# Stage Irish

## *The 12th Conference of EFACIS*

## 28-31 August 2019, University of Ljubljana

**In memory of Professor Werner Huber (1952-2016)**
Professor of English & American Language & Literature,
University of Vienna (2005-2016)

**Keynote Speakers**
Ruben Borg (*The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*)
Anne Fogarty (*University College Dublin*)
Stefanie Lehner (*Queen's University, Belfast*)

**Guest Writers & Readers**
Wendy Erskine (*Sweet Home*)
Annemarie Ní Churreáin (*Bloodroot*, *Town*)
Mary O'Donnell (*The Light Makers*, *Empire*)
Jessica Traynor (*Liffey Swim*, *The Quick*)

**Conference Organisers**
Igor Maver
(*Head of the American Studies Interdisciplinary Doctoral Programme, Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana*)

Paul Fagan, Dieter Fuchs, Ulrike Zillinger
(*Vienna Centre for Irish Studies, University of Vienna*)

**Contact us**
efacis2019@univie.ac.at

EFACIS
European Federation of Associations and Centres of Irish Studies · IVZW

VCIS
VIENNA CENTRE FOR IRISH STUDIES

University *of Ljubljana*

# Welcome from the organisers!

The University of Ljubljana, in partnership with EFACIS and The Vienna Centre for Irish Studies, is proud to welcome you to an interdisciplinary Irish Studies conference in memory of Prof. Werner Huber. The conference's theme of *Stage Irish* invites us to revisit and reconsider diverse modes of (mis)representing, performing, articulating, witnessing, constructing, and deconstructing 'Irishness' as an identity, as a genre, and as a contested coordinate in diverse critical fields. The time is ripe for such an inquiry. First, the rubric of the 'stage Irishman and woman', while long a commonplace in the field, has not been rigorously re-examined for some time, providing a real opportunity to re-open this critical debate with the tools and insights of contemporary criticism and theory. Secondly, we find ourselves at a liminal moment in which the very concept of Irishness is being remade and its possibilities reimagined. The Celtic Tiger and Brexit, the Marriage Equality referendum and the #Repealthe8th and #WakingTheFeminists campaigns, the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement and the re-politicisation of the border compel us to turn to history and representation (across disciplines, genres, media, and platforms) to reassess how 'Irishness' has been shaped and reshaped as a parochial, (inter)national, gendered, sexual, religious, political, artistic identity. This focus on the cultural, societal, historical, and political interfaces between performance, spectatorship, and identity in diverse Irish contexts reveals tensions between self-image and Othering, innovation and cliché, cultural production and negotiated reception.

The programme, which we are pleased to share with you here, addresses these questions from myriad theoretical vantages and critical perspectives, touching on questions of aesthetics, power, authenticity, authority, stereotyping, genre, and nationality in the spheres of the literary, the performative, the visual, the social, the economic, the political, and the historical. Each of the conference's keynote addresses draws our attention to a fascinating aspect of this theme, from reimagining the stage Irish woman in adaptations by contemporary Irish women playwrights (Anne Fogarty, *University College Dublin*) to the theory of the dramatic passions in James Joyce's writing (Ruben Borg, *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*) and performances of queer belonging, conflict and reconciliation in post-agreement theatre from Northern Ireland (Stefanie Lehner, *Queen's University Belfast*). We are also pleased to host a plenary roundtable session on the *Aistriú* translation project. The social programme boasts some of the most exciting poets and authors currently working in Ireland, courtesy of the EFACIS Irish Itinerary: Wendy Erskine (*Sweet Home*), Annemarie Ní Churreáin (*Bloodroot*, *Town*), Mary O'Donnell (*The Light Makers*, *Empire*), Jessica Traynor (*Liffey Swim*, *The Quick*).

The status of the EFACIS conference as a truly interdisciplinary Irish studies event is borne out in the programme you will find in these pages. In this regard, it is a fitting tribute to the late Prof. Werner Huber (*University of Vienna*), to whose memory this event is dedicated. The immense range of literary, cultural, medial, and historical coordinates of Werner's work and interests will be fondly remembered by many in attendance, and the conference draws inspiration from his pioneering interdisciplinary research and great contribution to the development of Irish Studies in Europe.

