Age & Opportunity

Bealtaine Festival

Celebrating the arts and creativity as we age

MAY 2017

ALL TOGETHER NOW!

POWER OF THE COLLECTIVE

FUNDERS AND PARTNERS

The Bealtaine Festival would not be possible without the support of our funders and partners.

PRINCIPAL FUNDER

The Arts Council / an Chomhairle Ealaíon

GRANT AIDED BY

Health Service Executive

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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SUPPORTED BY

Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath
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DUBLIN CITY ARTS OFFICE

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Ecclesiastical

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Wexford County Council

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Listowel Arm's Hotel, Kerry
Model Arts Centre, Sligo
Smock Alley, Dublin
The Gaff, Limerick
University of Limerick Arts Office, Limerick

Cover Image from *Creaking*, by Noelle Brown Productions

FESTIVAL TEAM

KAREN SMYTH
CEO, AGE & OPPORTUNITY

ARTS AND CULTURE

TARA BYRNE
ARTS & CULTURE MANAGER &
BEALTAINE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

KAREN HENNESSY
ARTS & CULTURE COORDINATOR

KIM CHEW
ARTS & CULTURE ADMINISTRATOR

CURATORS 2017

LITERATURE & PERFORMING ARTS: LIZ KELLY
VISUAL ARTS: LINDA SHEVLIN

COMMUNICATIONS

ANNE KEARNEY
PR, MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

ARTS & CULTURE PROGRAMME ADVISORY GROUP

CATHERINE MARSHALL, CHAIRPERSON
HELEN O'DONOGHUE
LORRAINE COMER
ANNE MCCARTHY
AILBHE MURPHY
PATRICK LYDON

Age & Opportunity

Bealtaine Festival

Celebrating the arts and creativity as we age

WELCOME TO THE 2017 BEALTAINE FESTIVAL

Established in 1995, Bealtaine is Ireland's national festival which uniquely celebrates the arts and creativity *as we age.* The festival takes place each May and is run by Age & Opportunity, the national organisation which promotes active and engaged living as we get older.

Bealtaine is Ireland's largest co-operative festival and the world's first national celebration of creativity in older age, bringing together artists and people from all over Ireland to support a rich creative life for all older people, and supporting the work and careers of mature artists.

We know that participating in the arts enhances our quality of life, no matter what age we are, and so each year we invite hundreds of organisations to take part in Bealtaine. In this way, for the last 21 years, the Festival has become deeply embedded in local communities and has grown to comprise over 3,000 events involving up to 100,000 people in towns and villages throughout the country. These partners include artists, arts centres, libraries, theatres, galleries, arts officers, national art and cultural institutions, orchestras, community groups, local authorities, care homes and supported living venues. At the centre of the festival, therefore, are the hundreds of artists and partners that help us create Bealtaine and it is this unique collaboration that makes the festival special year on year.

Whether you are a curious participant or an event organiser, we hope you find something you like in this wide and varied programme and wish you a rich, engaging and fun Bealtaine Festival 2017!

TARA BYRNE, BEALTAINE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

CALENDAR OF BEALTAINE STRATEGIC EVENTS

THURSDAY 6 APRIL TO FRIDAY 2 JUNE

TRYING TO BEHAVE
EXHIBITION BY THERESA NANIGIAN
THE LAB GALLERY, DUBLIN

TUESDAY 2 MAY

BEALTAINE 2017 FESTIVAL LAUNCH
& LAUNCH OF SILVER SCREENINGS
11.00AM, IRISH FILM INSTITUTE, DUBLIN

THURSDAY 4 MAY

NOW YOU SEE ME
11.30AM – 8.00PM, THE LAB & DANCE IRELAND, DUBLIN

FRIDAY 5 MAY

ARCHIVING ACTIVISM
BREDA BURNS COMMISSION LAUNCH
6.00 PM, THE MODEL, SLIGO

CREAKING
7.00PM, GLOR, ENNIS, CLARE

SUNDAY 7 MAY

THE DAWN CHORUS
LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT IRELAND

SUNDAY 7 MAY TO SUNDAY 20 MAY

VIVIENNE DICK, KEVIN GAFFNEY
& KATHY PRENDERGAST
ARTISTS' RESIDENCY
COW HOUSE STUDIOS, WEXFORD

MONDAY 8 MAY TO FRIDAY 12 MAY

PAULINE CUMMINS & FRANCES MEZZETTI
ARTISTS' RESIDENCY
KILKENNY COLLECTIVE FOR ARTS TALENT, KILKENNY

WEDNESDAY 10 MAY

CREAKING
8.00PM, EVERYMAN THEATRE, CORK

THURSDAY 11 MAY

REBEL YELL AN EVENING OF READINGS.
MUSIC AND DANCE CELEBRATING
LIMERICK'S LEADING WRITERS AND
ACTIVISTS OF THE PAST 40 YEARS
6.00PM, LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART, LIMERICK

CREAKING
8.00PM, GARTER LANE ARTS CENTRE, WATERFORD

FRIDAY 12 MAY

PAULINE CUMMINS & FRANCES MEZZETTI
ARTISTS' BREAKFAST
9.00AM, FENNELLY'S, CALLAN, KILKENNY

THURSDAY 18 MAY

OPEN O EVENT, MARY NUNAN
DANCE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE
6.00PM, LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART, LIMERICK

CREAKING
8.15PM, DRAIOCHT, BLANCHARDSTOWN, DUBLIN

FRIDAY 19 MAY

VISUAL ARTS RESIDENCY OPEN DAY
VIVIENNE DICK, KEVIN GAFFNEY &
KATHY PRENDERGAST
2.00PM, WEXFORD ARTS CENTRE, WEXFORD

CREAKING
8.00PM, AXIS THEATRE, BALLYMUN, DUBLIN

FRIDAY 19 MAY & FRIDAY 14 JULY

PRIME 2017
IRISH THEATRE INSTITUTE, DUBLIN

MONDAY 22 MAY

CREAKING
8.00PM, LINENHALL THEATRE, MAYO

TUESDAY 23 MAY

SUSTAINING YOUR ARTISTIC PRACTICE
10.30 - 4.00PM, RHA SCHOOL, DUBLIN

**Booking fees may apply when booking festival events online*

WEDNESDAY 24 MAY

ARCHIVING ACTIVISM
BREDA BURNS COMMISSION LAUNCH
6.00PM, ERRIS ARTS CENTRE, MAYO

THURSDAY 25 MAY

THE BEAUTY OF IT
6.00PM, POETRY IRELAND, DUBLIN

FRIDAY 26 MAY

CREAKING
7.30PM, HAWKSWELL THEATRE, SLIGO

SATURDAY 27 MAY

HOW FAR WE HAVE TRAVELLED
4.00PM, SMOCK ALLEY, DUBLIN

TUESDAY 30 MAY

THIS IS NOT MY BEAUTIFUL HOUSE II;
A SEMINAR
9.30AM - 5.30PM, THE LEXICON, DUBLIN

FRIDAY 2 JUNE

EVERYTHING TO PLAY FOR
5.00PM, LISTOWEL ARM'S HOTEL, KERRY

TUESDAY 6 JUNE

SILVER SCREENINGS
PROGRAMMING WORKSHOP
10.00AM – 4.00PM, IRISH FILM INSTITUTE, DUBLIN

CULTUREFOX.IE

NEVER MISS OUT

CULTUREFOX

The Arts Council's new, upgraded **CULTUREFOX** events guide is now live. Free, faster, easy to use – and personalised for you. Never miss out again.

