

Welcome to Bealtaine 2016, Ireland's festival celebrating creativity as we age by Age & Opportunity. On our 21st birthday, and 100 years after the birth of modern Ireland, this year's theme is celebrating Ireland's Iconic First Citizens.

Here is our proclamation for 2016:

- To support older artists to keep making work;
- To encourage more opportunities to become creative (especially for people who don't usually get the chance to take part);
- To create more visibility for older artists;
- To help older artists to support each other;
- To see the generations get together in the arts;
- To debate and discuss key cultural issues impacting aspects of our lives as we age.

Arts and Culture Team at Age and Opportunity
Arts and Culture Programme Manager, Festival Director & Visual Arts Curator: Tara Byrne; Literature & Performance Curator: Cormac Kinsella; Arts & Culture Coordinator: Joyce Dunne; Arts & Culture Administrator: Kim Chew; Festival PR: Dairine O'Sullivan & Tom Redmond; Programme Design: Red & Grey; Print Coordinator: Michael Foley; Age & Opportunity Arts & Culture Steering Group: Catherine Marshall (Chair), Lorraine Comer, Anne McCarthy, Ailbhe Murphy, Helen O'Donoghue, Liz Kelly, Karen Smyth.

Bealtaine Festival, Age & Opportunity, Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Ave., Dublin 9
Cover image: still from film The Area co-directed by Ronan McNeill & Jane Lee with the Macanulla Dance Club & Cúilín (courtesy of Joe Lally, winner of Best Film, Cinefest, November, 2014). Best Irish Film, Lightwaves International Screenance Festival 2014. Best Short Dance Documentary, Choreocon International Dance Film Festival, Barcelona

bealtainefestival



**Be inspired
Get involved**

At Age & Opportunity, we want everyone to live healthy and fulfilling lives.

If you love the arts, our Cultural Companions group meet regularly to attend events together.

If you would like to get active, Go for Life is our national physical activity programme. You could become a Physical Activity Leader (PAL) to your local group, you could compete in the national Go for Life Games or you could get a little encouragement through our FitLine telephone service.

We also have opportunities for learning such as Get Engaged, our skills programme that helps people to make a difference in their local community. We provide Creative Exchanges professional training for people who work as Activities Coordinators in day centres and residential care settings. We provide anti-ageism training with AgeWise.

Sign up to EngAge, our e-zine, to find out more.

Age & Opportunity
T: 01 805 7709
E: info@ageandopportunity.ie
ageandopportunity.ie

Age & Opportunity
Life is for Living.



Bealtaine Festival 2016

brought to you by Age & Opportunity



Photo of Paddy Maloney from First Citizens Speak by Deirdre O'Mahony 2016 (courtesy of the artist)

At a glance

Bealtaine organisers are hosting events across the country to celebrate Bealtaine 2016. Look out for local listings. Here is a list of events that Age & Opportunity has been curating and supporting:

Cow House Studios artists' residency with visual artists Tina O'Connell, Brian Bourke and Sarah Tynan, Monday, 2nd May to Saturday, 14th May

'The Care Seminar', VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Thursday, 5th May (2pm)

First Citizens Speak' exhibition by Deirdre O'Mahony, VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Thursday, 5th May to Saturday, 28th May

'CARE' by WillFredd Theatre, VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Thursday, 5th May (8pm)

'Rural Art Projects: The tail that wags the dog', a talk by Catherine Marshall, VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Friday, 6th May (11am)

'Working Lives' discussion, VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Friday, 6th May (2pm)

'Old Flames' performed by Brian Leyden with Seamie O'Dowd, VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Friday, 6th May (8pm)

'Saturday Session' with Eoin O'Neill and friends, VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Saturday, 7th May (2.30pm)

'A Walk in the Woods' film as part of the Bealtaine Film Tour, VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Saturday, 7th May (4pm)

'One Night In Vienna', Vladimir Jablokov in concert, VOLTage! glór, Ennis, Co. Clare, Saturday, 7th May (8pm)

