

MIC FEMFEST 2022

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

25th FEBRUARY

LELAND BARDWELL EVENT

Commemorating the Centenary of Leland Bardwell's Birth
25th February marks the actual centenary of Bardwell's birth. Prof. Lucy Collins (UCD) & Emeritus Prof Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin (TCD & Aosdána) will speak about Bardwell's poetry. Dr David Clare (MIC) will speak about Bardwell's fiction. Composer, Dr John McLachan (Aosdána), will then pay musical tribute to his mother. A Q&A session will follow. The event will be chaired by Dr Ailbhe McDaid (MIC, UCC).

3-5pm

Halla

MONDAY

7th MARCH

OPENING EVENT

Speakers: Professor Niamh Hourigan, Vice-President-Academic Affairs, MIC; Mary Hayes, *Too Into You Campaign* Project Leader with Women's Aid; Dr Dorothy Morrissey, Chair, MIC FemFest. Traditional Music provided by MIC students and staff.

12.45-1.30pm

Forum

MEMORIAL WALK/RUN in memory of Ashling Murphy

Donations to Women's Aid

1.30-2.30pm

Tailteann

WOMEN AND SHORT FILM MAKING PANEL

DISCUSSION- Partnerships & Possibilities

Women now make more short films than ever before. Here, female members of successful short film teams show their films and tease out how to put a short together. They talk about everything from locating the screenwriter with a story that inspires passion and commitment to assembling the creative team. Financing, crewing, postproduction, getting the finished film into film festivals and finding an audience are also up for discussion.

2-3.30pm

T115

TUESDAY
8th MARCH

**INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY**

STEM CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGE

The Engineering Design Process with fifth class girls.

This year, Engineers' Week coincides with FemFest and in this interactive engineering workshop for fifth class girls, participants learn about the Engineering Design Process. As they collaborate in teams on a variety of engineering construction projects, they learn to hone their skills as engineers, scientists, and mathematicians. The workshop ends with a presentation by female role models in STEM.

9-11.30am
G10

FEMALE DJ DAY - *Girls Just Wanna DJ*

This Female DJ day, which is run in partnership with Afropopcity and funded by Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA), brings together DJ Safarri, DJ Saz and DJ CC for a day of student workshops and a community workshop. The day will round off with some live music DJ sets for everyone in the Forum.

EVENT 1: FEMALE DJ WORKSHOP with B.Ed Year 4 Music
Education Elective

10-11am

EVENT 2: COMMUNITY FEMALE DJ WORKSHOP in Partnership
with *Afropopcity*

1-2pm
Music Dept

To sign up to the community workshop, please email
afropopcity@gmail.com

EVENT 3: FEMALE DJ WORKSHOP with B.Ed Year 3 Music
Education Elective

4-5pm

EVENT 4: FEMALE DJ SET in partnership with *Afropopcity*

5-6pm
Forum

MAIDIN CHAIFÉ i gcabhair le/in aid of Women's Aid

11-12noon
An Seomra
Caidrimh

Pioneering Women in Publishing in association with The Irish
Women Writers' Network (1880-1920).

1-2pm
G10

This lunchtime lecture is hosted by FemFest in association with the Irish Women Writers' Network (1880-1920). Dr Deirdre Brady (UL) speaks about Blanaid Salkeld's role in the Gayfield Press and Dr Caoilfhionn Ní Bheacháin (UL) speaks about the role of the Dun Emer Press in Ireland's Cultural Revival. The lecture is chaired by Dr Kathryn Laing (MIC).

