman Yousefzada, Emma Dabiri, Finn van der Aar, Vincent Doumeizel (Bookshop)					
3.00 - 3.55pm	THE GEOPOLITICAL FALLOUT OF TODAY'S WARS: Andrew Small, Misha Glenny and William Dalrymple with Gary Younge	ARE WE DOOMED?: John Romero, lan McEwan and John Lloyd	GIVE US ALL YOU GOT: Grian Chatten and Perry Ogden	THREE FRACTURED SOULS AND A BOAT: Elaine Feeney and Alex Clark		
3.55pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with Andrew Small, Misha Glenny, William Dalrymple, Gary Younge, John Romero, Ian McEwan, Natalie Haynes, Elaine Feeney (Bookshop)					
4.40 - 5.35pm	LOOKING POSSESSED, AND HEADING FOR THE STEINWAY: Warren Ellis with Colin Greenwood	MEDUSA IS NO MONSTER: Natalie Haynes	TAKING TERRORISTS TO COURT IN THE UKRAINE: Jason McCue and Carole Cadwalladr	THE FUTURE OF IRISH WOODLANDS: Eoghan Dalton and Paul McMahon with David Puttnam		
5.35pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with Warren Ellis, Eoghan Dalton, Paul McMahon (Bookshop)					
6.20- 7.15pm	A RELUCTANT ATHEIST: David Baddiel and William Sieghart	STAYING TRUE TO YOURSELF: Bernardine Evaristo and Emma Dabiri	WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE IDEA OF EUROPE?: Fintan O'Toole and Philippe Sands with Kathy Sheridan	DICKIE'S CAR BUSINESS IS GOING UNDER: Paul Murray and Mark O'Connell		
7.15pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with David Baddiel, William Sieghart, Bernadine Evaristo, Emma Dabiri, Fintan O'Toole, Philippe Sands, Paul Murray, Mark O'Connell (Bookshop)					

OTHER ACTIVITIES

POETRY PHARMACY

William Sieghart opens his clinic to troubled souls in need of a prescription. In the CHAPEL VESTRY.

WAITING LIST FOR APPOINTMENTS (as fully booked)

email: poetrypharmacy@festivalofwritingandideas.com

HERE COMES THE NIGHT

Music in Borris Village, assembled by Dónal Dineen. The mix is bodhrán to vinyl, accordian to skiffle.

BORRIS HOUSE



7.45pm Code of Behaviour Brass Band will play everyone down to Joyce's courtyard

STEP HOUSE



8.45pm (seated) Liam Ó Maonlaí and Friends O'SHEA'S

9.30pm Niwel Tsumbu

10.10pm *Len Collective*

10.55pm Dónal Dineen JOYCE'S



9.15pm Len Collective (courtyard)

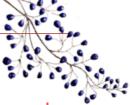
9.40pm Rachael Lavelle

10.15pm Brigid Mae Power

10.50pm Seamus Hyland



SATURDAY IN MORE DETAIL



Migration is Not the Problem – it is the Solution

10.30-11.25am | The Rookery

Scientist **Gaia Vince** talks to environmentalist **Manchán Magan** on how climate migration is reshaping our world, suggesting that it is the natural order of things.

Manchán Magan is a writer and documentarymaker. He has presented dozens of documentaries on issues of world culture for TG4, RTÉ & Travel Channel. His books Thirty-Two Words For Field and Tree Dogs, Banshee Fingers and Other Words For Nature are acclaimed best-sellers. His latest book is Listen to the Land Speak.

Gaia Vince is a freelance British environmental journalist, broadcaster and non-fiction author. She writes for The Guardian and for BBC Online. Her books include Transcendence: How Humans Evolved Through Fire, Language, Beauty, and Time, and, most recently, Nomad Century: How to Survive the Climate Upheaval.

Start the Day with a Cartwheel

10.30-11.25am | The Owlery

Katherine Rundell (Rooftoppers) joins William Sieghart (The Poetry Pharmacy) in conversation about poetry, children's literacy, endangered species... and roofwalking.

Katherine Rundell's books for children have been translated into more than thirty languages, and won countless awards. She writes for the London Review of Books, The Times Literary Supplement, and The New York Times, mostly about books and animals, but sometimes about flying, night-climbing and tightrope walking.

William Sieghart has been dispensing poetry prescriptions since his *Poetry Pharmacy* began in 2014, listening to thousands of people's problems and prescribing them a poetic remedy.

Dark Arts of Propaganda

10.30-11.25am | The Wren's Nest Investigative journalists Carole Cadwalladr and Iain Overton on the explosion of data espionage, online abuse and Putin's disinformation playbook. Is fake news now an integral part of the war machine?

Carole Cadwalladr is a renowned Pulitzernominated journalist for *The Guardian*, feature writer for *The Observer*, and investigator into Cambridge Analytica's role in mass-harvesting data to influence elections (Brexit and Trump).

Iain Overton is a multi-award winning journalist and human rights campaigner and has reported from over two dozen conflict zones worldwide. He has worked for the BBC, ITN and the London-based Bureau of Investigative Journalism. He is the author of *Gun Baby Gun* and *The Price of Paradise*.

Seventh Son of a Seventh Son 10.30-11.25am | The Granary

Described as 'the Coen Brothers of Carlow', **Kathleen Murray** talks to **Olivia O'Leary** about her witty, unusual first novel *The Deadwood Encore* - firmly set in the county we find ourselves in today - which explores the oddities of identity and ego... and a healing hand that doesn't seem to be performing.

Kathleen Murray - originally from Carlow - was the first Irish winner of the Fish short story prize in 2007, and has since been a finalist for the prestigious Davy Byrne's short story award. The Deadwood Encore is her debut novel,

Olivia O'Leary is one of the country's most respected journalists and commentators. Born in Carlow, she studied English, French and Spanish at UCD.

Books to Live By

11.40am-12.35pm | The Rookery

Mariella Frostrup asks **Richard Ford** to choose his favourite five books from his lifetime of reading.

This is a live recording for a podcast in association with The Times.

Richard Ford is a Pulitzer Prize winning novelist and short story writer. His best-known works are The Sportswriter, Independence Day, The Lay of the Land and Let Me Be Frank With You. His latest book Be Mine is the final novel in the world of Frank Bascombe, one of the most indelible characters in American literature.

Mariella Frostrup is one of the UK's most respected broadcasters and columnists. She currently presents her own daily show on Times Radio covering issues of the day, from arts and culture to politics.

Happy Girls Get Depression 11.40am-12.35pm | The Owlery

Comedian and mental health activist **Ruby Wax** (*I'm Not as Well as I Thought I Was*) talks to psychiatrist **Iain McGilchrist** about taking control of our overstressed and over-critical minds.

Ruby Wax is a comedian, presenter, author and prominent mental health speaker, she combines neuroscience, mindfulness and comedy in her work, helping the world to find calm in this hectic 21st century. She holds a Master's degree in Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy from Oxford University.

Dr. Iain McGilchrist is a psychiatrist, philosopher and literary scholar. He is Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, and former Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Director at the Bethlem Royal & Maudsley Hospital, London. His latest book is The Matter with Things: Our Brains, Our Delusions and the Unmaking of the World.

