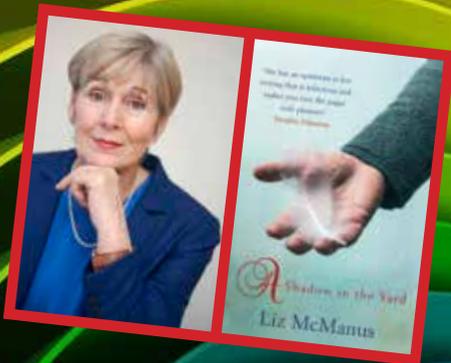
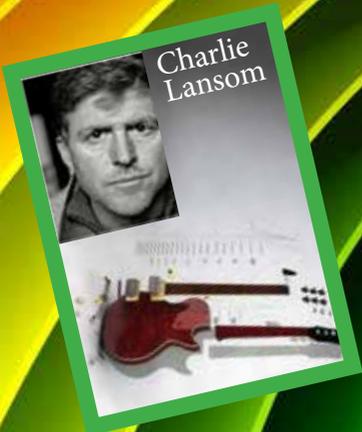


BRAY

Mon April 13th
2015
8pm

ARTS

SHOW!



Bray
Arts
Drama
Group

IMPROMPTU

March, with its storms and squalls, has been likened to a lion.

However, there's little to fear for those bracing the winds on Bray seafront that a visit to the Martello for Bray Arts couldn't cure.

There are jigs and reels from a Pelotas's host of youngsters of frightening talent, strange creatures born out of stone from Helen O'Connell, and gothic tales of medieval skulduggery from writer Dermot McCabe.

What can one say, except: squeak, squeak, pass the cheese. Ceoltas went first, the tender years of the participants trumping the Bray Arts tradition of finishing on song. There was set dancing to begin with, followed by a quartet of harpists.

The under-12s gave a selection of their talent. Not yet fully formed, their set illustrated the importance of playing with others. No, it's not as easy as it looks, but it's getting there. Being there is the fun for the under-15s, With a more adventurous repertoire and growing confidence, the music begins to take flight.

After more dancing, the under-18s take the stage, the light and shade of arrangement, texture and timing all bear fruit. There are duets to finish what has been a long, well-appreciated set.

Helen O'Connell gives a detailed tour of her artistic method and development. The most interesting thing here is the emergence of sculpture from blank stone. There is magic and intuition

in this, but a hard slog too. The finished work is fine in itself, though a dimension is, of necessity, omitted in a slide show.

The bonus for the audience is in seeing how Helen can induce pure art from an unyielding lump of stone. A saxophone player, a polar bear, wild plants and, perhaps, wilder women emerge from unpromising cubes. Ostensible, living things, conjured from the rock of ages. Such inspiration, such perspiration too!

The sepulchral, small hours are an appropriate setting for the ever-patient Dermot McCabe's Dredgemarsh. His recently launched second instalment, *The Lost Prince*, delves deeper into the sometimes sordid machinations of that mythical, medieval city.

The world is made real through visual imagery, as long lost paintings of the key protagonists are displayed against a backdrop of the music of the era. From out of the gathered shadows, Dermot's dulcet baritone outlines the dire events that set the tone for the latest episode.

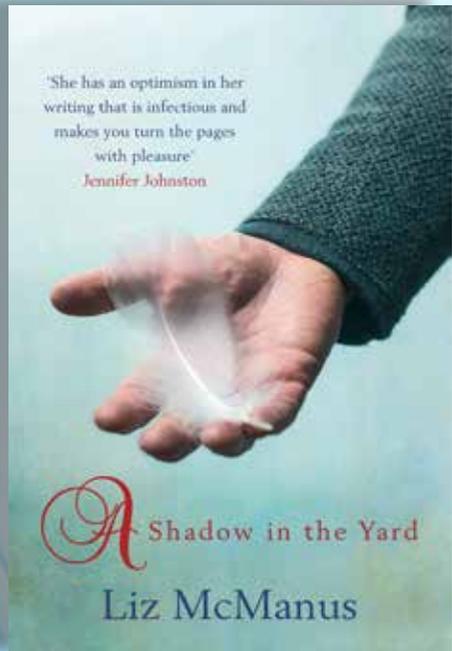
Outside, the moon waxes, wolves howl, and the last bus is long gone. Don't be afraid, be very, very frightened.

Shane Harrison



Liz McManus born in Montreal Canada. Grew up in Ireland. Worked as an architect in Derry, Galway and Wicklow. She was a TD for Co. Wicklow for nineteen years and Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal in the Rainbow Government.

A short fiction writer and novelist she won the Hennessy, Irish PEN and Listowel awards and her first novel 'Acts of Subversion' was shortlisted for the Irish Times/Aer Lingus award. Her second novel 'A Shadow in the Yard' was published this year and has been well reviewed.



CHARLIE LAMSON



Charlie Lamson is a songwriter from Boston and has played in coffee houses and pubs from Maine to Washington DC. His music is a blend of acoustic-driven American country, folk, blues and soul that focuses on scenes and characters of New England. “As much as possible I try to draw real situations and real people, I try to keep the stories in that area of common truth, in the struggles that we all deal with and understand.”

In 2005, Charlie moved to Ireland with his wife Rosemary. For much of that time has lived in Greystones raising his children and quietly writing songs. “Its exciting to be playing again and Ireland is a perfect environment for what I’m trying to do – people here understand music and the idea of songs in a way that is entirely unique – it’s in their bones.”