BEALTAINE FESTIVAL LAUNCH 2017

VENUE: IRISH FILM INSTITUTE, 6 EUSTACE STREET, DUBLIN 2,
DATE: 2 MAY
TIME: 11.00AM
TICKETS: OPEN INVITATION – ALL WELCOME! ADMISSION IS FREE BUT PLEASE BOOK VIA AGE & OPPORTUNITY ARTS AND CULTURE. TEL : 01 805 7709

Age & Opportunity will launch its 2017 Bealtaine Festival in the Irish Film Institute, Temple Bar with composer Sean Doherty and the Forever Young Choir. The Irish Film Institute was one of the very first Bealtaine event partners and we are delighted to kick of Bealtaine 2017 in the IFI. Come along to the launch to hear some music, see what's on and plan your festival visits!

SILVER SCREENINGS PROGRAMMING WORKSHOPS

VENUE: IRISH FILM INSTITUTE, 6 EUSTACE STREET, DUBLIN 2
DATES: COMMENCES 6 JUNE, OTHER DATES TO BE CONFIRMED
TIME: 10.00AM – 4.00PM

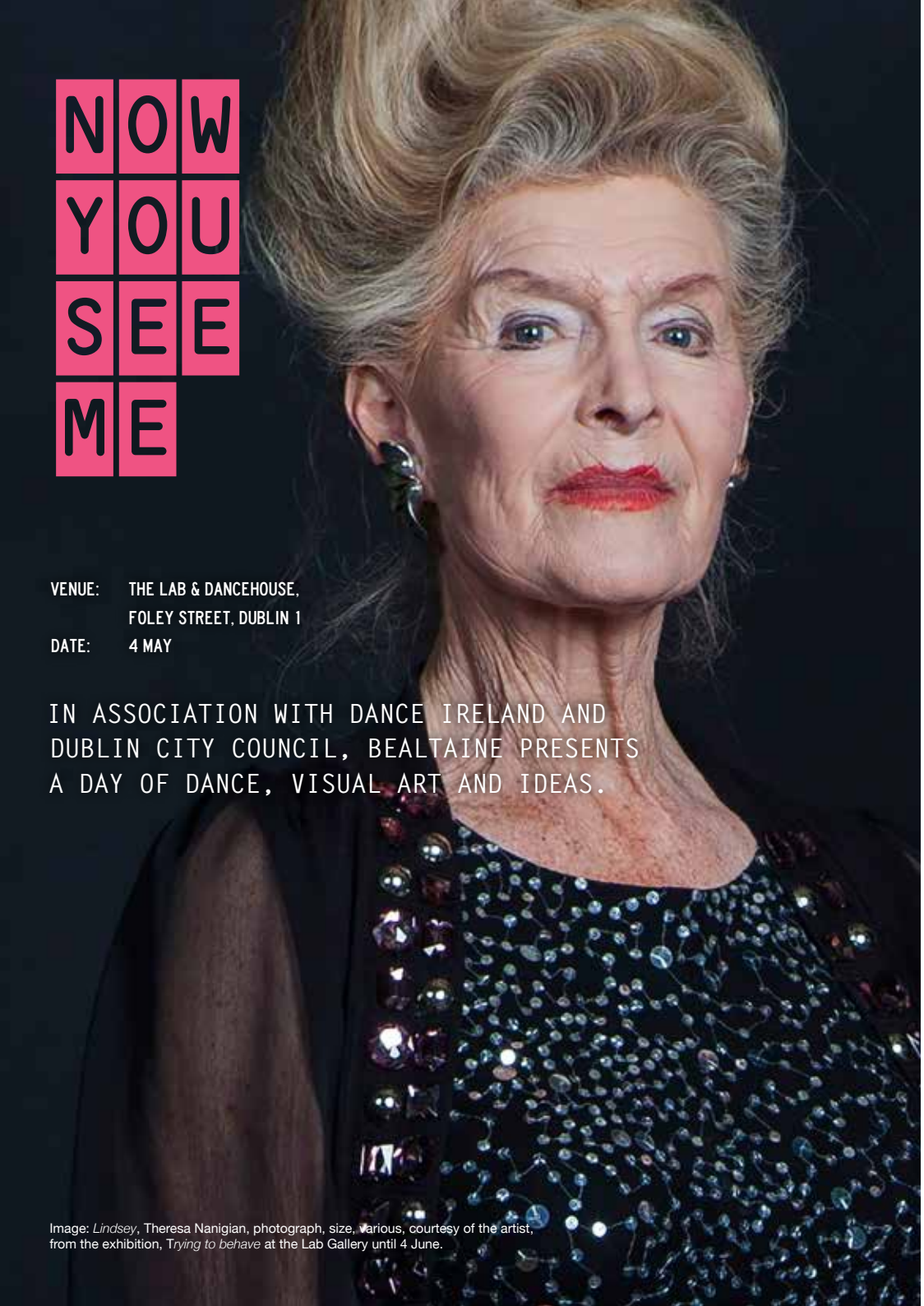
Silver Screenings aims to open up the world of film to new audiences through a film programming workshop for activity coordinators working in care home settings. Commencing with a workshop in IFI on 6 June, participants will be guided through the process of choosing films for their discerning audience, looking at classics, Irish films, recent films, old favourites and recent cinema gems.
THIS PROGRAMME IS DEVELOPED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE IFI, ACCESS CINEMA AND CREATIVE EXCHANGES.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A PLACE YOU MUST HAVE COMPLETED AGE & OPPORTUNITY'S CREATIVE EXCHANGES TRAINING AND PLACES WILL BE ALLOCATED THROUGH THE CREATIVE EXCHANGES PROGRAMME.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT AGE & OPPORTUNITY ARTS AND CULTURE. TEL : 01 805 7709

IFI Irish Film Institute

access CINEMA

NOW YOU SEE ME



VENUE: THE LAB & DANCEHOUSE, FOLEY STREET, DUBLIN 1
DATE: 4 MAY

IN ASSOCIATION WITH DANCE IRELAND AND DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL, BEALTAINE PRESENTS A DAY OF DANCE, VISUAL ART AND IDEAS.