A Hazy Line Between Truth and Invention

11.40am-12.35pm | The Wren's Nest

John Banville's novel The Book of Evidence was extensively based on the 1982 murder by Malcolm MacArthur of a young nurse in Dublin during the course of stealing her car. Mark O'Connell's new book A Thread of Violence takes the countless hours he spent in conversation with MacArthur (now out of prison) to give a fresh account of his crimes and persona. The two authors compare notes.

John Banville is the author of 26 books. In 2005 he won the Booker Prize for The Sea. His most recent novel is The Singularities, which involves a cast of characters from his previous books, not least Freddie Montgomery, the murderer who narrates The Book of Evidence. Mark O'Connell is an author (To Be A Machine and Further Notes From an Apocalypse) and a journalist for publications including The New Yorker and The Guardian. His new book A Thread of Violence: A Story of Truth, Invention and Murder is released in a few weeks.

From Nelson Mandela to Black Lives Matter

11.40am-12.35pm | The Granary

Writer, academic and former *Guardian* editor **Gary Younge** (*Dispatches from the Diaspora*) recalls thirty momentous years in journalism with *Irish Times* writer **Kathy Sheridan.**

Gary Younge is a journalist and a professor of sociology. He has written six books, most recently *Dispatches from the Diaspora*, a collection of his work from America, Africa, The Caribbean, Britain about race, racism, black life and death. In 2015 he was awarded the David Nyhan Prize for political journalism from Harvard for "the powerless on whose behalf he writes."

Kathy Sheridan is a journalist and columnist for *The Irish Times*.

A Human Life as a Murder Weapon

1.20-2.15pm | The Rookery

Director of Action on Armed Violence, **Iain Overton** (*The Price of Paradise*) and human rights lawyer **Jason McCue** discuss the role of the suicide bomber in modern warfare.

lain Overton is a multi-award winning journalist and human rights campaigner and has reported from over two dozen conflict zones worldwide. He has worked for the BBC, ITN and the London-based Bureau of Investigative Journalism. He is the author of *Gun Baby Gun* and *The Price of Paradise*.

Jason McCue is a human rights lawyer who is internationally acknowledged as a leading expert in international affairs including conflict resolution, transitional justice (truth and reconciliation), asset recovery, counterterrorism, international criminal law, reputation management, and victim class action litigation across the globe.



... SATURDAY

Wake, Eat, Breathe

1.20-2.15pm | The Owlery

Imelda May performs her poetry, and talks to **Fiachna Ó Braonáin** about moving freely between verse and lyric.

Presented with the T.S. Eliot Foundation.

Imelda May is a singer, songwriter and multiinstrumentalist. Her debut poetry collection is *A Lick and a Promise*.

Fiachna Ó Braonáin is a musician and broadcaster. He plays guitar with The Hothouse Flowers and many other collaborators.

My Own Label

1.20-2.15pm | The Wren's Nest

Interdisciplinary artist and writer **Osman** Yousefzada (*The Go-Between*) talks to **Emma Dabiri** (*Don't Touch My Hair*) about coming from an illiterate migrant background to dressing Beyoncé and Lady Gaga and showing in the V&A and Whitechapel Gallery.

Osman Yousefzada is a British born artist and writer. His practice revolves around modes of storytelling, merging autobiography with fiction and ritual. His work is concerned with the representation and rupture of the migrational experience and he explores these themes through moving image, installations, text works, sculpture, garment making and performance.

Emma Dabiri is an Irish-Nigerian academic, broadcaster and bestselling author. She is the author of two highly acclaimed books and she co-presents *Britain's Lost Masterpieces* on BBC 4.

Fish Soup

1.20-2.15pm | The Granary

Finn van der Aar (Finn's World - Do What You Love, Love What You Eat) and Vincent Doumeizel (The Seaweed Revolution) with marine journalist Lorna Siggins on smallscale fishing and sustainable stewardship.

Finn van der Aar is a marine biologist. She is also an environmental representative for several working groups related to inshore fishing and the renewable energy sector, and talks on sustainable living and ocean conservation and climate change issues.

Vincent Doumeizel is Senior Adviser on the oceans to the United Nations Global Compact as well as director of the Food Programme at the Lloyd's Register Foundation. Vincent devotes his time to promoting environmental solutions based on sea resources, especially seaweed.

The Geopolitical Fallout of Today's Wars

3.00-3.55pm | The Rookery

Experts on Asia's shifting relationships with The West - **Andrew Small** (China), **Misha Glenny** (Russia), **William Dalrymple** (India) - discuss the global jockeying for power. Moderated by journalist and broadcaster **Gary Younge**.

Andrew Small is a senior transatlantic fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States. He is the author of No Limits: The Inside Story of China's War with the West and The Rupture: China and the Global Race for the Future.

Misha Glenny is the Rector of the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna. He is also the author of several best-selling books, including McMafia: Seriously Organised Crime. His podcasts include The Scramble for Rare Earths and The Invention of Russia.

William Dalrymple is the bestselling author of the White Mughals, The Last Mughal, and Return of a King. Dalrymple has been awarded five honorary doctorates, and is a leading authority on Indian and broader Asia geopolitics.

Gary Younge is a journalist. He has written six books, most recently *Dispatches from the Diaspora*, a collection of his work from America, Africa, the Caribbean and Britain.

Are We Doomed?

3.00-3.55pm | The Owlery

Artificial Intelligence can write stories, craft beautiful visual landscapes, sustain conversations, and compose music based on just a description. John Romero (creator of DOOM), lan McEwan (Machines Like Us) and John Lloyd (QI) ask whether AI will expand or curtail our creative horizons.

John Romero is a video game legend who has designed more than 130 games since the age of sixteen. His major achievements include a series of revolutionary computer games – DOOM, among them – that launched the industry's most popular genre: the first-person shooter.

Ian McEwan is the critically acclaimed author of seventeen novels including his AI narrative *Machines Like Us.*

John Lloyd is a radio and TV producer whose credits include the long-running *Ql*, a project that aims "to stop curiosity being crushed".

Lorna Siggins is a Marine Journalist.

Give Us All You Got

3.00-3.55pm | The Wren's Nest

Days before the release of his solo venture Chaos for the Fly, Fontaines DC frontman **Grian Chatten** talks with photographer and film-maker **Perry Ogden** about poetry, punkery, showmanship, and being Irish.

Grian Chatten is the frontman for Fontaines DC, the post-punk band who met while attending music college, and bonded over a common love of poetry. Their albums *Dogrel*, *A Hero's Death* and *Skinty Fia* – and their feverish live shows – have catapulted them into the world's viewfinder. Grian's first solo album *Chaos for the Fly* comes out on June 30.

Perry Ogden is a fashion and documentary photographer, and film director, based in Dublin. Ogden has published three books of photography, *Pony Kids*, *7 Reece Mews: Francis Bacon's Studio* and *Paddy* and *Liam*. He wrote and directed *Pavee Lackeen*.

