

12.30pm

REGISTRATION with tea and coffee

1.30pm

OPENING WORDS with Prof Glenn Patterson

Director of the Seamus Heaney Centre at Queen's University Belfast

1.45-2.45pm

KEYNOTE ONE: PROF ALAN GILLIS*The long and the short of it: Ciaran Carson on the line*

introduced by Prof Leontia Flynn (Queen's University Belfast)



Alan Gillis is Professor of Modern Poetry at The University of Edinburgh. His most recent poetry collection *The Readiness* was published by Picador in 2020.

2.45-4.00pm

PANEL ONE: TRANSLATIONchaired by **Dr Stephen Sexton (Queen's University Belfast)***Translation and Conflict: Ciaran Carson's translations of Jean Follain in From Elsewhere*

Dr Kathleen Shields, Maynooth University

'begins to creep /towards /the unimaginable horizon': Ciaran Carson and French Poetry

Prof David Wheatley, University of Aberdeen

Breaking New Ground and Staying Out of the Rut: Ciaran Carson's Exorbitant Translations from Rimbaud

Dr Anne Rainey, Ulster University

4.00pm

BREAK

4.15-5.30pm

THE WEDNESDAY GROUP READINGS

Hosted by Paul Maddern

With readings from Paul Jeffcut, Ray Givans, Maureen Boyle, Nancy Graham, Mary Montague, Emma Must, Rachael Hegarty, Maureen Hill, Paula Cunningham, Matt Kirkham, Eamon Cunningham, Maura Johnston and Sheila Llewellyn

7.00pm

Belfast City Hall

CITY HALL RECEPTION

Hosted by Deputy Lord Mayor Aine Grogan

With music from Deirdre Carson, Bernie Stocks, Dermot McAteer and Len Graham, and words from Glenn Patterson.



9.30am
The Studio

REGISTRATION with tea and coffee

10.00-11.00am
The Cube**PANEL TWO: TRANSLATION**

chaired by Dr Kathleen Kaess (Queen's University Belfast)

Carson's Mapping of the Inert in Translating Rimbaud's Illuminations

Dr Miriam Anne McIlpatrick-Ksenofonov, Tallinn University

From Elsewhere: Translation as doubling in Ciaran Carson's versions of Jean Follain

Prof Patrick McGuinness, University of Oxford

11.00am

BREAK

11.15am
Outside**POETRY JUKEBOX: Last Night's Fun**

introduced by Dane Holt and Milena Williamson

With recordings from Stephen Mullan, Emma Must, Eoghan Totten, Andrew Jamison, Scott McKendry, Marcella LA Prince, Shirin Jindani, Maureen Boyle, Dawn Watson, Jane Robinson, Ray Givans, Paula Cunningham, Judy O'Kane, Damian Smyth, Eamon Cunningham, Manuela Moser, Martin Cromie, Sharon Jones, and Glenn Patterson.

12.30pm
The Studio

LUNCH

1.30-2.45pm
The Cube**PANEL THREE: PLACE AND THE CITY**

chaired by Dr Eamonn Hughes

Carson Down Under: Re-reading 'The Exiles'

Prof Matt McGuire, Western Sydney University

Carson and Belfast

Patricia Craig

Ciaran Carson's New York

Prof John Waters, New York University

2.45pm

BREAK

3.00-4.00pm
The Cube**KEYNOTE TWO: PROF SINÉAD MORRISSEY***An Asterisk on the Map*

introduced by Dr Stephen Sexton (Queen's University Belfast)

Sinéad Morrissey is Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University.

Her most recent poetry collection is *On Balance* (Carcenet).

- 9.30am REGISTRATION with tea and coffee
- 10.00-11.00am **PANEL FOUR: ART**
chaired by Dr Stephen Sexton (Queen's University Belfast)
- 'Hamlet', the traditional arts and das ding an sicht*
Prof Matthew Campbell, University of York
- "How I love [...] the sound of the/world beyond": A Phenomenological Reading of Love in Ciaran Carson's For All We Know and Still Life*
Sarah d'Episcopo, University of Zürich
- 11.00am BREAK
- 11.15am-12.30pm **PANEL FIVE: MEMORY**
chaired by Dr Gail McConnell (Queen's University Belfast)
- "I was thinking of writing myself": Body, breath, and self-elegy in Ciaran Carson's Still Life*
Christina McCambridge, Queen's University Belfast
- All the haberdashery of loss - Time, memory and textiles in the work of Ciaran Carson*
Dr Shirin Jindani
- 'remembering / remembering': The ethics and politics of memory in Ciaran Carson's later poetry*
Dr Neal Alexander, Aberystwyth University
- 12.30pm LUNCH
- 1.30-2.45pm **PANEL SIX: PERFORMANCE, VOICE, SOUND**
chaired by Prof Leontia Flynn (Queen's University Belfast)
- Bark and Slabber At: Ciaran Carson and the Belfast Voice*
Dr Scott McKendry, Queen's University Belfast
- Rhythm and rhyme: The Irish for No and Belfast Confetti*
Prof John McAuliffe, University of Manchester
- Ciaran Carson: Performing Canonical Identity*
Dr Paul Maddern
- 2.45pm BREAK
- 3.00-4.00pm **PANEL SEVEN: ART & CINEMA**
chaired by Dr Elena Caoduro (Queen's University Belfast)
- 'However fleetingly': Experience and Genre in Ciaran Carson's ekphrastic writing*
Prof Rui Carvalho-Homem, Universidade do Porto
- Carson - Tarkovsky - Tarkovsky - Carson*
Dr Michael Hinds, Dublin City University