Brian Leyden, national Writer in Residence workshop in Sligo Library, Thursday, 12th May (10.30am)

Reading and performance from writer Peter Murphy with musicians Paul Creane and Paula Cox at Wexford Arts Centre, Thursday, 12th May (7.30pm)

Public talk with Cow House Studios artists at Wexford Arts Centre, Friday, 13th May (2pm)

Brian Leyden, national Writer in Residence workshop in Longford Library, Saturday, 14th May (10.30am)

Andrew Pike exhibition at Damer House Gallery, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, Saturday, 14th May to Saturday, 4th June

Readings with Marita Conlon-McKenna and Amanda Hearty at the Ark Cultural Centre, Dublin, Saturday, 14th May (2pm)

Anna Spearman in residence with KCAT, Callan, Co. Kilkenny, Monday, 16th May to Friday, 27th May

Readings from novelist and short story writer Mary Morrissy, and poets Enda Wyley, Julie Morrissy and Ciarán O'Rourke, Books Upstairs, Dublin, Tuesday, 17th May (6.30pm)

'This Is Not My Beautiful House' seminar at the Lab Studios, Foley St, Dublin, Friday, 20th May (9.30am)

Brian Leyden, national Writer in Residence workshop in Dublin's Pearse St Library, Friday, 20th May (11am)

'Old Flames' performance by Brian Leyden with Seamie O'Dowd, followed by a public interview with Brian. The Workman's Club, Dublin, Saturday, 21st May (3pm)

'Prime' Professional Development workshops for actors with the Irish Theatre Institute in Dublin, Monday, 23rd May to Wednesday, 25th May

Brian Leyden, national Writer in Residence workshop in Portlaoise Library, Tuesday, 24th May (10.30am)

Brian Leyden, national Writer in Residence workshop in Navan Library, Wednesday, 25th May (10.30am)

Artists' Professional Development workshops with Visual Artists Ireland (Dublin) at the Lab Studio, Foley St, Dublin, Thursday, 26th May (10.30am)

'Old Flames' performed by Brian Leyden with Seamie O'Dowd, The Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon, Carrick-on-Shannon, The Dock, Friday, 27th May (8.30pm) and Saturday, 28th May (8.30pm)

VOLTage at glór

Thursday, 5th May to Saturday 7th May

Clare has an outstanding reputation in the design and delivery of creative projects for, with and about older people over Bealtaine's 20 years working across a range of artforms. In 2016, Bealtaine/Age & Opportunity and glór, in association with Clare County of Culture, are hosting a national event called VOLTage, which will platform the many extraordinary projects and creative activities that bring together artists (both younger and older) and older people from Clare and throughout Ireland.

For more information, contact Age & Opportunity
E: bealtaine@ageandopportunity.ie
T: 01 853 5180. www.bealtaine.com

For bookings, contact glór
E: boxoffice@glor.ie
T: 065 684 3103.
W: www.glor.ie



First Citizens Speak: An exhibition by Deirdre O'Mahony

glór, Thursday, 5th to Saturday, 28th May, Free of Charge

Artist Deirdre O'Mahony has been commissioned by Bealtaine and VOLTage to develop 'First Citizens Speak', in response to Bealtaine's 2016 theme.

The project focuses on older members of a community in North Clare – the memories, values and behaviours they hold dear – that are and were, important in achieving a strong sense of contentedness within that community. The project involves GP Dr Fergus Glynn (based in North Clare) as interlocutor, anthropologist Anne Byrne and local members of the North Clare communities as interviewers and mediators.

Deirdre O'Mahony is an artist, academic and occasional writer and a full-time lecturer at Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. Opening Thursday 5th, 6pm by writer and curator Catherine Marshall.

CARE presented by WillFredd Theatre

glór, Thursday, 5th May (8pm) €20/€18

In 2013, WillFredd Theatre developed the show 'CARE' in response to a series of creative interactions with various hospice staff in Ireland. CARE explores different aspects of the day-to-day life of the staff, presented through the form of live music, verbatim text and dance.