Image: *Lindsey*, Theresa Nanigian, photograph, size, various, courtesy of the artist, from the exhibition, T*rying to behave* at the Lab Gallery until 4 June.

CHOREOGRAPHY WORKSHOP WITH THE MACUSHLA DANCE CLUB

VENUE: DANCEHOUSE
TICKETS: ADMISSION FREE BUT PLEASE BOOK VIA DANCE IRELAND, T: 01 855 8800 E: INFO@DANCEIRELAND.IE

PART I: 11.30AM -1PM

This workshop invites you to join with the award-winning Macushla Dance Club for over 50s, to explore the theme of keeping up with our constantly evolving selves, through improvisation and choreographic composition.

PART II: 1.30PM - 3PM

We offer Part II in English or as Gaeilge. Crothóidh muid mír rince gairid le chéile atá ag scagadh ceist claochlú phearsanta. Facilitated by dance professionals Ríonach Ní Néill and Jade O'Connor, and assisted by Macushla veterans, the workshop welcomes men and women of all abilities and levels of dance experience, with seated and standing options available. Bring an image of yourself/ tabhair leat griangraf díot fhéin!

DISCUSSION
NOW YOU SEE ME, NOW YOU DON´T

VENUE: THE LAB
TIME: 4.00PM - 6.00PM
TICKETS: ADMISSION FREE (SPACES ARE LIMITED) WWW.NOWYOUSEETHEM.EVENTBRITE.IE

Now you see me, now you don't **is a conversation on representations of older women and takes place in the context of artist Therese Nanigian's exhibition *Trying to behave*. This short discussion is primarily aimed at drawing out critical understandings and views of how older women are both imagined, portrayed and received, in the media and society. The discussion is chaired by Irish Times journalist Hilary Fannin and includes Dr. Brid Connolly (Lecturer, Adult and Community Education NUIM), artist Pauline Cummins and dance artist Rionach Ni Neill. *Trying to behave* is a solo show by artist Theresa Nanigian opening in The Lab, Dublin on 6 April, as part of the *just a bit extraordinary* tour.**

SEOLADH GEARRSCANNÁN I MODH RÚIN LE RÍONACH NÍ NÉILL

I MODH RÚIN, PREMIERE LAUNCH WITH BLÁTHNAID NÍ CHOFAIGH

VENUE: DANCEHOUSE
TIME: 6.30PM
TICKETS: ADMISSION FREE. NO BOOKING REQUIRED.

Seoladh gearrscannán I Modh Rúin le Ríonach Ní Néill, coimisiúnaithe agOireachtas na Gaeilge le tacaíocht ó The Community Foundation for Ireland. Sa ghearrscannán seo, a nascann ceol, agallaimh agus damhsa, cíorann an cóiréagrafaí Ríonach Ní Néill céard a spreag mná, atá idir 60 agus 90 bliain d'aois anois, chun a ngasúir a thógáil le Gaeilge taobh amuigh den Ghaeltacht. Launch of I Modh Rúin, a short film by Ríonach Ní Néill. What would compel you to go against the status quo and bring up your family as Irish speakers in English-speaking Ireland? The story of 5 women who, between the 1950s and 1980s, did just that.

Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City Council

dance ireland damhsa éireann

The Community Foundation for Ireland

An tOireachtas GRÉASÁN NA nGAEL

CREAKING

NATIONWIDE TOUR

Tired of her humdrum existence, her hectoring adult children and missing her best pal, 79 year-old Rita decides to spice up her life. Combining humour and pathos, *Creaking* from Noelle Browne Productions, examines the everyday challenges and pressures on the mental health of older people in Irish society through the eyes of 79 year-old indomitable Rita. Presented as a staged reading, *Creaking* is a unique movement documentary for theatre that combines original text, with an improvised vocal score, exploring themes of ageing and bodies with older participants.

WRITER NOELLE BROWN COLLABORATES WITH DIRECTOR OONAGH MURPHY, ACTOR GERALDINE PLUNKETT, CHOREOGRAPHER EMMA O'KANE AND VOCAL IMPROVISATIONAL MUSICIAN CLIONA CASSIDY WITH VOLUNTEER PERFORMERS FROM AROUND IRELAND.

VENUE: GLÓR, ENNIS, CO.CLARE
TIME: 7PM
DATE: 5 MAY
BOOKING: T: 353 65 6843103
WWW.GLOR.IE/EVENTS/CATEGORY/THEATRE-GLOR
TICKETS: €12 / €10 CONCESSION

VENUE: EVERYMAN THEATRE, CORK
TIME: 8PM
DATE: 10 MAY
BOOKING: T: 021 4501673
WWW.EVERYMANCORK.COM/2017/05/CREAKING
TICKETS: €12 / €10 CONCESSION

VENUE: GARTER LANE THEATRE, WATERFORD
TIME: 8PM
DATE: 11 MAY
BOOKING: T: BOX OFFICE: +353 51 855038 /
EMAIL: TICKET@GARTERLANE.IE
TICKETS: €12 / €10 CONCESSION

VENUE: DRAIOCHT, BLANCHARDSTOWN, DUBLIN
TIME: 8.15PM
DATE: 18 MAY
BOOKING: T:01-8852622
WWW.DRAIOCHT.IE/VISIT/BOOK
TICKETS: €12 / €10 CONCESSION

VENUE: AXIS THEATRE, BALLYMUN, DUBLIN
TIME: 8PM
DATE: 19 MAY
BOOKING: T: 01-8852622
WWW.AXISBALLYMUN.IE/WHATSON/SHOWS
TICKETS: €12 / €10 CONCESSION

VENUE: LINENHALL THEATRE, MAYO
TIME: 8PM
DATE: 22 MAY
BOOKING: T: 094 9023733
WWW.THELINENHALL.COM
TICKETS: €12 / €10 CONCESSION

VENUE: HAWKSWELL THEATRE, SLIGO
TIME: 7.30PM
DATE: 26 MAY
BOOKING: T: 071 9161518
WWW.HAWKSWELL.COM
TICKETS: €12 / €10 CONCESSION

Image: from *Creaking*, Noelle Brown Productions

THE DAWN CHORUS

Image: *The Dawn Chorus*, photo by Michael Foley

VENUE: LOCATIONS NATIONWIDE
DATE: 7 MAY
TIME: DAWN
TICKETS: FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT AGE & OPPORTUNITY ARTS & CULTURE. TEL : 01 805 7709

The Dawn Chorus **is a nationwide choral event in which older people come together with a choir in their locality and sing at dawn in a scenic area, ideally beside water and always outdoors. This extraordinary initiative developed following its exciting debut on the Culdaff beach in Donegal, as part of Bealtaine 2009.**

As part of Bealtaine 2017, we are encouraging choirs and active retirement groups throughout Ireland to participate in *The Dawn Chorus*, on Sunday, 7 May 2017.