Three Fractured Souls and a Boat

3.00-3.55pm | The Granary

Elaine Feeney's *How to Build a Boat* explores a world in which those who are different learn to thrive. She talks with **Alex Clark**.

Elaine Feeney writes poetry, fiction, and non-fiction. Her debut novel As You Were won the 2021 Dalkey Book Festival's Emerging Writer Prize, Kate O'Brien Prize, The Society of Authors' McKitterick Prize, and was shortlisted for Novel of the Year at the Irish Book Awards and the Rathbones-Folio Prize. Her new novel, *How to Build a Boat*, is just out.

Alex Clark is a journalist and broadcaster, often seen in the pages of The Guardian, The Observer and The Times Literary Supplement, and heard on BBC Radio Four (Front Row and Open Book). She has been a judge of the Booker Prize. She is co-host of The Graham Norton Book Club. She lives in Kilkenny.

Looking Possessed, and Heading for the Steinway 4.40-5.35pm | The Rookery

Musician and composer **Warren Ellis** (*Nina Simone's Gum*) talks to Radiohead's **Colin Greenwood** about his memoir of things lost and found. Warren Ellis is an Australian multi-

instrumentalist and composer, best known for his work as collaborator and bandmate with Nick Cave, in both the Bad Seeds and Grinderman, as well as his own band, Dirty Three. As a film composer his soundtrack work includes The Proposition, The Road, The Assassination of Jesse James and most recently Jeffrey Dahmer: Mind of a Monster. In 2021 he published his first novel Nina Simone's Gum.

Colin Greenwood is the bassist of the band Radiohead. He writes reviews for *The Spectator*.

Medusa is No Monster

4.40-5.35pm | The Owlery

Rock star mythologist **Natalie Haynes** (*Stone Blind*) delivers a fast-paced onewoman show on her reinterpretation of the story of Medusa.

Natalie Haynes is an award-winning comedian, journalist, and broadcaster. She left standup comedy when she realised she preferred tragedy, and has subsequently authored A *Thousand Ships* and *The Children of Jocasta* and most recently *Stone Blind*.

Taking Terrorists to Court in the Ukraine

4.40-5.35pm | The Wren's Nest

Human rights lawyer **Jason McCue** is leading groundbreaking legal action against the Russia-backed Wagner Militia (and its alleged boss Yevgeny Prigozhin) for terrorism in Ukraine. He discusses this dangerous challenge with **Carole Cadwalladr**.

Jason McCue is a human rights lawyer who is internationally acknowledged as a leading expert in international affairs including conflict resolution, transitional justice (truth and reconciliation), counterterrorism and international criminal law.

Carole Cadwalladr is a Pulitzer-nominated journalist for *The Guardian*, feature writer for *The Observer*, and investigator into Cambridge Analytica's role in mass-harvesting data to influence elections (Brexit and Trump).

The Future of Irish Woodlands

4.40-5.35pm | The Granary

Eoghan Dalton (An Irish Atlantic Rainforest) and **Paul McMahon** (Island of Woods: How Ireland Lost its Forests) talk about the thrilling prospect of more diverse, natural woodlands in Ireland, asking whether we should still plant Sitka spruce across the country. Concerned citizen **David Puttnam** joins the conversation.

Eoghan Dalton is a sculpture conservator, a farmer and, above all, a rewilder. He runs a high nature value farm and rewilding project in Co. Cork which focuses on productivity of biodiversity and nature. He is the author of An Irish Atlantic Rainforest: A Personal Journey Into the Magic of Rewilding.

Paul McMahon pursued a career in finance and environmental policy and has written *Feeding Frenzy: The New Politics of Food* and *Island of Woods: How Ireland Lost its Forests and How to Get them Back.* He is the co-founder of SLM Partners, a business that invests in sustainable agriculture and forestry across the world.

David Puttnam was a member of the House of Lords for 24 years (with a focus on Environment and Climate Change), and producer of films including *The Mission*, *The Killing Fields*, *Midnight Express*, and *Local Hero*.

A Reluctant Atheist

6.20-7.15pm | The Rookery

Comedian **David Baddiel** (*The God Desire* and *Jews Don't Count*) suggests to publisher and philanthropist **William Sieghart** that we want God to exist so desperately - as a solution to the yawning infinity of extinction - that we have simply made Him up.

David Baddiel (*The God Desire*) is a comedian, author, screenwriter and television presenter including hit TV shows *The Mary Whitehouse Experience* and *Baddiel & Skinner Unplanned*. He returned to stand-up comedy in 2013 and his latest show *Trolls: Not the Dolls*, toured until 2021.

William Sieghart has been dispensing poetry prescriptions since his *Poetry Pharmacy* began in 2014, listening to thousands of people's problems and prescribing them a poetic remedy. He is founder and Chair of Forward Thinking, a charity that seeks to mediate conflict in the Middle East and to improve relations between the Islamic and Western worlds.

Staying True to Yourself

6.20-7.15pm | The Owlery

Booker prize winner **Bernardine Evaristo** (*Girl, Woman, Other*) talks to **Emma Dabiri** about feminism and race.

Bernardine Evaristo is the award-winning author of eight books of fiction and verse fiction that explore aspects of the African diaspora. Her novel *Girl*, *Woman*, *Other* made her the first Black woman to win the Booker Prize in 2019. She also became the first Black British writer to reach No.1 in the UK paperback fiction chart. Her writing spans reviews, essays, drama and radio.

Emma Dabiri is an Irish-Nigerian academic, broadcaster and bestselling author. She is the author of two highly acclaimed books and she co-presents *Britain's Lost Masterpieces* on BBC4.

What Has Happened to the Idea of Europe?

6.20-7.15pm | The Wren's Nest

The UK has left, the invitation to Ukraine to join has caused aggravation, China is flexing, extremism is rife, and Germany has the reins... **Fintan O'Toole** and **Philippe Sands** ask how stable the European Union is now. Moderated by **Kathy Sheridan**.

Fintan O'Toole is a columnist with *The Irish Times*, Professor of Irish Letters at Princeton University, and author of many books, including *Heroic Failure*.

Philippe Sands is the Samuel and Judith Pisar Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. He is a practising barrister and appears as counsel before the International Court of Justice and other international courts and tribunals.

Kathy Sheridan is a journalist and columnist with *The Irish Times*.



Dickie's Car Business is Going Under

6.20-7.15pm | The Granary

Paul Murray (*The Bee Sting*) writes about Dublin and environs: intelligent, hilarious, complicated messes unfold between the covers of his award-winning novels. He talks to **Mark O'Connell**.

Paul Murray was born in 1975 in Dublin. He is the author of three novels, including *An Evening* of *Long Goodbyes*, which was short-listed for the Whitbread First Novel Award and the Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award. *Skippy Dies* (2010) was long-listed for the Booker Prize and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. *The Mark and the Void* (2015) was the joint winner of the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize.

Mark O'Connell is an author (To Be A Machine and Further Notes From an Apocalypse) and a journalist for publications including The New Yorker and The Guardian. His new book A Thread of Violence: A Story of Truth, Invention and Murder is released in a few weeks.