Celebrating MIC Authors and their Books about Women

Join us for a celebration of recent (and upcoming) books about women, authored and edited by MIC scholars. Dr David Clare and Dr Fiona McDonagh talk about their two volumes on Irish women playwrights, co-edited with Dr Justine Nakase, and published in 2021: *The Golden Thread: Irish Women Playwrights Volumes 1 and 2*, which spans 300 years, from 1716-2016. Dr Sabine Egger talks about her 2019 book, co-edited with Dr Catherine E. Foley and Prof Margaret Mills-Harper: *Dance and Modernism in Irish and German Literature and Culture: Connections in Motion*. Dr Deirdre Flynn talks about her forthcoming book, co-edited with Dr Ciara Murphy: *Austerity and Irish Women's Writing and Culture, 1980-2020*. Dr Kathryn Laing talks about two of her books: one co-edited with Dr Sinéad Mooney entitled *Irish Women Writers at the Turn of the 20th Century: Alternative Histories, New Narratives*; the other co-authored with Dr Faith Binckes entitled *Hannah Lynch 1859-1904: Irish Writer, Cosmopolitan, New Woman*. Dr Susan Liddy talks about her edited books and co-edited reports on women in the media industry. Dr Liddy's edited books, *Women in the Irish film industry: Stories and Storytellers* and *Women in the International Film Industry: Policy, Practice and Power*, were both published in 2020. The following co-edited reports were published in 2021, *Auditing Gender and Diversity Change in Irish Media Sectors* and *Media Work, Mothers and Motherhood Negotiating the International Audio-Visual Industry*. A further co-edited report was published in 2022: *The Pursuit of Change: Issues Affecting Parents and Carers in Ireland's Screen Industries*. This event is chaired by Dr Julianne Stack.

4-5.30pm
Lime Tree
Theatre Stage

Workshop performance - Basile's Tale of Tales

Adapted by Brian Desmond and performed by B.A. & B.A. (CATS) students, this performance forms part of a larger project (funded by Limerick Theatre Bursaries - Limerick Arts Office, Limerick City and County Council, in partnership with the Lime Tree Theatre | Belltable). *Tale of Tales* (1634-6) comprises a self-contained framing story within which the telling of fifty tales by a group of female storytellers is facilitated. These grotesque and fantastical tales are steeped in European folk and fairy tale traditions. This work-in-progress performance presents three of Basile's tales as short 15-minute plays for youth theatre, and focuses on the role of the female storyteller.

Adaptation by Brian Desmond. Director: Piper McDonald.

Performers: Sarah McDonagh, Xin Gu, Jessica Curtin, Sophia DiBattista, and Aisling Keyes. Dramaturg: Dr Fiona McDonagh.

7pm
Halla

WEDNESDAY

9th MARCH

FEMSPORT Power Hour

Female participation in sport and physical activity is the focus of this exciting panel discussion. The discussion reviews progress to date and looks forward to the next steps. There is a particular emphasis on coaching, media, and the future. The panel comprises Nora Stapleton (Sporting Ireland and former Irish rugby player), Clíona O’Leary (MIC graduate, former Deputy Head of RTE sport), Dr Richard Bowles (MIC Lecturer and coach) and Irene Hogan, MIC PhD candidate and MTU lecturer. The discussion is chaired by Dr Niamh Kitching (MIC).

10.30-

11.30am

G08

WATCHING YOUR STEP: navigating the promises and contradictions of the visibility trap.

In this lunchtime lecture, Dr Mary McGill (IT, Carlow) explores how platforms like Instagram and Twitter emphasise certain modes of feminine visibility while side-lining others. She identifies what she calls the visibility trap, a neoliberal conception of agency-through-visibility where one is at once ‘free’ to be visible but also held responsible for the unpredictable outcomes of ‘choosing’ visibility. In this lecture, Dr McGill explores the punitive and deeply gendered effects of the visibility trap: the ways in which platforms enable, encourage and profit from visibility while simultaneously constraining and policing its potential to produce outcomes that are often regressive. This lecture is chaired by Dr Deirdre Flynn (MIC).

1-2pm

Streamed in

G10

COWGIRLS & WITCHES

This workshop performance is presented by a collective comprised of B.A. and B.A. (CATS) students and staff (current and former). The FemFest Theatre Collective was established to support emerging female theatre artists at MIC, offering them an opportunity to work creatively with, and alongside, professional theatre practitioners and academics. The final performance, arguably a by-product of this experience, is the outcome of collaborative, improvisatory work undertaken over a number of weeks. It was inspired by a message found in a book of Cowgirl Poetry. Devisers/Performers: Anna Corcoran, Aisling Knox, Ilinca Luca. Devisers: Rosin Burke, Robyn O’Riordan, Annie Brown. Deviser/Director: Dr Fiona McDonagh (MIC). Deviser/Dramaturg: Dr Ciara L. Murphy (NUIG). Sound Designer: Dave Daly (MIC).

3.10pm

(duration 10 mins)

Student

Lounge

COWGIRLS & WITCHES

Workshop Performance by The FemFest Theatre Collective

3.40pm

Student

Lounge

GEANTRAI AN EARRAIGH

Celebration of Irish Traditional Music in MIC

MIC has a long association with the traditional arts. Since the College's foundation in 1898, it has housed the cream of traditional music performers, the late Ashling Murphy amongst them. This tradition will be celebrated on this night in music and song, in the company of students who performed with Ashling, as well as more recent students.

