



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation

Newsletter 2025–2026

Dear friends,

The past year has been another characterised by growth and new opportunities for the Centre.

Our translated literature book club continues to bring together readers from around the world, while our workshops, masterclasses and public events have offered hundreds of people the opportunity to engage with translation as a creative practice, a scholarly discipline and a form of cultural exchange. This year saw new collaborations with the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, the Embassy of Poland, the Goethe-Institut, Instituto Cervantes, and the National Museum of Taiwan Literature.

Our annual International Translation Day event brought Booker prize-winning author Paul Lynch to Trinity for a conversation with four of his translators. The large audience at this event, which was generously supported by the Bulgarian, French, Polish and Romanian embassies, showed us that interest in literary translation is growing.

The MPhil in Literary Translation goes from strength to strength. The course now welcomes students working with any language pair, provided they have a very high level of English, making it more accessible to talented translators from around the world.

The Centre's research community continues to expand. We celebrated the graduation of Nayara Güercio, whose doctoral research explored the poorly understood phenomenon of indirect translation. Our growing doctoral and postdoctoral community continues to make our vibrant research culture what it is, while new funding applications and collaborative initiatives are helping us build for the future.

International partnerships continue to flourish. We are particularly pleased to have established a new collaboration with the Taipei Representative Office, which will bring a colleague from Taiwan to work with us each autumn and support activities such as our Taiwan–Ireland Poetry Translation Competition. Our longstanding partnership with the French Embassy in Ireland continues to thrive through the annual translator residency, which has been incorporated into a prestigious French national programme for overseas residencies.

We have continued to grow the Centre's outreach activities. We offer most of our events in a hybrid format and make them available on our [TCLCT YouTube Channel](#) afterwards. The extraordinary generosity of our Friends and Patrons has also enabled us to bring new opportunities to students and researchers.

However, the year has also been one of reflection. We remember with enormous gratitude our founding director, Sarah Smyth, whose vision and commitment created and shaped the Centre. We also congratulate Hans-Christian Oeser, long-time board member and friend of the Centre, on being awarded an honorary doctorate from Trinity College Dublin.

There is a lot to discover in the pages that follow, which only hint at the energy, dedication and imagination of our students, researchers, translators, partners and supporters. We hope you enjoy looking back on the year with us, and we look forward to welcoming you to future events and activities.

James Hadley
Director



September 2025



Paul Lynch

Great Irish Writers in Translation: Paul Lynch

Every September, we celebrate European Day of Languages and International Translation Day. To mark these dates, we host a discussion between one of Ireland's leading writers and a number of their European translators. Our previous guest writers in this series include Colm Tóibín, Sally Rooney, Sebastian Barry and Anne Enright.

In October, we were delighted to welcome Booker prize-winning author **Paul Lynch** and his Bulgarian, French, Polish and Romanian translators – Iglia Vassileva, Marina Boraso, Kaja Gucio and Iulia Gorzo – for an in-depth discussion about Paul's work in translation, moderated by Professor **Michael Cronin**.



Marina Boraso has been Paul Lynch's French voice for over ten years. In 2020, she and Paul were jointly awarded the Ireland Francophonie Ambassadors' Literary Award. In 2025, *Prophet Song* won the Prix des Libraires in France.

Marina has also translated works by Stephen King, Anthony Doerr, Donal Ryan, Peter Robinson, Charles C. Mann, Edmund de Waal and Christian Kiefer.



Iulia Gorzo translates films, TV shows and books from English into Romanian. In addition to translating Paul Lynch, she has translated works by Cormac McCarthy, Paul Auster, Anthony Doerr, Alice Walker, Frank McCourt and Anne Enright. Since 2022, she has written about her work

in a translator's diary published by the Romanian cultural platform *Scena9*.



Kaja Gucio has translated over 200 journal articles and papers on the subjects of literature, cultural studies, social science, arts and history. She has translated over 30 books into Polish, including works by Maggie Nelson, Miriam Teows, Abdulrazak Gurnah, Ernest Hemingway and Toni Morrison. In

addition to Paul Lynch, her Irish writers include Anne Enright, Louise Kennedy and Liz Nugent.



