

Echoes

Maeve Binchy
& IRISH WRITERS



Echoes

DALKEY
CASTLE &
HERITAGE
CENTRE

5th–7th October 2018

www.echoes.ie

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DIRECTOR

Margaret Dunne

ADMINISTRATION

Maeve Kingston

DESIGN AND BRANDING

Verso : creative studio

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Sika Media

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SOCIAL MEDIA

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Michael Heavey, Millie McLaughlin

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PHOTOGRAPHER

Alan Rowlette

VIDEOGRAPHER

James O'Reilly OTD Productions
Maya Derrington

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Tony Greene, Liz Crossen, Tony O'Reilly,
Angela Taafe, Úna Heffernan,
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THANKS TO

Gordon Snell, the Binchy family,
Christine Green,
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at Dalkey Library
Thanks to our restaurant sponsors
for prizes Ouzos, 1909 Dalkey.

Maeve Binchy photo by
Crispen Rodwell

MAEVE BINCHY TRIBUTE SHOW

Maeve Binchy's *Aches and Pains*
adapted by Shay Linehan and directed
by Margaret Dunne on Friday
5th October at 7.30pm is *Maeve
at her wisest, funniest, most
tongue-in-cheek.*

MAEVE BINCHY WALK

Rita Biggs
Maeve Binchy and Irish Writers
Guided Walk begins in the
Writers' Gallery, Dalkey Castle,
Sunday 7th October at 11.00am
and finishes in the Maeve Binchy
Memorial Garden at Dalkey Library.

Echoes

Maeve Binchy and Irish Writers

Introduction and welcome

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Ossian Smyth, Margaret Dunne, Gordon Snell

Intuitive Feminism: Echoes of Lady Gregory in the Theatre of Marina Carr

Dr Melissa Sihra

It's a mystery, is gender relevant in Crime Writing?

Henrietta McKervey, Declan Hughes, Sinéad Crowley, Caroline Erskine

Coffee break

Maeve Binchy and Dalkey

Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan, TD

Maeve Binchy: The Quiet Feminist

Henrietta McKervey

Following in Maeve's Footsteps

Claudia Carroll, Sheila O'Flanagan, Patricia Scanlan, Caroline Erskine

Lunch break 1.00-2.15

Paprika: A Reading and interview

Frank Mc Guinness, Seán Rocks

Maeve Binchy's TV Play

Deeply Regretted By... A Rehearsed Reading

Claudia Carroll, Clelia Murphy, Michael Heavey, Lorcan Cranitch,

Margaret Toomey, Martin Linnane, Sam McGovern

An Unconsidered People

Catherine Dunne, Seán Rocks

Maeve Binchy - Historian of Modern Ireland

Professor Diarmaid Ferriter

Maeve Binchy

1940–2012

1940: Maeve was born in 1940 in nearby Glenageary. The family moved to live in Dalkey when she was twelve.

1968: She graduated in History from UCD and taught for a number of years before becoming a journalist in 1968. She joined the *Irish Times* in 1968 as Woman's Editor.

1972: She met Gordon Snell while doing a radio interview in the BBC

1973: She moved to London. She freely admitted that she moved there to be closer to the man she was later to marry—the broadcaster and writer—Gordon Snell. They married in 1977.

Maeve and Gordon returned to live in Dalkey in the early eighties where they wrote side by side in the same studio upstairs at their home on Sorrento Road.

Maeve wrote articles, short stories and plays but it was as a novelist that she became most famous.

1982: Her first novel, *Light a Penny Candle*, was published. The novel drew extensively on her experience in Holy Child convent school, Killiney. It follows the friendship of two young women through two decades. From then on, Maeve produced a bestseller every few years, as well as writing countless short stories.

1985: Her next novel, *Echoes* tells of the struggle of an impoverished young woman to escape a narrow-minded, cruel resort town. In 1988, it was produced as a mini-series on British television. Maeve always advised writing about what you know about. The family used holiday regularly in Ballybunion.