BRAY ARTS DRAMA GROUP

IMPROMPTU

A
PLAY
BY
TAD MOSEL

ERNEST
WINIFRID
LORA
TONY

MARTIN DAVIDSON
SIOBHAN GALLAGHER
FIONA KEANE
SIMON MAXWELL

DIRECTOR
STAGE MANAGER

DEREK PULLEN
LUCY LYNCH

Four actors are engaged to appear on stage with vague instructions from the stage manager. The theme - how much truth and how much illusion does a person need to live a balanced life?

Bray Arts was formed as a small group over ten years ago, primarily to partake in festivals on the circuit or otherwise. 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..

Rare migrating bird
 In flower-print dresses – old Hippie style
 and packages of experience
 packed and un-packed
 strings trailing behind.

Flying between the worlds
 of humour being the main means of
 communication
 in one world
 and sincerity and world conscience
 being another
 in the other one.

She saddles both – with ease
 most of the time.

Boarding cards
 Tickets
 Passports
 constantly in use...
 -Yes, here it is!
 -Yes, I am one of you's...as they say in
 Dublin
 -Yes... she can joke even with the serious
 looking passport
 control official in one world
 ...who welcomes her 'home' with a grin
 by the way...
 and she can draw a sigh of relief at having
 escaped the latest rule book being
 applied to her
 in the other world
 -The same rules for all... it ensures
 equality
 you know...and we all agree about that
 of course!
 She smiles...yes, I know...

Luckily the Pope doesn't seem
 to care about her colourful life
 She is a fool

a Shakespearean free spirit
 maybe
 a Vicar's daughter
 who skilfully negotiates the worlds
 and seldom crash lands
 -with a joke if it does happen!
 Of course.

Please God, she says
 let me always treasure
 my free spirit
 and the land that gave me
 the freedom to express the
 artist me for
 unapologetic happiness' sake
 and the other land
 that gave me
 the discipline to sincerely
 feel and think about it all
 in flight
 ignoring the rules of the flying season!

Rare migrating bird
 and fool of the heart
 with clear thinking
 she strings words together
 or is it worlds
 freedom
 identity
 belonging
 foreign
 strings of words
 paints, crayons, worlds and
 colours
 trailing behind
 her in the wind.

Eva Lindroos
 December 28th 2014

SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE EXHIBITION

Nicola Sedgwick - Journeys

Mon 13th Apr - Sun 26th Apr 2015

Opening night - Sun 19th Apr 3-5pm



Gerard Thomas R.I.P



On Mar 16th, Gerard Thomas departed from this life in St. Michaels Hospital, Dun laoghaire. His going was unobtrusive, in keeping with the man we knew, whose quiet presence amongst us in Bray Arts was a constant, a comfortable reminder that all was well and nothing would ever change. But 'time and tide wait for no man' and we are left wondering about this absent friend. Who was Gerard Thomas? it would be foolish to presume that any of us could fathom the

complexity of any other person's life. Perhaps the best we can do is observe those things that the other holds precious. Using that measurement, what was precious to Gerard was music. In particular he had a deep love and appreciation of opera and the majestic arias of its great operatic stars. This single observation of what enthused Ger is my key to a man of sensitivity to the sublime in this purest of all art forms. I remember Ger's demeanour of utter joy at the Bray Arts Concert in the Mermaid Theatre when the Georgian bass, David Jochadze sang O Isis und Osirus. Ger was transported and that defined Ger for me better than anything else. For the Bray Arts Journal, Oct 2007, Ger insisted, in the gentlest possible way, that he would write a tribute to Pavarotti who had died on September

6th, 2007. As editor, I was always delighted when Ger made a contribution and, like on other occasions, this was a powerful tribute to the great tenor. Pavarotti sang in the Gaiety Theatre in 1964 and, of course, Ger was there and described an unforgettable experience including getting Pavarotti's autograph at the stage door. Ger ended his tribute in the most beautiful way. He wrote: "Dear Luciano, go take your place in the heavenly choir. I am sure there is one for you, near the front." What a touching thought from this quiet and unobtrusive man, Ger Thomas. I can do no better than echo his own words: Dear Ger, go take your place before the heavenly choir. There is a seat for you in the front row where you can listen to the sublime voices of Pavarotti and all the other great singers you so loved.

BRAY ARTS SHOW

layout by John McCann c/o Signal Arts Centre

THE
MARTELLO
HOTEL
BRAY
MON APRIL 13TH
2015
DOORS OPEN 8PM
ADMISSION
€5 - €4 CONC.



Liz McManus- short fiction writer and novelist
Will read from her recently published novel " A
Shadow in the Yard " enjoying extensive reviews
reflecting a wealth of experience as winner of the
Hennessy award , Irish PEN and Listowel awards .

Charlie Lamson- Singer / Songwriter and story Teller
In a blend of American country , folk and blues that
portrays the scenes of New England in an intimate
session of committed songwriting and storytelling all
the way from Boston .



BRAY
ARTS
DRAMA
GROUP

Derek Pullen and a cast of four actors engaged
in a creative impromptu appearance with vague
instructions to show how much truth and how
much illusion a person needs to live a balanced
life .

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PERFORM OR PRESENT YOUR WORK AT THE
BRAY ARTS PLEASE CONTACT JULIE ROSE McCORMICK
AT 0872486751: ALL ART FORMS WELCOME, FILM, DANCE, ART,
LITERARY, MIXED MEDIA, MUSIC, SONG, PUPPETRY, EXPERIMENTAL,
SHOWCASE NEW WORK.



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