



# Listowel INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL



## BOOKING DETAILS

Due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions our audience capacity is limited. Tickets for all events must be purchased in advance and festival attendees must present a valid Vaccination Certificate on arrival at a venue. Our Covid-19 Protection Protocols are available on our website.

**Weekend Festival Ticket - €60 (+ ONLINE FEES)**

For details of our festival artists and ticket booking visit  
[www.kerrywritersmuseum.com/storytelling-festival](http://www.kerrywritersmuseum.com/storytelling-festival)

Supported by:



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Your Natural Escape

Kerry Writers' Museum, 24 The Square, Listowel, Co. Kerry, Ireland.  
Tel. 068 22212, email: [kerrywritersmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:kerrywritersmuseum@gmail.com)  
[www.kerrywritersmuseum.com/storytelling-festival](http://www.kerrywritersmuseum.com/storytelling-festival)



SEPTEMBER 17TH TO 19TH, 2021



“ a great storyteller  
will always be rooted  
in the people, primarily  
in a milieu of craftsmen.



# WELCOME

Storytelling is as old as humanity itself. In fact, it's the oldest form of entertainment, well before the written word and well before radio or television. It dates to the times of tribes gathering around the fire to listen to heroic tales and legends. Sliabh Luachra born Eamon Kelly (1914 to 2001), considered Ireland's greatest Seanchaí, said about his gift for storytelling:

“

*I only know what I heard, I only heard what was said and a lot of what was said was made up to pass the night away! So put a sod on the fire, give an apple to the child and pour a drink for the storyteller.*

Welcome to the **3rd annual Listowel International Storytelling Festival** hosted by Kerry Writers' Museum. We are delighted to be back live, in person for our 2021 festival, on the theme of 'Coming Together'. Over three days we will bring you a packed programme of storytelling events featuring the best of visiting and local storytellers. We are especially thrilled to have acclaimed storyteller Maria Gillen as our Artistic Director for the festival.

# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 17th

### 5 to 6.30 pm Tales from the Kingdom

Join us on Culture Night for a celebration of storytelling, poetry, music, and song with the finest of local poets, musicians, storytellers and singers in the Kingdom's cultural capital. Our special guest is Listowel Poet Laureate Dairena Ní Chinnéide.

**Free Admission** (tickets must be booked in advance)

**Venue: Listowel Castle**



### 8 pm Cead Míle Fáilte – Welcome Session

A hundred thousand welcomes to Listowel International Storytelling Festival 2021 on the theme 'Coming Together'. Join Artistic Director and our Storyteller in Residence, Maria Gillen who will introduce our visiting storytellers Colum Sands, Órla McGovern and Colin Urwin, joined by local storytellers Frances Kennedy & Sonny Egan, poet Gabriel Fitzmaurice and legendary singer/songwriter Mickey MacConnell.

**Tickets: €15.00**

**Venue: Listowel Arms Hotel**

## SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18th

### 10 am to 11.30am Storytelling Workshops

Choose from one of four storytelling workshops hosted by our visiting storytellers:

- **Resilience through Story**, directed by Maria Gillen
- **The Joyful Art of Protest: Songs & Stories of Activism**, directed by Colum Sands
- **Harvesting Moments**, directed by Órla McGovern
- **Old Ideas, New Stories: Turning local Folklore into Folktales**, directed by Colin Urwin

**Tickets: €25.00**

**Venues: Listowel Arms Hotel, Kerry Writers' Museum, St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre**

### 10.30 am Children's Storytime

Storyteller Godfrey Coppinger will enthral children with stories of myth and magic. Suitable for children aged 5 years and over.

**Free Admission** (tickets must be booked in advance)

**Venue: Listowel Castle**

### 12 noon to 1pm Meet our Young Tellers

Storytelling legend Frances Kennedy introduces the future generation of Irish storytelling, some of whom participated in Frances' storytelling workshops earlier this year.

**Tickets: €5**

**Venue: St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre**

### 2pm to 3.30pm Kerry Writers' Museum Tour

Discover the stories and poetry of Kerry's great writers & the history of our great town in an audio-visual interactive experience. Due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, tours will be staggered every 15 minutes with a maximum of 6 people per tour.

**Tickets: €5**

**Venue: Kerry Writers' Museum**

### 4pm to 6pm Story through Song

Storytelling extends far beyond the spoken word. Some of our most memorable stories are expressed in song and in the Irish tradition, accompanies them. This lunchtime performance, hosted by Paddy Regan, will explore the stories or events that inspired the songs of folk music legends Colum Sands, Mickey MacConnell and Colin Urwin, with singer/songwriters Colum Sanson-Regan and Niceol Blue. It will give a rare look at how stories become songs.

**Tickets: €10**

**Venue: St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre**

### 8.30 to 10.30 pm Storytelling Gala Concert

Showcasing the Art and Diversity, history, and mystery of storytelling with our visiting and local tellers. Bean an Tí Maria Gillen will

lead our visiting and local guest artists Colum Sands, Órla McGovern, Colin Urwin, Frances Kennedy, Mickey MacConnell, and Sonny Egan in a celebration of our festival theme 'Coming Together'.

**Tickets: €15**

**Venue: St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre**

## SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19th

### 10am to 11.30am Listowel Story Walks

Explore the Heritage Town of Listowel with our finest local historians and visiting storytellers.

Choose from one of four story trails:

- the River Feale & Garden of Europe, led by Owen McMahon (*Depart from Listowel Castle*)
- Listowel's Georgian Square & Town Park, led by Mary Cogan (*Depart from Listowel Castle*)
- The streets of Listowel, led by Vincent Carmody (*Depart from Listowel Castle*)
- Listowel Famine Trail & Lartigue Monorail, led by Michael Guerin (*Depart Garveys Carpark*)

**Tickets: €5**

### 10.30am Children's Storytime

Storyteller Godfrey Coppinger will enthral children with stories of myth and magic. Suitable for children aged 5 years and over.

**Free Admission** (tickets must be booked in advance)

**Venue: Listowel Castle**

### 12.30 to 2.30pm Open Mic Storytelling Session

An opportunity for our audience to share their stories with Fear an Tí, Paddy Regan.

**Tickets: €5**

**Venue: St. John's Theatre & Arts**



### 3pm to 5pm Slán Abhaile – Festival Closing

We bid goodbye to Listowel International Storytelling Festival 2021 in an informal afternoon of storytelling, traditional Irish music, and song, hosted by our Rambling House Fear an Tí Johnny McElligott and our festival Artistic Director Maria Gillen.

**Tickets: €5**

**Venue: St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre**