Shorelines

ARTS FESTIVAL PORTUMNA

September 10–13th 2026

www.shorelinesartsfestival.com

arts council funding festivals

Welcome to Shorelines Arts Festival 2026 for a feast of music, literature, film, exhibitions, workshops, street entertainment and more.

The festival launches on Sunday 6th Sept with the launch of the **Art Exhibition** featuring the work of local artists and five invited artists. Concert highlights include traditional singer and musician **Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh**, joined by **Dónal O'Connor** & **Gerry O'Beirne**; *Love Letter* in Song with **Camille O'Sullivan** & **Feargal Murray;** *From Galway to Fiji -The music of Fr Kelly* with **Máirín Fahy, Yvonne Fahy** & **Patsy Broderick**; *The Art of Song*, a classical concert with **Pascal Kennedy** & **Sophie Ward**; rock, pop and Irish ballads from the 60's to the present day with **Roscommon Men's Choir** & **Omna Singers** and folk with local duo **Nach Tú**. **Distillation**, a multi-sensory performance created by **Luke Casserly** will transport you to the Irish bog landscape. Take some time out and enjoy **Shorelines Stories** at Curley's. Join **Val O'Donnell** and **Tim Casey** in *Drawing the Crowd* as they bring to life a 1940 caricature of Ireland's most prominent literary figures and artists. Enjoy reflections & readings in **Pen Power: Moyra Donaldson, Claire Hennessey, David McLoghlin** and **Neil Tully** in conversation with **Noelle Lynskey**. **Miriam Hussey** presents a compelling framework for whole person health based on her book *Light Up*. Hear how **Dympna Byrne Fahy** created her fascinating RTÉ Radio Doc on One, *Jamaica Daly*. Musician and researcher, **Paddy Cullivan** presents his audio-visual historical stage show *The Murder of Michael Collins*. A feast of visual art exhibitions awaits you at the Gallery at the Irish Workhouse Centre and Portumna Castle Cafe Gallery. The festival is rounded off with our usual wide range of **workshops**, **Shorelines film shorts** and **documentaries**, **street** and **family entertainment** and a **schools programme.**

Thank you for joining us and supporting the arts. Enjoy the festival!

Shorelines Team 2026: Chris Finnerty, Anna Geelan, Grainne Hayes, Jackie Hogan, Lisa Keane, Pascal Kennedy, Kerry Kissane, Noelle Lynskey, Peter Martin, Breeda O'Connor, Dolores O'Shea, Katja Ruppenthal.

Visual Arts Committee: Arantza Belmonte, Abigail Dillon, Chris Finnerty, Marie Gibbs, Jackie Hogan, Jenny Wood-Sullivan.

Shorelines Film Co-Ordinator: Shane Duffy.

Graphic Design and Administration: Abigail Dillon, Little Bird Design. ***Website:*** Damien O'Brien.
Social Media and Photography: Kerry Kissane. ***Designated Liaison Person:*** Anna Geelan.

TICKETS FOR ALL EVENTS (EXCEPT WHERE FREE OR OTHERWISE STATED)
ONLINE AT: www.shorelinesartsfestival.com
PLEASE NOTE NO REFUNDS ON TICKETS & BOOKING FEE APPLIES
info@shorelinesartsfestival.com **shorelinesartsfestival**
shorelinesartsfestival **shorelinesarts** **Festival Number: 089 426 7399**

SHORELINES AT A GLANCE

SUN 6th SEPT	PRICE	PAGE
Shorelines Launch & Opening of Art Exhibition (Irish Workhouse Centre) 5-7pm, All welcome.	Free	p4
EVENTS ON ALL WEEKEND	**PRICE**	**PAGE**
Shorelines Visual Arts Exhibition (Irish Workhouse Centre from Sept 6th - 20th)	Free	p4
I Am Bird Photographic Installation by Avia Gurman Murphy (Irish Workhouse Centre Yard)	Free	p5
Dark Shadows Exhibition by *Kieran Tuohy* (Irish Workhouse Centre)	Free	p5
The Story of Ireland Famine Sketches by *David Rooney* (Irish Workhouse Centre)	Free	p5
Olga Byrne Exhibition & Small Spaces Photography Exhibition (Portumna Castle Gallery)	Free	p5

