

Mon April 3
2017
8pm



BRAY ART SHOW



Brian Quigley



Wendy Stephens



Polyana



Chaos in Harmony

Layout by John McCann

There was a curious map on the screen, it could have been Tolkiens Middle Earth, or a C.S. Lewis realm – a darkened room or amphitheatre where red candles like miniature burning bushes sprang up on the tables – the omnipresent tawny fire like a pet lion in the hearth – exotic, glittering fabric draped on the walls like matadors cloaks; the room was set up yet again for another spellbinding Bray Arts evening.

A romantic, whimsical image, from something Dara, our singer for the evening described – of a little, tin church that was seen in Switzerland, and so enjoyed that it was recreated piece by piece in Northern Ireland – is an image that somehow reflects what David Butler is attempting in his Blackrock Sequence. The tantalising map on the screen turns out to be a detailed map of the area from the Forty Foot to Booterstown, and represents an oeuvre that David Butler is undertaking for Blackrock Library: It constitutes a fascinating sequence of poems about iconic memories of these spots dotted along the Dart line, for example the Joycean Martello Tower in Sandymount, the Forty Foot, the Blackrock Market and many more.

I certainly would love to get my hands on these poems when they are published. The whole exciting endeavour is to include a sequence of films too, what will work in tandem with the poems, which the poet's brother is going to execute, so there will be soundscapes and visuals also. Riveting! David explained the word palimpsest; something which is wiped out, and then something new is added. This is what the poems are trying to

achieve – layers of history and memories over the centuries on these sites. For example, he showed us a photo of footprints embedded in earth, an ongoing metamorphosis of ideas and memories in these locations.

All in all, it was a hugely interesting introduction to the Blackrock Sequence by David Butler, a former lecturer of English and Spanish Literature, also a novelist with three novels out there, a poet with his second collection of poetry out in March called *All The Barbaric Glass*, and playwright.

To the left of the stage was an improvised green room, where a glittering crew of dancers waited for their turn to grace the stage, with a Dance Medley, which proved both exuberant and colourful. They had changes of costume which were dazzling, and they were by turns arch, then seductive, but overall exhibiting such joyful expression on their faces that it was beautiful and soothing to watch. The names of the dances and the groups performing them reflected their poeticism Mediterranean Eyes, Shadows, and The ZORYANNA.

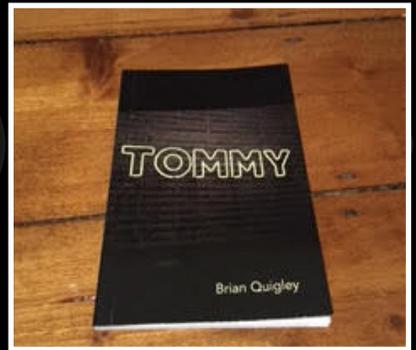
And last but not least, we had a band from Monaghan, who sang and played with power and originality, the singer giving little vignettes into the germ of the songs which were illuminating. Where would you get it? Where would you get to talk to the authors of the books as you buy them, as I did when I bought a volume of poetry by David Butler. It is like a magical bookstore where the authors are the booksellers. Only at Bray Arts!

Josephine Leahy



Brian Quigley

The book [‘Tommy’] is a memoir of my grandfather. It started off as a set of notes I inherited from him about Bray that he had hoped to turn into a history of the town. He lived in Bray all his life, which was also almost the entirety of the 20th century. The history of Bray has been done before and my grandfather’s notes were not really sufficient to surpass what had been done, but he had many great stories and nuggets of information nonetheless. In the end I wrote the book as a memoir of him, my story of his story of his life in the town and what it was like to live in Bray through Risings, World Wars and advancing technology.



I’ve been writing for 25 years, mainly poetry and journalism. This book was something different. It was hard work but rewarding. More than anything I wanted to get it done as a present for my mother who is 50 years married this year [Tommy was my mother’s father].

KLINKERDIN

*Common Ground
Presents*



Wendy Stephens' clown alter ego is Lucy. She normally just mentions the Lucy name in the blurbs so as not to tip off the audience. The photo speaks for its self I think.

'Lucy likes to sing, dance and play the guitar. She is very shy but sometimes, now and again, a very odd time... she does like to show her Talents. But remember she is shy, so please be nice.