- 10.00am REGISTRATION with tea and coffee
- 10.30-11.30am **PANEL EIGHT: HISTORY AND ARCHIVES**
chaired by Dr Stephen Kelly (Queen's University Belfast)
Ciaran Carson and William Howard Russell Through the Archive
Dr Milena Williamson, Queen's University Belfast
Happenstance: an enquiry into fortunate chance through a study of Ciaran Carson's works
Dr Jane Robinson
- 11.30am BREAK
- 11.45am-12.45pm **PANEL NINE: PLACE AND THE (SENSORY) CITY**
chaired by Dr Dawn Watson (Queen's University Belfast)
Star City: Ciaran Carson's Belfast Prose
Prof Nicholas Allen, University of Georgia
Star Olfactory: Carson's Perfumes and the Scent of the Times
Dr Stuart McWilliams, University of Oslo
- 12.45-1.00pm **ONE LAST THING**
introduced by Prof Glenn Patterson (Queen's University Belfast)
With a performance from HIVE choir
- 2.30pm **Walking Tour of the Entries**
Self-guided tour of the entries in Belfast city centre, with street art interventions inspired by Ciaran Carson's work and featuring extracts from his writing.

6.00-7.00pm
The Sonic Lab

OWENVARRAGH: A BELFAST CIRCUS ON THE STAR FACTORY

Úna Monaghan (harp and concertina), Martin Dowling (fiddle),
Tiarnán Ó Duinnchinn (uilleann pipes), Ciara McCrickard (voice),
Martha Guiney (flute), with readings from Liam Carson.

Owenvarragh, A Belfast Circus on The Star Factory was created by Úna Monaghan and Martin Dowling in 2012 from a text by Ciaran Carson and a score by John Cage. It is a realisation of the 1979 John Cage Roaratorio "circus on" score, designed to realise a text as a performance. This excerpt features a 30 channel surround soundscape of field recordings mentioned in Ciaran's book *The Star Factory*, mesostic poems from the text, and Irish traditional music.





ALAN GILLIS

Professor of Modern Poetry, University of Edinburgh

Alan Gillis is Professor of Modern Poetry at The University of Edinburgh. His most recent poetry collection *The Readiness* was published by Picador in 2020. This followed four books of poetry with The Gallery Press. He has been nominated for the T.S. Eliot Prize and named a 'Next Generation Poet'. As critic he is author of *Irish Poetry of the 1930s*, co-editor of *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish Poetry*, and was previously editor of *Edinburgh Review*.



SINÉAD MORRISSEY

Professor of Creative Writing, Newcastle University

Sinéad Morrissey is the author of six poetry collections. Both *Through the Square Window* and *Parallax* received the Irish Times Poetry Prize. She was the winner of the TS Eliot Prize in 2013 and of the Forward Prize in 2017. In 2019 she was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and in 2020 she was awarded the European Poet of Freedom Award for her most recent collection, *On Balance*. She has served as Belfast Poet Laureate and is currently Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University.



PAUL MULDOON

Professor of Creative Writing, Princeton University

Paul Muldoon was born in Armagh in 1951. He now lives in New York. A former radio and television producer for the BBC in Belfast, he has taught at Princeton University for thirty-five years. He is the author of fifteen collections of poetry including *Joy in Service on Rue Tagore* (FSG and Faber & Faber, 2024). Among his awards are the 1972 Eric Gregory Award, the 1980 Sir Geoffrey Faber Memorial Award, the 1994 T.S. Eliot Prize, the 1997 Irish Times Poetry Prize, the 2003 Pulitzer Prize, the 2003 Griffin International Prize for Poetry, the 2004 American Ireland Fund Literary Award, the 2004 Shakespeare Prize, the 2006 European Prize for Poetry, the 2015 Pigott Poetry Prize, the 2017 Queens Gold Medal for Poetry, and the 2020 Michael Marks Award. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society for Literature and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Letters.