The Central hotel and Ballybunion itself is the inspiration behind the setting of *Castlebay* in *Echoes*. The character of Clare O'Brien who is pregnant and unmarried reflects the strict grip that the Catholic church had in Ireland at that time.

1987: A third best-seller, *Firefly Summer* concerns an Irish American who is forced to reconsider his misconceptions about Ireland when he comes here to live.

1988: *Silver Wedding* is the story of a couple celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary and the events that led them there.

1991: *Circle of Friends* (filmed 1995), features a pair of friends who attend University in Dublin. It starred Minnie Driver and Chris O'Donnell.

(Maeve's experience in UCD informed this novel). Incidentally, her time in UCD was pivotal in her life. She had a moment of epiphany while reading Sartre in Stephens Green. From then on, she was invested with self-belief. She would be her own woman!

1998: *Tara Road* (filmed 2005), in which two women, one Irish, one American, try to improve their lives by trading houses. *Tara Road* was 'Best Novel Nominee' on Oprah's Book Club in 1999. This led to huge exposure in America. The same year she was given a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Nibbles (British Book Awards). *Tara Road* was made into a film, with Maeve and Gordon in cameo roles.

She always insisted that her novels were filmed in Ireland to bring employment to her own country.

2012: Her play *Deeply Regretted By* was staged here in the Heritage Centre shortly before she died. The play was based on a story she wrote for the *Irish Times* called *Death in Kilburn*. (A man who had emigrated leaving a family in Ireland was found to have another family in England, after he died). Her short stories feature in our 'Discover Dalkey's Literary Gems' shows and in 'On Yer Bike with Dalkey Writers'.

2013: Shay Linehan adapted Maeve's novel *Minding Frankie* which was staged in Dalkey Castle as part of a tribute to Maeve at the Dalkey Book Festival. The one man play starred Michael Heavey as Noel. The play has since found an extended life and Breda Cashe Productions staged it at the Gaiety Theatre to capacity audiences. The story has all the warmth, compassion and humour that we associate with Maeve's work.

2015: Shay Linehan adapted Maeve's *Aches and Pains* (with illustrations by Wendy Shea) into a one hour stage play. This adaptation has played to full houses here in Dalkey Castle, at the 25th ASPECT'S Literary Festival in Bangor, Co. Down and on many occasions since.

2016: We devised a Maeve Binchy and Irish Writers Guided Walk in Dalkey. The walk begins in the Writers' Gallery. It covers site specific literary references along the street and around the town and finishes in the Maeve Binchy Memorial Garden at Dalkey Library.

We are deeply indebted to Gordon Snell who has been a stalwart supporter of this and other projects here in the Heritage Centre.

Margaret Dunne





GORDON SNELL

Gordon Snell was born in Singapore, where he grew up, an only child. His father was a Surveyor. When it was time for him to go to boarding school, his mother travelled with him to Geelong, Australia. While they were in Australia, Singapore was invaded and his father was a prisoner of war for over three years.

Gordon was working as a freelance broadcaster and producer for the BBC when he met Maeve Binchy in London in 1970. They married in 1977.

Gordon is a writer, broadcaster and the author of more than forty books for children and adults, published in Ireland, England, Australia, Canada and the USA. Among children's favourites are: *The Tex and Sheelagh Omnibus*, *The King of Quizzical Island*, *Amy's Wonderful Nest*, *Tina and the Tooth Fairy* and *The Super-market Ghost*.

He has written song lyrics, musicals and librettos for the stage, and for BBC and RTÉ radio and television. He and Maeve Binchy were married for 35 years and lived for most of that time in Dalkey, where Gordon still lives.



MARGARET DUNNE

Margaret Dunne is Manager of Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre. She has devised models of literary interpretation on the work of James Joyce, Samuel Beckett, Lennox Robinson and Flann O'Brien in the O'Reilly and Samuel Beckett Theatres.

For Bloomsday each year, she has adapted and directs the Dalkey Schoolroom Scene from *Ulysses* and *The Joycean Evening* for Dalkey Castle. In 2011, she devised and directed *Meet the Writers... All Aboard the Dalkey Tram* in Dalkey Castle. The show, which featured the work of many of the writers and musicians of this area, has since morphed into *Discover Dalkey's Literary Gems*.