Iglia Vassileva is the Bulgarian translator of James Joyce (*Ulysses*), Virginia Woolf, Walt Whitman, Vladimir Nabokov, Henry James, Paul Auster, John Banville, Frank O'Connor, Mary Lavin, John McGahern, Neil Jordan, John Boyne and other distinguished writers. She has been the recipient of numerous translation and literary prizes, including the Sofia City Prize for Achievements in the field of Literature.





Paul Lynch with, from left to right: Iglïka Vassileva, Kaja Gucio, Iulia Gorzo and Marina Boraso



L-R: Paul Lynch, Iulia Gorzo and HE Laurențiu Mihai Ștefan



L-R: Gergana Dimitrova, Paul Lynch and Iglïka Vassileva



Paul Lynch with Kaja Gucio and HE Artur Michalski



L-R back row: James Hadley; Michael Cronin; Marina Boraso; HE Laurențiu Mihai Ștefan, Ambassador of Romania to Ireland; Iulia Gorzo; HE Davor Vidiš, Ambassador of Croatia to Ireland; Artur Michalski, Chargé d'affaires a.i., Embassy of Poland in Ireland. Front row: HE Céline Place, Ambassador of France to Ireland; Kaja Gucio; Paul Lynch; Iglïka Vassileva



This special event was kindly supported by EUNIC Ireland (EU National Institutes of Culture), along with the embassies of Bulgaria, France, Poland and Romania.

October – December 2025

Yang Hao: Writing, Translation and the Changing World



L-R: Peter Arnds, Michael Day, Yang Hao, Nicky Harman and Mark O'Connell

Chinese writer, **Yang Hao**, whose novel *Diablo's Boys* was recently published in English, was at the Centre for a talk with her translators **Nicky Harman** and **Michael Day**, and writer **Mark O'Connell**. The interview was moderated by **Peter Arnds**, Professor in Comparative Literature at Trinity College. This book was nominated for the 2026 Dublin Literary Award and is Yang Hao's first work to be translated.

Breaking Cultural and Gender Barriers



Eulalia Piñero Gil

Eulalia Piñero Gil, Professor of American Literature and Gender Studies at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, gave a talk on the challenges faced by literary translators. She made specific reference to choices involved in translating *The Awakening* by the American writer Kate Chopin into Spanish. This talk was hosted by Patricia **González Bermúdez** from Trinity's Department of Hispanic Studies.

Success in Literary Translation



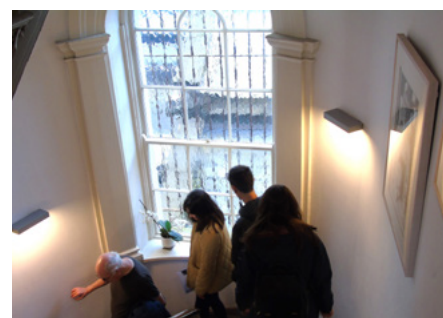
Gaia Baldassarri



Jeffrey K. Butt

Jeffrey K. Butt and **Gaia Baldassarri**, both practicing literary translators and graduates of our MPhil in Literary Translation, gave a talk about their experience of breaking into the literary translation world.