THE SEAMUS HEANEY CENTRE

Queen's University Belfast

Since 2003 the Seamus Heaney Centre has been home to some of the UK and Ireland's foremost poets, novelists, scriptwriters and critics. Building on a literary heritage at Queen's that stretches back to the 1960s 'Belfast Group', the Centre is dedicated to excellence and innovation in poetry, creative writing and criticism.



CONFERENCE BOOK SALES - NO ALIBIS BOOKSTORE

83 Botanic Avenue
noalibis.com

A range of titles will be on sale with No Alibis Bookstore, including those from keynote speakers, other conference delegates, and Ciaran Carson himself.



CONFERENCE GREEN ROOM

SHC Seminar Room, 48 University Road
seamusheaneycentre.com

Throughout the conference, the seminar room will be open to any delegate who wants to catch up on some work, read, write or rest. It will be stocked with a full collection of Ciaran Carson's books, and staffed by SHC Student Advocates who are there to help with any enquiries.



CONFERENCE VENUE - LANYON BUILDING

Queen's University
University Road

The venues for Wednesday, Friday and Saturday are within the Lanyon building: Canada Room & Council Chamber - 1st floor (lift access via Welcome Centre) Great Hall - ground floor (turn right through the Cloisters).



CONFERENCE VENUE - CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE

The Cube and Studio
2-4 University Road

The venues for Thursday are within the Crescent Arts Centre. The venue also contains the conference exhibition, and the 'Poetry Jukebox: Last Night's Fun' is installed just outside.



CONFERENCE VENUE - SONIC ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE

The Sonic Lab at Queen's
Cloreen Park

The venue for Saturday evening's performance of *Owenvarragh* by Úna Monaghan takes place in the exceptional Sonic Lab.

Botanic train station is 5-10min walk from all conference locations. The station at Great Victoria Street is a 15-20min walk, or a short bus ride away. The number 7 bus route takes you from the city centre to Queen's University via Botanic Avenue, the number 8 bus route goes from the city centre to Queen's University via University Road and stops right outside the Lanyon building.

STAR FACTORY: AN EXHIBITION BY JONATHAN BRENNAN

Crescent Arts Centre
2-4 University Road

Star Factory is a collection of new work by Jonathan Brennan created in 2022–23. All works in the current show are woodblocks, i.e. the matrix used to create woodblock prints, yet here the pieces exhibited are the blocks themselves, coated in enamel paint to highlight the raised and carved areas of each block.

All artworks take their inspiration from Ciaran Carson's masterpiece *The Star Factory*. Some are directly illustrative of passages in the work, others riff on the multitude of themes this uncategorisable text delves into, others still are more collaborative in nature, bringing in elements and concerns from the artist's own practice.

Jonathan Brennan (1978) is an artist based in Belfast since 2012. Originally from Dublin, he studied painting at the École des Arts d'Anderlecht, with a background in History of Art & Architecture from at Trinity College Dublin. Jonathan is a multi-disciplinary artist working in printmaking, painting, video and photography, audio and text, who enjoys collaborations with artists working in other disciplines, particularly music and literature. His work is about architectural and urban places, as well as what is traditionally referred to as landscape, and how both interact.

Jonathan exhibits regularly, with group and solo shows the Ulster Museum, Golden Thread Gallery, Framework, ArtisAnn, Belfast Exposed, Fenderesky, Crescent Arts Centre, Seamus Heaney HomePlace. His most recent solo show took place in Vault Artist Studios in 2022. His work has also been published in Winter Papers.

LOCAL SUGGESTIONS

Food, drinks, culture

"It is Sunday, 19 April 1997, and I've just come back from the Queen's Film Theatre, where I saw Orphée, Jean Cocteau's free interpretation of the Orpheus myth, made in 1950."

from The Star Factory, Ciaran Carson



Cultural venues on the University campus include the Queen's Film Theatre (20 University Square) and the Naughton Gallery at Queen's (Lanyon building, 1st floor). The Ulster Museum, set within Botanic Gardens, and the Lyric Theatre (55 Ridgeway Street) are a short walk away.

Botanic Avenue is full of cafes and affordable diners including Madame Pho, Town Square, Maggie May's, Tribal Burger, French Village and Umi Falafel. The city centre's Cathedral Quarter, renowned for its bars and restaurants, is a 20min walk away. The Woodworkers Bar is our unofficial 'post-show-pints' destination. They also serve food until late.

