

Sophister Module Description 2023-24

Full Name: Irish Poetry after Yeats

Short Name: Irish Poetry after Yeats

Lecturer Name and Email Address: Dr Tom Walker (walkerto@tcd.ie)

ECTS Weighting: 10

Semester Taught: MT

Year: SS

Module Content:

The course will consider various directions taken by Irish poetry over the last 80 or so years. It will do so by concentrating on key volumes published from the 1930s down to the present. Seminars will emphasise relevant historical and cultural contexts, as well as attending to questions of poetics and ideology.

1. Introduction
2. Louis MacNeice, *Autumn Journal* (1939)
3. Patrick Kavanagh, *Come Dance with Kitty Stobling and Other Poems* (1960)
4. Thomas Kinsella, *New Poems* (1973)
5. Derek Mahon, *The Snow Party* (1975)
6. Paul Muldoon, *Quoof* (1983)
7. Reading Week
8. Eavan Boland, *Outside History* (1991)
9. Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, *The Girl Who Married the Reindeer* (2001)
10. Paula Meehan, *Painting Rain* (2009)
11. Leontia Flynn, *The Radio* (2017)
12. Nidhi Zak/Aria Eipe, *Auguries of a Minor God* (2021)

Learning Outcomes:

- To have developed high-level transferable skills in critical analysis and writing
- To have engaged with relevant theoretical and critical arguments
- To have engaged with relevant historical and cultural contexts.

Learning Aims:

- To enhance awareness of critical approaches to modern Irish poetry
- To further understanding of the relevance of Irish history and culture to reading modern Irish Poetry
- To explore issues of canon, influence and allusion, and poetic form and language.

Assessment Details:

- Type of Assessment (Continuous and/or Exam): Continuous

- Number of Components: 2
- Word Count of Component(s): 2,000 and 4,000
- Percentage Value of Component(s): 25% and 75%

Preliminary Reading List:

Louis MacNeice, *Autumn Journal* (Faber) or *Collected Poems*, ed. McDonald (Faber). Also available via LION (Literature Online) database.

Patrick Kavanagh, *Come Dance with Kitty Stobling and Other Poems* (Longmans) is a collector's item and **a pdf will be provided**. The poems and some useful editorial notes can be found in *Collected Poems*, ed. Antoinette Quinn (Penguin).

Thomas Kinsella, *New Poems* (Dolmen/OUP) is another rare volume, but the key poems are in *Collected Poems* or mostly in *Selected Poems* (both Carcanet). However, due to complex textual issues **a pdf will be provided** of the original printing of the volume

Derek Mahon, *The Snow Party* (OUP) is another rare volume. Due to complex textual issues (again) **a pdf will be provided** of the original printing of the volume

Paul Muldoon, *Quoof* (Faber) is widely available and also accessible via LION (Literature Online) database.

Eavan Boland, *Outside History* (Carcanet/Norton) or the poems are all in or *New Collected Poems* (Carcanet)

Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, *The Girl Who Married the Reindeer* (Gallery) or *Collected Poems* (Gallery), and most of the key poems can be found in *Selected Poems* (Gallery/Faber).

Paula Meehan, *Painting Rain* (Carcanet) or lots of the key poems are in *As if By Magic: Selected Poems* (Dedalus).

Leontia Flynn, *The Radio* (Jonathan Cape).

Nidhi Zak/Aria Eipe, *Auguries of a Minor God* (2021).

Useful anthologies of Irish verse you might wish to consult in preparation include: Patrick Crotty, ed., *The Penguin Book of Irish Poetry* (Penguin); Patrick Crotty, ed., *Modern Irish Poetry* (Blackstaff); Wes Davis, ed., *An Anthology of Modern Irish Poetry* (Belknap/Harvard Univ. Press); Lucy Collins, ed., *Poetry by Women in Ireland: A Critical Anthology 1870-1970* (Liverpool University Press). Two useful compendiums of relevant critical material are: Matthew Campbell, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Contemporary Irish Poetry* and Fran Brearton and Alan Gillis, eds, *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish Poetry*. Further more specific bibliography will be circulated during the module.

Please note:

- **Curricular information is subject to change.**
- **Information is displayed only for guidance purposes, relates to the current academic year only and is subject to change.**