Musical Director: Dr Geraldine Cotter.

Bean an Tí: Siobhán Ní Mhurchú.

Price: €10 (students €3)

8pm

Lime Tree
Theatre

THURSDAY
10th MARCH

COWGIRLS & WITCHES

Workshop Performance by The FemFest Theatre Collective

12.10pm

Student
Lounge

COWGIRLS & WITCHES

Workshop Performance by The FemFest Theatre Collective

12.40pm

Student
Lounge

AISTEAR TEANGA – Minority Language Research in MIC

In this online event, three PhD Students with MIC's Department of English Language & Literature discuss their Aistear Léinn leis an nGaeilge.

Caitlín Neachtain speaks about the impact of a diagnostic language resource on Irish language ability in Initial Teacher Education. Siobhán McCarthy explores attitudes towards 'new' Irish in the Gaeltacht. Shane Barry speaks about finding lost words in the Irish language context. This event is chaired by Dr Caitriona Breathnach (MIC).

[Link to Aistear Teanga](#)

12-1pm

Online

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE

Women's Lives, Women's Writing

Geraldine Brassil - 'The Anonymous or Pseudonymous Nineteenth-Century Irish Woman Writer'

Rachel Clifford – 'Gendered Grief and The Secret Garden'

Niamh Donnellan - 'The Ecological Philosophy of Val Plumwood in Feminism and the Mastery of Nature'

Kate Doyle - 'Ancient Feminists deconstructing modern ideals; the story of Enheduanna & Inanna'

Lorna Murphy - 'The Migrant's Voice in Women's Writing'

Paromita Sengupta – Title to be confirmed

This event is chaired by Dr Marita Ryan (MIC).

1-2pm

G10

FRIDAY
11th MARCH

PRECARIOUS CONTRACTS IN IRISH HEIs

11-12noon
G08

This panel explores the rise in precarious employment in Irish academia. It focuses, in particular, on the ways in which the over-representation of female academic staff in this category can be detrimental to career progression. The panellists are: Dr Theresa O'Keefe (UCD), Paula Tumulty (PhD Candidate, Kemmy Business School, UL), Dr Aline Courtois (University of Bath). The panel is chaired by Edel Foster (MIC).

OTHER

MIC LIBRARY will host an exhibition over the course of FemFest week on topics related to the festival.

AN ONLINE PROJECT ON GERMAN WOMEN IN EXILE: Hosted by Final Year Students of German Studies. This will be available at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6TdFbAAeGCOipGWHHB4DLw> from Monday 7th March to Friday 11th March

TAISPEÁNTAS DE LITRÍOCHT NA MBAN SA SEOMRA CAIDRIMH- Oscailte Don tseachtain / Exhibition of Women's Literature in the Seomra Caidrimh- Open for the week of FemFest

POSTER & LOGO: Special thanks to MIC Postgraduate student Michelle Ryan for creating this year's FemFest poster & logo. Michelle's inspiration: "My fine arts practice is influenced by the Surrealist and DADA movements. When given the general idea of women reclaiming space, I was drawn to work in collage in a similar style to pioneering female DADA collage artist Hannah Hoch, who claimed her space within the movement. Using images sourced from google images, I created a collage of women who are pioneering in their chosen fields, fields which are often white, male, heterosexual and able-bodied spaces."



The FemFest Committee would like to thank the MIC's Professional Services for their collegiality and support in planning this festival. Thanks to Michael Keane, Rachel Costello, Caroline Duffy, Trish Kennedy, Ben Sweeney, Ger O'Donoghue and MIC Buildings and Estate staff. Thanks too to Rosin Burke, Aoife Glesson and all at MISU, Dr Lorraine McIlrath, Dr Julianne Stack, Dr Deirdre Flynn, Dr Marita Ryan, Dr Niamh Kitching, Dr David Clare, Dr Geraldine Cotter, Siobhán Ní Mhurchú, Dr Ailbhe McDaid, An Dr Caitriona Breathnach, Dr Marcus Free, Dr Susan Liddy, Dr Maeve Liston and Ciara McKenna. We would also like to extend our thanks to our speakers and performers and to anyone else who supported the festival in any way.