

When there's a brrr in the month, Bray Arts shifts latitude to more exotic climes. So, we had dance from Sumatra, memoir from Hong Kong and, closer to home, a feast of flutes and Celtic comic book heroes.

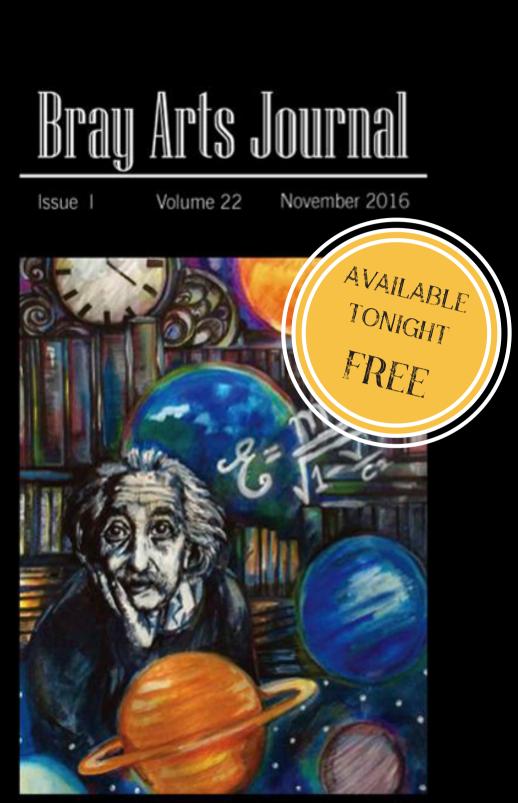
Nabila shimmied onstage for some sinuous Sumatran dance. Gloriously attired in traditional costume, her dance is by contrast subtle and restrained. Evocation of mood was hampered by unsympathetic staging and lighting. Little can be done ad hoc on arts night, best to allow one's imagination run riot. The second dance was more immediate and contemporary, generating intrigue on how they might link other than their geographic origin. The fashion show as coda was also something of a non sequitor. And again the uncanny cultural connections fascinated more than repelled. All a bit like a trailer, but I reckon the movie would be worth seeing.

Home with a bump, Alan Nolan stepped in for the mislocated Claire Foley. Illustrator for children's stories, with a gra for the comic book mode, Alan's an adept storyteller himself. Looming out of sepia family photos, he was that miniature menace determined to lampoon life from an early age. He's never grown up, beyond honing his talents, life skills etc. to delight the gnarled children of Bray Arts. His macabre ghouls haunt Dublin's alleys and the Wicklow hills. But enough of the children. Alan's a dab hand at dabbing his hand. Great visuals, powerfully told. Right now he's learning to sing and dance. Beware!

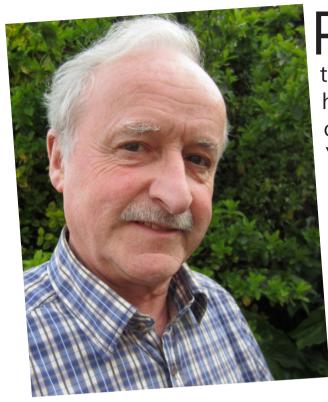
Veronica Heywood transported us back to the Orient, in this case wartime Hong Kong. Veronica narrated the memoir of her father, Graham Heywood. It won't be Long Now, is his account of four years of internment in Japanese camps during the Second World War. The account is by turns harrowing and uplifting, accompanied by a fine slide show featuring delicate watercolours spanning the eastern and western aesthetic.

Brian Dunning's CV is longer than a trombonist's arm. Anyone with a passing interest in modern music, jazz, classical, and rock, will have checked Dunning's name more than once. A privilege so to witness this all too brief exposition on the variety and potential of wind instruments. Flute and similar for the most part, but also something that had a hint of the uileann pipes. This was a world tour of musical influence, Irish airs, and Duke Ellington too. More please!

Shane Harrison







Phil Lynch lives in Dublin. He also lived in Belgium for a time. Most recently, his poems have appeared in, amongst others: Even The Daybreak: 35 Years of Salmon Poetry, Revival, Bare Hands Anthology, Bare Hands Poetry (online), Boyne Berries Series, The Poetry Bus, Headstuff, OFi Press Literary Magazine (Mexico), Wordlegs, The Runt, Census 3, Circle Time, Headspace, Silver Apples Magazine, Bray Arts Journal.

He has also been featured on the Arena Arts Show and the Poetry Program on RTE Radio as well as on a number of local radio programs In 2015, he was placed third in the Doolin Writers' Weekend Poetry Competition, shortlisted in the Red Line Poetry Competition and longlisted in the Dermot Healy International Poetry Competition.

In 2014 he was a runner-up in the iYeats Poetry Competition and longlisted in the Over The Edge New Writer of the Year Competition. He is a regular reader/performer at poetry and spoken word events and festivals in Ireland and further afield, including Electric Picnic and Cúirt festivals and events in London, Paris, Brussels and New York.

Phil is a co-founder of Ireland's only spoken word festival, Lingo, and is a member of the Dalkey Writers Workshop. His first full poetry collection, In a Changing Light, was published by Salmon Poetry in 2016.

December Preview 2016

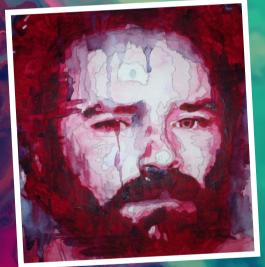
Conall McCabe is an Irish Artist who works in Oil and Water colour. He received his MFA in 2003 from the New York Academy of Art.

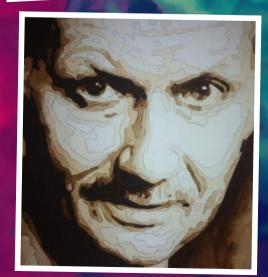
His focus is predominantly on the Human Figure, in particular the Portrait. His current work explores Portraits of Serial Killers, using digital manipulation to suggest the incompleteness or erosion of morality.

His paintings resonate with at times garish juxtapositions of saturated colour. Conall's work has been exhibited in the UK, Ireland, America, and Italy. He is in the process of completing his final paintings for his upcoming Solo show in Gallery X Dublin.

The Solo show is called 'Serial Killer'. He also continues to run a small company called Bespoke Portraits, which provides affordable, traditional Portraits in Water colour.







Mamá Tequila is a band created by Ainhoa Garaikoetxea in Bray, composed of five members; Michael Monaghan, Karima Dillon-El Toukhy, Kenny Doran, Aoife Hester and Ainhoa. The music you'll hear from this band are upbeat original compositions of Ainhoa and Michael, and covers of bands that had influence in Ainhoa's music development, from pop-rock music, to mambo style.



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1 Albert Avenue, Bray Signal Arts Centre CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR Dec 5th - Dec 24th **Open 7 days a week** 10am - 5pm

phone: 01 276 2039 | email: info@signalartscentre.ie



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Starts at 8:00 pm everyone is welcome Admission: €5 & €4 conc. Information: Julie-Rose McCormick, 087 248 6751



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