THURS 10th SEPT– EVENTS	TIME	PRICE	PAGE
Festival Book Club (Portumna Library)	11am	Free	p8
Presentation of Barbara Kennedy Writing Awards (Portumna Library)	3.45pm	Free	p8
Roscommon Men's Choir & Omna Singers (Town Hall)	8pm	€10	p9
FRI 11th SEPT– EVENTS	**TIME**	**PRICE**	**PAGE**
Palette Knife Painting Workshop with artist *Dana Sorokina* (Youthreach)	10am	€65	p9
Comhrá agus Ceol (Portumna Library)	11am	Free	p9
Distillation with *Luke Casserly* (Portumna Courthouse) 3 event times of 12 noon, 3pm, 7pm	Various	€15	p9
Shorelines Stories at Curley's (Curley's Bar)	From 12pm	Free	p10
FILM Docu: *You Will Die in Prison - An Irishman's Hostage Story* (Boathouse Bar)	2pm	€8	p7/p10
FILM: *Shorelines Shorts* (Boathouse Bar)	5pm	€8	p6/p10
LIGHT UP: Wellbeing Talk with *Miriam Hussey* (Portumna Town Hall)	6pm	€15	p10
IN CONCERT: *Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh Trio* (Christ Church)	8.30pm	€25	p10
SAT 12th SEPT– EVENTS	**TIME**	**PRICE**	**PAGE**
Palette Knife Painting Workshop with artist *Dana Sorokina* (Youthreach)	10am	€65	p11
Creative Non-Fiction Adult Writing Workshop with *David McLoghlin* (An Gáirdín)	10am	€20	p11
Sing from Scratch - Adult singing Workshop with *Carmel Dooley* (Courthouse)	10.30am	€10	p11
Random Acts of Puppetry (Portumna Library)	Various	Free	p11
Face Painting with *Giselle* (Outside Portumna Library from 11.30 to 1.30pm)	11.30	Free	p11
SambaWave - Afro - Brazilian drumming (Streets of Portumna)	Various	Free	p11
Shorelines Stories at Curley's (Curley's Bar)	From 12pm	Free	p10/p12
FILM: *Shorelines Shorts* (Boathouse Bar)	1pm	€8	p6/p12
IN CONCERT: *From Galway to Fiji: The Music of Fr. Kelly* with *Máirín Fahy, Yvonne Fahy & Patsy Broderick* (Christ Church)	1pm	€15	p12
Set Dancing for Portumna Retirement Village	2pm	Free	p12
That Old House Ireland - Self Guided Tour (Dominic Street)	2-4pm	Free	p12
Poetry is Fun! Writing Workshop for children aged 10-13 yrs with writer *David McLoghlin* (An Gáirdín)	2.30pm	€10	p12
Fireside Conversation with *Dympna Byrne Fahy & Grainne Hayes* (Town Hall)	4pm	Free	p12
FILM Docu: *You Will Die in Prison - An Irishman's Hostage Story* (Boathouse Bar)	5.30pm	€8	p7/p12
Drawing The Crowd with *Val O'Donnell & Tim Casey* (Courthouse)	7pm	€15	p13
IN CONCERT: *Love Letter* with *Camille O'Sullivan*	9pm	€35	p13
SUN 13th SEPT– EVENTS	**TIME**	**PRICE**	**PAGE**
Lines Learned By Heart Recitation Competition (Boathouse Bar)	11am	Free	p13
Shorelines Stories at Curley's (Curley's Bar)	From 12pm	Free	p10/p13
The Healing Body of Birds: A Voice & Movement Workshop with *Avia Gurman Murphy & Geoff Brennan* (Dining Hall, The Irish Workhouse Centre)	12pm	€45	p14
Folk at the Boathouse Bar with *Nach Tú (Boathouse Bar)*	1pm	€10	p14
The Art of Song with *Pascal Kennedy & Sophie Ward* (Christ Church)	2.30pm	€15	p14
Pen Power - Reflections & Readings with four contemporary writers on the novel, poem, short story and memoir. (Courthouse)	4.30pm	€10	p14
Paddy Cullivan's The Murder of Michael Collins (Portumna Town Hall)	7.30pm	€15	p15

ENJOY THE FESTIVAL! Venue Map (QR code on Page 15)

Shorelines Visual Arts Exhibition - The Irish Workhouse Centre Gallery

Sept 6th–20th, 11am–5pm daily. Admission free.

Sun 6th Sept at 5pm - Official Opening at The Irish Workhouse Centre Gallery

All welcome to join us as we unveil the work of our local artists in the long gallery and show the work of four of our invited artists; **Janet Graham, Dee Ci, Thomasina Early** and **Avia Gurman Murphy** in the double gallery and courtyard. Most of the work is for sale and because our commission is modest, you will find high quality artwork at great prices. Special guest jewellery artist **Silvia** of **Jandy Jewellery** will be selling her handcrafted pieces at the opening as well as doing a demo.

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Janet Graham has built a reputation for being one of the most collectable of the North-West artists. In early years her work was strongly influenced by close artistic friendships with painters such as Lawson Burch and Stephen McKenna PPRHA. Her landscape exhibition *Disappearing Landscape* received much attention and was the subject of a BBC documentary. In recent years, her painting has developed a more painterly abstract style. She works from her studio in Donegal, Ireland and has exhibited in many group and solo exhibitions. Her work is held in collections in Europe, the USA and Japan.
The Warrior Women collection shown here examines institutional abuse of women, showing how authorities exerted coercive control over vulnerable individuals. It intends to challenge viewers to engage and to question the systems that enabled these abuses. **www.janetgrahamartist.com**