For *The Dawn Chorus* this year we are pleased to announce four new works, commissioned by Bealtaine from composer Sean Doherty, and set to poems by poet Paula Meehan. The works are entitled *The Promise; The Moons, The Graves at Arbour Hill* and *Ghost Song*. *The Moons* in particular resonates with *The Dawn Chorus*, however, a choir could choose to perform any or all four of the works alongside other material of their choice. The new works are available as downloadable files from the Association of Irish Composers web site.
WWW.AOIC.IE/FESTIVALS_EVENTS_INITIATIVES/DAWN_CHORUS

BEALTAINE FACES CULTURAL COMPANIONS

Cultural Companions provides increased opportunities for older people to engage with Ireland's vibrant cultural and arts scene. Pictured are just some of our meet and greet team, who help make Cultural Companions such a success.

If you are interested in signing up to become a Cultural Companion please contact: Tel: 01 805 7713 Email: info@ageandopportunity.ie

There's a thriving social and arts scene out there to be enjoyed if only we had someone with the know-how, the transport or the shared interest to get us going. That's where Cultural Companions comes in, by creating local networks of people interested in arts and culture that will accompany each other to events.

NUALA FITZPATRICK

VERONICA BYRNE

'...being a Cultural Companion has introduced me to so many new things: smaller theatres, independent productions, as well as museums and art galleries … the programme makes such a difference, at any age.'

Deidre Connors, one of the members of the Cultural Companions Programme

DEIRDRE CONNORS

EILEEN O'DONNELL

VIVIENNE DICK KEVIN GAFFNEY KATHY PRENDERGAST ARTISTS' RESIDENCY & PUBLIC EVENT

VENUE: COW HOUSE STUDIOS, WEXFORD
DATES: 7 - 20 MAY

Artists Vivienne Dick, Kevin Gaffney and Kathy Prendergast have been invited by Bealtaine to take up residence in the beautiful setting of Cow House Studios in Co. Wexford from 7 to 20 May. This residency will allow this intergenerational group of artists some time to consider their art practice individually and collectively, in the context of these unique rural surroundings.

VENUE: WEXFORD ARTS CENTRE
DATE: 19 MAY
TIME: 2.00 PM
TICKETS: THIS IS A PUBLIC EVENT AND ADMISSION IS FREE. NO BOOKING REQUIRED.

Join us at Wexford Arts Centre to mark the end of the residency with a public event, featuring the artists and a local historian. Presented in partnership with Wexford County Arts Department, the artists will discuss their practice and the experience of working in Wexford in the context of this residency. There will also be an opportunity for critical engagement with the artists themselves and one-on-one mentoring sessions for professional artists.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT AGE & OPPORTUNITY ARTS AND CULTURE. TEL : 01 805 7709

Wexford County Council

WEXFORD ARTS CENTRE

COW HOUSE STUDIOS

Image: *A Numbness in the Mouth*, 4k video, Kevin Gaffney, 2016

BEALTAINE RESIDENCY

PAULINE CUMMINS & FRANCES MEZZETTI RESIDENCY

VENUE: KILKENNY COLLECTIVE FOR ARTS TALENT (KCAT), CALLAN, CO. KILKENNY,
DATES: 8 - 12 MAY (ARTISTS' RESIDENCY)

Artists Pauline Cummins and Frances Mezzetti are commencing a Bealtaine Residency at KCAT. As part of KCAT's *Engagement* programme, the artists will work alongside KCAT's studio artists with a view to exploring working relationships and researching potential future partnerships over longer durations.

PAULINE CUMMINS & FRANCES MEZZETTI ARTISTS' BREAKFAST EVENT

VENUE: FENNELLY'S, CALLAN
DATE: 12 MAY (ARTISTS' BREAKFAST)
TIME: 9AM – 12 NOON
TICKETS: FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT AGE & OPPORTUNITY ARTS AND CULTURE.
TEL : 01 805 7709

Come join us for a special *Artists' Breakfast* with Pauline and Frances on Friday 12 May in Fennelly's, Callan. Enjoy breakfast in the company of the artists as they reflect on their experiences with KCAT and discuss how these residencies affect their practice.

KCAT ART & STUDY CENTRE

Image: Frances Mezzetti and Pauline Cummins, performing *Walking in the Way*, Edinburgh, Photo by Laura Laakkonnen, 2010.

BEALTAINE FACES VIVIENNE DICK

In this residency, I will be doing some work for my upcoming show in June and also getting to know Wexford. I am interested in exploring Maeve Brennan's connection to the county and I plan to take some photos.

Vivienne Dick

MARY NUNAN

DANCE ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

PREMIERE OF *THE MOVEMENT* AT THE *REBEL YELL* EVENT

VENUE: LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART
DATE/TIME: 11 MAY, 6.00PM

DUBLIN PERFORMANCE OF *THE MOVEMENT* & *THE BEAUTY OF IT*

VENUE: POETRY IRELAND
DATE/TIME: 25 MAY, 6.00PM

OPEN O EVENT

VENUE: LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART
DATE/TIME: 18 MAY, 6.00PM

COLLABORATIVE GROUP & DANCE PRACTITIONER WORKSHOPS

WITH:THE ELDERBERRIES WORKSHOPS WORKING WITH DANCE ARTIST CATHERINE DONNELLY, IN ASSOCIATION WITH ROSCOMMON ARTS CENTRE AND ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL

VENUE: ROSCOMMON ARTS CENTRE
DATES: 3, 10 AND 20 MAY
BOOKING: THE GROUP WORKSHOPS ARE DEVISED FOR EXISTING GROUPS BUT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT BEALTAINE1@AGEANDOPPORTUNITY.IE

