

In partnership with Glucksman Ireland House, New York University, and with the generous support of the Shannon Airport Authority, Shannon, Ireland.

**University of Limerick/Frank McCourt Creative
Writing Summer School**

JUNE 27th to June 30th, 2019

GLUCKSMAN IRELAND HOUSE, NYU

One Washington Mews, Fifth Avenue, New York 10003

**POETRY. PROSE. MEMOIR. SHORT STORIES. LIVE
MUSIC. LITERARY BRUNCH. GETTING TO GRIPS
WITH GOOD WRITING**

- JOSEPH O'CONNOR, DONAL RYAN, KERRY NEVILLE, MARTIN DYAR, SARAH MOORE FITZGERALD, EOIN DEVEREUX, and SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST **PIERCE TURNER.**

Led by internationally acclaimed and award-winning writers from the Creative Writing programme at UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK, the Summer School will offer an excellent introduction/ refresher course on creative writing.

No previous writing experience is required, but some would be helpful. Enthusiasm and willingness to prepare for the programme of lectures and workshops is a must.

Ticket: (includes welcome reception at the Irish Consulate in Manhattan, classes, lectures, light lunch on Saturday, Literary Brunch on Sunday, Pierce Turner concert):

\$300/\$250 student/unwaged

Full programme details and booking available at
<http://frankmccourt.ulfoundation.com/>

Informal Queries are welcome at joseph.oconnor@ul.ie

ALSO: ONE-YEAR M.A. IN CREATIVE WRITING AT UL, available now. Information from joseph.oconnor@ul.ie

Those speaking or teaching at the Summer School will include: Professor **Joseph O'Connor**, UL Frank McCourt Chair of Creative Writing, acclaimed broadcaster and multiple award-winning author of nine novels including 'Ghost Light', 'The Thrill of it All', the million-selling 'Star of the Sea', published in 45 languages (winner of the PEN Award for Outstanding Achievement in Irish Literature and the Prix Zepher for European Novel of the Year), and the forthcoming 'Shadowplay' (June 2019).

Donal Ryan, Lecturer in Creative Writing at UL, multiple-award winning author of 'The Spinning Heart' (Irish Novel of the Decade prize), 'The Thing About December', 'All We Shall Know', 'From a Low and Quiet Sea', winner of The Guardian First Novel Prize and the EU Award For Fiction, twice longlisted for the Man Booker Prize.

Professor **Sarah Moore Fitzgerald**, Course Leader of UL's MA in Creative Writing (autumn 2017), acclaimed Young Adult author ('The Apple Tart of Hope', 'The List of Real Things') and lecturer on time management and motivation for writers.

Dr **Kerry Neville**, Fulbright Scholar in Creative Writing at UL (2018/19) award-winning short story writer ('Necessary Lies'), teacher on the Creative Writing MFA at Georgia College and State University, essayist, memoirist, journalist, frequent contributor to the Huffington Post.

Dr **Martin Dyar**, Associate Writer Fellow at UL Creative Writing. The author of the Pigott Prize shortlisted poetry collection 'Maiden Names', he won the Patrick Kavanagh poetry award in 2009 and the Strokestown International poetry award in 2001. His poetry has been added to the Leaving Cert Prescribed Poetry Syllabus, and has been included in numerous anthologies. He has a PhD in English literature from Trinity College Dublin.

Professor **Eoin Devereux** writes poetry and short fiction. His poem 'The Bodhi Tree' was published by Hennessy New Irish Writing in the Irish Times in 2017. He has published widely on

popular music and media and is the co-editor of 'David Bowie: Critical Perspectives'. He wrote the booklet-length essay accompanying the 25th anniversary edition The Cranberries' album 'Everyone Else is Doing It, So Why Can't We?'

Stephen Holden remarks in the New York Times of our special musical guest star, the brilliant songwriter and live performer **Pierce Turner**: *'Mr Turner's songs feature old-fashioned narrative folk melodies with a strong Celtic flavor and chatty idiomatic lyrics, many of which remember Wexford with affection. In performance, Mr. Turner is more than just a chronicler of his home-town memories. He is a transplanted Irish folk vaudevillian who jubilantly evokes a high-spirited village ambiance. Mr. Turner's best songs, such as "Orange Coloured Sun," "How It Shone," "Wicklow Hills" and "Groovy Hearts," are substantial folk ballads with quirky lyrical images and the kind of whimsicality one associates with Ray Davies of the Kinks.'*

WELCOME / FAILTE

On behalf of my colleagues and our generous sponsors, **The Shannon Airport Authority**, I welcome you warmly to the 2019 University of Limerick Frank McCourt Creative Writing Summer School New York, held in the beautiful oasis of creativity and collegiality that is New York University's Glucksman Ireland House. The house has been a home away from home for thousands of Irish people over the years – myself included, when, as a hopeful young writer, lonesome in the city, I used to come here to attend readings and see a friendly face. To be here with you, the students of our Creative Writing Summer School in June 2019, will be a pleasure and honor indeed.