HERE COMES THE NIGHT

7.45pm: Borris House: Code of Behaviour Brass Band

Exhilarating 8-piece brass ensemble will toot and parp their way from the front steps of Borris House - accompanied by the thirsty - down the drive, onto Borris Main Street, and to the doors of Joyce's pub.

8.45pm: Stephouse

Musician Liam Ó Maonlaí (harp, piano, bodhrán) takes to the stage as a soloist before being joined by guests, including Hothouse Flowers bandmate **Fiachna Ó Braonáin**, and others. We are privileged to feature *Arima*, an exhilarating performance by Basque dancer and choreographer **Amaia Elizaran**.

The following short performances are in two of Ireland's more special public houses:

9.15pm: Joyce's Courtyard: Len Collective

A street performance from a group of traditional Irish musicians who have been playing together since they were children, their set takes its own journey depending on the night that is in it.

9.30pm: O'Shea's: Niwel Tsumbu

An enviable reputation as a masterfully fluent guitarist, vocalist and composer, this Congoleseborn performer has crafted his own distinctive fusion of jazz, rhumba, flamenco, rock, soukous and classical.

9.40pm: Joyce's: Rachael Lavelle

A singer and composer who captivates audiences with her arresting voice and humorous observations on existence. Her hypnotic live performances blend electronic soundscapes with acrobatic vocals.

10.10pm: O'Shea's: Len Collective

A set that might just involve some dancing.

10.15pm: Joyce's: Brigid Mae Power

A purveyor of dreamier pop with folky leanings, Brigid Mae Power marries traditional stylings and very modern melodies with a gorgeous vocal.

10.50pm: Joyce's: Seamus Hyland

Seamus Hyland is a multi instrumentalist, set dancer and singer, with a penchant for the solo button accordion. He plays with banjo player Paddy Cummins and is a member of the Mary Wallopers.

Winding up the night with...

10.55pm: O'Shea's: Dónal Dineen

A recovering DJ, filmmaker and broadcaster from Kerry, Dónal is the presenter of the acclaimed Irish music internet TV show *This Ain't No Disco* and publisher of both the *Make Me An Island* and *We Are The Makers* podcast series.



SUNDAY 18th at a glance

	THE ROOKERY	THE OWLERY	WREN'S NEST	GRANARY	
10.30- 11.25am	IDENTITY: Philippe Sands and David Baddiel	THE PRIVATISED IMPERIALISTS: William Dalrymple	A SUNDAY ASSEMBLY FOR THE DISPLACED: Contributions from writers, musicians, poets, memoirists who stayed the night		
11.25pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with David Baddiel and William Dalrymple (Bookshop)				
11.40am- 12.35pm	RECKONING WITH THE PAST: Claire Keegan and Alex Clark	THE GREAT MINERAL RUSH: Misha Glenny and Fintan O'Toole	A BIG STORY ON A SMALL ISLAND: Audrey Magee and Manchán Magan	I AM THE WORST FORM OF ACTIVIST: Rosaleen McDonagh and Róisín Ingle	
12.35pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with Claire Keegan, Misha Glenny, Audrey Magee, Manchán Magan, Rosaleen McDonagh (Bookshop)				
1.20 - 2.15pm	HERE COMES CHINA: Andrew Small and William Dalrymple	BOOKS TO LIVE BY: Mariella Frostrup and Ruby Wax	THE LOAVES AND THE FISH: Vincent Doumeizel and Paul McMahon with Lucy Cooke	A VERY ENGLISH STORY: Osman Yousefzada and Kirsty Lang	
2.15pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with Andrew Small, Mariella Frostrup, Ruby Wax, Vincent Doumeizel, Paul McMahon, Osman Yousefzada (Bookshop)				
3.00 - 3.55pm	SPIES, LIES AND SKULDUGGERY: Ben Macintyre and Dylan Moran	JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY: Philippe Sands and Misha Glenny	SUCCESSION: Mikaela Loach and David Puttnam	RECKLESS FORTUNE-MAKING: Paul Murray, Caoilinn Hughes and Alex Clark	
3.55pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with Ben Macintyre, Philippe Sands, Misha Glenny, Mikaela Loach, Paul Murray, Caoilinn Hughes (Bookshop)				
4.40 - 5.35pm	THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A THING: John Lloyd and Dr. Iain McGilchrist	U2 AND BEYOND: Adam Clayton with John Kelly	DIARY OF A UKRAINIAN CHILD- REFUGEE: Yeva Skalietska and Róisín Ingle		
5.35pm	BOOK SIGNINGS with lain McGilchrist, Yeva Skalietska (Bookshop)				

OTHER ACTIVITIES

11.25am -1.00pm: DYLAN MORAN'S BIHEMISPHERICAL PORTRAITURE EXPERIMENT

IN A MARQUEE NEAR THE BOOKSHOP

In anticipation of the talk between lain McGilchrist and John Lloyd (**The Rookery, 4.40pm**) on the functions of the halves of the brain, comedian and portrait-maker **Dylan Moran** opens an art studio for festival-goers to experiment with portraiture. Dr. McGilchrist and Mr Lloyd will stop by and help out.

10.00 -11.25am: LAWN YOGA IN THE SUN, WITH HARP:

Yoga instructor and movement artist **Amaia Elizaran** invites you to a stretch out on the lawn, no matter your expertise, accompanied by **Liam Ó Maonlaí** on the harp. Matts provided, wear loose clothing.

POETRY PHARMACY

William Sieghart opens his clinic to troubled souls in need of a prescription. In the CHAPEL VESTRY.

WAITING LIST FOR APPOINTMENTS (as fully booked)

email: poetrypharmacy@festivalofwritingandideas.com



SUNDAY IN MORE DETAIL

Identity

10.30-11.25am | The Rookery

Human Rights lawyer **Philippe Sands** and comedian and author **David Baddiel** discuss the importance of culture and memory in reflecting the dark history of the 20th century.

David Baddiel is the author of *Jews Don't Count*, and presenter of the documentary of the same name. The comedian's most recent book *The God Desire* attempts to reconcile his lack of faith with his Jewish identity.

Philippe Sands is an international lawyer. He is the author of East West Street: On the Origins of "Genocide" and "Crimes Against Humanity" and The Ratline: The Exalted Life and Mysterious Death of a Nazi Fugitive. His most recent book is The Last Colony.

The Privatised Imperialists

10.30-11.25am | The Owlery

William Dalrymple gives an illustrated talk on how an English corporation looted, asset-stripped and colonised India.

William Dalrymple is the bestselling author of From the Holy Mountain: A Journey Among the Christians of the Middle East; Nine Lives: in Search of the Sacred in Modern India; The Last Mughal; White Mughals; and Return of a King: The Battle of Afghanistan. He has been awarded five honorary doctorates.

Sunday Assembly for the Displaced

10.30-11.25am | The Wren's Nest

With contributions from a baker's dozen of writers, musicians, poets, memoirists who stayed the night – this is always a **festival highlight**.