She directed Maeve Binchy's *Deeply Regretted By...* in 2012.

In 2013, Margaret directed the one man show *Scenes from Minding Frankie* adapted by Shay Linehan from the Maeve Binchy novel.

She presented *Celebrating Jennifer Johnston and Hugh Leonard at 90* in 2016.

In 2015, Margaret first directed Maeve Binchy's *Aches and Pains* adapted by Shay Linehan and it continues apace playing to capacity audiences on selected occasions since then.



DR MELISSA SIHRA

Dr. Melissa Sihra is Head of Drama at Trinity College, Dublin and Assistant Professor of Drama. She researches and teaches in the field of Feminism, Gender, Women in Performance, Playwriting, Dramaturgy and Irish Theatre with special interest in the work of Marina Carr and Lady Augusta Gregory. She was Lecturer in Drama at Queen's University Belfast and part-time Lecturer in Irish Studies at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

Melissa is a professional Dramaturg and has worked with Holly Hunter on Marina Carr's *By The Bog Of Cats* at San José Repertory Theatre in 2001. She was a consultant for the Abbey Theatre's world premiere of *Ariel* (2002), and a Script Reader at the Abbey Theatre (1998-2002). She is editor of the volume *Women in Irish Drama; A Century of Authorship and Representation*. She was President of the Irish Society for Theatre Research from 2011-15.

Her monograph *Marina Carr: Pastures of the Unknown* will be published in October 2018 by Palgrave MacMillan.

In her keynote address, Melissa challenges the patriarchal foundations of Irish theatre by demonstrating a previously unexplored lineage between Lady Gregory and contemporary playwright Marina Carr to create new paths of meaning for all women in Irish theatre, past and present.



CAROLINE ERSKINE

Caroline Erskine is a broadcasting journalist and a communications consultant specialising in political and public affairs.

Her career began as an RTÉ television and radio journalist. She was political correspondent for Ireland's first national independent radio station, Century Radio. She went on to devise, present and produce her own current affairs series *Headliners* on RTÉ television and later co-presented *The Week in Politics* for the same station. She has also been Chairperson of Women On Air, which strives to see and hear more women on the airwaves.

Caroline was executive director of We the Citizens, a year-long research initiative funded by the Atlantic Philanthropies. It tested the value of the Citizens Assembly model in Ireland which helped to lead to referendums on Marriage Equality and the 8th Amendment.

She lives in Dalkey with her husband, musician and screenwriter, Barry Devlin. They have two sons and a daughter.



DECLAN HUGHES

Declan Hughes grew up in Dalkey. He is an Irish novelist, playwright and screenwriter. He has been Writer-in-Association with the Abbey Theatre in Dublin and Irish Writer Fellow at Trinity College, Dublin and Writer-in-Residence at UCD. He was the joint winner of the 1990 Stewart Parker New Playwright Award.

Declan co-founded Dublin's Rough Magic Theatre Company. His plays include *I Can't Get Started*; *Love and a Bottle* (adapted from Farquhar); *Digging For Fire*; *New Morning*; *Halloween Night*; *Twenty Grand*; *Tartuffe* (adapted from Moliere); *Shiver* and *The Last Summer*.

His first novel, *The Wrong Kind of Blood* won the Shamus Award for Best First PI novel and the *Le Point* magazine prize for best European crime novel. Subsequent novels include *The Colour of Blood*; *The Dying Breed*; *All The Dead Voices* and *City of Lost Girls*.

His latest novel is *All The Things You Are*.

Declan's books have been nominated for the Edgar, Macavity, Theakstons, CWA New Blood Dagger and Irish Book awards.

Declan writes a regular crime fiction column for the *Irish Times*.



SINÉAD CROWLEY

Journalist by day, author by night, Sinéad Crowley is arts and media correspondent with RTÉ News, and the author of the DS Claire Boyle series, crime fiction set in Ireland. All three books in the series *Can Anybody Help Me?*, *Are you watching Me?* and *One Bad Turn* were shortlisted for Crime Book of the Year awards at the Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book Awards.

