



OÍCHE CHULTÚIR CULTURE NIGHT

Friday 20th September 2024

A public programme of performances and exhibitions

Proudly hosted at  *Foras na Mara*
Marine Institute and supported by



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Free Admission from 18.45

Free parking: at **Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore, H91 R673** with overflow at the Galway Bay Golf Resort. A pre-programme, early-bird dinner package is available from 17.00 next door at: The 2 Iron Bar & Restaurant, Galway Bay Golf Resort. Book directly on (091) 790 711, or at galwaybaygolfresort.ie/book-a-table

Performance Programme



**Choral Performance by
The Marine Singers Choir**
Doors open 18:45
19.00—19.30 Marine Institute Restaurant

The Marine Singers is a mixed-voice choir formed in 2013 for the Choir Factor competition in Galway. Initially comprised of Marine Institute staff, the choir now has broader community participation and always invites new members. The Choir's repertoire on Culture Night will include:

Kiitkem Südamest Mariat, by Estonian composer Urmas Sisask;
Shenandoah, the classic American folk song;
Moon River, composed by Henry Mancini with lyrics by Johnny Mercer;
The Lamb, John Tavener's setting to music of the William Blake poem.



**Literature readings by
Oranmore Creative
Writing Group**
Doors open 19:30
19.45—20.15 Marine Institute Restaurant

Members of the Oranmore Creative Writing Group will read a selection of short pieces of poetry, prose and memoir from their own work as well as from some well-known writers. Members of the group have had their work published in a variety of journals including *The Galway Review*, *Vox Galvia*, *Skylight 47*, *Ireland's Own*, *The Sunday Independent*, *Lockdown Diaries*, and *The Western People*.

Oranmore Creative Writing Group is a community group active in Oranmore for over six years. They are part of the Active in Age Programme and meet every Tuesday morning during term time in the Blue Room in Respond. The group is supportive, relaxed and fun. New participants are always welcome and the sessions are suitable for all, whether you are new to writing or are a more experienced writer of poetry, memoir or short fiction.



**'ADRIFT' A play performed by
Oranmore Bualadh Bos
Drama Group**
Doors open 20.15
20.30—21.30 Marine Institute Auditorium

Three men, one raft and no hope in the Atlantic Ocean. *ADRIFT* tells the story of three men who, after a failed mutiny, find themselves cast adrift on a piece of wood in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Their arrogance, anger, and infuriating simplicity must be set aside as they await rescue. But will rescue ever come, and can they resist their carnal impulses...? Originally staged at Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2019, George Infini's play headlined the Cardiff Comedy Festival to rave reviews. Directed by Mike Irwin, the cast includes Hugh O'Keeffe, Patrick O'Malley, and Joe Walsh.

Capacity in the auditorium is limited. There will be no entry once the performance has begun. The performance involves strobe lighting. Parental discretion is advised. The play includes coarse language and adult themes.

Exhibits of local heritage and culture



BlueFish Art Exhibition

The BlueFish Project was an Ireland-Wales Territorial Co-operation project for the Irish and Celtic Sea, focusing on cross border collaboration, climate change and community engagement. Led by Bangor University BlueFish brought together Aberystwyth and Swansea Universities in Wales, the Marine Institute, Bord Iascaigh Mhara and University College Cork in Ireland.

The BlueFish project sought to develop knowledge and understanding of the marine resources of the Irish Sea and Celtic Seas by addressing knowledge gaps regarding the effects on and potential vulnerability of selected commercial fish and shellfish from predicted climate change.

Artworks produced through the BlueFish project sought to communicate through art, and demystify complex issues such as climate change, and its impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity.



WARPPed: Wildlife Art Representing Pressures and Providing Education

The WARPPed project combines science and art to communicate the pressures wildlife face due to various human activities. The project uses ethical taxidermy to produce specimens highlighting pressures such as light pollution, climate change and plastic pollution. By highlighting these issues through art and media, WARPPed brings focus on priority areas targeted in the United Nations' Sustainable Developmental Goals: Preventing and significantly reducing marine pollution; and, sustainably managing and protecting marine and coastal ecosystems.

The WARPPed project is led by Dr Katie Dwyer, lecturer in Aquatic Ecology at Atlantic Technological University (ATU) and involves a multidisciplinary creative team including: Donal Mulcahy of Glennameade Taxidermy; Marine biologist and artist Sabine Springer; Media producer Peter Cutler and scientist Dr Andrew Power, both of Crow Crag Productions; and ATU Marine Biologists Drs Katie O'Dwyer, Ian O'Connor and Heidi Acampora.



Photographic Exhibition: 'Lobster Man' AKA Frank Flanagan

For the past four decades, Frank Flanagan's life has been woven into the fabric of Renville, Galway, as a dedicated lobsterman. From the rugged shores of the Wild Atlantic Way to the tranquil bays, he has plied his trade with unwavering commitment. Rising before the dawn, he has set out into the misty mornings and braved the choppy waters, hauling traps and navigating the tides with seasoned expertise. In Renville's tight-knit coastal community, Frank is not just a lobsterman but a respected figure, admired for his skill, resilience, and deep connection to the sea.

Through the years, as the seasons have ebbed and flowed, Frank's life has been a testament to the enduring bond between man and ocean in the picturesque landscape of Renville, Galway.

Visual artist Steve Scott is a passionate and experienced street and documentary photographer from Athenry. His work has appeared in many exhibitions and has been published in magazines. He represented Ireland with his solo photographic exhibition at the 2022 Festival INTERCELTIQUE in Lorient, France.

Cuan Beo displays the Galway Bay Flat Bottom Boat



The Galway Bay Flat Bottom Boat on display was commissioned by Cuan Beo, and built by local fisher and boat builder James Linnane from Ballyclery, Kinvara. Cuan Beo are also exhibiting historic records that document the social and economic heritage of the native oyster fishery in the region, and reiterate the importance of protecting this fishery for current and future generations.

Cuan Beo is a community-based, non-profit company established with a mission to improve the quality of life, environment, economy, and heritage around Galway Bay. Cuan Beo takes a 'bottom up' and holistic 'from Land to Sea' perspective on the catchment and recognises that water quality underpins the economic vitality of the region.