DANCE PRACTITIONER WORKSHOP

VENUE: ROSCOMMON ARTS CENTRE
DATE: 6 MAY
BOOKING: CDONNELLYWEST@HOTMAIL.COM

Image: *Mary Nunan*, photo by Eamonn O'Mahoney

RAHEEN DAY CENTRE WORKSHOPS

WORKING WITH ARTS FACILITATOR, NICOLA HENLEY

VENUE: RAHEEN DAY HOSPITAL, CLARE
DATES: 19 APRIL, 2 MAY
BOOKING: THE GROUP WORKSHOPS ARE DEVISED FOR EXISTING GROUPS BUT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT BEALTAINE1@AGEANDOPPORTUNITY.IE

DANCE PRACTITIONER WORKSHOP

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CLARE ARTS OFFICE AT THE ARTIST'S RESOURCE ROOM, GLOR

VENUE: GLOR
DATES: 5 MAY
BOOKING: PHILLIPSAINE@GMAIL.COM

ST MARY'S PARK, LIMERICK

WORKING WITH ASSOCIATE ARTIST MONICA SPENCER AND THE GAFF

VENUE: THE ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE
DATES: 8 MARCH, 15 MARCH, 5, 12 APRIL, WITH INFORMAL 'SHARING' EVENT ON 31 MAY.
BOOKING: THE GROUP WORKSHOPS ARE DEVISED FOR EXISTING GROUPS BUT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT BEALTAINE1@AGEANDOPPORTUNITY.IE

Bealtaine 2017 Dance Artist in Residence is leading dancer and choreographer Mary Nunan. As part of her residency, Mary is developing a number of initiatives based around the development of a new work called *The Movement,* a piece that considers activism as a theme, and which will be premiered in Limerick on May 11th (Limerick City Gallery of Art) and performed in Dublin on May 25th (Poetry Ireland). As our national dancer in residence with Bealtaine, Mary will also work collaboratively with three community groups in Roscommon (The Elderberries), Clare (Raheen Day Centre) and Limerick (St Mary's Park), as well as groups of older dancers who are interested in exploring contemporary dance as an expressive form - dance is often promoted as a keep fit exercise for older people - this interaction would focus on the artform and on dance as a form of expression. In addition to this, Age & Opportunity/ Bealtaine has invited writer Claire Louise Bennett to respond to Mary's residency by creating a unique piece of writing which she will read from at the Limerick and Dublin events. Finally, OPEN O will host a special Bealtaine event as part of the residency at Limerick City Gallery of Art, encouraging participants to experience the power of collective silence, stillness and movement. Open O is devised and facilitated by Mary Nunan and Monica Spencer, Seed funded by Milford Care Centre's Compassionate Communities initiative and supported by Dance Limerick, UL Arts Office, Ralahine Utopian Centre UL and Limerick City Gallery of Art.

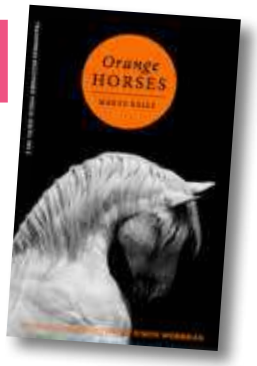
Poetry Ireland Éigse Éireann

Gailearaí Chathair Luimnigh Limerick City Gallery of Art

Comhairle Contae Ros Comáin Roscommon County Council

BEALTAINE TAKE PART

BEALTAINE 2017 BOOK CLUB



MAEVE KELLY & *ORANGE HORSES*

VENUE: BOOK CLUBS AROUND IRELAND
DATE: MONTH OF MAY

Orange Horses **is the chosen work for the Bealtaine Book Club 2017. The book is a superb collection of short stories first published in 1990, and richly illustrates the plight of women in contemporary Irish society. As a beautiful, sad and funny collection of stories of the undervalued, the book quietly celebrates the oppressed and the gently heroic. Re-published by Tramp Press.**

BEALTAINE COMMISSION

REBEL YELL

AN EVENING OF READINGS, MUSIC & DANCE CELEBRATING LIMERICK'S LEADING WRITERS & ACTIVISTS OF THE PAST 40 YEARS

VENUE: LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART
TIME: 6.00PM
DATE: 11 MAY
BOOKING: REBELYELLBEALTAINE2017.EVENTBRITE.IE
TICKETS: €10/€8 *

Limerick has a history of political activism and trade unionism. A leader amongst those who spoke truth to power in Limerick was Maeve Kelly, writer and author of the ground-breaking *Orange Horses,* the Bealtaine Book 2017. Like many others, Maeve combined her life as a writer with her activism, founding ADAPT In Limerick which she championed and led for over 20 years. 2016 saw the re-publication of *Orange Horses* by Tramp Press, and the poignant anthology, *A Last Loving* by Arlen House. Hosted by Susan McKay, *Rebel Yell* will feature readings and performances of Maeve's work, as well as the first performances of new Bealtaine Commissions. These commissions comprise *The Movement,* by Bealtaine Dance Artist in Residence Mary Nunan, and *The Beauty of It*, a series of four new choral compositions by Sean Doherty working with poet Paula Meehan. *The Beauty of It* will be performed by Limerick's acclaimed choirs Cantette, Seoda and Limerick Chamber Choir, directed by Maire Keary Scanlon. Finally, this event will also feature readings from our newly commissioned writers Ron Carey and Fergus Cronin and a vocal performance by Ceara Conway.

Poetry Ireland Éigse Éireann

Gailearaí Chathair Luimnigh LCGA Limerick City Gallery of Art

Supporting the arts, supporting communities.

RTÉ SUPPORTING THE arts

RTÉ supports over 100 arts events nationwide every year, in addition to arts, music and cultural output on our 25 television, radio, online and mobile services.

Find out more at www.rte.ie/about/supportingthearts and follow #rtesupportingthearts via @rte on Twitter.

BEALTAINE TAKE PART

BEALTAINE COMMISSION

ARCHIVING ACTIVISM

A PROJECT BY BREDA BURNS

VENUE: THE MODEL, SLIGO
TIMES: EXHIBITION LAUNCH 6.00PM 5 MAY. EXHIBITION RUNS 5 TO 14 MAY, 11AM – 4PM.

VENUE: ARAS INIS GLUAIRE, BELMULLET, MAYO
TIMES: EXHIBITION LAUNCH, 6.00PM 24 MAY. EXHIBITION RUNS 24 MAY TO 25 JUNE.

Artist Breda Burns has been commissioned by Bealtaine festival 2017, in partnership with Sligo Arts Office and Mayo Arts Office, to develop a sound and radio-based work, *Archiving Activism*. This commission has developed in response to the Bealtaine 2017 theme of collectivism.

A society only progresses when citizens care enough to contribute to its fabric and its future. The arts can be the mortar that holds society together and counties Mayo and Sligo are particularly blessed with the contribution its citizens have made to this field. These people are often the unsung architects of a thriving society where people can access music, visual arts, and literature in so many different ways.