Sinéad was also a contributor to *Trouble is our Business*, a collection of new Irish crime writing published by New Island in 2016 and is currently working on her fourth novel.

Writing about Maeve Binchy in the *Irish Times* in 2015, Sinéad wrote "She (Maeve Binchy) showed readers of Irish popular fiction that stories could be rooted in the local and the familiar and she inspired many other women writers to do the same. Her novels sold in their millions but before them came her journalism, columns that transported the reader to the front row of a royal wedding, gently explained the reality of mental illness or captured with bitter simplicity the silence of a couple who had run out of things to say. Colour writing at its finest. Light and shade."



HENRIETTA MCKERVEY

Henrietta McKervey has published acclaimed three novels. The most recent, *Violet Hill*, was described by Joseph O'Connor as "wonderfully assured and compelling". An Eason's Book Club pick, it is a mesmerizing story of danger and deception involving two unusual detectives working a hundred years apart.

The Heart of Everything (2016), an Irish Times Book Club choice, explores what happens when three estranged adult siblings are forced to reunite because their mother has mysteriously disappeared.

What Becomes Of Us, her debut, is the story of a woman's life-changing encounter with a former member of Cumann na mBan, set against the fiftieth anniversary of the 1916 Rising.

Henrietta has a Hennessy First Fiction Award and was the inaugural winner of the UCD Maeve Binchy Travel Award, established in 2014 to commemorate Maeve Binchy's writing and love of travel. Her travel project, *The General Synopsis at Midnight*, explored the meaning of the famous BBC-broadcast Shipping Forecast through the thirty-one sea areas it covers.



CLAUDIA CARROLL

Claudia Carroll was born in Dublin, where she still lives and works as an author and actor.

She became best known as the character of Nicola Prendergast on the RTÉ drama series, *Fair City*. She worked in the role for fourteen years, leaving in 2007. She still makes occasional appearances on the programme.

Claudia is a *Sunday Times* top ten bestselling author in the UK and a number one bestselling author in Ireland, selling more than half a million copies in paperback alone.

To date, she has published fourteen novels, four of which have been optioned, two for movies and two for TV. She's currently hassling producers for a walk-on role and is hoping they might even let her keep the costumes for free! Claudia has said in the past that "Reading Maeve is a bit like watching the Olympic gymnasts: you think, I could do that! But just try."

Her latest novel *The Secrets of Primrose Square* tells many stories hidden behind closed doors, intriguing tales of grief, loneliness and some moments of unsurpassing joy.

Wearing her acting hat, Claudia will take part in the rehearsed reading of Maeve Binchy's television play, *Deeply Regretted By...* playing Stella.



SHEILA O'FLANAGAN

Prior to becoming a full-time writer, Sheila had a very successful career in the financial services industry as a bond dealer. She was also a business correspondent for the *Irish Times*.

She has written more than twenty novels and three collections of short stories for adults as well as two novels for children and young adults. Her work has been translated into over twenty languages. Her first novels *Suddenly Single* and *Isobel's Wedding* were published in 1999. Her most recent *The Hideaway* was published this summer and is on the Best Seller lists.

She is a director of Fighting Words, which was founded by Roddy Doyle, Seán Love and Maeve Binchy to give children the opportunity to discover and harness the power of their own imaginations.

Sheila met Maeve Binchy on many occasions and never failed to be moved by her kindness, compassion and generosity of spirit.

After Maeve's death Sheila wrote an appreciation in the *Irish Times* observing that for the generation of Irish women writers who followed her, Maeve had set a precedent by setting her novels in Ireland and writing about the country as it was becoming, rather than the Ireland it had been.



PATRICIA SCANLAN

Patricia Scanlan was born in Dublin, where she still lives. She was a Dublin City librarian before she started writing full time in 1992. She has written more than 20 novels. All her books have been Number One Bestsellers with millions of sales worldwide. Her *City Girl* trilogy sold over 1.4 million in Ireland alone. Her books are translated into many languages.

Recent novels include *With All My Love*, *A Time For Friends* and *Orange Blossom Days*.