Open House Dublin

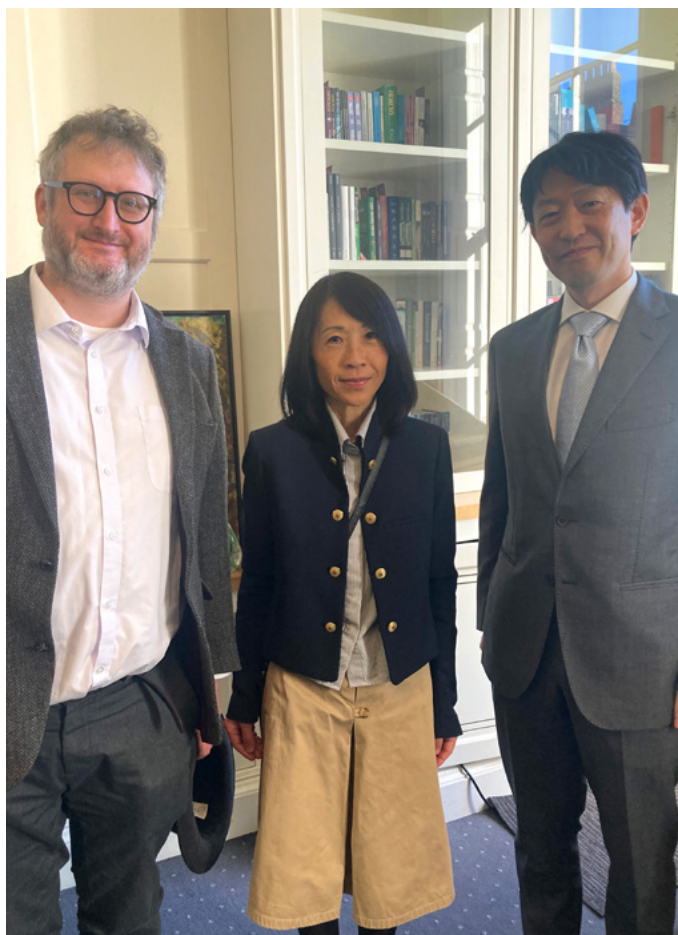


Staircase at 36 Fenian Street

Our beautiful Georgian building was opened to the public for tours, as part of 'Open House', Dublin's annual Festival of Architecture.

October – December 2025 (continued)

Human Translators in Focus



L-R: Nathan Hill, Director of the Trinity Centre for Asian Studies with Motoko Akashi and Kōji Hirohata, Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Japan in Ireland

Motoko Akashi organised an international conference, *Human Translators in Focus: Exploring the Human Aspects of Japanese Literary Translation through a Sociological Lens*. The two-day hybrid conference was held at the Centre. Guest speakers were **Jeffrey Angles**, Western Michigan University, **David Karashima**, Waseda University, **Eriko Tomizawa-Kay**, University of East Anglia and **Morgan Giles**, translator.

This conference was kindly supported by the Japan Foundation, the Japanese Embassy in Ireland, the European Union, and the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Trinity College Dublin



2025 Taiwan-Ireland Poetry Translation Competition Winners

Our annual competition explores the range of languages and traditions found in Taiwan, and examines how these can be linked to the poetry traditions of Ireland. This year's poem was *Like a Song — For Mumu, Departed at 107*, written by **Dong Shu-Ming**, a writer of Puyuma and Han heritage, based in Taitung, Taiwan.

Applicants from all over the world submitted translations and, in December, we hosted a conversation with the winning entrants, **Louie** and **Hongyu Jasmine Zhu** to discuss their experiences of translating the poem, and the challenges they faced along the way.



[Dong Shu-Ming](#)



January-June 2026

Celebrity Translators and Beyond



Motoko Akashi, James Hadley

Motoko Akashi has been a key member of the Centre's research team for the past three years, dividing her time between Trinity College Dublin and Waseda University in Tokyo, where she spent months collecting and digitising translations published in the early 20th century. Much of her research has focused on the phenomenon of celebrity literary translators, including writers such as Haruki Murakami. Motoko's career to date has been anything but conventional and she has lived in several countries around the world. As Motoko was preparing to leave Ireland to take up a prestigious new post at Kansai University, Osaka, we talked to her about her life and research to date.



Iberian fiction



Helena Buffery, Mara Faye Lethem

Mara Faye Lethem is an award-winning Catalan and Spanish translator, as well as a writer and researcher. Mara was in conversation about her work as a literary translator with Professor **Helena Buffery** of University College Cork. The evening included readings from Mara's recent translations of works by Pol Guasch and Irene Solà.