- Paul Fagan, Dieter Fuchs, Igor Maver

# Venue

The conference's opening session, including Prof. Fogarty's opening keynote address, will be held on **Wednesday 28 August** from **12.30** at the old **Aula Magna/Audimax of the University of Ljubljana**, entrance from Vegova Street 1 (right hand-side building entrance "Protocol entrance" of the main university building at the big Congress Square, Kongresni trg 12) in the old centre of the city.

**All subsequent conference sessions** will take place on the ground floor in Room 15 and the adjacent Room 13 at the **Faculty of Arts** ('*Filozofska fakulteta*'), Aškerčeva 2, a leisurely 5-10 minute walk from the main university along Vegova Street and Emonska Street and then to the right a bit on Zoisova Street to Aškerčeva 2.

The **REGISTRATION** will also take place in the lobby of the **Faculty of Arts**, to the left after entering, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10.00 to 17:00.



## Map Legend

- The **University of Ljubljana** building where the opening ceremony will take place on Wednesday 28 August is marked roughly with a **P** (parking right in the middle of the map), Kongresni trg (square and park)
- The **Faculty of Arts** ('*Filozofska fakulteta*') where all subsequent events on the academic schedule will take place, is roughly marked with a red cross in the bottom left corner

## Suggested Eateries and Cafés near the Faculty of Arts

- Le Petit Café (a much liked place for coffee and various foods), on Trg francoske revolucije 4
- Das ist Walter (quality Balkan food), Rimska cesta behind the Faculty of Arts.

## Accommodation
## M-HOTEL

To get from M-Hotel to the Faculty of Arts or city centre, it is best to take bus number 1 (or 3) from in front of the hotel, on the main Celovška road, going to the right to the old city centre (4-5) stops. Before boarding the bus, get a card and put on some money to top it up.

## All Departures for Social & Evening Events not taking place in either of the main venues

### Wednesday 28 August

The opera performance, for those who hold tickets, is in Cankarjev dom, the biggest modern concert hall in Ljubljana, which is 10 minutes from the Faculty of Arts – the conference organisers will lead the way from the Faculty immediately after Wendy Erskine's reading.

### Thursday 29 August

We will depart together for the reception and reading at the Irish embassy residence from the front entrance of the **Faculty of Arts**, the main venue, at **19.20**

### Friday 30 August

We will depart together for the organized town walk with a guide, from the front entrance of the **Faculty of Arts**, the main venue, at **17.15**.
Likewise, we will depart together for the conference dinner from the Faculty of Arts directly following Jessica Traynor's reading. The dinner will take place at "Gostilna Sokol" just to the left of the Town Hall, Ciril Metodov trg 18.

# Academic & Social Programme

## Wednesday 28 August

**10.00-17.00**
*Registration Desk*
*Faculty of Arts, Lobby*

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**12.30-13.00**
*Aula Magna/Audimax, University of Ljubljana*

### Welcome Address

**Igor Maver**
(*Head of the American Studies Interdisciplinary Doctoral Programme, Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana*)

**Dieter Fuchs & Paul Fagan**
(*Heads of the Vienna Centre for Irish Studies, University of Vienna*)

**Arthur Hendrick**
(*Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Ireland in Ljubljana*)

**Seán Crosson**
(*EFACIS President, NUI Galway*)

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**13.00-14.00**
*Aula Magna/Audimax, University of Ljubljana*

### Opening Keynote Address

Reconfiguring the Stage Irish Woman:
Adaptations by Contemporary Irish Women Playwrights

**Anne Fogarty**
(*University College Dublin*)

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**14.00-15.00**
*Break*

*{Including the 5-10-minute walk from the University of Ljubljana to the Faculty of Arts}*

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**15.00-16.30**
*Panel 1*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Yael Levin, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem}*

## The Limits of the Human

The Writer as Gnomon:
The Dominion of the Dead in James Joyce's *Dubliners*
**Michela Borzaga** (*University of Vienna*)

Voices Off:
Disembodiment in Brian O'Nolan's Novels & Teleplays
**Paul Fagan** (*Salzburg University*)

'Something in between':
Nomadic Beings in Metaphor & Metamorphosis
**Hedwig Schwall** (*KU Leuven*)