Her non-fiction book, *Bringing Death to Life*, written with soul friends and metaphysical healers Dr Mary Helen Hensley, Aidan Storey and Pamela Young, was recently published and currently stands at Number One in the bestselling lists. Telling how to be truly present during the passing of a loved one, Patricia and her co-authors acknowledge that many of us struggle to talk openly and honestly about death at a time when our loved ones need it most. Prayers, affirmations and messages from the angels also make up this special, thought-provoking and ultimately deeply comforting book.

Patricia is the Series Editor and a contributing author to the award winning *Open Door* literacy series.



FRANK MC GUINNESS

Frank McGuinness is an award winning writer whose plays have received national and international acclaim. He was Professor of Creative Writing at UCD from 2007 to his retirement in 2017.

His first play *The Factory Girls* premiered in 1982. Other work includes *Baglady*, *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme* (winner of multiple international awards); *Innocence*; *Carthaginians*; *Mary and Lizzie*; *The Bread Man*; *The Bird Sanctuary*; *Mutabilitie*; *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*; *Dolly West's Kitchen*; *Gates of Gold*; *Speaking like Magpie*; *There came a Gypsy Riding*; *Greta Garbo Came to Donegal*; *Crocodile*; *The Match Box*; *The Hanging Gardens* and a musical play *Donegal* (with music by Kevin Doherty).

Frank has also written song lyrics, six collections of poetry and two novels including *The Woodcutter and his Children* which chronicles the final hours of James Joyce's life.

Adaptations of literary classics include the plays of Lorca, Chekhov, Brecht, Sophocles, Racine, Ibsen, Euripides, Strindberg, Wilde and Joyce. Frank's adaptation of Ibsen's *A Doll's House* won a Tony Award for Best Revival.

Donegal born but long resident in Booterstown, he is delighted to be part of this celebration of Maeve Binchy and Gordon Snell, and to be interviewed by Seán Rocks of RTÉ.



SEÁN ROCKS

Seán Rocks presents *ARENA*, RTÉ Radio 1's flagship arts, popular culture and entertainment programme which is broadcast at 7p.m. Mon-Fri. He has been in the role since 2009 and has interviewed many major writers, actors, musicians and artists.

He previously guest-presented, produced and wrote several series for RTÉ Radio 1 and anchored several daytime programmes on RTÉ lyric fm. He presented the documentary *Soul of Ireland* for BBC Radio 4 which won a Silver Medal at the New York Festival of Radio in 2015.

Seán regularly hosts concerts and major events at venues around the country and was MC at the State Banquet in Dublin Castle when Queen Elizabeth visited Ireland in 2011.

Prior to broadcasting Seán worked extensively as an actor both at home and abroad, appearing at the Abbey, Peacock and Gate Theatres and with many important independent companies including Rough Magic, Druid and Field Day here in Ireland, and at the Royal Court, National, Donmar Warehouse and Tricycle theatres in London.

He is originally from Monaghan.



CATHERINE DUNNE

Catherine Dunne was a secondary teacher before she became a full time writer in 1995. Her first novel *In the Beginning* was published in 1997 and was very well-received.

Catherine has written ten novels. Her most recent, *The Years That Followed*, was long listed for the International Dublin Literary Award 2018.

The Things We Know Now won the 700th anniversary Giovanni Boccaccio International Prize for Fiction and was shortlisted for the Eason Novel of the Year at the Irish Book Awards 2013. She has also been short listed for, among others, the Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year Award and the Italian Booksellers' Prize.

Catherine was appointed one of five judges for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award 2014 and in 2015. She was long listed for the Inaugural Laureate for Irish Fiction.

Catherine has published one work of non-fiction, a social history of Irish immigrants in London in the 1950s, *An Unconsidered People*, which consists of one-to-one interviews with those who left this country, many of them unwillingly, during that dismal decade. They reflect upon the joys and the heartbreak of making, and sustaining, a new home in an often hostile environment.

Catherine's work has been translated into several languages.