Reckoning With the Past:

11.40-12.35am | The Rookery

Claire Keegan (*Small Things Like These*) talks to **Alex Clark** about her Bookershortlisted novel, and the power of complicit silences in small communities.

Claire Keegan's stories are translated into thirty languages. Antarctica won the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature. Walk the Blue Fields won the Edge Hill Prize. Foster won the Davy Byrnes Award. Small Things Like These was shortlisted for the 2022 Booker Prize.

Alex Clark is a journalist and broadcaster, often seen in the pages of The Guardian, The Observer and The Times Literary Supplement, and heard on BBC Radio Four (Front Row and Open Book). She has been a judge of the Booker Prize. She is co-host of The Graham Norton Book Club. She lives in Kilkenny.

The Great Mineral Rush 11.40-12.35am | The Owlery

Misha Glenny talks to **Fintan O'Toole** about the global and scandalous scramble for "rare earths" - minerals that carry such enormous geopolitical clout

that they hold the key to our future. **Misha Glenny** is the Rector of the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna. The award winning journalist and historian is also the author of several best-selling books, including *McMafia: Seriously Organised Crime*. His latest podcasts *The Scramble for Rare Earths*

and The Invention of Russia are among the most listened to on the BBC Sounds last year and this.

Fintan O'Toole is a columnist with *The Irish Times*, Professor of Irish Letters at Princeton University, and author of many books, including *Heroic Failure* and *We Don't Know Ourselves*.



A Big Story on a Small Island 11.40am-12.35pm | The Wren's Nest

Audrey Magee's The Colony brings a Frenchman and an Englishman to an Irish island, where they treat it as their playground. With Manchán Magan, she unpacks a rich trawl of history, language, passion... and conceit.

Audrey Magee's first novel, The Undertaking, was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction, for France's Festival du Premier Roman and for the Irish Book Awards. Her second novel The Colony was longlisted for the Booker Prize 2022.

Manchán Magan is a writer and presenter of dozens of documentaries on issues of world culture for TG4, RTÉ & Travel Channel. His books Thirty-Two Words For Field and Tree Dogs, Banshee Fingers and Other Words For Nature are best-sellers. His latest book is Listen to the Land Speak.

I Am the Worst Form of Activist

11.40am-12.35pm | The Granary

Rosaleen McDonagh (*Unsettled*) talks to **Róisín Ingle** about her continued activism regarding Travellers' rights, inclusion and disability services while writing & making art.

Rosaleen McDonagh is an activist, playwright and Traveller woman with a disability from cerebral palsy. She is the fourth in a family of twenty children. She holds a BA, two MPhils from Trinity College Dublin and a PhD from Northumbria University. She is a board member of Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre and was appointed a Human Rights Commissioner in June 2020. Unsettled is her first book, part essay.

Róisín Ingle is an *Irish Times* columnist and co producer of the *Irish Times Women's Podcast*.

Here Comes China

1.20-2.15pm | The Rookery

Andrew Small talks to **William Dalrymple** about the enigma of the Red State, and whether there will be an invasion of Taiwan.

Andrew Small is the author of No Limits: The Inside Story of China's War with the West and The Rupture: China and the Global Race for the Future.

William Dalrymple is the bestselling author of the White Mughals, The Last Mughal, and Return of a King. He is a leading authority on Indian and broader Asia geopolitics.

Books to Live By

1.20-2.15pm | The Owlery Mariella Frostrup asks Ruby Wax to

choose her favourite five books from her lifetime of reading. This is a live recording for podcast in association with *The Times*.

Mariella Frostrup is one of the UK's most respected broadcasters and columnists. Her contribution to literature along with her advocacy on gender and social issues have placed her at the forefront of the cultural landscape. She currently presents her own daily show on Times Radio covering issues of the day, from arts and culture to politics.

Ruby Wax is a comedian, presenter, author and prominent mental health speaker. She combines neuroscience, mindfulness and comedy in her work, in an effort to find calm in this hectic 21st century. She holds a Master's degree in Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy from Oxford University.

The Loaves and the Fish

1.20-2.15pm | The Wren's Nest

Vincent Doumeizel (The Seaweed Revolution) Director for the Food Programme for the Lloyd's Register Foundation talks to **Paul McMahon** (Feeding Frenzy: The New Politics of Food) former advisor on sustainable agriculture and food security to the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation, about how we will feed ourselves. Moderated by natural history TV presenter Lucy Cooke.

Vincent Doumeizel is Senior Adviser on the oceans to the United Nations Global Compact as well as director of the Food Programme at the Lloyd's Register Foundation. Vincent devotes his time to promoting environmental solutions based on sea resources, especially seaweed.

Paul McMahon pursued a career in finance and environmental policy and has written Feeding Frenzy: The New Politics of Food and Island of Woods: How Ireland Lost its Forests and How to Get them Back. He is the co-founder of SLM Partners, a business that invests in sustainable agriculture and forestry across the world.

Lucy Cooke studied zoology under Richard Dawkins at New College, Oxford where she specialised in evolution and animal behaviour. She left academia to become an awardwinning writer, producer and presenter of documentaries.

A Very English Story 1.20-2.15pm | The Granary

Osman Yousefzada (*The Go-Between*) grew up in a Pakistani community in Birmingham. He talks to **Kirsty Lang**.

Osman Yousefzada is a British interdisciplinary artist, writer and social activist. He launched his eponymous label Osman in 2008, and expanded his practice into visual art, showing in Whitechapel Gallery, V&A, Dhaka Art Summit, Lahore Biennale. His parents were unable to read or write in English or their mother tongue. Yousefzada studied anthropology at the SOAS University of London and later did a fashion course at Central Saint Martins, and received an MPhil from Cambridge University. His memoir is called *The Go-Between*.

Kirsty Lang is a journalist and broadcaster who works for BBC Radio and Television. She chairs the Board of the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead, and since 2014 has been on the board of the British Council.

Spies, Lies and Skulduggery

3.00-3.55pm | The Rookery

Historian **Ben Macintyre** (SAS Rogue Heroes, A Spy Among Friends) specialises in charting the nail-biting activities of spies in World War II and the Cold War. **Dylan Moran** interrogates him.

Ben Macintyre is the multimillion-copy bestselling author of books including Agent Sonya, SAS: Rogue Heroes, The Spy and the Traitor, Agent Zigzag, Operation Mincemeat and A Spy Among Friends. He is Associate Editor at The Times, and has worked as the newspaper's correspondent in New York, Paris and Washington. Several of his books have been made into films and television series.

Dylan Moran is a comedian, actor and writer. *Black Books*, the Channel 4 hit sitcom that he co-wrote and starred-in, won him two BAFTAs, and he has since won numerous prizes and accolades for his television work and live-shows. His comedy merges sharp observational humour with surreal and fantastical language-based absurdity. He grew up on Ben McIntyre's books.

Justice and Accountability 3.00-3.55pm | The Wren's Nest

Human rights lawyer **Philippe Sands** of Crimes Against Humanity, explores with **Misha Glenny** the legal channels to hold criminals and governments responsible in Iraq, Ukraine and elsewhere.