**15.00-16.30**
*Panel 2*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Ondřej Pilný, Charles University, Prague}*

## Theatre as Spectacle

Dion Boucicault & 19th-Century Spectacular Theatre
**Nicholas Daly** (*University College Dublin*)

'Making a play':
Lady Gregory, Playwriting & the *Camera Obscura*
**Eglantina Remport** (*Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest*)

Props & the Abbey Theatre
**Eimer Murphy** (*Abbey Theatre*)

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**16.30-17.00**
*Coffee*

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**17.00-18.30**
*Plenary Roundtable*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts*

## Aistriú Translation Project

Rióna Ní Fhrighil (*NUI Galway*)
John Caulfield (*NUI Galway*)
Seán Crosson (*EFACIS President, NUI Galway*)

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**18.30-19.30**
## Guest Writer
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts*

**Wendy Erskine**
(Author of *Sweet Home*)

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{*The organisers will lead the way to the theatre where La Traviata is being performed from the front of the Faculty of Arts, directly following Wendy Erskine's reading*}

**20.00**
## Social Programme

*La Traviata*

performed by the Teatro Regio Torino
at the Festival Ljubljana

This performance is not part of the official conference schedule and not covered by the conference fee; however, it is possible to book tickets online here:
https://ljubljanafestival.si/en/

# Thursday 29 August

**10.00-17.00**
*Registration Desk*
*Faculty of Arts, Lobby*

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**09.30-11.00**
*Panel 3*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Britta Olinder, University of Gothenburg}*

## Performing the North

Same Again?
Negative Emotions & the Possibility of Change in Recent Stage Images of the North
**Clare Wallace** (*Charles University, Prague*)

Stereotypes in David Ireland's *Cyprus Avenue* & *Ulster American*
**Ondřej Pilný** (*Charles University, Prague*)

Deconstructing Stereotypes & Othering Through Humour in Lisa McGee's *Derry Girls*
**Verónica Membrive** (*University of Almería*)

**09.30-11.00**
*Panel 4*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Katharina Rennhak, Bergische Universität Wuppertal}*

## Remapping 19th-Century Fiction

Making Maps:
Irish Literature in Transition, 1780-1830
**Claire Connolly** (*University College Cork*)

'The Wind Through the Broken Windows':
Representations of Imperial Decline in *The Byrnes of Glengoulah* (1868),
*Sally Cavanagh* (1869) & *In Re Garland* (1870)
**Sophie van Os** (*Radboud University Nijmegen*)

Mickey Free & Co.:
Charles Lever's Irish Characters
**Elisabetta d'Erme** (*Trieste, Independent Scholar*)

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**11.00-11.30**
*Coffee*

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**11.30-12.30**
*Panel 5*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Natasha Remoundou, Moore Institute, NUI Galway}*

## Music

Visualising Music, Embodying the Nation:
The Representation of Irish Traditional Music
in Performances at the National Folk Theatre of Ireland, 1968–1998
**Susan Motherway** (*Institute of Technology Tralee*)

Even Better than the Real Thing:
Spectral Uses of Noise by Irish Popular Musicians
**Michael Lydon** (*NUI, Galway*)

**11.30-12.30**
*Panel 6*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Radvan Markus, Charles University, Prague}*

## Drink

'Addiction is a strange bastard':
Alcohol(ism) in Irish Literature
**Wojciech Klepuszewski** (*Koszalin University of Technology*)

'I am certainly alcoholic, but not a drunkard':
Alcohol in Flann O'Brien's & Alasdair Gray's Narratives
**Barbara Szot** (*Palacký University*)

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**12.30-14.00**
*Lunch*

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**14.00-15.30**
*Panel 7*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Raphaël Ingelbien, KU Leuven}*

## Staging Irishness: Between the Revival/Modernism

Touring Ireland in Ethel Colburn Mayne's 'The Happy Day' (1919)
**Elke D'hoker** (*University of Leuven*)

Stagecraft & Old Stagers:
Writing Revivalism into *Ulysses*
**Ronan Crowley** (*Universiteit Antwerpen*)

Micheál mac Liammóir, the Irish Language & the Idea of Freedom
**Radvan Markus** (*Charles University, Prague*)

**14.00-15.30**
*Panel 8*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Verónica Membrive, University of Almería}*

## Local Memories, Global Histories: Nation & Identity in Poetry, Theatre, Film

'a green hill far away':
History, Geography & Fantasy
in Paul Muldoon & Ciaran Carson's Representations of Ireland
**Erin Cunningham** (*King's College London*)