Problematising Cultural Purity: an interview with Laura Francis



L-R: translator Hannah Rice, Laura Francis

Laura Francis completed her MPhil in Literary Translation at Trinity in 2019. Since then, she completed her PhD at Cornell University, and postdoctoral work at Maynooth University. Her research trajectory has developed in a way that combines elements from both historical studies and translation studies. As Laura was moving to take up a post at the University of Michigan, we took the opportunity to talk to her about her research and her future plans.



A Masterclass on Translating Children's Literature



Leading literary translator and academic, **Goedele De Sterck** from the University of Salamanca led a workshop on translating children's literature. From preserving the whimsy and wonder of a tale, a poem, a comic or a picture book, to ensuring cultural sensitivity, participants explored the challenges and joys of translating literature for the youngest audience.

January-June 2026 (continued)

The Penguin Book of Polish Short Stories



L-R: Magdalena Kleszczewska, Maciej Miłkowski, Antonia Lloyd-Jones, Tul'si Bhambry and Anna Zaranko

The Penguin Book of Polish Short Stories is a landmark anthology of 39 stories, exploring over a century of Polish literature. Editor and acclaimed translator, **Antonia Lloyd-Jones**, and some of the authors and translators whose work features in this new book, namely **Maciej Miłkowski**, **Anna Zaranko** and **Tul'si Bhambry**, were at the Centre to discuss their work on the collection.

This event was brought to us with the generous support of the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, whose mission is to showcase Polish culture around the world.



Trinity Tongues



L-R: Serena Vandi, Chiara Valcelli, Daragh O'Connell, Berenice Daniele, Corinna Salvadori Lonergan, Antonio Belfiore, Joseph Muratore

To mark the 250th year of modern languages being taught at Trinity, **Michael Cronin** and **Max McGuinness** from the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies, held a postgraduate and early-career researcher conference at the Centre. The theme of this conference was the history of modern languages, including Irish, at Trinity and the broader cultural and intellectual contributions made by Trinity graduates and scholars of the discipline.

A Queer Classic in Translation



L-R: Lucy Jones, Frank Wynne

What does it mean to bring a forgotten queer classic back to life in a new language? *SMALLTOWNNOVELLA* by Ronald M. Schernikau was a cult debut novel that had to be reprinted within days of its publication in 1980s West Germany, and yet it remained unknown to Anglophone readers for over four decades. **Lucy Jones** was in conversation with fellow translator **Frank Wynne** about her new English translation of this novel.



Celebrating 250 Years of Modern Languages at Trinity College: Translation Slams



Trinity College Dublin has been teaching modern languages for 250 years. Its first professors in French, German, Spanish and Italian were appointed in 1776 – the first university chairs in modern languages anywhere in the world.

As part of our ‘Languages 250’ celebrations, we hosted a series of translation slams between April and June with the generous support of the Polish Embassy in Ireland, Instituto Cervantes Dublin and the Goethe-Institut Irland. At these slam events, we give two translators the same text and ask them to work on these without conferring with each other. We then bring the translators together to discuss and compare the results. These slams are very engaging for anyone with an interest in translation, and no specific knowledge of the individual languages is required.

Polish Translation Slam



L-R: Siobhán McNamara, James Hadley, Antonia Lloyd-Jones

Antonia Lloyd-Jones and **Siobhán McNamara** came together for a lively discussion about their translations of an excerpt from an essay by Nobel laureate, Olga Tokarczuk, ‘Ćwiczenia z obcości’ (*Exercises in Otherness*). This event was kindly supported by the Embassy of Poland in Ireland.



Spanish Translation Slam



L-R: Francisco Oda-Ángel, Director, Instituto Cervantes Dublin, Isabel Adey, Michael McCaffrey

Isabel Adey and **Michael McCaffrey** discussed their translations of a passage from ‘Suicidios ejemplares’ (*Exemplary Suicides*), a collection of short stories by Enrique Vila-Matas, one of Spain’s leading contemporary novelists. This event was kindly supported by the Instituto Cervantes Dublin.