As a response to this commission, Breda Burns will collate an archive of the vanguards of the arts community and through a series of radio interviews to be broadcast locally, an archive of ephemera relating the artist-led movement in the Sligo/Mayo region. Breda will run archiving activism drop in days in advance of the exhibition, collecting the memories, stories and printed materials of those involved in establishing or running arts projects, festivals or exhibitions in the counties of Mayo and Sligo during the 1970's - 90's.

Breda will also create an *Archiving Activism Manifesto* with a commissioned text by author Brian Leyden in response to the archive.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT AGE & OPPORTUNITY ARTS AND CULTURE. TEL : 01 805 7709.

Image: *Where are we*, site specific sound installation, Breda Burns, 2015.

sligoarts SERVICE COUNTY COUNCIL

MAYO.IE

COMHAIRLE CONTAE MHAIGH EO MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL

The Model

ARAS INIS GLUAIRE

BEALTAINE COMMISSION

THE BEAUTY OF IT

A CELEBRATION OF WORDS & MUSIC

VENUE: POETRY IRELAND, 11 PARNELL SQUARE, DUBLIN
DATE: 25 MAY
TIME: 6.00PM
TICKETS: €10 / €8. BOOKING VIA THE INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE FESTIVAL DUBLIN
WWW.ILFDUBLIN.COM/

Bealtaine presents *The Beauty of It*, a new choral commission by composer Sean Doherty based on the poetry of Paula Meehan in association with the Association of Irish Choirs (Cumann Naisiunta na gCor).

***The Beauty of It* focuses on four poems from Paula Meehan's new anthology *Geomantic*, which form the basis for new choral compositions by Sean Doherty. Hosted by poet, playwright and presenter Vincent Woods, *The Beauty of It* (event) will bring together the unique voices of Paula Meehan and Sean Doherty, with two newly commissioned writers Ron Carey and Fergus Cronin, and will feature three Dublin choirs (St. Patrick's Junior Choir, Laetare, The Forever Young Chorus - which is an initiative of the CDETB Adult Education Service) performing Sean Doherty's new choral works. Vincent Woods and poet Eva Bourke will also read from their new anthology *FERMATA*, celebrating the connection between music and poetry.**

Finally, the evening will showcase Bealtaine 2017 Dancer in Residence Mary Nunan performing *The Movement*, with writer Claire Louise Bennett. This event is presented in association with the International Literature Festival Dublin and Poetry Ireland.

Poetry Ireland Éigse Éireann
International Literature Festival Dublin
Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City Council

BEALTAINE FACES
SEAN DOHERTY & PAULA MEEHAN

Because I am a lyric poet, I make poems that encode or discover a rhythmic, a melodic line; to have another artist find another music, and a powerful music at that, in my short poems is to feel the language amplified and new meaning disclosed by composer and choir. It is a most exciting prospect.

Paula Meehan

To set Paula Meehan's poems to music is a composer's delight: the graceful rhythms, the subtle rhymes, and the searing emotional content, all call to be drawn out in a musical setting. My approach to setting Meehan's poetry for choir, therefore, has been to strive to magnify the natural musicality of the poems—each song provides a space in which the choir and the audience, as a whole group, meditates upon their meaning.

Sean Doherty

Image: *Paula Meehan*, photo by Stephanie Joy

HOW FAR WE HAVE TRAVELLED

A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH BROADCASTERS & JOURNALISTS

VENUE: SMOCK ALLEY THEATRE, 6/7 EXCHANGE STREET LOWER, TEMPLE BAR, DUBLIN
DATE: 27 MAY
TIME: 4.00PM
TICKETS: €12 / €10 CONCESSIONS
BOOKING: VIA THE INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE FESTIVAL DUBLIN
WWW.ILFDUBLIN.COM

Photo credit: Beta Baigart

The title *How Far We Have Travelled* is borrowed from a book of reportage by the late Mary Holland, a heroic figure in Irish journalism. Responding to the Bealtaine 2017 theme of activism and the collective, *How far we have Travelled* will feature a discussion with some of the women in Ireland, who in one way or another, have forged a modern identity for the country through their work as broadcasters and journalists. These speakers have voiced and articulated what the Irish public have known and felt over the recent decades.

Joining us for this discussion are Emily O'Reilly, European Ombudsman, Journalists Susan McKay, Ann Marie Hourihane and Doireann Ni Bhriain, producer Betty Purcell, and in the Chair, Irish Times Journalist and daughter of Mary Holland, Kitty Holland. Together we will consider, how far we have travelled in Ireland, and indeed, have yet to go.

Presented in association with International Literature Festival Dublin.

International Literature Festival Dublin

EVERYTHING TO PLAY FOR

AN EXPLORATION & CELEBRATION OF THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN POETRY & SPORT

VENUE: LISTOWEL ARM'S HOTEL, LISTOWEL, CO. KERRY
DATE: 2 JUNE
TIME: 5PM
TICKETS: €15/12. BOOKING VIA LISTOWEL WRITER'S WEEK
WWW.WRITERSWEEK.IE

Sport is arguably the single greatest communal activity in which people and communities engage and participate. *Everything to Play For* is a poetry anthology published by Poetry Ireland and edited by John McAuliffe, that through the words of our best loved poets, celebrates sport.

For this special event as part of Listowel Writers' Week, John McAuliffe will chair a discussion with Ireland's first woman Olympian, Maeve Kyle, Munster and Ireland rugby hero and sporting commentator, Tony Ward, and broadcaster Micheal O Muircheartaigh. Poets Enda Wyley and Elaine Feeney, as well as musician Luka Bloom will also join this group to discuss their motivations, their favourite writing and in particular poems from the collection. This event is presented in association with Listowel Writer's Week and Poetry Ireland.

Poetry Ireland Éigse Éireann

Listowel Writers Week

Image: *Luka Bloom*, photo by believe.be

SUSTAINING YOUR ARTISTIC PRACTICE

VENUE: RHA SCHOOL, RHA GALLAGHER GALLERY, ELY PLACE, DUBLIN 2
DATE: 23 MAY
TIME: 10.30PM - 4.00PM
TICKETS: ADMISSION IS FREE BUT SPACES ARE LIMITED AND BOOKING IS REQUIRED. TO BOOK TELEPHONE: 01 672 9488 OR EMAIL: MONICA@VISUALARTISTS.IE

Bealtaine festival in association with Visual Artists' Ireland and the RHA School, present a special professional development event designed to generate debate on issues relevant to maturing artists. The specific aim of the event is to both inspire and to address the fundamental issues facing practicing artists midway or late into their careers.