We hope you will find the Summer School useful and enjoyable, whether you are an experienced writer looking to improve in some areas, or a complete newcomer searching for a writerly voice, or someone coming back to an early love of writing that perhaps became sidetracked along the way.

We thank our wonderful consul, Ciaran Madden, and his team at the Consulate, and our warm friends at the Irish Arts Center,

Swift's bar, and Gregory de la Haba's McSorley's Irish bar, for assistance in putting the Summer School together for you. Frank's wife, Ellen Frey McCourt, and Loretta Brennan Glucksman have been supporters of the School since before it was born, and it's a pleasure to thank them again, now the baby is five!

The Summer School offers a taste of Creative Writing as we teach it at University of Limerick, with the emphasis on enjoyment, collegiality, mutual respect and love of words, in a community of writers working together. We hope the fine range of authors we're offering this year will make it an experience to remember.

Our Guest of Honor, **ELLEN FREY McCOURT**, remarked recently: "Three cheers to Shannon Airport Authority for continuing their enlightened support for the ambitious UL/Frank McCourt Summer School in New York. In one divine stroke they have enabled the two things Frank loved most—teaching and writing. Thank you also to Joseph O'Connor and his UL colleagues for putting it all together with NYU (Frank's Alma Mater) Glucksman Ireland House and the Irish Arts Center. Frank would feel triply blessed."

We, too, will feel blessed to have you with us for this weekend of creativity. **Let's get writing!**

Professor Joseph O'Connor, Frank McCourt Chair of Creative Writing, University of Limerick

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY June 27th, 6 pm.

Welcome Reception at the Consulate General of Ireland

345 Park Avenue, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10154.

FRIDAY June 28th, 1pm, Glucksman Ireland House.

Registration and orientation for those attending the Creative Writing classes. Participants will be put into three seminar groups, A, B and C and will take each Core Workshop once.

1.30pm: Introduction (for all registered attendees), Professor Joseph O'Connor. Aims of the weekend.

1.45 - 3.15 pm: Lecture (for all registered attendees) with Writing Exercises, Professor Sarah Moore Fitzgerald, on Getting to grips with your writing: Self-motivation, plot, structure, story, pitch, submitting material to a publisher for consideration.

3.30 - 5.30pm: Core Workshop Seminar I.

Group A – Poetry in the House of Prose, Dr Martin Dyar.

Group B - Writing Memoir and Longer Fiction, Dr Kerry Neville

Group C – All We Shall Know: Short Stories to Novels, Donal Ryan

SATURDAY JUNE 29th, 9.45 am

9.30 am sharp - 11.30 am, (optional), Professor Sarah Moore Fitzgerald, on Writing for Young Adults.

11.45 - 1.45pm Core Workshop Seminar II.

Group A – Writing Memoir and Longer Fiction, Dr Kerry Neville

Group B – All We Shall Know: Short Stories to Novels, Donal Ryan

Group C – Poetry in the House of Prose, Dr Martin Dyar.

1.45 -2.30 Light Lunch (included in cost). Sandwiches, tea and coffee served.

2.30 – 4.30 pm Core Workshop Seminar III

Group A – All We Shall Know: Short Stories to Novels, Donal Ryan.

Group B – Poetry in the House of Prose, Dr Martin Dyar.

Group C – Writing Memoir and Longer Fiction, Dr Kerry Neville

5.30 pm, Swift Hibernian Lounge, 34 E 4th St (between Bowery and Lafayette), New York, NY 10003, USA

PIERCE TURNER in an intimate concert for attendees and teachers of the Summer School.

SUNDAY JUNE 30th 9.45 for 10 am sharp.

Glucksman Ireland House.

PROF EOIN DEVEREUX's Sunday morning illustrated lecture.

'Waltzing Back: The Cranberries' 'Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We?'

This lecture with music will discuss The Cranberries' debut album 'Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We' (1993). In assessing the album's legacy, the lecture will examine the band's song-writing, their sound and overall aesthetic. A particular focus will be placed on the wide range of influences (such as traditional Gaelic Sean Nos, church singing and poetry) on Dolores O'Riordan's singing style and song writing. The talk will include rarely seen photographs and memorabilia associated with the band's early days.

11 am to 1 pm.