MARGARET TOOMEY

Margaret trained in Focus Theatre under the direction of Deirdre O'Connell and played in many productions there including *Hold the Passion*, a documentary on Focus Theatre.

At Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre, she played multiple roles in *Meet the Writers*, and has been involved in the *Bloomsday Festival* for many years. She played the role of Ann in Maeve Binchy's *Aches and Pains*, directed by Margaret Dunne. Recently, she played in *Uprising* (Project Arts Centre and Lyric Theatre and *Angels in the Park* (Axis).

Film and Television credits include: *This Time Round*; *Not Afraid Not Afraid*, *Claire sa Spéir*, *The Old Curiosity Shop*, *Eipic* (T na G) and *Writing Home*.

She is best known for her character Eileen Bishop in *Fair City*.

Margaret is also a founder member of Smashing Times Theatre Company and she continues to play an active role in their projects.



CLELIA MURPHY

Clelia Murphy trained with the Gaiety School of Acting. She was a member of Dublin Youth Theatre and holds an MA in Screenwriting. She is familiar to many for her long-running role of Niamh Brennan in RTÉ's *Fair City*. Most recently, she filmed the roles of Rhiannon in Bernard Dunne's *Mythical Legends*, Kathleen Buckley in Ferdia MacEanna's *Danny Boy* and played the cameo part of Lorraine in Deadpan Picture's comedy for RTÉ 2, *Nowhere Fast*, created by Alison Spittle.

On stage, Clelia's latest role was that of Maeve in *Boom* by Isobel Mahon, directed by Caroline Fitzgerald.

Other recent theatre credits include the role of Lulubelle LaVelle in John Murphy's musical *Elvis is my Daddy* and the role of Frau Gabor in *Spring Awakening*, directed by the internationally-acclaimed György Vidovszky. Her film credits include Vivienne de Courcy's feature *Dare to be Wild*, Jack Conroy's *The Gaelic Curse*, *JFK*, *The Badgeman Conspiracy* directed by John Sheridan and Paul Valentine. Clelia also worked on *Grabbers* for Samson Films, Parallel Pictures' *The Gift of the Magi* and Stephen Kane's award-winning *The Crooked Mile*. Clelia also produced the award-winning short *Waiting For Tom*. She is currently working with Fishamble on Pat Kinevane's new play *Before*.



MICHAEL HEAVEY

Michael has recently played Willie Gibson in a dramatised documentary about the life of Violet Gibson, *Violet Gibson: The Woman Who Attempted to Assassinate Mussolini* directed by Barrie Dowdall. 2018 has also seen him play Mark in the short sketch series *Not Swiped* directed by Kevin De La Isla O'Neill.

Recent stage performances include Des Collins in the critically acclaimed *The Collector* by Daniel Wade. He was directed by Margaret Dunne in *Scenes from Minding Frankie* and *Aches and Pains*, both adapted for stage by Shay Linehan from books by Maeve Binchy.

His previous work has included playing Bram Stoker in Dr. Seward's *Dracula*, Quentin Farlowe in *It Came from Mars*, and Tomas in *Beings of the Other World*. He has performed in Shiva Productions' *Angels in the Park* series and in the *Discover Dalkey Literary Gems Series* in which he played many roles from the writings of Wilde, O'Casey, Synge, Leonard, Flann O'Brien, and Shay Linehan. He has appeared at the National Gallery as Jimmy in Michael Casey's *Cupidity* and John in Gerard Dalton's *The Stations*. Film credits include *The Hit Producer*, *The Old Secret*, *Dirt*, and *The Smoking Volcano*.



SAM MCGOVERN

Sam McGovern is an actor and voiceover artist. Theatre credits include: *Assassins*, *The Last Summer* (Gate Theatre); *Once* (Landmark); *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (National/UK tour); *SICK* (Dublin Fringe); *Alone it Stands* (National Tour/Barbican London); *The Tempest* (St John's Mill) and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (AC Productions). Television credits include: *Striking Out* (RTÉ); *Wrecking the Rising*, *1916 The Forgotten Seven* (TG4); *Zig and Zag* (CBBC); *Quirke* (BBC); *The Tudors* (Showtime) and *The Question of God* (PBS). Film credits include: *Michael Inside*, *The Sleep Experiment*, *11th Hour*, *The Overcoat*, *Pebbles*, *The Cherishing*, *Jimi: All is by my Side*, *Forgiveness* and *Waiting for Godot*. Sam is represented by Derick Mulvey at MacFarlane Chard and Deborah Pearce at Voicebank.