Thomasina Earley, a Westmeath artist, captures the essence of the Irish landscape through its own palette, without the use of paint. A background in industrial design, interior design and illustration took Thomasina on projects in Ireland and abroad. She captured visuals of different terrains, from the red of the Australian outback to the dripping wet jungles of Asia – habitats in which life expands, renews and decays. At her studio she creates art using local soils, clays from the surrounding areas, peats from the midland bogs and sands from the Irish coast. Peat holds the imprint to the past. Boglands tell their own story. She enjoys working with these natural materials and their earthy tones. She is drawn to the use of copper, gold and silverleaf, which can frequently be seen in her work. **www.facebook.com/thomasina.earley**

Silvia of Jandy Jewellery has always been creative at heart. She loves making things — always exploring new ideas and refining her style. Living in Ireland, she finds endless inspiration in nature and its colourful flowers, which continue to influence her beautiful clay jewellery designs today. Each piece is handmade with love! Her jewellery will be available for purchase at the opening event and Silvia will also be doing a demo of her jewellery making. **www.jandy.ie**

Deirdre Cichosz (Dee Ci) is an Irish landscape oil painter whose work is deeply rooted in a reverence for the natural world. Drawn to quiet, often overlooked pockets of landscape, her paintings explore the shifting atmosphere of coastal scenes, mist-covered horizons, rolling waves and fog-softened landforms that seem to hover between memory and place. Working predominantly in oils, she creates her own hand-mulled paints using natural oils and raw pigments, free from unnecessary toxins and synthetic additives. This slow, intentional process forms an essential part of her practice — an act of respect toward the landscape that inspires the work itself. Through richly pigmented earthy tones and layered surfaces, the paintings seek not only to depict nature, but to move in harmony with it. **www.deeciart.com**

Avia Gurman Murphy is an interdisciplinary visual artist based in County Clare whose practice spans photography, site-specific installation, voice, performance and alternative photographic processes. Exploring themes of memory, migration, ritual and our relationship with the natural world, she creates immersive works that respond to landscape and place. She studied Visual Theatre in Jerusalem, holds an MA in Ritual, Chant and Song from the University of Limerick, and completed qualifications in Photography and Creative Media at Limerick College of Further Education. Her work has been exhibited across Ireland and internationally. Her photographic installation; *I Am Bird* offers moments of quiet reflection, inviting beauty, contemplation and hope into a place shaped by painful history. **www.aviagurmanartist.com**

Avia is running a workshop on Sun 13th Sept, see page 14.

Kieran Tuohy's *Dark Shadows* bog oak exhibition located in the Girls' Schoolroom immortalizes the stories of our famine ancestors. **www.irishworkhousecentre.ie/dark-shadows**

***The Story of Ireland Famine Sketches* by David Rooney** Nine of these engravings on printed panels are located in the waiting hall.

Shorelines Visual Arts Exhibition - Portumna Castle Gallery

Sept 6th–30th, 10am–5pm daily. Here we show the work of our invited artist **Olga Byrne** and **Portumna Camera Club**.

Olga Byrne is an Irish-based visual artist and graduate of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts who founded Olya Art Studio. Her soulful work is deeply inspired by nature, capturing the vibrant beauty of wildlife, landscapes, and folklore. She blends classic techniques with modern charm, creating whimsical pieces using oils, pastels and watercolours. **www.olyaartstudio.ie**

Palette Knife Painting Workshop with artist Dana Sorokina. See page 9.

Small Spaces - Portumna Camera Club Photographic Exhibition Inspired by the theme Small Spaces, members of Portumna Camera Club present a collection of images that celebrate the overlooked, the intimate and the unexpected in this thought-provoking exhibition.

A SERIES OF 6 SHORT FILMS - Sense of an Ending

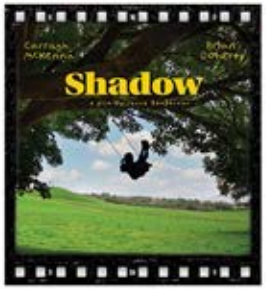
Venue: The Boathouse Bar
Duration: 80 mins **Admission:** €8
Audience Suitability: Over 16
Screenings: Friday at 5pm and Saturday at 1pm

A Song (2025) *(Run time: 18 mins)*

During a summer steeped in tradition and song, Noel's growing connection with James begins to heal childhood wounds until the return of Noel's estranged mother threatens to reopen them.
Director: *Ellius Grace.* ***Writers:*** *Shaun Dunne, Colm Tóibín.*
Producer: *Louise Byrne.* ***Starring:*** *Darragh Shannon, Desmond Eastwood and Maria Doyle Kennedy.*
Awards: *Discovery Award at the Dublin International Film Festival.*

Brown Bread (2025) *(Run time: 14 mins)*

Brown Bread follows Áine, a sharp, ambitious fashion executive living in New York, who returns home to Longford for her godmother's memorial mass, having missed her funeral. Tensions flare between Áine and her mother, Betty, whose pointed remarks conceal a longing for connection.
Director/Writer: *Shaunagh Connaire.* ***Producer:*** *Julie Ryan (MK1 Studios).* ***Starring:*** *Katie McGrath, Fionnula Flanagan, Dermot Crowley.*
Awards: *Remi Award at WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival.*



