

t was a dark and stormy night... but people still turned up for the February meeting.

Ark Lawlor is a visual artist. He came to tell us about his work and his forthcoming exhibition. Mark is also a writer so he understands the limitations of using words to describe or explain visual art. Visual art has to speak for itself. He told us the time and place of the opening of his forthcoming exhibition (Signal Arts. 3.00p.m. Sunday 7th Feb) and passed round his sketch book for us to look at. I can't wait to see the exhibition.

When Dave Flynn set up his computer to show photos of his work I feared we might be in for a shedload of "Art speak" but... whew... Dave is not only a painter of talent, he's a great communicator. He told the story of his development as an artist by showing us his "milestone" paintings. They illustrated his journey from teenager, fascinated by animation, through Art school, the influences of Punk, Lucian Freud, Francis Bacon, and Euan Ugelo. While most artists move from figurative to abstract, Dave went the other way round. More recently he's been experimenting with psychedelia and Pop and has now returned to his teenage love, animation.

Nowadays it is enlarged and informed by his life experience. He has worked in several mediums including oils, watercolour, and dry point. He is currently enthused by giclée, large-format, high-resolution digital method of making fine art prints. Yeah... I want to see that. Like Virginia Woolf, he urges artists to get "A Room of One's Own", or, in his case, a studio. A separate work space helps the artist to focus on work and avoid the distractions of domesticity.

Brian Quigley read us several of his poems some of which are in his collection 'Pyramids'. Brian is a scientist and his poems have the brevity, elegance, and precision of a scientific equation. His imagery has the vividness of the Haiku and, like the Japanese form, it evokes time and place and memory. Many of the poems he read were specific to bray...

just the odd ship inching along as if in a novelty pen... the heave-ho of the four oar row... fields, patched like quilts on to hills That rest like iced buns on a baker's tray... His words made me feel blessed to live there.

Finally we were entertained by the music of Saoirse, Naoise and Ciara, the delightful Carty Sisters. Their music has obvious roots in Irish traditional music but you can also hear strands of American blue-grass and country and jazz to make up their unique Carty Sisters sound which, as Saoirse told us, is still developing.

These girls are still in their teens, they're still in school, and they are terrific. Between them they play guitar, fiddle, concertina, timber flute, tin whistle, bodhrán, and the Cajon drum box. Plus they sing. And here's the bit that turned my mounting envy of their talent to rampant jealousy, they write their own music as well. At least when they become international superstars I'll be able to say that I met them.

SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE CURRENT EXHIBITION



DRAWINGS BY MELISSA O'FAHERTY

MON FEBRUARY 29TH SUN MARCH 13TH

OPENING NIGHT FRIDAY MARCH 4TH 7PM

SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE

1 ALBERT AVENUE

BRAY

CO.WICKLOW

TEL: 01-2762039



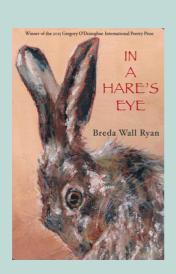




KATE DEMPSEY

THE SPACE BETWEEN

ate Dempsey is from Coventry; she lived and worked in The Netherlands and Albuquerque NM before moving to Maynooth with her family twenty years ago. Her poetry is published in many journals in Ireland and the UK. Prizes include The Plough Prize, Cecil Day Lewis Award, an Arts Council grant, Hennessy New Irish Writing Award shortlisting and a poem nominated for the Forward Prize. She runs the Poetry Divas, a glittery collective of women poets who blur the wobbly boundary between page and stage. Her debut collection, The Space Between, was published by Doire Press in 2015.





BREDA WALL RYAN

Breda Wall Ryan is from Co Waterford. She moved to Bray twenty years ago. Her poetry and fiction is published in Irish and international journals and anthologies and broadcast on RTÉ and other radio stations. Awards include the iYeats, Poets Meet Painters, Dromineer, Over the Edge New Writer of the Year, Gregory O'Donoghue International Poetry Prize, shortlisting's for Davy Byrnes and Hennessy New Irish Writing awards, and Pushcart and Forward Prize nominations. A founding member of Hibernian Writers, she has an M. Phil in Creative Writing from Trinity College. In a Hare's Eye (Doire Press) is her first collection.

DARAGH MULDOWNEY



'Out of Thin Air' won the FEP European Landscape photobook of the year award in 2015, Available to purchase on www.dura.com 'Out of Thin Air' by Daragh Muldowney, A short slideshow presentation.

In June 2013, the crew aboard the Killary Flyer set sail for Greenland ready to explore the world's largest island in a variety of ways.

Daragh Muldowney was the photographer on board and once there set about photographing the surreal nature of the glacier to exquisite ice sculptures.

Join him for this short presentation to learn more about sailing across the Atlantic and the process involved in making some of the images.







Fiona Keane, Simon Maxwell, Martin Davidson. Director: Derek Pullen, SM: Lucy Lynch

Somewhere in England

Two of the three characters speak only their native tongue – Italian and Finnish.

But what we hear is straightforward English.

BRAY ARTS

Bray Arts D.G was formed as a small drama group over fifteen years ago, by Derek Pullen and Rosary Morley, primarily to partake in festivals on the circuit. They have also performed mainly one-act plays at other venues including the Civic Theatre and Mermaid Theatre as fund raising activities. They have won a number of awards at festivals and reached the finals of the All Ireland in 2009 and 2011..



Kate Dempsey and Breda Wall - poetry Two award-winning leading international poets broadcast and published in many journals in Ireland and abroad will illustrate the best of their celebrated works and creative writing



Darragh Muldowney photographer With an astounding slideshow on the making of 'Out of Thin Air'sailing all the way to Greenland to capture images of the surreal nature of the glacier and exquisite ice sculptures



Bray Arts Drama Group—Albert – a hilarious one act comedy.

Fiona Keane, Simon Maxwell, Martin Davidson desperately trying to understand without a word in common and an unexpected outcome, directed by Derek Pullen and stage manager Lucy Lynch.



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



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