Venue: McSorley's Old Alehouse. 15 E 7th St (between Second and Third Avenues), New York, NY 10003, USA

LITERARY BRUNCH

Join us for brunch at the generous invitation of our host, proprietor Gregory de la Haba, at the iconic New York Irish venue, McSorley's Old Alehouse, once frequented by everyone from Abraham Lincoln to John Lennon.

- Please note that the entire programme is subject to Change, Addition, Subtraction or Replacement, without notice, in the event of which no refund will be offered. The UL Frank McCourt Summer School New York reserves the right to cancel or re-schedule the event at any time. In the unlikely event of cancellation, enrolment contributions will be refunded in full. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information on the website, it may be subject to later alteration or amendment in the light of course updates or other constraints. **Cancellation/Refund Conditions/Arrangements:** A refund will be given for cancellations made on or before **30th May 2019**. However, please note, a non-refundable **administrative fee of \$100** will apply in the event of a cancellation. No refund will be provided after **30th May 2019** or if delegates fail to attend classes or do not complete the event. Please allow minimum 21 days for refund processing. You are on our mailing list because you are a contact of the UL Frank McCourt Summer School. If you would like to be removed please email joseph.OConnor@ul.ie

CORE WORKSHOP AND LECTURE DETAILS

Poetry in the House of Prose, with Martin Dyar

The American writer Carson McCullers once referred to poetry as ‘the best way for a serious writer to begin’. While some poets might not be willing to embrace the idea of their art form as a kind of stepping stone, there’s no doubt that an exploration of the similarities and differences inherent to the relationship between poetry and prose can yield rich fruit; that one, indeed, can be used to illuminate the secrets of the other. But what can the fiction writer learn from poetry? And what, coming the other way, might the poet gain by reading novels and stories? Along with poetry writing exercises and discussion, this class looks closely at excerpts from the work of John Cheever, Alice Munro, Carson McCullers, Wallace Stevens, Bernard O’Donoghue and Robert Frost, inquiring into ideas of narrative, voice, and lyricism, and their importance, whatever the form, to the art of holding the reader.

Writing Memoir and Longer Fiction: How To See the Forest Through the Trees, with Dr Kerry Neville

This session will explore how we might expand a brief, concentrated short story or personal essay into a long story or long-form essay, one that stores time and revels in the necessary extravagance of words and ideas at play. How do we move from a single thread to a complexly woven tapestry? How can a longer length allow us to explore the tangles that we trim when brevity is the aim? Participants are invited to bring one of their short stories or short personal essays for use in our exercises.

Getting to Grips With Your Writing, with Professor Sarah Moore

This session will draw on research in creativity to help support your own creative practice and processes. Together, we'll explore some of the proven ways that good writing habits can be initiated and nourished. We'll engage in writing exercises and reflect on approaches designed to feed your fluency. The main purpose of this session will be to banish the voices of doubt that often haunt people's early creative efforts while also keeping a strong eye on how the quality of your writing can grow and strengthen over time.

Writing for Young Adults, with Professor Sarah Moore

Suggested readings for Prof Moore's workshops:

- King, Stephen (2010) *On writing: a memoir of the craft*, 10th anniversary edition New York, Simon & Schuster.
- Ray, Robert and Norris, Bret (2005) *The Weekend Novelist*, London, A&C Black.
- Scott Bell, James (2004) *Plot and Structure Cincinnati*, Writers' Digest Books.
- Zerubavel, E. (1999) *The Clockwork Muse*, Cambridge MA, Harvard University Press.

All We Shall Know: Short Stories to Novels, with Donal Ryan

In my workshop we'll discuss voice and writing in voices: the distinctions between them, the perils and pitfalls that we all encounter on the path to narrative harmony, the payoffs for the writer when he or she encounters that moment when things start

to click into place and feel right, and how best to recognize that moment. We'll also discuss writing in the first person: the strange intimacy that can develop between writer and character; the limitations and frustrations of the mode; and (to awkwardly paraphrase French novelist Olivier Adam) the art of tuning one's internal radio receiver to the exact right frequency so that all one must do is listen. I'll talk about my own struggle with self-consciousness and doubt, how I eventually managed to put them aside, and the limitless power and freedom to be gained from heeding Frank McCourt's advice to keep it simple, keep it real and be your own writer.

Attendees might find these novels interesting:

- *Between Dog and Wolf* by Elske Rahill.
- *The Black Snow* by Paul Lynch.
- *A Girl is a Half-Formed Thing* by Eimear McBride.

I also recommend *Maiden Names*, the debut poetry collection of Martin Dyar. The novels are all available online and on Kindle. *Maiden Names* is available from kennys.ie, who deliver worldwide.