German Translation Slam



L-R: Rachel McNicholl, Lucy Jones

Rachel McNicholl and **Lucy Jones** talked us through their respective translations of a passage from ‘Essen’ (*Food*), a culinary biography by German-Russian writer Alina Bronsky. This event was kindly supported by the Goethe-Institut Irland.



A Life in Translation: Hans-Christian Oeser



L-R: Hans-Christian Oeser, Trish Van Bolderen (Chair of the ATII), James Hadley and Michael Cronin



Literary translator and editor **Hans-Christian Oeser** was interviewed about his life's work by Professor **Michael Cronin** at a special event to mark the publication of his 250th book. His publications include 200 translations of novels, short stories and poetry

collections by an extraordinary list of Irish writers including Sebastian Barry, Maeve Brennan, Anne Enright, Jennifer Johnston, Claire Keegan, Louise Kennedy, John McGahern, Eoin McNamee, Peig Sayers and William Trevor. He has also translated classics by Charles Dickens, William Faulkner, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Henry James, D.H. Lawrence, George Orwell, Samuel Pepys, Oscar Wilde, Virginia Woolf, W.M. Thackeray, Mark Twain and H.G. Wells.

Chris has been awarded many prestigious prizes including the Aristeion Prize, the Rowohlt Prize, the Braem Prize, and the Straelen Translator's Prize. He is an Honorary Member of the Association of Translators and Interpreters Ireland. In April 2026, Chris was conferred with Trinity's highest accolade – an honorary doctorate – in recognition of his life's work and exceptional contribution to his field.

At this event, Chris and Michael discussed the world of literary translation today and how things have changed over the course of Chris' career, during which time he has become one of the best-known names in the world of German literary translation. The event was hosted in partnership with the Association of Translators and Interpreters Ireland (ATII), which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.



Translation Studies Network of Ireland 2026 Conference



L-R: Carol O'Sullivan, Associate Professor in Translation Studies at the University of Bristol, Nayara Güercio, Andrea Bergantino, Rongyu Wang, Hannah Silvester, Elizabeth Rosales Martínez and Céire Broderick

The Translation Studies Network of Ireland (TSNI) connects scholars from every university on the island of Ireland, whose work is relevant to Translation Studies. Each year, the TSNI conference is hosted by a different university, providing an opportunity to showcase the breadth and depth of the latest research in Ireland. In May, we were pleased to host the sixth annual TSNI conference, exploring the past and the future of translation in Ireland.



L-R: Kathleen Shields, John Gleeson, Michael Cronin, Wen Liu



L-R: Patrick Colgan, Natalia Resende, Eirini Maria Bregianni, Ana Olivares Muñoz Ledo

Dante Reading Group



L-R: Hans-Christian Oeser, Eda Sagarra, Chancellor Dr Mary McAleese, Provost Linda Doyle, Corinna Salvadori Lonergan and David Little

For the third year running, we hosted a Reading Group dedicated to Dante Alighieri's *Commedia*. The 'Divine Comedy', a classic of Italian and world literature, is brought to readers around the world through translation. Our reading group is led by Fellow Emerita, **Corinna Salvadori Lonergan**.

In April 2026, Professor Lonergan's exceptional achievements were honoured when she was conferred with an honorary doctorate, in recognition of her outstanding scholarship and teaching which have continued long since her notional retirement in 2001. This award is one of many she has received in her lifetime, including: the Provost's lifetime award for her contribution to teaching; life membership awarded by the Society for Italian Studies; Honorary President of the International Association of Italian Professors; and the title *Commendatore* in the "Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana", Italy's most prestigious honour.

In addition to **Corinna Salvadori Lonergan** and **Hans-Christian Oeser**, we would like to congratulate two of our esteemed colleagues from the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies, David Little and Eda Sagarra, who were also awarded honorary degrees in April. **David Little** is a distinguished and internationally renowned scholar in applied linguistics and language education. **Eda Sagarra** was the first female holder of the Chair of German (1776) at Trinity and, on becoming Registrar in 1981, she was the first woman in the history of the College to hold a statutory officership.