Philippe Sands KC is Professor of the Public Understanding of Law at University College London Faculty of Laws, and Samuel and Judith Pisar Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. He is a practising barrister and appears as counsel before the International Court of Justice and other international courts and tribunals. He is the author of *East West Street* and *The Ratline*.

Misha Glenny worked as an award winning journalist for the BBC's Central Europe Office, and is also the author of several best-selling books, including *McMafia*. His latest podcasts *The Scramble for Rare Earths* and *The Invention of Russia* are among the most listened to on BBC Sounds.

Succession

3.00-3.55pm | The Owlery

Climate justice activist **Mikaela Loach** author of *It's Not That Radical: Climate Action to Transform Our World* - took the UK government to court over the huge public payments they give to fossil fuel companies every year. **David Puttnam** asks what the young need from the old to put things right.

Mikaela Loach is a climate justice activist (and medical student at the University of Edinburgh) who uses social media for campaigning. She is the co-producer, writer and presenter of the *Yikes podcast*, which explores climate change, human rights and social justice, and author of the book *It's* Not That Radical: Climate Action to Transform Our World.

David Puttnam was a member of the House of Lords for 24 years (with a focus on Environment and Climate Change), and producer of films including The Mission, The Killing Fields, Chariots of Fire, Midnight Express, and Local Hero.

...SUNDAY

Reckless Fortune-making 3.00-3.55pm | The Granary

A "be careful what you long for" thread runs between the novels of both **Paul Murray** (The Bee Sting, The Mark and the Void) and **Caoilinn Hughes** (The Wild Laughter, The Orchid and the Wasp), both exploring good people falling headlong into debt. **Alex Clark** finds out why.

Caoilinn Hughes's second novel, *The Wild Laughter* won the Encore Award 2021, while her first, *Orchid & the Wasp* won the Collyer Bristow Prize. She has also been published as a poet and short story writer of critical acclaim.

Paul Murray is the author of three novels, including *An Evening of Long Goodbyes*, which was short-listed for the Whitbread First Novel Award and the Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award. *Skippy Dies* (2010) was long-listed for the Booker Prize and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award.

Alex Clark is a journalist and broadcaster, often seen in the pages of The Guardian, The Observer and The Times Literary Supplement, and heard on BBC Radio Four (Front Row and Open Book). She has been a judge of the Booker Prize. She is co-host of The Graham Norton Book Club. She lives in Kilkenny.

THE BIG TALK

There's No Such Thing as a Thing

4.40-5.35pm | The Rookery

QI and *Museum of Curiosity* creator **John Lloyd** asks neuroscientist, psychiatrist and philosopher **Dr. Iain McGilchrist** whether understanding the brain can help save us from ourselves.

Dr. Iain McGilchrist is a psychiatrist, philosopher and literary scholar. He is Fellow of All Souls, of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, of the Royal Society of Arts, and former Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Director at the Bethlem Royal & Maudsley Hospital, London. He is best-known for The Master and his Emissary: The Divided Brain and the Making of the Western World, and his new book The Matter with Things: Our Brains, Our Delusions and the Unmaking of the World.

John Lloyd is a radio and TV producer whose credits include everything from Spitting Image to the long-running QI, a project that aims 'to stop curiosity being crushed'.

U2 and Beyond

4.40-5.35pm | The Owlery

Guitarist **Adam Clayton** talks to **John Kelly** about the band and where they have got to; his art collection, passion for gardening, experience of addiction and effort to provide free music tuition for kids.

Adam Clayton is U2's bass player.

Acknowledged as one of the best live acts in the world, U2 have toured the globe countless times and released 14 studio albums with sales in excess of 157 million. Adam has written about contemporary art for *British* GQ and the role of art critic has seen him interview artists including Wolfgang Tillmans, Jeff Koons and William Eggleston. In 2022 he presented a documentary titled *Francis Bacon: The Outsider* which follows the story of the painter's early life in Ireland.

John Kelly is one of Ireland's foremost Arts broadcasters. He presents Mystery Train on RTÉ Radio and The Works Presents on RTÉ Television. He also presents the weekend show *Elevation* on Sirius XM. His poetry has been published in numerous journals and anthologies. Two collections – Notions (2018) and Space (2022) are published by Dedalus Press.

Diary of a Ukrainian Childrefugee

4.40-5.35pm | The Wren's Nest

Yeva Skalietska reads from her memoir, the true story of her fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. It follows twelve days that changed 12-year-old Yeva's life forever. With **Róisín Ingle**.

Yeva Skalietska is a Ukrainian teenager who wrote You Don't Know What War Is: The Diary of a Young Girl from Ukraine.

Róisín Ingle is an *Irish Times* columnist, feature writer and co producer of the *Irish Times Women's Podcast*.





SPEAKERS 2023



FINN VAN DER AAR

Oceanologist and author

SPEAKING: Saturday: 1.20pm



GRIAN CHATTEN

Musician, Fontaines D.C.'s frontman

SPEAKING: Saturday: 3pm



DAVID BADDIEL

Comedian and author (incl Jews Don't Count, The God Desire) SPEAKING: Friday: 6.10pm Saturday: 6.20pm Sunday: 10.30am



ALEX CLARK

Arts journalist

SPEAKING: Friday: 5pm Saturday: 3pm Sunday: 11.40am and 3pm



JOHN BANVILLE

Author (incl The Book of Evidence)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 11.40am



ADAM CLAYTON

Musician (bass guitar for U2), art collector

SPEAKING: Sunday: 4.40pm



NIAMH BURY

Musician

PLAYING: Friday: 9.15pm







PLAYING: Satuday: 7.45pm



CAROLE CADWALLADR

Investigative journalist, known for Cambridge Analytica exposé.

SPEAKING: Saturday: 10.30am and 4.40pm



ZOË CONWAY

Musician (fiddle)

PLAYING: Friday: 6.10pm Friday: 10.15pm

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LUCY COOKE

Zoologist

SPEAKING: Sunday: 1.20pm



EOGHAN DALTON

Farmer and author (An Irish Atlantic Rainforest)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 4.40pm



DOROTHY CROSS

Visual artist

SPEAKING: Friday: 5pm



EDMUND DE WAAL

Ceramicist and author (incl The Hare with the Amber Eyes)

Friday: 5pm



SINEAD CUSACK

Stage and Screen Actor

SPEAKING: Friday: 3.45pm Sunday: 10.30am



DÓNAL DINEEN

Musician, curator, artist

PLAYING: Friday: 10.55pm Saturday: 10.55pm



EMMA DABIRI

Broadcaster and author (incl Don't Touch My Hair and What White People Can Do Next)

Friday: 6.10pm Sat: 1.20pm & 6.20pm



VINCENT DOUMEIZEL

Marine Biologist and author (The Seaweed Revolution)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 1.20pm Sunday: 1.20pm



WILLIAM DALRYMPLE

Historian, author and expert on India

SPEAKING: Saturday: 3pm Sunday: 11:40am & 3pm



AMAIA ELIZARAN

Choreographer, dancer, yoga instructor

DANCE: Saturday: 8.30pm YOGA: Sunday: 10.30am



WARREN ELLIS

Musician (Bad Seeds) and composer

SPEAKING: Friday: 7.25pm Sunday: 4.40pm



MISHA GLENNY

Journalist and author (McMafia)