WillFredd Hospice Visits

As part of Bealtaine, WillFredd are visiting local hospices to interact with their staff and to present segments of 'CARE' to the staff and hear their thoughts, feedback and questions about their process and approach to making work. Throughout May, WillFredd will be visiting the following: St Francis Hospice (Dublin), Marymount Hospice (Cork), Cahercalla Hospice (Ennis) and Galway Hospice (Galway). Through ethical encounters between artists and communities of place, space and interest, WillFredd Theatre develop work which responds to and represents elements of these communities.

In association with Cahercalla Community Hospice, Ennis.



Working Lives

glór, Friday, 6th May (2pm) Free of Charge

Working Lives is a panel discussion which explores the challenges and rewards for artists working cross-generationally, collaboratively and across disciplines.

The discussion takes place in the context of Bealtaine's Iconic Citizens Project and the specially commissioned 'First Citizens Speak!' by artist Deirdre O'Mahony working with older members of the community in North Clare. Also addressing the political, social, cultural and economic implications for older creative lives in a rural context, the panel includes the artist, and will feature GP Dr Fergus Glynn with whom the project was developed. This event has been developed with VOLTage and CREATE.



Eoin O'Neill & Friends

glór, Saturday, 7th May (2.30pm) Free of Charge

Eoin O'Neill has lived in Clare for the past 30 years and has been an integral part of its traditional music landscape. Famous for his informal music sessions and classes throughout the county, he is chiefly responsible for encouraging the playing of younger and older alike. Last year, Eoin won the MÓRglór award for Outstanding Contribution to Traditional Music in County Clare.

Vladimir Jablokov in Concert

glór, Saturday, 7th May (8pm) €25/€23/€15

Following the stunning 'Two Brothers', Vladimir Jablokov returns with classical show 'One Night In Vienna'. Join him as he plays some of the most beautiful classical melodies from the Romantic era of the Strauss Family. The show features an ensemble of hand-picked musicians including family members, and solo spots from tenor Sean Costello and a special guest soprano.

Retired dancing queen seeks passionate helper for tasks around the house.

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The Bealtaine festival is made from thousands of events run by hundreds of partner organisations. Here are some of those partners. For a full list of partners and events, go to bealtaine.com

Access Cinema, Access IT Ltd, Aras Mhuire Day Care Centre, The Ark, Arts & Disability Ireland, BLC Developments Active Age Ballinteer ARA, Ballymore and District Active Retirement Group, Banagher ARA, BLC Developments Active Age Group, BAI, Bunclody Library, Callan Workhouse Union, Cappoquin Day Care Centre, Carlow County Library, Carrigallen Day Care Centre, Castlepollard Library, Cavan County Library, Chester Beatty Library, Cine Café, Civic Theatre, Clare Arts Office, Clare County Library, Clare County of Culture, Clare Older People's Council, Clifden District Hospital, Clonskeagh Nursing Home & Unit, Clúid, Clúid Housing Galway, Clúid Mill Court Residents, Cobh Library, Cois Tine Heritage Centre, Cork Printmakers, Cow House Studios, Crawford Art Gallery, Create, Create Louth Arts Service of Louth County Council, Crooked Spinxence, Cultúrlann Sweeney Kilkee, Cumann Lufara Iarobrithe ARA, Damer House Gallery, DeafHear Sligo, Dean Maxwell Nursing Home, The Dock, Donegal County Council's Cultural Services, Drumsna Annaduff Golden Age Group, Dublin City Arts Office, Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, Dublin City Public Libraries, Dublinia, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Library Services, Dunboyne Nursing Home, Dunmanway Older People Services, East Meath ARA, Everyman Palace Theatre, Fighting Words, Fingal County Libraries, Friars' Gate Theatre, Gaiety School of Acting,