The Great Olive Crisis, the Oxygen Ban, & the Good Leg That Was Bad:
Alternative Narratives of Irish History & Irishness in Mark Doherty's *Trad* (2004)
**Mark Schreiber** (*Alpen-Adria University Klagenfurt*)

Juanita Wilson's Movies:
Between National Literary Tradition & International Commitment
**Isabelle Le Corff** (*Université de Bretagne Occidentale*)

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**15.30-16.00**
*Coffee*

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**16.00-17.00**
*Panel 9*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Michela Borzaga, University of Vienna}*

## Irish Subjects: Contemporary Fictions

Citing the Law:
Legal Constructions of Bodily Autonomy in Irish Fiction
**Eugene McNulty** (*Dublin City University*)

Fakeness, Dystopia & Satire in Kevin Barry's *City of Bohane* (2011)
**Sylvie Mikowski** (*Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne*)

**16.00-17.00**
*Panel 10*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Elke D'hoker, University of Leuven}*

## Obscured Identities, Recovered Voices

'Come Back to Aaron, Montana':
Opening Up Irish Identity in Bryan MacMahon's Short Fiction in *The Bell*
**Phyllis Boumans** (*University of Leuven*)

Ulster Obscura:
The Lost Writing of Gerard Keenan
**James Gallacher** (*University of Liverpool*)

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**17.00-17.30**
*Break*

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**17.30-18.30**
## Keynote Address
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts*

The Curve of an Emotion:
Joyce & the Theory of Dramatic Passions

**Ruben Borg**
(*Hebrew University of Jerusalem*)

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*{We will depart together for the reception and reading at the Irish ambassador's residence from the front entrance of the Faculty of Arts at 19.20}*

**20.00**

## Evening Reception

*Embassy of Ireland, Ljubljana, Ambassador's Residence*
Hruševo 26, 1356 Dobrova

## Guest Writer

**Mary O'Donnell**
(Author of *The Light Makers*, *Empire*)

# Friday 30 August

**10.00-17.00**
*Registration Desk*
*Faculty of Arts, Lobby*

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**09.30-11.00**
*Panel 11*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Mary O'Donnell}*

## Transcultural Receptions & Refractions

Oliver Goldsmith l'Irlandais:
Diasporic Translation & the Greening of Goldsmith
**Raphaël Ingelbien** (*KU Leuven*)

Restaging Ireland's Regions:
The New York Publishing World in the 1890s
**Marguérite Corporaal** (*Radboud University*)

'Beguiling Shenanigans':
Ireland & Hollywood Animation, 1947-1959
**Michael Connerty** (*National Film School/IADT*)

**09.30-11.00**
*Panel 12*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Dieter Fuchs, University of Vienna}*

## Masques, Hoaxes, Picaresques: Stage Irish Traditions

'*mimicall imitation*':
Performing Nationhood in Ben Jonson's *Irish Masque at Court*, 1613-1614
**Anthony Johnson** (*Åbo Akademi Universit*)

Stage Irishness & the Literary Hoax Tradition
**Paul Fagan** (*Salzburg University*)

From Stage(coach) Irish to the Unravelling of the Rogue:
Liz Nugent & the Picaresque
**David Clark** (*University of Coruña*)

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**11.00-11.30**
*Coffee*

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**11.30-12.30**
*Panel 13*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Michael Lydon, NUI, Galway}*

## Memorialising the North

Futures Past:
Memory Wars: Commemoration & the Past in Northern Ireland
**Thomas Hennessey** (*Canterbury Christ Church University*)

'You can't grab anything with a closed fist':
Reflections on Ulster Protestant Identity in Derek Lundy's Memoir
*Men that God Made Mad: A Journey Through Truth, Myth and Terror in Northern Ireland*
**Billy Gray** (*Dalarna University*)

**11.30-12.30**
*Panel 14*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Wojciech Klepuszewski, Koszalin University of Technology}*

## Parading Irishness

Wear Something Green:
How the Artistic Community Reinvented St Patrick's Day
**Eimer Murphy** (*Abbey Theatre*)

Order, Please?:
Performative Parading & Celebrating in Ireland
**Sarah Ritt** (*University of Vienna*)

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**12.30-14.00**
*Lunch*

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**14.00-15.00**
*Panel 15*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Igor Maver, University of Ljubljana}*

## The Stage Irish in America

'From the pockets of American servant girls':
The Bridget/Biddy Stereotype & the Funding of Irish Nationalism, 1860–1920
**Robin Adams** (*St Peter's College, Oxford University*)

'Have you heard the one about the Irishman who...?':
A Comparative Analysis of Irish Jokes in 20th-Century America
**Shane Walshe** (*Universität Zürich*)

**14.00-15.00**
*Panel 16*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair Mark Schreiber, Alpen-Adria University Klagenfurt}*

## International Relations: Ireland in/and Europe

'Nowhere is Europe more American than in Ireland':
Ideology & the Presentation of Ireland
in the German Weekly Newspaper *Die Zeit*, 1994-2010
**Fergal Lenehan** (*Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena*)

Effects of Brexit on the Irish Economy:
Estimates from a Stylised Macroeconomic Model
**Bas van Aarle** (*KU Leuven*)

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**15.00-15.30**
*Coffee*

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**15.30-16.30**
*Panel 17*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Eglantina Remport, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest}*

## Sinéad Morrissey & Intermediality

As Pictures Work, So Does Poetry:
Photography as Visual Frames in Sinéad Morrissey
**Viviane Fontoura da Silva** (*University of Porto*)

Drama in Poetry:
The Case of Sinéad Morrissey
**Britta Olinder** (*University of Gothenburg*)

**15.30-16.30**
*Panel 18*
*Room 13, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Dieter Fuchs, University of Vienna}*

## Revisiting Synge

A Mirror Held up to the Irish:
Revisiting J.M. Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World*
**Chang, Tsung Chi (Hawk)** (*The Education University of Hong Kong*)

Stage Irish:
Representations of the Peasant on the Abbey Stage by J.M. Synge & Conor McPherson
**Filomena Louro** (*Universidade do Minho*)

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**17.00**
*Guided City Walk*

*{We will depart together from the front entrance of the Faculty of Arts at 17.15}*

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**19.00-20.00**
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts*

## Guest Writer

**Jessica Traynor**
(Author of *Liffey Swim*, *The Quick*)

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*{We will depart together for the conference dinner from the Faculty of Arts directly following Jessica Traynor's reading}*

**20.30**
## Conference Dinner

Gostilna Sokol
Just to the left of the Town Hall, Ciril Metodov trg 18

# Saturday 31 August

**09.30-10.30**
*Panel 19*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Tamara Radak, University of Vienna}*

## Biopolitical Beckett

Cripping Beckett: Jess Thom's *Not I*
**Katarzyna Ojrzyńska** (*University of Lodz*)

Beckett & Biopolitics: Attention, Distraction, Drift
**Yael Levin** (*The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*)

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**10.30-11.00**
*Coffee*

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**11.00-13.00**
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts*

## EFACIS Annual General Meeting

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**13.00-14.30**
*Lunch*

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**14.30-16.00**
*Panel 20*
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts {Chair: Katarzyna Ojrzyńska, University of Lodz}*

## Political Theatre

Performing the Political:
Staging Homosexuality in Ann Blake's *Overnight Minority Report*
**Deirdre Flynn** (*University College Dublin*)

Regarding the Rights of Others:
Reflections on the Middle East in Contemporary Irish Theatre
**Natasha Remoundou** (*Moore Institute, NUI Galway*)

Activism and/as Performance:
The Case of #WakingtheFeminists
**Tamara Radak** (*University of Vienna*)

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**16.00-16.30**
*Coffee*

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**16.30-17.30**
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts*

## Closing Keynote Address

From Stage (Northern) Irish Ubu to New Queer Belongings:
Sounding Conflict & Performing Reconciliation
in Post-Agreement Theatre from Northern Ireland

**Stefanie Lehner**
(*Queen's University Belfast*)

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**17.45-18.45**
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts*

## Guest Writer

**Annemarie Ní Churreáin**
(Author of *Bloodroot*, *Town*)

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**18.45**
*Room 15, Faculty of Arts*

## Organisers' Closing Remarks

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**19.00**
**– End of programme –**