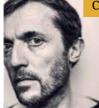
SPEAKING Saturday: 3pm Sunday: 10.30am and 3pm



Novelist (incl Girl,

Woman, Other)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 6.20pm



COLIN GREENWOOD

Musician (bass guitar for Radiohead)

SPEAKING: Friday: 6.10pm Saturday: 4.40pm



ELAINE FEENEY

Novelist (incl How to Build a Boat)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 1.20pm



NATALIE HAYNES

Writer, broadcaster, comedian (Stone Blind)

SPEAKING: Friday: 6.10pm Saturday: 4.40pm



RICHARD FORD

Novelist (incl The Sportswriter, Be Mine, Independence Day)

SPEAKING: Friday: 7.25pm Saturday: 11.40pm

CAOILINN HUGHES

Novelist (incl The Wild Laughter and Poet)

SPEAKING: Sunday: 10.30am and 3pm



MARIELLA FROSTRUP

Arts Broadcaster and author (incl Cracking the Menopause)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 11.40am Sunday: 1.20pm



SEAMUS HYLAND

Musician

PLAYING: Saturday: 10.50pm





BETWEEN FESTIVALS

Between June and June you might think we go a little quiet but there is always something bubbling away...



VIDEO TALK WATCHERS

Our YouTube channel -The Borris Broadcasts - features 40 full length filmed talks, available for free to all, including the best of our festival conversations and the full series of digital interviews from 2020 and 2021.



PODCAST LISTENERS

From September 2023 until March 2024 we will be publishing a **fortnightly Podcast** - of the talks that you may have missed from this year's festival - on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Podchaser and Podbay. Or indeed you can catch up on over 75 previous episodes.



THE BORRIS FESTIVAL BOOK CLUB

A new initiative, hosted by Cormac Kinsella, and beginning in November 2023, this book club will choose a new book every month by one of the authors who is due to attend the 2024 Festival. Book Club members, at the end of the month, will then be invited to join the author live online to talk about the experience. Sign up on our website.



RÓISÍN INGLE

Journalist (The Irish Times)

SPEAKING: Sunday: 11.40am and 4.40pm



CLAIRE KEEGAN

Novelist (Small Things Like These, Foster)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 10.30am



Musician

PLAYING: Friday: 9.55pm



JOHN KELLY

Arts broadcaster and poet

SPEAKING: Sunday: 4.40pm



IEREMY IRONS

Actor

SPEAKING: Friday: 3.45pm Sunday: 10.30am



KIRSTY LANG

Broadcaster (BBC)

SPEAKING: Friday: 5pm Sunday: 1.20pm



ANDY IRVINE

Musician (multi instrumentalist) and composer

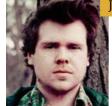
PLAYING: Friday: 9pm



RACHAEL LAVELLE

Musician

PLAYING: Saturday: 9.40pm



IUNIOR BROTHER

Musician (solo)

PLAYING: Friday: 10.10pm



LEN COLLECTIVE

Musicians

PLAYING: Sat: 9.15pm and 10.10pm





TV and radio producer (QI, Spitting Image, Museum of Curiosities)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 3pm Sunday: 4.40pm

BEN MACINTYRE

Historian (incl Colditz. SAS Roque Heroes)

SPEAKING: Friday: 5pm Sunday: 3pm



MIKAELA LOACH

Climate Justice activist and author (It's Not That Radical)

SPEAKING: Sunday: 3pm



MANCHÁN MAGAN

Travel writer, historian and author (incl Thirty-Two Words For Field) SPEAKING: Saturday: 10.30am

Sunday: 10.30am 11.40am



CORA VENUS LUNNY

Musician (violin) and composer

PLAYING: Friday: 9pm



AUDREY MAGEE

Novelist (The Colony)

SPEAKING: Sunday: 11.40am



DÓNAL LUNNY

Musician (guitar, bouzouki, keyboards and bodhrán) and music producer

PLAYING: Friday: 9pm

IMEDLA MAY

Musician and poet (A Lick and a Promise)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 1.20pm



ROSALEEN MACDONAGH

Playwright, activist and columnist

SPEAKING: Sunday: 11.40am



IASON MCCUE

Human Rights Lawyer

SPEAKING: Saturday: 1.20pm and 4.40pm



IAN MCEWAN

Novelist (incl Atonement, On Chesil Beach, Lessons)

SPEAKING: Friday: 5pm Saturday: 3pm



LOUISE & MICHELLE MULCAHY

Musicians

PLAYING: Friday: 9.30pm



IAIN MCGILCHRIST

Psychiatrist, neuroscience researcher, philosopher, author (*The Matter With Things*) SPEAKING: Saturday: 11.40am Sunday: 4.40pm



KATHLEEN MURRAY

Novelist (The Deadwood Encore)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 10.30am



JOHN MCINTYRE

Musician (guitar)

PLAYING: Friday: 6.10pm Friday: 10.15pm



PAUL MURRAY

Novelist (incl The Bee Sting, Skippy Dies)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 6.20pm Sunday: 3pm



PAUL MCMAHON

Sustainable business investor and author

SPEAKING: Saturday: 4.40pm Sunday: 1.20pm



FIACHNA Ó BRAONÁIN

Musician (Hothouse Flowers guitarist) and composer & broadcaster

SPEAKING: Friday: 7.25pm Sunday: 10.30am



DYLAN MORAN

Comedian and actor (incl Black Books)

PAINTING: Sunday: 11.40am SPEAKING: Sunday: 3pm



LIAM Ó MAONLAÍ

Musician (soloist, collaborator and Hothouse Flowers)

PLAYING: Saturday: 8.45pm Sunday: 10.30am





FINTAN O'TOOLE

Journalist and author (We Don't Know Ourselves) SPEAKING: Friday: 3.45pm & 7.25pm Saturday: 6.20pm Sunday: 11.40am



BRIGID MAE POWER

Musician

PLAYING: Saturday: 10.15pm



MARK O'CONNELL

Author (incl A Thread of Violence, Notes from an Apocalypse, To Be a Machine) SPEAKING: Saturday: 11.40am and 6.20pm



DAVID PUTTNAM

Environmentalist, film producer and educator

SPEAKING: Saturday: 3.45pm, Sunday: 11.40am & 3pm



OLIVIA O'LEARY

Journalist and presenter

SPEAKING: Saturday: 10.30am Sunday: 10.30am



JOHN ROMERO

Game Developer (Doom) and author (The Doom Guy)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 3pm



PERRY OGDEN

Photographer and film-maker (Pavee Lackeen and Pony Kids)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 3pm



KATHERINE RUNDELL

Author (incl Rooftoppers, Super-Infinite: The Transformations of John Donne) SPEAKING: Friday: 6.10pm Saturday: 10.30am



IAIN OVERTON

Journalist and author (incl Gun Baby Gun and The Price of Paradise)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 10.30am and 1.20pm