Corinna Salvadori Lonergan

Summer School: Translate in Dublin



L-R: Silvia Smith, Grant Hamilton, Caroline Tremblay, Chris Durban, Anne de Freyman, Marc Lambert; back row: François Lavallée, Laurence Cuzzolin, Dominique Jonkers

In July 2026, we hosted this three-day Summer School for translators working from French into English, and from English into French. The workshops were run by leading translators from Belgium, Canada, France, Ireland, UK and USA, with attendees coming from all of these countries.



L-R: Grant Hamilton, James Hadley, Chris Durban

Daniel Hahn

British writer, editor and translator **Daniel Hahn** gave a talk about his critically acclaimed new book *If this Be Magic: The Unlikely Art of Shakespeare in Translation*.

This Summer School was organised in collaboration with the Association of Translators and Interpreters Ireland and Magistrad Canada. It was kindly facilitated by our colleagues in Trinity Long Room Hub.

2026 Pratchett Prize



Asbestos and Ross Killeen

Inspired by the life and work of author Terry Pratchett, the Pratchett Prize, administered by Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation, acknowledges the contribution of a scientist, artist, activist, or person living with Alzheimer's Disease who

collaboratively or individually works to reduce the impact of the condition. The Pratchett Prize 2026 was awarded to artist, **Asbestos**, and filmmaker, **Ross Killeen**, for their acclaimed documentary, *Don't Forget to Remember*, at Creative Brain Week.



Student News



Nayara Güércio

Congratulations to **Nayara Güércio** who was conferred with her PhD in October. Nayara's thesis asked what has prompted the sudden increase in scholarly attention on the phenomenon of indirect translation (the translation of translations) since 2016. Nayara's research was generously supported by the ABEI/Haddad Fellowship for Brazilian students.

MPhil Graduation



MPhil class of 2024-25

In April, we welcomed our MPhil class of 2024-25 back to Trinity for their graduation ceremony. After the ceremony, we hosted a reception for the graduates and their families at the Centre: this is always a very happy reunion for our students who come from all over the world to celebrate the occasion.

MPhil Prizewinners



L-R: Matthew Carey, course director James Hadley, and Mariona Escolano I Escapà

The MPhil awards two prizes each year to the students who achieved the highest marks in specific components of the degree. This year, the 'Christopher Donovan Translation Prize' was awarded to **Mariona Escolano I Escapà**, and the 'John Harington Award for Poetry Translation' was awarded to **Matthew Carey**.

Congratulations are also due to **Elisabetta Panzera** who was awarded the 2025-26 **Key Capital** scholarship.

Postdoc News



Andrea Bergantino completed his PhD in 2025. He is now embarking on a two-year research project on how Translation Studies, with a focus on literary translation, can respond to changing student expectations and needs, evolving professional practices,

and the growing impact of disruptive technologies like Generative AI. The project has a strong pedagogical component.



John Gleeson completed his PhD in 2024 with a thesis on 'The Political Influence of Translation in a time of Revolution and War: A Microhistory of two Irish translators Nicholas Madgett (1738–1813) and John Sullivan (1767–1802)'. He is currently completing a book to be

published in the Cambridge Elements Series with the title *Translation in the Shadow of History*.

Visiting Scholars

During the academic year, we welcomed visiting scholars from around the world, who spent time at the Centre developing their research. Visitors included **Goedele De Sterck**, University of Salamanca; **Ludivine Bouton-Kelly**, University of Angers; and **Tiffane Levick**, University of Toulouse.