Shadow (2022) *(Run time: 15 mins)*

A happy young girl is her dad's shadow as they work their farm. When a family tragedy causes her dad to retreat into himself "Shadow" takes it upon herself to secretly keep the show on the road while her dad finds his way back to her.
Director: *Janna Kemperman.* ***Writer:*** *Aisling Corristine.*
Producer: *Maggie Ryan.* ***Starring:*** *Caragh McKenna, Brian Doherty, Niamh McCann.*
Awards: *Special Mention Award at the Dublin Film Festival 2023.*

Dead on Arrival (2024) *(Run time: 14 mins)*

Two morally bankrupt women debate what to do after a murder and how to handle the dementia suffering grandmother who has witnessed the crime.
Director/Writer/Exec Producers: *Niamh McAllister, Odhran McNulty.*
Starring: *Niamh McAllister, Diona Doherty, Helena Bereen.*
Awards: *Best Emerging Irish Female Filmmaker at the IndieCork Film Festival.*

The Final Chapter (2023) *(Run time: 12 mins)*

Chronicling the final days of a unique bookshop on Georges Street, Dún Laoghaire, run by Irish comedian Kevin Gildea.
Director/Producer: *Terence White.* ***Producer/Subject:*** *Kevin Gildea.*
Awards: *Official selection at the 20th Annual Capital Irish Film Festival, Washington.*

Retirement Plan (2024) *(Run time: 7 mins)*

Academy Award–nominated film telling the story of Ray, as he fantasises about everything he'd love to do in retirement—once he finally has the time.
Director/Co-Writer: *John Kelly.* ***Co-Writer:*** *Tara Lawall.*
Producers: *Julie Murnaghan, Andrew Freedman.*
Voice of Ray (Narrator): *Domhnall Gleeson.*
Awards: *Nominated for Best Animated Short Film at 98th Academy Awards.*

SHORELINES DOCUMENTARY

Venue: The Boathouse Bar
Duration: 72 mins **Admission:** €8
Audience Suitability: Over 16
Screenings: Friday at 2pm and Saturday at 5.30pm followed by Q&As with director Gerry McColgan.

You Will Die in Prison - *An Irishman's Hostage Story* (2025)

This gripping documentary in its feature length version, chronicles the harrowing 222-day ordeal of Bernard Phelan, an Irish/French citizen wrongfully taken hostage in Mashhad, Iran, in October 2022. The film opens with Phelan's abrupt capture outside the holy Imam Reza shrine, thrusting viewers into his nightmarish experience inside the notorious "Satan's Block" of Mashhad prison. Through dramatic first-hand accounts and realistic reconstructions, this documentary portrays Phelan's struggle for survival, his relentless defiance against his captors, and the critical diplomatic efforts that ultimately secured his release on humanitarian grounds in May 2023.
Director: *Gerry McColgan.* ***Producers:*** *John McColgan, Marina Finn, Brian McColgan.*
Principal Subject: *Bernard Phelan.*
Awards: *Best Feature Documentary - Berlin Indie Film Festival 2025, Stockholm City Film Festival 2025, Sweden Film Awards 2025.*

DIARY DATE **SHORELINES WINTER FILM NIGHTS OCT-MAR 2026/27**

At Shorelines, we are delighted to support our local schools with this year's programme of events, and we thank the teachers involved in 2026.
We endeavour, during the festival and throughout the year, to give students a taste of the Arts by opening new doorways to creativity. They are invited and encouraged to take part in artistic events, such as visiting the Visual Art exhibition, family and street events, in addition to shows and workshops in individual schools.

LITERARY Creative Writing Workshops with *Noelle Lynskey*
Three local schools hosted writing workshops on the theme of *Small Spaces*. Noelle focused on imagination and skills in using language.
Noelle Lynskey, Portumna poet, arts enthusiast and community pharmacist. Her first collection *'Featherweight'* (Arlen House) was published in May 2025.

CHILDREN/MAGIC Magical Mayhem with *Tony Baloney*
Join Tony Baloney and his talking dog Leroy for magic, puppets, science experiments and any mischief that pops into his head. Tony is a four times Irish Magic Champion.
Date: Sept 8th **Venues:** Gortanumera NS, Killeen NS & Killimor NS

MAGIC Magic Show with *Bernardo the Magician*
Bernardo engages kids & adults of all ages in his show with sleight-of-hand tricks, comedy and audience participation. Amazing tricks, games and riddles to keep the audience amazed and amused!
Date: Sept 8th **Venue:** Portumna Town Hall. For pupils of St Brendan's NS, Portumna

Bernardo will also perform his show for the attendees of Portumna Social Services Daycare Centre. Open to attendees and their families only.
Date: Sept 8th **Venue:** Portumna Social Services Daycare Centre.

THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER EVENTS

LITERARY Festival Book Club All readers and lovers of books are welcome to our Festival Book Club. Bring a book of your choice to pitch to the group. Pick from any genre, fiction or non-fiction Share the title, author and theme(s). Read a one-to-two-minute extract aloud. Tell us why you recommend this book…. Or come and get some recommendations and join in the discussion. Complimentary tea/coffee and sweet treats. Spot prizes.
Time: 11am **Venue:** Portumna Library **Duration:** 1 hr **Admission:** Free

LITERARY Presentation of Barbara Kennedy Writing Awards 2026
Join the shortlisted pupils from many local primary schools who entered the 2026 writing project. With the theme of *Small Spaces*, pupils from 4th and 5th class were invited to write a poem or a piece of prose.
With the overall award of a perpetual trophy, and book tokens to all shortlisted entrants, this provides a creative opportunity to encourage the budding writers in our local communities. Judge: local writer Noelle Lynskey.
Time: 3.45pm **Venue:** Portumna Library **Duration:** 1 hr **Admission:** Free

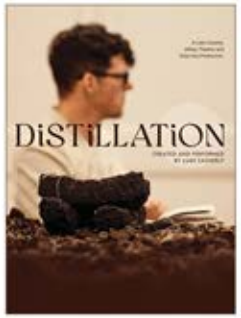
MUSIC Roscommon Men's Choir & Omna Singers
With a musical repertoire ranging from Rock & Pop to Irish Ballads from the 60's to present day, Shorelines hosts a concert with **Roscommon Men's Choir**.
While not a polished or classically trained choir this group of men ranging in age from 18-70 bring a vibrant energy to their performances and with their accompanying array of musicians, they promise a fun opening event to Shorelines.
Director: **Lars Homberg**
Special guest appearance from Portumna's own **Omna Singers**, under the direction of **Carmel Dooley** and accompanist **Sophie Ward**.
Time: 8pm **Venue:** Portumna Town Hall
Duration: 90 mins **Admission:** €10

SPONSOR KANE

FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER EVENTS

WORKSHOP Palette Knife Painting with artist *Dana Sorokina* Focusing on painting expressive flowers, this stress free palette knife workshop is perfect for beginners and curious creatives. You'll be gently guided through simple steps to build colour, texture, and movement in a fun, easygoing atmosphere. With all materials provided, you can simply arrive and enjoy a creative few hours. No experience needed. You'll leave with your own finished floral painting completed during the workshop.
Time: 10am **Venue:** Youthreach, Portumna **Duration:** 4 hrs
Admission: €65

GAEILGE Comhrá agus Ceol Bígí linn le haghaidh comhrá, ceol, comhluadar agus craic. Bring your cúpla focal and your tunes. Fáilte roimh gach duine.
Time: 11am **Venue:** Portumna Library **Duration:** 90 mins **Admission:** Free



ART *Distillation* with *Luke Casserly* A multi-sensory performance that transports audiences to the Irish bog landscape through scent. Following sold-out performances across Ireland, the US and Canada, **Distillation** - part performance, part lecture, is an immersive journey for the 25 audience members at each event.
Funded by an Arts Council Theatre Touring Award and created by **Luke Casserly** in direct response to the cessation of Ireland's peat harvesting industry, **Distillation** is dedicated to the future of our broken landscapes – in the hope that by listening to them, we might be able to better understand them. Luke collaborated with renowned perfumer **Joan Woods** (*Waters + Wild Organic Perfumery*) to create a unique essence of the bog where he grew up, offering an olfactory encounter and exploring our relationship to place. **Time:** 3 event times of 12 noon, 3pm, 7pm
Venue: Portumna Courthouse **Duration:** 50 mins **Admission:** €15

SPONSOR That Old House Ireland

LITERARY Shorelines Stories at Curley's Drop in, order a drink, settle in and enjoy a self-guided listening experience featuring stories from Portumna produced by **Kate Gibbs** alongside a series of short audio plays created by actor and writer **Ultan Pringle** in 2021. Simply scan the QR code and listen using your own device and earphones.
Time: 12pm-4pm (Drop-In) **Venue:** Curley's Bar **Admission:** Free

FILM Documentary *You Will Die in Prison - An Irishman's Hostage Story* Film Showing, with Q & A. (Page 7 for full description).
Time: 2pm **Venue:** The Boathouse Bar **Duration:** 72 mins **Admission:** €8

ART *Distillation* with *Luke Casserly* Page 9 for details.
Time: 3pm **Venue:** Portumna Courthouse **Duration:** 50 mins **Admission:** €15

FILM *Shorelines Shorts* A selection of **film shorts** (page 6 for full description).
Time: 5pm **Venue:** The Boathouse Bar **Duration:** 80 mins **Admission:** €8

WELLBEING TALK *LIGHT UP: An Integrative Approach to Health, Wellbeing & Human Potential* with *Miriam Hussey*
Based on the principles from her book *LIGHT UP: Energise Your Body, Awaken Your Mind, Supercharge Your Soul*, **Miriam Hussey** presents a compelling framework for whole-person health. Drawing on her background in pharmacy and integrative health, she explores nutrition, lifestyle medicine, stress, and behaviour change alongside the connection between mind, body, and soul. This presentation equips audiences with practical, evidence-informed strategies to improve general wellbeing.
Time: 6pm **Venue:** Portumna Town Hall **Duration:** 1 hr **Admission:** €15

ART *Distillation* with *Luke Casserly* Page 9 for details.
Time: 7pm **Venue:** Portumna Courthouse **Duration:** 50 mins **Admission:** €15

MUSIC *Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh Trio*
Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh is a multi-award winning traditional singer and musician from West Kerry. A leading exponent of the sean nós style, she engages with audiences to share her love of the tradition.
Joining Muireann tonight is renowned fiddler, **Dónal O'Connor** as well as master of acoustic and electric strings, **Gerry O'Beirne**.