Galway County Libraries, glór, Greystones Nursing Home, Gweedore Day Centre, Horgans Buildings Senior Citizens Centre, IFI, IMMA, International Literature Festival Dublin, Irish Centre for Social Gerontology, Irish Theatre Institute, Kildare Library Service, KCAT, Laois Sports Partnership, Laois County Libraries, Laragh / Glendalough District ARA, Leitrim County Library, Letterkenny Central Library, Lewis Glucksman Gallery, Limerick Writers Centre, Lismore Castle Arts, Longford Library, Meath Libraries, Mill Theatre Dundrum, Millstreet Day Care / Gramophone Circle, Moate Community Development Association, Mount Tabor Care Centre, Music Alive, Music Generation Cork City, National Concert Hall, National Museum of Ireland Collins Barracks, National Print Museum, Nenagh County Library, Noggan Theatre Company, Oriel Lodge Social Group, Orwell Health Care, Peamount Health Day Care Services, Poetry Ireland, Pop-Up Productions, Portumna and District ARA, RAMS, Rathfarnham Castle OPW, Respond! Housing Association, Riverbank Arts Centre, Roscommon Disability Support Group, Silverstone Choir, Skreen Dromard Community ARA, Sligo County Council Arts Service, St Brendan's Community Unit, St Joseph's Court Resident's Association, St Joseph's Hospital Ennis, St Mary's ARA Athlone, St Peter's Parish Centre ARA, Visual Artists Ireland, Waterford Healing Arts Trust (WHAT), West Cork Mental Health Services, Wexford Arts Centre, Willfredd Theatre Company.

Bealtaine National Writer in Residence



Brian Leyden is the Bealtaine Writer-in-Residence. Brian will run a series of workshops, readings and events across Ireland. In association with VOLTage and the Dock in Carrick-on-Shannon, Brian will also present a number of collaborative performances with musician Seamie O'Dowd.

Events and readings: For thirty years, Brian Leyden has given highly popular writing workshops throughout Ireland. A master at evoking time and place and people in his own work he is an engaging, insightful and encouraging guide whose knowledge and enthusiasm inspires people through an unconcealed love of language and writing.

Sligo County Library – 10.30am, Thursday, 12th May
 Longford County Library – 10.30am, Saturday, 14th May
 Dublin Pearse Street Library – 11am, Friday, 20th May
 Portlaoise Library – 10.30am, Tuesday, 24th May
 Navan Library – 10.30am, Wednesday, 25th May

Brian Leyden is an Irish novelist, short story writer, memoirist, playwright, screenwriter, librettist and editor. His books include his best-selling memoir 'The Home Place', the novel 'Death and Plenty' and the short story collection 'Departures'.

Performances: 'Old Flames' features Brian with music by the multi-instrumentalist Seamie O'Dowd in a warm-hearted look at romance and courtship, from house dances and teenage crushes to the heyday of the ballroom and love in older age. Commissioned by Sligo County Council Arts Service and the Hawk's Well Theatre for Bealtaine Sligo 2015/2016.

Ennis – glór on Friday, 6th May (8.30pm) €15 / €10
 Email boxoffice@glor.ie or call 065 684 3103

Dublin – Workman's Club on Saturday, 21st May (3pm) €6 followed by a public discussion with Brian Leyden. In association with International Literature Festival Dublin, email info@ifldublin.com or go to ifldublin.com

Carrick-on-Shannon – The Dock on Friday, 27th (8.30pm) and Saturday, 28th May (8.30pm) €12 / €10
 Call 071 965 0828 or go to thedock.ie

Seamie O'Dowd is rooted in the traditional music of Sligo and he has played many genres of acoustic and electric music. Seamie has played with Dervish, Liam O'Flynn, Matt Molloy and Mary McPartlan.



2 Generations – 2 Writers – 1 Family

The Ark, Eustace St, Dublin, Saturday, 14th May (2pm)
 Bealtaine presents a conversation and reading event with Marita Conlon-McKenna and her daughter Amanda Hearty exploring the different ways in which two generations of writers in one household influenced each other's work.