DIRECTIONS

Thursday 22nd June, Launch/drinks reception. 6 pm - 8 pm, Consulate General of Ireland, 345 Park Avenue, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10154

The Consulate General is located on the

east side of Park Avenue between 51st and 52nd Streets. There is also an entrance to the building on Lexington Avenue, between 51st and 52nd Streets. The closest subway station is 51st St Station, which is served by the 6 train. Lexington Avenue/53rd Street station is one block away and is served by the E and M trains. Traffic in this part of New York City is always heavy; at rush-hour, it can be even worse, so the best way of getting to the Consulate is often not by taxi but by Subway.

Please note that, as with most large office buildings in New York City, photo ID is required to access the Consulate's building.

Friday 28th June

Registration and orientation session for all Summer School students: 12.45 pm for 1 pm sharp. Glucksman Ireland House, NYU, 1 Washington Mews New York, NY 10003.

Glucksman Ireland House is a landmark building located at One Washington Mews in the heart of Greenwich Village. The front door entrance is on Fifth Avenue between 8th Street and Washington Square North, just a few doors north of the Arch in Washington Square Park.

By Subway.

The A, B, C, D, E, F, R, 1, and 6 trains all bring you to NYU's Washington Square Campus. N, Q, W, 4 or 5 train also bring you nearby.

A, B, C, D, E, F, or M train Take the train to the West 4th Street station. Walk east on Waverly Place to Washington Square. Waverly Place turns into Washington Square North at the park. Continue along Washington Sq. North to Fifth Avenue. Walk north on Fifth Avenue. The entrance to Washington Mews, a private, gated street owned by NYU, is on Fifth Avenue between 8th Street and the park.

R train. Take the train to the 8th Street Station. Walk west along 8th Street to Fifth Avenue. Walk south on Fifth Avenue. The entrance to Washington Mews, a private, gated street owned by NYU is between 8th Street and the park.

6 train. Take the train to the Astor Place Station. Walk west on Astor Place. Astor Place will turn into 8th Street after you cross Broadway. Keep walking west on 8th Street to Fifth Avenue. Walk south on Fifth Avenue. Entrance to Washington Mews is on Fifth Avenue between 8th Street and the park.

1 train: Take to Christopher Street (New York University) station. Walk east on Christopher Street to Waverly Place. Waverly Place turns into Washington Square North at the park. Continue along Washington Sq. North to Fifth Avenue. Walk north on Fifth Avenue.

Entrance to Washington Mews is on Fifth Avenue between 8th Street and the park.

If you do not mind a bit longer walk: N, Q, W, 4 or 5 train (also, 6 and R) Take to 14th Street/Union Square station. Walk west on 14th Street to Fifth Avenue. Turn left on Fifth Avenue and walk south six and a half blocks. Entrance to Washington Mews is on Fifth Avenue between 8th Street and the park.

Saturday 29th June

Starting at 9.45 a.m for 10 a.m sharp. All today's teaching sessions take place at Glucksman Ireland House.

The Pierce Turner concert (5.30 pm start) will take place at Swift's.

Sunday 30th June

Starting at 10 a.m. sharp

Sunday Morning Lecture, by Prof Eoin Devereux', at Glucksman Ireland House, Main Room, between 10 am and

10.45am, with 15 minutes for questions afterwards, event ending at 11 am.

We will then walk to McSorleys for our Literary Brunch and Open Mic.

Literary brunch and Open Mic, 11.15 a.m. to 1 pm at McSorley's Old Ale House 15 East 7th Street between Second and Third Avenues, New York, NY 10003. Nearest subway: Astor Place-8th Street / Eight Street-NYU.

LUNCH OPTIONS NEAR NYU

Cheap Eats (\$10 and under)

- **Pizza Mercato, 11 Waverly Pl. at Mercer St. Cheap, good pizza.**
- **Grey Dog, 90 University Pl. Café, Sandwiches and salads.**

Reasonable (\$15 and under)

- **Bareburger, 535 LaGuardia Place Burgers, sandwiches, salads, fries.**
- **Miyabi Sushi Restaurant, 121 W 3rd St. Sushi.**

Moderate (\$15-\$25 entrées)

- **Otto, 1 Fifth Ave at 8th St.**
- **Italian Claudette, 24 5th Avenue. French Bistro.**
- **Saigon Shack, 114 Macdougall Street, New York Vietnamese, sandwiches, noodles, pho soup.**

- **Chipotle Mexican Grill, 55 E. 8th St. at Greene Burritos, tacos.**
- **La Lanterna di Vittorio, 129 MacDougal St Italian, Sandwiches.**
- **PizzaCuba, 222 Thompson St. Cuban.**
- **Trattoria Dante/Caffe Dante, 79-81 MacDougal Italian/Seafood.**