"Mysterious Perfection" - Dónal Lunny

Muireann has enjoyed a successful career with Danú, as well as performing as a solo artist and was awarded "Best Folk Singer" at the RTÉ Radio Folk Awards amongst many others. She currently presents her own music programme *Folk on One* on RTÉ Radio 1.
Dónal O'Connor is one of Ireland's leading fiddlers as well as a much sought-after and highly regarded producer. Described by the Irish Times as a 'fearless musical adventurer' he is a founder and Artistic Director of Belfast Tradfest.
Gerry O'Beirne is a self-taught master of the six and twelve string, slide guitar and ukulele and other stringed instruments.
Time: 8.30pm **Venue:** Christ Church **Duration:** 90 mins **Admission:** €25

SPONSOR quitmann o'neill

WORKSHOP Palette Knife Painting with artist *Dana Sorokina*
See page 9 for information.
Time: 10am **Venue:** Youthreach, Portumna **Duration:** 4 hrs **Admission:** €65

WORKSHOP Creative Non Fiction for Adults with writer *David McLoghlin* Join in this craft masterclass focused on the genre of memoir. All levels are welcome and this workshop is ideal for anyone beginning or revising an autobiographical project. All you need is an interest in memoir or the personal essay. Learn ways to bring a story alive with dialogue and descriptive, immersive, sensory language. You will leave with practical takeaways for use in subsequent writing, adding richness and texture, creating authentic scenes and exposition, helping you to weave interjections into your narrative.
Time: 10am **Venue:** An Gáirdín **Duration:** 2.5 hrs
Admission: €20 (15 participants)

WORKSHOP *Sing from Scratch* - Adult singing workshop with *Carmel Dooley* In a friendly and fun environment, learn new songs with harmonies and try out vocal warm-ups and techniques. All welcome, ability to read music not essential. **Carmel Dooley** is a Galway based music teacher and choral director. Originally from Ballinasloe, she is musical director to *Marine Singers, Omna Singers* and *Scrum Notes*.
Time: 10.30am **Venue:** Portumna Courthouse **Duration:** 90 mins **Admission:** €10

CHILDREN/FAMILY Random Acts of Puppetry Enjoy a family-friendly extravaganza featuring an array of puppetry marvels. **Your Man's Puppets** have been weaving enchantment since 2002, dazzling audiences with a mesmerizing blend of tradition and innovation bursting with diverse puppetry styles.
Time: 2 showings - 11am & 12 noon **Venue:** Portumna Library
Duration: 45 mins **Admission:** Free (booking online)

CHILDREN/FAMILY Face Painting with *Giselle* Giselle is an expert face painter from Galway city. She has been in the business for 16 years, and this is her fourth visit to Shorelines Arts festival. **Time:** 11.30am **Admission:** Free
Venue: Outside Portumna Library **Duration:** 2 hrs approx

FAMILY *SambaWave* Founded in 2023, **SambaWave** is a vibrant, percussion band based in Galway city. Their repertoire centres around Afro-Brazilian rhythms, with a special focus on the captivating Samba Reggae genre. They bring this vibrant and spirited music to life, inviting everyone to join in the celebration. Their dynamic performances create an unforgettable atmosphere, engaging audiences of all ages and adding colour, excitement, and infectious energy to any event. Experience the energy of **SambaWave** on the streets of Portumna!
Times: Two performance times of 11.45am -12.15pm at the square & 12.30-1pm at SuperValu. **Duration:** Two 30 minute sessions **Admission:** Free

LITERARY Shorelines Stories at Curley's (page 10 for information).
Time: 12pm **Venue:** Curley's Bar **Duration:** 4 hrs **Admission:** Free

FILM *Shorelines Shorts* A selection of **film shorts** (page 6 for full description).
Time: 1pm **Venue:** The Boathouse Bar **Duration:** 80 mins **Admission:** €8

MUSIC *From Galway to Fiji: The Music of Fr. Kelly* with *Máirín Fahy, Yvonne Fahy & Patsy Broderick* Renowned for their unique style of East Galway music, Máirín & Yvonne of The Fahy Family from Ballinakill together with Patsy from Broderick's in Kilreekil celebrate and commemorate the sweet melodic charms of the compositions of Fr. P.J. Kelly, a Columbian missionary from East Galway, at this lunchtime concert of traditional music.
SPONSOR PORTUMNA
Time: 1pm **Venue:** Christ Church
Duration: 80 mins **Admission:** €15

MUSIC Set Dancing at Portumna Retirement Village Shorelines is pleased to entertain the residents and families with a lively, heart-warming display of set dancing, a firm tradition of East Galway. Performed by local dancers, accompanied by live music to get your toes tapping. Sit back and enjoy or hop up and join in. **Time:** 2pm **Duration:** 45 mins **Admission:** Free
Venue: Portumna Retirement Village (for residents & their families only).