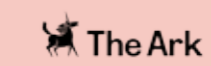
Marita Conlon-McKenna is one of Ireland's best-loved authors and her books are enjoyed all over the world. Her first book 'Under the Hawthorn Tree', set during The Great Irish Famine, was published in 1990 and became an immediate bestseller.

Amanda Hearty lives in Dublin. Growing up in a house full of books, writing and ideas, and with her mother, Marita, a successful author, it was inevitable that Amanda would write herself. She has written two novels: 'Are You Ready' and 'Positively Yours'.



Marita Conlon-McKenna (photo: Ger Woodall)

This event is free of charge. To book, call 01 670 7788 or go to ark.ie



Anna Spearman Residency at KCAT

Monday, 16th May – Friday, 27th May
 Artist Anna Spearman embarks on an 'Engagement' residency at the KCAT Studio in Kilkenny. This residency will involve the artist working alongside KCAT Studio artists. A Sligo-based artist, Anna works across sculpture, installation and painting, looking at how sculptural objects, the space around them and the viewer in that space, interact.

Andrew Pike exhibition

Damer House Gallery, Saturday, 14th May – Saturday, 4th June
 KCAT Studio artist Andrew Pike will show his latest works at Damer House, Tipperary. Having been a gardener in Camphill Duffcarrig, Gorey, for many years, Andrew Pike studied art in Ormonde College, Kilkenny, before becoming one of the first artists to join the KCAT Studio.

KCAT is an open access inclusive arts and life-long learning initiative promoted by the Camphill Communities of Ireland. For more information, email studio@kcat.ie or go to kcat.ie



Andrew Pike (Kilmorenash) (courtesy of the artist)



Tina O'Connell & Neal White, sculpture from The Speedie Teltar, 2013 (courtesy of the artists)

Cow House Studios Artists' Residency, Wexford

'Monday, 2nd May – Saturday, 14th May Public Discussion: Wexford Arts Centre, Friday, 13th May (2pm).

Following last year's artists' residency and public discussion at the beautiful Cow House Studios in Wexford, in 2016, Bealtaine has invited sculptor Tina O'Connell, painter Brian Bourke and artist Sarah Tynan. The idea behind the residency is to create a quiet space over the course of two weeks for artists of mixed generations to consider their practices, and the changing contexts of those practices as time has moved on in their careers. At the end of the residency, there will be a public discussion with the three artists.

Brian Bourke Small Apple Tree, oil on canvas (courtesy of the artist)



Tina O'Connell sculpture, 2013 (courtesy of the artist)



Sarah Tynan & Tansin Small Pavilion, 2014 (courtesy of the artist)

Tina O'Connell is an Irish artist living and working in London.

Brian Bourke was born in Dublin in 1936 and is living and working in Connemara.

Sarah Tynan is an Irish artist living and working in London and Dublin.



Sustaining Your Practice: Artists' Professional Development Talks

The Lab Studios, Foley St, Dublin, Thursday, 26th May (10.30am – 3pm), €7 covering the cost of lunch

In partnership with Visual Artists Ireland, 'Sustaining Your Practice' consists of a number of practical talks designed to address key welfare and financial issues for mature practitioners.

There will be four talks and a closing presentation:
 – Physical & Mental Wellbeing with Dr Loren Duffy
 – Legacy Planning from a Legal Perspective with IVARO
 – Tax and Pension Entitlements with Gaby Smyth
 – DACS Art360 Initiative with DACS' CEO Gilane Tawadros
 – Closing presentation by artist Robert Ballagh: 'This much I know'

To book, please contact Visual Artists Ireland. Call 01 672 9488, email monica@visualartists.ie or go to visualartists.ie



Prime: Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Mature Actors

The Irish Theatre Institute, Monday, 23rd – Wednesday, 25th May (with three further one-day sessions in June, July and September)

Irish Theatre Institute in association with Age & Opportunity/Bealtaine presents Prime. Are you a professional actor aged 55 to 80? Interested in developing fresh approaches to your practice and ways to stimulate your ideas to create your own work? 'Prime' is a free six-day programme focusing on career supports and training opportunities for the mature professional actor.