World Fiction Book Club

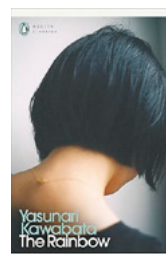
Our book club continues to thrive, welcoming readers from all over the world who meet online to discuss works of fiction that have recently been translated into English. This year, the books discussed were:



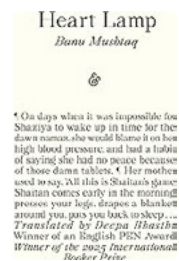
There's No Turning Back
by Alba de Céspedes,
translated from Italian
by Ann Goldstein



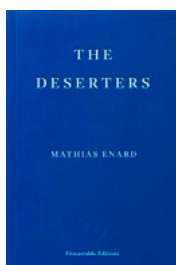
There's a Monster Behind the Door
by Gaëlle Bélem,
translated from French (La Réunion) by Karen Fleetwood
and Laëtitia Saint Loubert



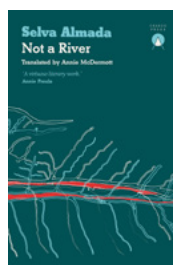
The Rainbow
by Yasunari Kawabata,
translated from Japanese
by Hadyn Trowell



Heart Lamp
by Banu Mushtaq,
translated from Kannada
by Deepa Bhashti



The Deserters
by Mathias Énard,
translated from French
by Charlotte Mandell



Not a River
by Selva Almada,
translated from Spanish
(Argentina)
by Annie McDermott



Forgottenness
by Tanja Maljartschuk,
translated from Ukrainian
by Zenia Tompkins

Our book choices for 2026–27 are listed on our [website](#).

Translators-in-Residence

French Embassy Translator-in-Residence



Marie Hermet

Since 2020, we have hosted an annual French Visiting Translator Fellowship, an initiative generously sponsored by the French Embassy in Ireland.

In 2026, **Marie Hermet** spent two months at the Centre, working on two Irish novels: *Snowflake* by Louise Nealon, and *The Geometer Lobachevsky* by Adrian Duncan. She writes how she “enjoyed the warm and inspiring work environment of TCLCT and loved sharing her experience as a translator with the students”. The residency allowed her to immerse herself into the world of the novels: she met Louise Nealon at Trinity in the Buttery where Debbie, the novel’s main character, has lunch with her friends, and she spent a day with Adrian Duncan in Longford, where Lobachevsky lives and works surveying the bog.

As a guest at the Franco-Irish Literary Festival, she took part in a round table led by Tim Groenland and enjoyed meeting French and Irish writers and publishers. In one of the many book launches she attended at Books Upstairs, Marie met Djamel White and his agent, and was then able to successfully pitch *All Them Dogs* to Éditions Plon upon her return to Paris. A conversation with Wendy Erskine gave her precious insights into her current work on Wendy’s novel *The Benefactors*. “My time in TCLCT was a dream, and it also led to many successful projects for the years to come.”

Literature Ireland Translator-in-Residence



Mihaela Buruiană

We welcomed accomplished literary translator **Mihaela Buruiană** to Trinity for a residency funded by Literature Ireland. Mihaela has translated over 60 books into Romanian, including works by Kevin Barry, Maggie O’Farrell and Sally Rooney. Mihaela spent two months in Dublin working on her translation of *The Heart in Winter* by Kevin Barry.

Mihaela writes: “It was amazing to live in Ireland for two months and to see, hear and breathe Irishness everywhere. Although I was based in Dublin, I got to travel around a bit – to Howth, Bray and Malahide – but also further away – to Kilkenny, Cork, Galway, the Cliffs of Moher, Sligo, Belfast and the Giant’s Causeway. It was such a privilege to be able to live on the Trinity campus. I was invited to the Dublin Book Festival and had an event with Kevin Barry, and I got to speak to the Centre’s MPhil students about my work as a translator. I also met two other Irish writers whose work I have translated: Naoise Dolan and Ferdia Lennon. The entire experience has been both professionally enriching and personally unforgettable, and I am incredibly grateful for this opportunity.”

A Tribute to Sarah Smyth (1956–2026)



Sarah Smyth

The Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation would not exist without **Sarah Smyth**.

Sarah was the Centre’s founding director and the driving force behind its creation. At a time when literary translation occupied a far smaller place in the academic landscape than it does today, she recognised its importance and worked tirelessly to create a home for translators, researchers, students and readers within Trinity College Dublin.

Her achievement was not simply to imagine such a place, but to make it real.

Through determination, diplomacy and an extraordinary ability to persuade others to share her vision, Sarah secured support for the Centre and oversaw the transformation of 36 Fenian Street into its permanent home. What had once been a near-derelict building became a thriving centre for teaching, research and public engagement. Every student, researcher, translator and visitor who has passed through its doors has benefited from her efforts, whether they knew it or not.

Yet, those who had the privilege of working with Sarah rarely speak first about her achievements. We speak about her rare combination of wisdom and warmth. She listened carefully, encouraged generously and gave

her time freely. Students and staff alike called on her for frank advice mixed with optimistic good humour.

In April 2022, we managed to persuade the self-effacing Sarah to allow us to name a room in the Centre after her. Speaking on that occasion, she described the Centre as a place “where languages and cultures don’t compete with each other. They don’t go to war with one another, but mutually enrich one another.” These words captured her vision for the Centre and continue to shape its philosophy.

Those who knew Sarah will remember her in different ways. Some will remember a mentor; others a colleague, collaborator or friend. Many will recall moments of encouragement offered at exactly the right time. All will remember someone who combined professional accomplishment with exceptional humanity.

In an age characterised by self-promotion, Sarah preferred to support others rather than draw attention to herself. Much of what she achieved was accomplished quietly, through patience, persistence and genuine care for those around her.

The Centre she founded stands as a living monument to her vision. Sarah left the world better than she found it. What greater achievement could there be?

Upcoming Events, Autumn 2026

We run events, talks and workshops on all aspects of literary and cultural translation. These are open to the public and admission is (almost always) free. Please see our website for regular updates, or sign up to our mailing list.



Great Irish Writers in Translation: Joseph O'Connor 6:30pm, Wednesday 30 September at Trinity Long Room Hub

Award-winning writer Joseph O'Connor will be joining Professor Michael Cronin for an evening in conversation with three of his translators: Carine Chichereau (French), Elisa Banfi (Italian) and Malwina Stopyra (Polish). Joseph

O'Connor is the author of twenty books, including three short story collections and eleven novels. His work has been translated into over forty languages.

This event is kindly sponsored by EUNIC (EU National Institutes of Culture), the Embassy of France in Ireland, the Embassy of Poland in Ireland and the Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Dublin.



2027 French Visiting Translator Fellowship

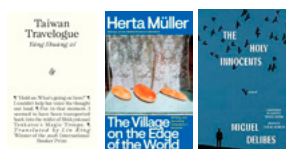
These prestigious fellowships are awarded to practising literary translators who are translating a work of literature

from English into French. The closing date for applications is 14 December 2026. This fellowship is generously sponsored by the French Embassy in Ireland.



Dante Reading Group 30 September 2026 – 5 May 2027 10:30–12:30 at 36 Fenian Street

We are pleased to announce our fourth series of readings from Dante's *Commedia*, led by Professor Emerita Corinna Salvadori Lonergan. The readings will take place from 10:30am–12:30pm on Wednesdays.



Translated Literature Book Club 15 September 2026–18 May 2027

We meet from 6:30–7:30pm
(online) on the third Tuesday of

each month during term. All are welcome and admission is free.

The books for Michaelmas Term 2026 are:

- 15 September: *Taiwan Travelogue* by Yáng Shuang-zi, translated from Taiwanese Mandarin by Lin King. Winner of the International Booker Prize 2026.
- 20 October: *The Holy Innocents* by Miguel Delibes, translated from Spanish by Peter Bush, with a foreword by Colm Tóibín.
- 17 November: *The Village on the Edge of the World* by Herta Müller, translated from German by Kate McNaughton. Romanian-German writer Herta Müller won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2009.

You can find more details and booking information for our events at www.tcd.ie/literary-translation

Editor: Eithne McCarthy Bowen

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We are proud to be a flagship centre of Trinity's School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies.

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