HISTORY *Self Guided Open House Tour* **That Old House Ireland** is pleased to welcome you to an unguided open house tour. The house known as "**Two-Step House**" on Dominic Street, next to Podumna Glamping Village, was built sometime in the early 1800s by the Earl of Clanricarde in traditional Georgian construction and design. Previously inhabited by the Foley family, it sat derelict for many years before going through a complete and sympathetic renovation between 2024 to 2025. It is now utilised as short term accommodation for visitors to Portumna.
Time: Open from 2-4pm **Venue:** Dominic Street, Portumna. **Admission:** Free

WORKSHOP *Poetry is Fun!* Writing Workshop for children aged 10-13 years old with writer *David McLoghlin* Who said poetry can't be fun? This is a practical poetry class for children where you will read and write your own poems. Using a variety of methods to write new poems, including the surprising collective poem and a technique for randomising adjective and noun combinations you will produce silly and startling new creations. This class is a must for young budding writers. Apart from being an award-winning poet and writer of nonfiction, **David McLoghlin** has taught extensively in primary and secondary schools. *This event is presented in association with Poetry Ireland / Éigse Éireann.*
Time: 2.30pm **Venue:** An Gáirdín **Duration:** 90 mins **Admission:** €10

HISTORY TALK *Fireside Conversation* with *Dympna Byrne Fahy & Grainne Hayes* Join local historian, **Dympna Byrne Fahy**, as she recounts her fascinating journey from South Galway to Jamaica. Hear how a lifelong interest in people and history has led her on a voyage of discovery about the highs and troubling lows of the Daly family of Castledaly and how Dympna created her compelling RTÉ Radio Doc on One, *Jamaica Daly*.
Time: 4pm **Venue:** Portumna Town Hall **Duration:** 1 hr **Admission:** Free

FILM Documentary *You Will Die in Prison - An Irishman's Hostage Story* Film Showing, with Q & A. (Page 7 for full description).
Time: 5.30pm **Venue:** The Boathouse Bar **Duration:** 72 mins **Admission:** €8

LITERARY/DRAMA *Drawing The Crowd* with *Val O'Donnell & Tim Casey* JoyceStagers **Val O'Donnell** and **Tim Casey** bring to life a caricature by Alan Reeve depicting a gathering of Ireland's most prominent literary figures and artists in Dublin's Palace Bar in June 1940. Those featured include Patrick Kavanagh, Flann O'Brien, Austin Clarke, Brinsley McNamara, Francis McManus, Cathal O'Shannon Snr., Harry Kernoff, and 'Bertie' Smyllie. Join Val and Tim as they perform a selection of readings and extracts from the writers' works.
Time: 7pm **Venue:** Portumna Courthouse **Duration:** 70 mins **Admission:** €15

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MUSIC *Love Letter* with *Camille O'Sullivan* Camille celebrates dear friends Shane MacGowan, Sinéad O'Connor, David Bowie, Radiohead, Brel, Nick Cave and more in song. With long-time collaborator **Feargal Murray** on piano, **Camille** performs, an intimate, heartfelt show with joy and mad chaos, as her life unravels. *Love Letter* captures her honest response to these much loved and lost artists. Chameleon-like on stage, her rendition of each song tells a different story. Expect joy and pure passion!
The multi-award-winning singer stunned audiences around the world with performances like the Sydney Opera House, Royal Festival Hall and The Roundhouse. She toured with The Pogues and guested at Yoko Ono's & Richard Thompson's RFH Meltdown.
"Ravishing, a superb performer and great singer... the star is her singing voice, a deep sultry instrument that might have been created to express desolate love" **** The Guardian
Time: 9pm **Venue:** Christ Church **Duration:** 90 mins **Admission:** €35

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER EVENTS

LITERARY *Lines Learned By Heart* Recitation Competition Join in the annual recitation competition for adults in memory of Nicholas Treacy, local reciter and wordsmith. The winner will have their name on the beautifully crafted book box created by local artist Brian Murray. **NOTE:** Each entrant must recite "off by heart" a poem previously published and written by another poet prior to **1950**. Time limit - 8 minutes max. Prompter is provided to assist. To register please text Noelle on 087 2931055 by Friday, Sept 10th as entries may be limited. €10 per entrant.
Time: 11am **Venue:** The Boathouse Bar **Duration:** 90 mins **Admission:** Free

LITERARY Shorelines Stories at Curley's (page 10 for information).
Time: 12pm **Venue:** Curley's Bar **Duration:** 4 hrs **Admission:** Free

WORKSHOP The Healing Body of Birds: A Voice & Movement Workshop with *Avia Gurman Murphy & Geoff Brennan* Inspired by *I Am Bird* and the expressive world of birds, this immersive workshop explores voice, movement and embodiment as pathways to creativity, freedom and renewal. Through guided movement, breath and sound, participants are invited to awaken the body, free the imagination and reconnect with themselves.
Held in the historic Irish Workhouse Centre, the workshop is a shared creative healing ritual that promotes connection and hope.
Participants are encouraged to visit *I Am Bird, Avia Gurman Murphy's* site-specific installation in the Workhouse Yard, where the exhibition and workshop enrich one another through image, movement and place. All are welcome.
Time: 12 noon **Venue:** Dining Hall, The Irish Workhouse Centre **Duration:** 3 hrs
Admission: €45