LORCAN CRANITCH

A native of Dublin, Lorcan trained at RADA and began working in the early 1980s in the UK. Some years later, he returned to Dublin to begin a career that would keep him busy on both sides of the Irish Sea ever since.

In Dublin, he has worked mainly at the Abbey and Gate theatres, where his favourite roles include appearances in plays by Tom Murphy, Brian Friel, Frank McGuinness, Arthur Miller, William Shakespeare, Oscar Wilde, Anton Chekov and George Bernard Shaw. In the UK, he has worked with major repertory theatre companies as well as the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre.

His film work includes: *The Playboys*, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Shackleton*, *Night Train* and *Titanic Town*. But he is probably best known for his extensive TV work which includes *Ballykissangel*, *Hornblower*, *McCreedy and Daughter*, *Rebus*, *Close Relations*, *Waking the Dead*, *Silent Witness*, *Spooks*, *The Bill*, *Lewis*, *Law and Order UK*, *New Tricks*, *The Street*, *Omagh*, *ROME*, *Atlantis*, *Code of a Killer*, *The Last Kingdom*, *The Clinic*, *Single Handed* and most notably *Cracker*, the British crime drama in which he played DS Jimmy Beck.

His previous work with Dalkey Castle was on *Hugh Leonard at 90* in 2016.



MARTIN LINNANE

Martin Linnane trained as an actor in Trinity College, Dublin on the Bachelor of Drama and Theatre Studies Degree course.

Martin combined acting with running his own building company. His theatre work includes *Translations* in the Abbey Theatre in 2000. He has been involved in *The Bloomsday Festival* at Dalkey Castle for many years playing Stephen Dedalus in the Dalkey Schoolroom Scene in *Ulysses*; Gabriel Conroy in *The Dead* from *Dubliners* and in The Christmas Dinner Scene from *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. He played a number of roles in *Meet the Writers... All Aboard the Dalkey Tram* and in *Discover Dalkey's Literary Gems* at Dalkey Castle, directed by Margaret Dunne.

Film work includes: *Reign of Fire*, (2001), directed by Rob Bowman; *Love is the Drug*, an RTÉ series directed by Darren Thornton; *Alexander* (2004) an epic historical drama directed by Oliver Stone; *Jack Taylor* a TV Series; *Priest* in 2013 directed by Stuart Orme and the popular, long running Irish soap opera series *Ros na Rún* on TG4.



DIARMAID FERRITER

Diarmaid Ferriter is Professor of Modern Irish History at UCD.

He is a graduate of UCD and was Lecturer in Modern Irish History at UCD from 1996-1998. A researcher and writer with the *Dictionary of Irish Biography 1998-1999*, he worked as a Senior Lecturer in Irish History at St Patrick's College, Drumcondra from 1999-2008.

He was appointed Professor of Modern Irish History at UCD in 2008. He was Visiting Burns Library Scholar at Boston College from 2008-2009.

Diarmaid's books include *The Transformation of Ireland 1900-2000* (2004), *Judging Dev: A Reassessment of the life and legacy of Eamon de Valera* (2007), *Occasions of Sin: Sex and Society in Modern Ireland* (2009) *Ambiguous Republic: Ireland in the 1970s* (2012) *A Nation and not a Rabble: The Irish Revolution 1913-23* (2015) and *On The Edge: Ireland's Offshore Islands, A Modern History* (2018). Diarmaid's *The Border-The Legacy of a Century of Anglo-Irish Politics* is expected in February 2019.

He is a regular broadcaster on television and radio and a weekly columnist with the *Irish Times*. He co-wrote the film *Keepers of the Flame* (2018) with Nuala O'Connor.

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Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017–2022



Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