During the day-long workshop, the needs of older artists and the practicalities of maintaining a practice for this generation will be addressed, with particular focus on their representation in public and private institutions. Advice on approaching and working with curators, one to one clinics for artists with invited curators, advice on pensions and other practical financial issues will also form part of the workshop. The day will conclude with a reflection on the challenges of maintaining a practice by leading visual artists Samuel Walsh and Maria Simmonds-Gooding.

Participating curators include Patrick T. Murphy, Director of the RHA; Maeve Mulrennan, Head of Visual Art and Education in Galway Arts Centre; Davey Moor, Independent Curator and Arts Manager at the OPW, and John Daly, Gallery Director of Hillsboro Fine Art with more curators to be confirmed. There will be a panel discussion with all the invited curators chaired by Aoife Ruane, Director of Highlanes Gallery.

VAI visual artists ireland RHA

BEALTAINE CARE SETTINGS RESIDENCY

The care-settings residency is a new Bealtaine initiative in partnership with Waterford Healing Arts Trust and Age & Opportunity's Creative Exchanges QQI accredited training programme.

The residency presents an opportunity for a publicly-funded care setting and its residents to engage creatively with a visual artist over the course of a number of months and the opportunity for an artist to develop their specific skills in relation to working in arts and health settings.

Bealtaine is inviting a selected number of care settings to apply for this residency following which an artist will be selected. There will be a public presentation about this residency featuring the selected artist later in 2017.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT AGE & OPPORTUNITY ARTS AND CULTURE. TEL : 01 805 7709

WHAT

Age & Opportunity Life is for Living.

USING ART AND CREATIVITY IN RESIDENTIAL OR DAY CARE SETTINGS

Age and Opportunity's Creative Exchanges course is designed for artists interested in working with older people, activities co-ordinators and those working in a residential or day-care setting.

The course was designed in line with HIQA's National Quality Standards for Residential Care Settings for Older People and focuses on developing meaningful opportunities to engage older people in arts activities. The course is great fun, highly interactive and consistently gets great feedback from participants.

Creative Exchanges is a QQI Level 6 accredited qualification and is run over 7 full days. No formal qualifications are required, but an interest in arts and creativity or working with older people, as well as the commitment to attend the 7 days training and undertake a significant amount of self-directed project and study work are essential.

TO APPLY FOR A PLACE TODAY CONTACT FIONA.HOLOHAN@AGEANDOPPORTUNITY.IE
OR SPEAK TO OUR TRAINING TEAM AT 01 805 7798.
SEE WWW.AGEANDOPPORTUNITY.IE FOR FULL DETAILS.

Age & Opportunity Life is for Living.

BEALTAINE FACES BREDA BURNS

I am delighted to be working on the Archiving Activism project and am looking forward to engaging with the many collaborators and meeting old and new friends and am excited to see how the project evolves.

Breda Burns

Image: *Breda Burns*, photo by Michelle Mac Carron

FRIENDS OF BEALTAINE

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE CREATIVE AND EXPERIENCE THE ARTS AS THEY GET OLDER?

By becoming a Friend of the Bealtaine Festival, you will be helping to ensure that we can reach out to as many communities across Ireland with our exciting programme of arts and culture.

For more information on how to become a Friend of Bealtaine go to our website www.bealtaine.ie or call us on 01 805 7709

Image: *The Bird Song Project*, photo by Leon Farrell/Photocall Ireland

THIS IS NOT MY BEAUTIFUL HOUSE II

A SEMINAR

VENUE: THE STUDIO, LEXICON, HAIGH TERRACE, MORAN PARK, DÚN LAOGHAIRE
DATE: 30 MAY
TIME: 9.30AM TO 5.30PM
TICKETS: ADMISSION: €15, CONCESSIONS €5.
BEALTAINE PARTICIPANTS AND SUPPORTERS OVER 65 FREE.
AVAILABLE SEATING IS LIMITED TO 100 SO PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO SECURE A PLACE.
BOOKING: BEALTAINESEMINAR2017.EVENTBRITE.IE

create national development agency for collaborative arts

Irish Architecture Foundation

Ecclesiastical

dlr Comhairle Contae County Council

As we get older, the spaces and places we inhabit need to be more connected, accessible, and secure, without compromising on beauty. *This is Not My Beautiful House II*, which is developed in partnership with Create, the National Development Agency for collaborative arts and the Irish Architecture Foundation, is the second in a series of Bealtaine seminars exploring key issues impacting on our social, economic and cultural rights to adequate housing, public space and cultural and creative lives as we get older.

The seminar will specifically look at how the arts and creativity can generate debate about choice, participation and rights, with, and for, older people in relation to the planning and design of social and built communities. It will also consider how collaborative arts and architectural practices can influence a paradigm shift in how, as a society, we think about housing and public space beyond a top down and market-led model, to more community-orientated and sustainable frameworks.

Over the course of a day, the seminar will draw on current trends in research, policy, planning and creative practices engaged in developing alternative designs for intergenerational living within a spatial justice frame. We interpret spatial justice as the organisation – in terms of the acquisition, development and management - of public spaces and places and how these processes generate forms of justice (and injustice) in societies.

This event is aimed at policy makers, researchers, architects, artists, planners and older people active in housing issues as well as the general public.

This event is brought to you with thanks to Ecclesiastical Insurance and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.

CHAIRED BY CATRIONA CROWE
(ACADEMIC AND ARCHIVIST) WITH

A KEYNOTE BY PROF. JAN BAARS
(PHILOSOPHER/CRITICAL GERONTOLOGIST BASED IN THE NETHERLANDS)

FEATURING
THE DECORATORS
(MULTI-DISCIPLINARY DESIGN PRACTICE)
&
JOE COVENEY (ARTIST)

PROF. MARY P. CORCORAN
(SOCIOLOGIST AT MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY)

PROF. GERRY KEARNS
(POLITICAL GEOGRAPHER AT MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY)

JACK KEYES
(SENIOR ADVISOR AND FORMER COUNTY MANAGER, CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL)

DR. DEIRDRE O'MAHONY (ARTIST)

DR. SOPHIE HANDLER
(CHAIR OF THE RIBA WORKING GROUP ON RESEARCH AND AGEING)

FIONNUALA ROGERSON
(ARCHITECT AND MEMBER OF RIAI UNIVERSAL DESIGN TASK FORCE)

SINEAD SHANNON
(HAPAI, THE HEALTHY AND POSITIVE AGEING INITIATIVE)

