

Thursday 2nd May 2019

Street Poetry Exhibition on all weekend
venues around town

POETRY DAY Strokestown Library

12pm – 4pm Schools' Poetry Exhibition

7pm – 9pm Workshop – The English Language Shortlisted Poems with James Harpur
James will facilitate a Poetry Appreciation Workshop on the shortlisted poems for the
Strokestown International Poetry Prize. Booking 071 9633759 (Free event)

Friday 3th May 2019

Strokestown Library

10am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm
Schools' Poetry Exhibition

Percy French Hotel

2.00pm: Film Poem *The Stranger*

A shadow-puppet film poem about being
an immigrant, here and abroad. Written and directed by Jessamine O Connor, in collaboration with
Carmel Balfe of Little Gem Puppets.

2.30pm: Roscommon Poets' Competition

Judge: Iggy McGovern

5.00pm: Schools' Poetry Competition

Judge: Enda Wyley

Percy French Hotel €10.00 (evening entry fee)

7.30pm: Reading: Martina Evans

8.15pm: Official Opening by Cllr. Ivan Connaughton, Cathaoirleach Roscommon Co. Co.

8.30pm: Launch of Festival Anthology by Paddy Bushe

Followed by Reception Sponsored by Eurospar, Strokestown

9.30pm: Percy French Competition – A good laugh is guaranteed at this humorous verse competition. Judge: Margaret Hickey

Music: Finbar Magee & Breige Quinn

Saturday 4th May 2019

Strokestown Park House

9.30am: Readings: Geraldine Mitchell, Padaí de Bléine, Justin Hunt

11.00am: Readings: Shane Grant, Rebecca Farmer, Aine Ní Ghlinn

12.00pm: Readings: Enda Wyley & Ceaití Ní Bheildiúin

1.00pm: Tour of Strokestown Park Gardens

Courtesy of Strokestown Park House & The Irish Heritage Trust

SCDA Office, Bawn Street

1.00pm: Film Poems:

Bealtaine Commission – *Memory Lane*, A Film Poem: a collaborative work by visual artist

Collette Nolan and poet Gerry Murphy with members of the Ballyphehane/Togher community, Co. Cork, in partnership with The Glucksman Gallery.

The Stranger A shadow-puppet film poem about being an immigrant, here and abroad. Written and directed by Jessamine O Connor.

Strokestown Park House €10.00

2.00pm: Reading: Tara Bergin, award winning poet and creator of *The Tragic Death of Eleanor Marx*

2.45pm: Readings: Máire Dinny Wren, Mícheál Ó Ruairc

3.45pm: Eoghan Ó Tuairisc remembered, (100th Anniversary) with Rita Kelly.

Rita, who is an award-winning poet and writer in both English and Irish married Eoghan Ó Tuairisc in 1972.

To mark the 100th anniversary of his birth in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, Rita will look at the world into which he was born in 1919.

4.30pm: Duais de hÍde -The Douglas Hyde Irish Language Poetry Prize

Judge: Ceaití Ní Bheildiúin

Percy French Hotel €10.00

Cherish the Ladies

8.00pm: Readings: Amanda Bell, Jane Robinson & Gillian Clarke

Music Finbar Magee & Breige Quinn

Sunday 5th May 2019

Strokestown Park House

10.00am: Readings: Keith Payne, Máire Ní Bhriain

10.45am: Talk by James Harpur – The Galloping Centaur: *The Strange World of WB Yeats*

James introduces Yeats and some of his themes on the anniversary of his death.

11.30am: Readings: Róisín Sheehy, Shannon Kuta Kelly, Shelley Puhak

12.15pm: Launch of *Cyphers* magazine

Cyphers was founded in 1975 to publish Irish and international poetry. It

is edited by Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin

Strokestown Park House

2.00pm: Readings: Gerard Smyth & Jo Shapcott

3.00pm: Readings: Iggy McGovern & Louise G Cole

4.00pm: Readings: James Harpur, John F Deane

Strokestown Park House €10.00 (evening entry fee)

7.30pm; Film: *Memory Lane*, A Bealtaine Film Poem: a collaborative work by visual artist

Collette Nolan and poet Gerry Murphy with members of the Ballyphehane/Togher community, Co. Cork, in partnership with The Glucksman Gallery

8.00pm: Strokestown International Poetry Competition Awards

Judges: Gerard Smyth & Jo Shapcott
Followed by reception in the Gallery Kitchen

10.30pm: Pub Poetry Competition: Venue to be announced
Music Finbar Magee & Breige Quinn

Monday 6th May 2018

Percy French Hotel

9.30am: Readings: Glen Wilson, Majella Kelly, Ron Carey

10.15am: Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin and Ciaran O'Driscoll will talk about their memories of the festival in Umbria, *Riflessi DiVersi*, and will read poems about Italy and poems translated from Italian.

11.30am: Geraldine Mitchell reads from the work of Shirley McClure

Origami Doll: New & Collected Shirley McClure

After poet Shirley McClure's untimely death from cancer in September 2016, her publisher, Alan Hayes of Arlen House, invited her friend, Jane Clarke, to edit a *New & Collected Shirley McClure*.

12.00pm: Strokestown Festival Recitation Competition: Come along and recite your favourite poem. Poems must be recited from memory, although we will have a prompter present. Registration from 11.00am

All events are free except those marked with a price.

Contact

<https://www.strokestownpoetry.org/>
Office (10am – 1pm) 00 353 71 9633759
e mail: office@strokestownpoetry.org

The Festival is supported by the following organisations and individuals to whom we offer our sincere gratitude.



An Roinn
Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta
Department of
Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht



Bealtaine Festival

An Age & Opportunity **arts** initiative



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017-2022



Hanly's Eurospar Strokestown

Anam Cara Retreat Centre

Jim Callery, Jim Hoban, Grace Rickard, Lawrence & Janet Kessenich, Mike Byrne, Anni Wilton-Jones
Chasetown Civil Engineering Ltd./Noel Sweeney, David Dolan and Gemma Flanagan

The festival is run by an entirely voluntary committee. All funds are raised through grants, sponsorship, donations and a small fee into some events.

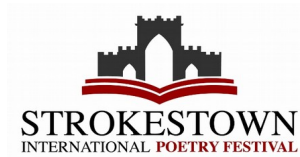
Your support, in whatever form, for the festival is greatly appreciated.

Our thanks to Strokestown Park House, the Callery family, the Irish Heritage Trust, the Percy French Hotel, Strokestown Library, & the SCDA Office for the use of their facilities during the festival 2019.

We also wish to acknowledge our many sponsors and business in the locality, without whose support the festival would not be possible.

Finally, we would like to welcome our loyal supporters, new participants, judges, poets, friends and colleagues to this, the 21st Poetry Festival in Strokestown.

Committee: Padraig Holmes, Pat Compton, Shane Lynskey, Mary Dolan, Melissa Newman, Noelle Lynskey, Margaret Hickey, Anne O'Leary, Louise G Cole, Gemma Flanagan, Jacinta Glover, Maria Donohue



STROKESTOWN INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL 2019

21st Festival

Thursday 2nd May – Monday 6th May 2019

Strokestown, Co. Roscommon, Ireland

<https://www.strokestownpoetry.org/>