To book, call 01 670 4906, email info@irishtheatreinstitute.ie or go to irishtheatreinstitute.ie



Pat Moynan and Maria MacDeermott, guest speakers at Prime 2015



Music and Readings

Wexford Arts Centre, Thursday, 12th May (7.30pm) €12/€10

Presenting an inspired and inspiring three-way collaboration, featuring singer-songwriter Paul Creane (leader of The Changing Band, and star of Paul O'Brien's new film 'Staid'), writer Peter Murphy, (author of 'John the Revelator' and 'Shall We Gather at the River' and a member of the Revelator Orchestra) and solo artist Paula Cox (formerly singer with The Bush, the Tree and Me and guest collaborator with Colm Mac Con Iomaire and The Frames).

Expect songs, stories and soundscapes... sometimes all at once.

To book, call 053 912 3764 or go to wexfordartscentre.ie



Anna Spearman (2015) (courtesy of the artist)

This Is Not My Beautiful House, a seminar

The Lab Studios, Foley St, Dublin, Friday, 20th May (9.30am – 5pm) €7 covering the cost of lunch

Age & Opportunity is working to create a society where we have more choices than compromises as we age. 'This Is Not My Beautiful House' is a seminar which will consider



how creativity, creatively charged communities and the arts can contribute to better ways of living as we get older. The seminar will specifically address the need to radically rethink traditional notions of 'community' and agency in shaping residential and community design that enhances human dignity and growth.

The seminar, which will be chaired by writer and psychoanalytic practitioner Dr Medb Ruane, will feature a keynote by writer and researcher Francois Matarasso, as well as presentations and workshops from Director of the Netwell Centre Dundalk and architect, Rodd Bond, arts and research consultants Susan Jones and Esther Salamon, representatives from the Nimble Spaces project, researcher and writer Ann Leahy, artists Marie Brett, Rhona Byrne and Ríonach Ní Néill, and representatives from housing initiatives. As places are extremely limited, booking is essential. The seminar will also feature an intervention by artist Rhona Byrne responding to the seminar theme.

Lunch is included
 To book, contact Bealtaine at Age & Opportunity: Email joyce.dunne@ageandopportunity.ie or call 01 853 5180 or go to bealtaine.com

Supported by Dublin City Council Arts Office

Film Programme

IFI Wild Strawberries

For Bealtaine 2016, the IFI will run a programme of screenings and collaborate with Access>CINEMA on a national film tour of the adventure/comedy 'A Walk in the Woods', based on Bill Bryson's book, and starring Robert Redford and Nick Nolte. The tour will be launched at IFI on Wednesday, May 4th (11am). IFI Wild Strawberries will feature a number of other film events. For all IFI bookings, go to ifi.ie.

Creative Exchanges Film Tour

Film screenings will also take place in a number of care settings, thanks to a film programme selected by a group of participants from Age & Opportunity's Creative Exchanges programme. These workshops and tour are supported by IFI and sponsored by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland.

IFI/access>CINEMA Film Tour 2016

Along with the national film tour, access>CINEMA will offer two other titles, 'Mr Smith Goes to Washington' and 'Men at Lunch' at venues across the country. For further information and full tour listings, go to accesscinema.ie



The Next Generation

Books Upstairs, D'Olier St, Dublin, Tuesday, 17th May (6.30pm) €6 / €5

In partnership with Poetry Ireland, Bealtaine presents author Mary Morrissey and her niece, poet Julie Morrissey, along with poet Enda Wyley and her nephew, poet Ciarán O'Rourke, who will be reading from their work and discussing their writing lives. Mary is a novelist and short story writer whose latest collection is 'Prosperity Drive' (2016). Enda is a poet and children's author whose collections include 'Borrowed Space' (2014). Published poets Julie and Ciarán are both featured in Poetry Ireland's Review 118: 'The Rising Generation' as emerging talents in Irish poetry.

To book, go to poetryireland.ie