DR. CHRISTINE MCGARRIGLE
(IRISH LONGITUDINAL STUDY ON AGEING TILDA)

LOIS WEAVER
(ARTIST AND PROFESSOR OF CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY, LONDON)

SARAH WIGGLESWORTH
(ARCHITECT AND FORMERLY PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD)

Image: courtesy of *The Decorators*

PRIME 2017

VENUE: IRISH THEATRE INSTITUTE, 17 EUSTACE STREET, TEMPLE BAR, DUBLIN 2
DATE: 19 MAY, 14 JULY, 26 AND 27 AUGUST
BOOKINGS: FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT IRISH THEATRE INSTITUTE:
(01) 6704906 / INFO@IRISHTHEATREINSTITUTE.IE

BEALTAINE IN ASSOCIATION WITH IRISH THEATRE INSTITUTE PRESENTS prime

prime is a continuing professional development initiative providing supports and upskilling opportunities to the mature actor aged 55 – 80 years. May 2017 marks the first of a series of dramaturgical encounters with a group of professional actors across a number of months. Participants will have an opportunity to assess their own practice and process via interactive workshops with a dramaturg, learn valuable insights and renew confidence in their own work and creativity. Now in its 3rd year prime offers actors an opportunity to re-ignite their creative dynamism, develop their ideas and experiment without fear of failure.

THIS PROGRAMME IS PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE TO PARTICIPATING PROFESSIONAL ACTORS (FUNDED BY THE ARTS COUNCIL AND AGE & OPPORTUNITY/BEALTAINE FESTIVAL).

IRISH THEATRE INSTITUTE

Image: ITI prime 2015 actors PJ Brady as Mr. C and Michael Judd as The Sergeant in a rehearsed reading of Flann O'Brien's *Thirst*, May 2016. In association with the International Literature Festival Dublin and Age and Opportunity. Photo: mikenphotography

Age & Opportunity

Life is for Living.

Bealtaine is Ireland's national festival which uniquely celebrates the arts and creativity as we age. The festival is run by Age & Opportunity, the national organisation that promotes active and engaged living as we get older.

Age & Opportunity's mission is to inspire and empower older people to live healthy and fulfilling lives and to influence policy to ensure the active participation of older people in ways that benefit our communities and wider society. Our goal is to turn the period from age 50 onwards into one of the most satisfying times in people's lives. We do this by facilitating opportunities to engage in arts and cultural activities, in sport and physical activity, and opportunities to learn and be involved as active citizens.

If you would like to find out more about our work visit ageandopportunity.ie or pick up the phone and call us on 01 805 7709.

WE KNOW THAT PARTICIPATING IN THE ARTS ENHANCES OUR QUALITY OF LIFE, NO MATTER WHAT AGE WE ARE, AND SO EACH YEAR WE INVITE HUNDREDS OF ORGANISATIONS TO TAKE PART IN BEALTAINE. OVER THE YEARS BEALTAINE HAS BECOME DEEPLY EMBEDDED IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND THE FESTIVAL IS MADE UP OF THOUSANDS OF EVENTS RUN BY HUNDREDS OF PARTNER ORGANISATIONS.

THE ARTISTS AND PARTNERS THAT HELP CREATE BEALTAINE ARE AT THE CENTRE OF THE FESTIVAL, AND IT IS THIS UNIQUE COLLABORATION THAT MAKES BEALTAINE SPECIAL. HERE ARE SOME OF THOSE PARTNERS. FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS AND PARTNER DETAILS, GO TO WWW.BEALTAINE.IE

Abbey Arts Centre
Abbey Theatre
ACTIVE IT SOCIETY
Active Pulse Theatre Group
Adrienne M. Finnerty, and Tracy Feldman, artists
AG Networks
An Táin Arts Centre
Arts Department - Wexford County Council
Ballincollig Family Resource Centre
Ballyduff Active Retirement Group
Banagher Active Retirement Club
BARA Singers
Bayside Writers
Blake Manor Nursing Home
Blessington Library
Bob Scott and Adrian Everson
Brigit's Garden
Cahir Day Care Centre
Castlepollard Library
CINE-CAFE
Clare Arts Office
Claregalway District Day Care Centre
Cluid Housing
Co Limerick Civil Defence ARA
Court Art/Writers Group
Crawford Art Gallery
Create Louth
Cumann Cairdeas
Dance Limerick
Donegal County Library
Donegal County Museum
Donoughmore Co Cork Active Retirement
Dublin City Public Libraries
Dublin Drawing
Dublin Yarnspinners
Duncairn Centre for Culture and Arts
Dundalk Active Retirement Choir
East Clare Comhaltas Branch
Fermoy Active Retirement
Fingal Libraries
GAA Museum
Garter Lane Arts Centre
Glenamaddy Community Care Ltd.
glór, Ennis
Gorey Town & District Park
Headford Lace Project
Horgan's Buildings Senior Citizens Centre
HSE
Instituto Cervantes Dublin
Ionad Cultúrtha an Dochtúir Ó Loingsigh
Kerry County Council
Kilconell ART Group
Kilkenny County Library Service
Lambert and Fortune
Laois Arts Office
Limerick Writers' Centre
Lismore Castle Arts
Louth County Library
Lucan library
Marsh's Library
Marymount Hospice & Hospital
Mayo Arts Office, Mayo County Council
Meath County Council
Move 4 Parkinson's - Voices of Hope Choir - Dublin
Mullingar Library
National Craft Gallery
National Library of Ireland
National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology
National Museum of Ireland - Country Life
National Museum of Ireland - Natural History
National Print Museum
New Ross Public Library
Connell Court, Art/Writers group
Ormond Studios
Peamount Health Care
Rainbow Services
Rathfarnham Castle (Office of Public Works)
Retired Active Men's Social (RAMS)
Richmond Barracks
Roscommon Arts Centre
Roscrea Active Retirement Association
Skane Kilmessan Active Retirement
Sliabh Sneacht Community & Heritage Centre
Sligo County Council Arts Service
St Agnes Music Crumlin
St. John's Theatre and Arts Centre
St. Mark's Silver Surfers Active Retirement Association
St. Peter's Active Retirement Association, Athlone
Strokestown Library
Teacht Thar Sáile Folk Club
The Artists Resource Room
The Douglas Hyde Gallery
The Everyman Cork
The Glucksman
The Marlay
Tipperary County Council
Tuar Ard Arts Centre / Rosemount GAA Social Initiative
uachtarARTS
Waterford City and County Library Services
Waterford Healing Arts Trust
West Clare Family Resource Centre
Wexford Arts Centre
Wexford Library

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Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9, Ireland.
T. +353 (0)1 805 7709

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