ANNIE RYAN

Theatre Director

SPEAKING: Friday: 3.45pm



PHILIPPE SANDS

Author and academic

SPEAKING: Friday: 7.25pm Saturday: 6.20pm Sunday: 10.30am and 3pm



ANDREW SMALL

Expert on Chinese geopolitics and policy

SPEAKING: Saturday: 3pm Sunday: 1.20pm



KATHY SHERIDAN

Journalist (Irish Times)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 11.40am and 6.20pm



NIWEL TSUMBU

Guitarist

PLAYING: Saturday: 9.30pm



WILLIAM SIEGHART

Founder of The Poetry Pharmacy

SPEAKING: Sat: 10.30am, & 6.20pm Sunday: 10.30am



GAIA VINCE

Scientist, Climate Activist, author (incl Nomad Century)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 10.30am



LORNA SIGGINS

Marine Journalist

SPEAKING: Saturday: 1.20pm



RUBY WAX

Comedian, Mental Health campaigner, author

SPEAKING: Saturday: 11.40am Sunday: 1.20pm



YEVA SKALIETSKA

Ukrainian Diarist (You Don't Know What War Is)

SPEAKING: Sunday: 10.30am and 1.20pm



BILL WHELAN

Composer (incl *Riverdance*)

SPEAKING: Friday: 6.10pm



GARY YOUNGE

Journalist, academic and author (Dispatches from the Diaspora) SPEAKING:

Friday: 7.25pm Saturday: 11.40am and 3pm



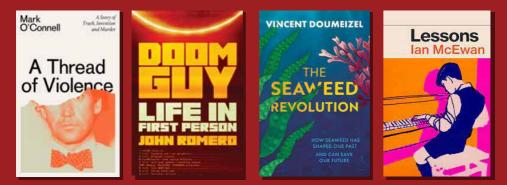
OSMAN YOUSEFZADA

Artist, Designer, memoirist (The Go-Between)

SPEAKING: Saturday: 1.20pm Sunday: 1.20pm

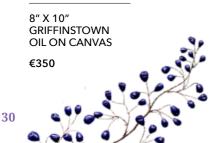
BOOKSHOP IN THE BALLROOM

The Festival Bookshop is located in the Ballroom, around the southern flank of the house, and has all the books by all the writers here this weekend, and a carefully selected collection of the best new novels of the past year. Two books have not even come out yet. We have the very first copies.



EXHIBITION

Six paintings by Sean Hardie











SHOPPING FOR LOVELY THINGS

Craft Bazaar is a group of tented shops, displaying the wares of a handful of makers both local and from across the country.

Lizzie van Amerongen Painted Lamps and Lampshades

Iseult Law Ikat Cushions and Beaded Belts

Peig van Amerongen Kanthas from Rajasthan

Emma Jeffcock Unique, fairtraded and natural goods from all over the World.

Heike Kahle Basket Maker

Klaus Hartmann Potter

















DON'T MISS:

Carlow's **Form Design** Shop in the Gate Lodge at the end of the drive.

Idrone Players stage production of **The Kings of Kilburn High Street**, Friday at 8pm in Borris Town Hall.



PAUL'S KITCHEN: A POP-UP RESTAURANT



From one of the most thrilling chefs in the county...

A FOUR-COURSE TASTING MENU

Two lunch sittings, Saturday and Sunday, using very local ingredients, sustainably sourced.

SAMPLE MENU

(Full vegetarian menu also available)

MAIN

Irish Charcuterie Plate

Handmade Irish cured meats from Olivier Beaujouan (On the Wild Side), Cheeses from Elizabeth Bradley (Carlow Farmhouse Cheese). Served with pickles, chutneys and sourdough breads.

Zarzuela Fish Stew

Kilmore Quay seafood cooked in a rich tomato and paprika sauce, with a hint of chilli, served with chargrilled root fennel and crusty breads.

Shio Koji Short Rib Beef

Cooked with Oloroso sherry and local escargot.

AFTER

Tea/Coffee and sweet treat to go.

€30 per person, €40 with wine pairing

*YOU MUST BOOK A PLACE **THE DAY BEFORE YOUR LUNCH** IN PERSON IN THE BALLROOM.

Two sitting times each day:

12.45pm - 1.45pm & 2.20pm - 3.20pm

You will have to forgo one talk to join us for lunch!





FOODMAKERS



Weirdough

Homemade dough is homemade, ingredients are fresh (both local and Italian imports) and all pizza is made to order.



Korean Burritos

Delicious Korean-style burritos - homemade kimchi and Asian slaw with wonderful Irish meat and dairy.



Lu's Chaat-Stop Delicious, authentic Indian street food snacks & dishes, including the sensational pani puri,

the classic bhel puri,

delicious dhals.

Paddy Paella

The sizzle of the pan, the aroma of saffron and spices, the burst of colour from fresh vegetables, and the perfectly cooked rice will transport you to the streets of Spain.



Gidi's Great on the Grill

Fusion of Yemenite and Moroccan flavours, traditional family recipes, served with a smile.



Little Coffee Hut

Serving a Costa Rican speciality coffee from Silverskin coffee roasters, with homemade baked goodies and cupcakes.



Silly Sids

Fresh ingredients from the Boyne valley, featuring our infamous sourdough toasties (the spicy cheezy is know to many), along with rolled ice cream.



Crêpe Wagon

Sweet & savoury crêpes, all made from a beautiful French flour, with plenty of vegan options.



The Little Dumpling

A casual dim sum eatery serving a selection of hand-made dumplings.

www.festivalofwritingandideas.com

Each year we get a little better at our aspiration to leave no trace, to contribute to carbon offset, and to programme talks that will nudge us in the right direction.

To date we have:

- · implemented a site wide, zero plastic policy.
- invited food vendors who use locally sourced, fresh, seasonal food in fully compostable containers, cutlery and drinking cups.
- \cdot hired local caterers using produce from this region
- \cdot introduced mains water stations with free compostable drinking cups.
- separated rubbish into compost, recycling and minimum general waste, to be processed by a local company, selected by us.
- urged the people to make landfill waste a thing of the past by dealing with what they discard properly.
- reduced paper usage via digital tickets, drastic reduction in printed promotional literature (100,000 programmes reduced to 3000)
- · changed all our lighting to LED bulbs
- \cdot trialing our first compost loos this year. Please use them, not the other chemical ones!
- $\cdot\,$ programmed over 100 hours of talks relating to sustainability and climate justice, publishing many digitally and for free to listeners

Our next aspirations are:

- \cdot introducing biofuel or solar powered generators.
- asking why the ESB has failed yet again to switch on either of the two electric charging points in the village.
- · replacing chemical loos
- finding solutions for efficient car travel, including discouraging single occupancy vehicles.
- $\cdot\,$ paying for shuttles to and from the train
- \cdot encouraging our guests to travel more by train, and less by plane

and...



With the owners of Borris House, we have planted a further 3000 trees this year, as well as 2000 back in 2020.

Please join us by doing a little more than your bit. And please put forward fresh ideas to do more.