POLYANA



URBAN

MUSICAL

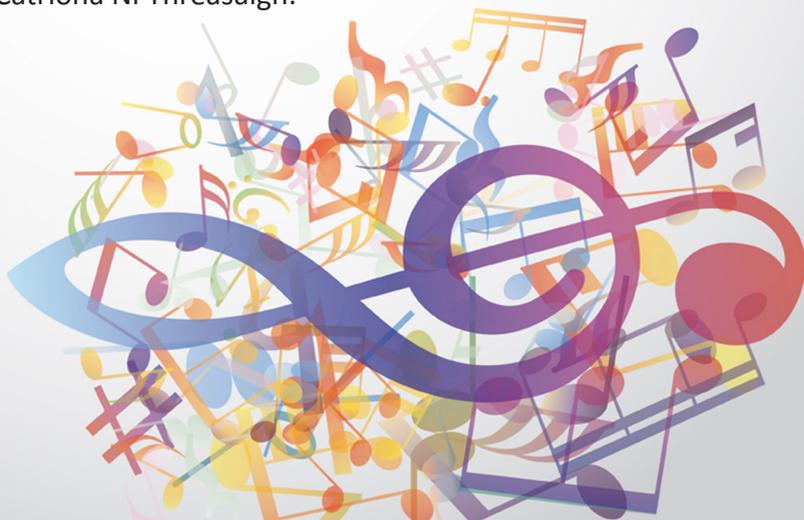
REGENERATION

‘Polyana – Urban Musical Regeneration is a composer and sound artist, who is currently exploring the relationship between rhythmic spaces, tonal and atonal synthesis, and found urban sounds. He has collaborated on a variety of projects, from short film scores, to performance artworks with Lisa Marie Johnson, and installations by Seamus Nolan.’



CHAOS IN HARMONY

Formed in 2006 and now based at Common Ground Food, Craft and Skills Co-op. Working with diverse vocal musical genres they are currently broadening their process to include responsive works based on performance, sonic collage, the Haiku poetry of Mary White as well as the literary of Catriona Ni Threasaigh.'

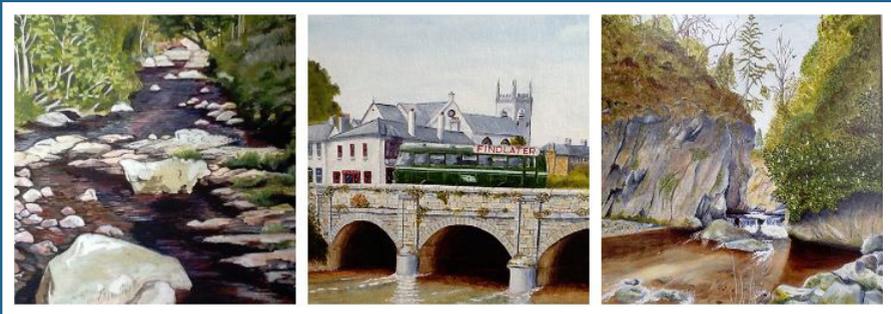


SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE
EXHIBITION

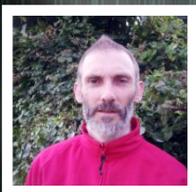


THE DARGLE, SO BEAUTIFUL

*An exhibition of paintings
by
Biddy Scott & Ray Cranley*



Beginning Monday April 10 - Sunday April 23 -2017



Brian has been writing for 25 years, mainly poetry and journalism. His book ['Tommy'] is a memoir of his grandfather. Brian's father lived in Bray all his life, which was also almost the entirety of the 20th century. This is his story of life in the town and what it was like to live in Bray through Risings, World Wars and advancing technology.



Wendy Stephens' clown alter ego is Lucy. 'Lucy likes to sing, dance and play the guitar. She is very shy but sometimes, now and again, a very odd time... she does like to show her talents. But remember she is shy, so please be nice.



'Polyana – Urban Musical Regeneration' is a composer and sound artist, who is currently exploring the relationship between rhythmic spaces, tonal and atonal synthesis, and found urban sounds



'Chaos In Harmony Vocal Ensemble is a Community Music Collective. Formed in 2006 they are now based at Common Ground Food, Craft and Skills Co-op in Bray..



Starts at 8:00 pm

everyone is welcome

Admission: €5 & €4 conc.

Information: Julie-Rose McCormick,

087 248 6751

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