MUSIC Folk at the Boathouse Bar with *Nach Tú* Nach Tú are a local singer/songwriter duo from Killimor. Siblings, **Aoife** and **Paul Costello** take inspiration from mythology and Irish/Celtic folklore. Blending neo-classical piano with harmonies, they bring a unique sound to both original and well-known folk songs. **Time:** 1pm **Venue:** The Boathouse Bar **Duration:** 1 hr **Admission:** €10

MUSIC The Art of Song with *Pascal Kennedy & Sophie Ward*
Join baritone **Pascal Kennedy** and pianist **Sophie Ward** as they take you on a journey through the musically rich storytelling of Art Song. Together they perform Vaughan Williams' *Songs of Travel* and Butterworth's *Six Songs from a Shropshire Lad* featuring the poetry of Robert Louis Stevenson and A.E. Housman.
Time: 2.30pm **Venue:** Christ Church
Duration: 1 hr **Admission:** €15

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LITERARY *Pen Power* - Reflections & Readings with four contemporary writers on the novel, poem, short story and memoir. In conversation with Portumna writer, *Noelle Lynskey*
Moyra Donaldson, award winning poet, brings her new collection *The Thirteenth Moon* (Doire Press), reflecting her belief that it is through the power of creation and the power of our art we can navigate a way to live in the present.
Claire Hennessy, author of young adult novels, short stories, book reviews and features, will reflect on her latest collection of short stories for adults. *In The Movie of Her Life* (Doire Press) is written with gut-wrenching honesty few writers can master.
David McLoghlin, multi prize-winning poet and writer of memoir and creative non-fiction, teaches both memoir and poetry in schools and universities in Ireland and abroad. He is currently working on a memoir and his fourth collection of poetry.
Neil Tully, from the west of Ireland, has an MA in Creative Writing (U.L). He lives in Cork, where he works as a dentist. His first novel *The Visit* (Eriu), is described by Nuala O'Connor as an 'accomplished, fully formed debút.'
Time: 4.30pm **Venue:** Portumna Courthouse
Duration: 60-80 mins **Admission:** €10

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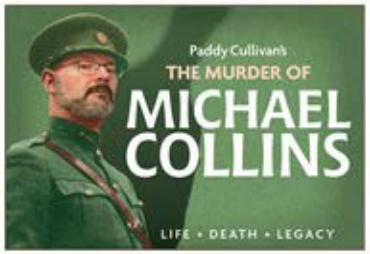

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HISTORICAL STORY TELLING Paddy Cullivan's The Murder of Michael Collins Described as a mix of murder mystery, historical lecture, and musical entertainment, the show is a popular, one-man, audio-visual historical stage show created by Irish musician and researcher Paddy Cullivan.
Combining over 300 images, original songs, and deep-dive forensics, this show tackles a century-old mystery by examining several unresolved questions and the suspected cover-up surrounding the fatal ambush of Michael Collins at Béal na mBláth on August 22, 1922.
Time: 7.30pm **Venue:** Portumna Town Hall **Duration:** 2 hrs
Admission: €15

Guidelines for Festival Fans and Families:

- **Advance booking is recommended due to venue limits. Please note tickets are non-refundable.**
- **All tickets purchased online will have a booking fee.**
- **Where an event is free, access is on a first come basis.**
- **Please advise if you have any special accessibility requirements.**
- **Please cooperate fully with our volunteer stewards.**
- **All children must be fully supervised by a responsible adult at all times during the festival.**
- **Venue doors open 15 minutes prior to start time and all are asked to be seated 10 mins prior to the event. Latecomers may not be allowed access.**
- **Please note that the Irish Workhouse Centre Gallery is on the 1st floor as is the Castle Gallery.**
- **No unauthorised trading or casual leafleting will be allowed during the festival.**
- **All events are liable to change of date/time/venue and/or may be cancelled without prior notice. The committee regrets any inconvenience and disappointment this may cause. All information is correct at time of printing.**
- **No liability will attach to the committee of Shorelines Arts Festival or any member thereof in respect of injury or loss, howsoever or wheresoever during the period of the Festival. Persons attending events which form part of the Festival will do so accepting this warning at their own risk.**

Shorelines Arts Festival routinely captures photos and videos of attendees during public events for archival purposes and for use as promotional material, in local newspapers and on our website www.shorelinesartsfestival.com and on our Facebook and Instagram pages. If you do not wish to be photographed or recorded, notify a committee member or the designated festival photographer on-site.

DON'T FORGET TO VISIT THE ART EXHIBITIONS – OPEN DAILY
The Irish Workhouse Centre Gallery, 11am–5pm (Sept 6th–20th).
Portumna Castle Gallery, 10am–5pm (Sept 6th –30th).

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SEE OUR VENUE MAP

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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