

Come Together Again



Offaly 2021

Friday 17 September

CULTURENIGHT.IE

COME TOGETHER AGAIN

Culture Night Offaly is Friday September 17th. This year we Come Together Again across Offaly as we continue to connect with and celebrate our culture together. We invite you to experience a one of a kind programme, where artists and venues will open both their physical and virtual doors to host a programme of FREE entertainment as part of our national celebration of arts and culture. In its 11th year, come and experience Culture Night Offaly through an amazing spectacle of song, music, dance and visual arts, with a special focus on young artists.



Top: Birr Castle Science Centre
 Middle: Speed Painting by Shane Turner
 Bottom: Liminal Man watercolour by Sheila Hough

AT A GLANCE...

ONLINE EVENTS (SEE LAST PAGE FOR INFO ON LINKS)

- Tullamore Screen Acting | Performed Scenes **6.30 PM**
- The Music Box Residency | Live Facebook Stream **7 PM**
- Clara Musical Society Presents: Music to Lift Your Spirits **8 PM**
- Nigel Linden: Notes at Clonony Castle | Live Facebook Stream **8 PM**
- *Treasure* | Featuring the Poetry of Eileen Casey **8:30 PM**
- Rahan Comhaltas & Friends | Cultural Crossover Projections **9 PM**
- *Smokey Saves the O'Connells* | Documentary **10 PM**

OFFLINE EVENTS (EVENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO BOOKING)

- Storytime with Offaly Libraries **3 / 4 PM**
- The Makings | Fostering Youth Art Creativity - Launch **3:45 PM**
- Arch Gallery Launch **4 PM**
- Poetry Town Presents: Tullamore Poet Laureate Reveal Event **6 PM**
- Self-Guided Tours of the Science Centre at Birr Castle Demesne **6-8 PM**
- The Bog Gothic Pop Up Museum and Exhibition **6 PM**
- *Treasure* | Launch Featuring the Poetry of Eileen Casey **7 PM**
- Press Photographers Association of Ireland Winner's Talk **7 PM**
- Nigel Linden: Notes at Clonony Castle **8 PM**
- *Smokey Saves the O'Connells* | Screening of A Documentary **8 PM**
- Poets on the Wall at Tin Jug Studio **8:30 PM**
- Night's Sky | Stargazing at Birr Castle Demesne **8:30 PM**



6.30 PM: TULLAMORE SCREEN ACTING | PERFORMED SCENES

A film showcasing the creative young talent of the Tullamore Screen Acting Company. Young actors under the direction of facilitator Darragh O'Toole (**Peaky Blinders, Blood, Red Rock**) perform a selection of scenes followed by a brief explanation about their choices and how they approached the scene.

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED | AGES 15+



7 PM: MUSIC BOX RESIDENCY

Young musicians from across Offaly & Westmeath have worked with music industry professionals to develop their song writing and recording skills. The young composers also collaborated with a videographer as they storyboarded and filmed videos to accompany their music. Their music and videos will be released to the world on Culture Night via live Facebook stream on the Music Generation Offaly & Westmeath Facebook page. The Music Box Residency is a joint project of Music Generation Offaly/ Westmeath in partnership with Youth Work Ireland Midlands.

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED | FAMILY FRIENDLY



8 PM: CLARA MUSICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS: MUSIC TO LIFT YOUR SPIRITS

For fifty years the Clara Musical Society have been bringing quality entertainment and national award winning productions to audiences in the Midlands. They are delighted to return to Culture Night with an all new virtual experience. The program will be streamed on Vimeo and will feature 'Music to lift your Spirits' from various well known musicals, performed 'live' by some of their members and musicians.

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED | FAMILY FRIENDLY



ON-LINE

Projection by Matthew Watkins
at Charleville Castle

9 PM: RAHAN COMHALTAS AND FRIENDS | CULTURAL CROSSOVERS

Once again taking their show to the realms of the internet, expect Rahan Comhaltas to bring you an exciting selection of music, song and dance infused with traditional Irish and abstract animated imagery by Matthew Watkins, projected onto the front of Charleville Castle, Tullamore.

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

3 PM / 4 PM: STORYTIME WITH OFFALY LIBRARIES VENUE: TULLAMORE LIBRARY (3PM), EDENDERRY, CLARA AND BIRR LIBRARIES (4PM)

Join Offaly Libraries for some lovely stories and lots of fun in an outdoor story time for ages 3+! Maximum six children. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Tullamore Library – tullamorelibrary@offalycoco.ie or 05793 46832

Birr Library – birrlibrary@offalycoco.ie or 057 91 24950

Edenderry Library – edenderrylibrary@offalycoco.ie or 046 9731028

Clara Library – claralibrary@offalycoco.ie or 057 933 1389

BOOKING ESSENTIAL | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

Donlon Dance Company Performance

3:45 PM: THE MAKINGS | FOSTERING YOUTH ART CREATIVITY VENUE: TULLAMORE LIBRARY

We are delighted to present Offaly County Council's Youth Arts Strategy written by Angela Ryan Whyte, and to celebrate we are joined by special guests/speakers and an array of talented youth. Includes performances by Donlon Dance Company, speed painter Shane Turner (commissioned by the Offaly County Council Arts Office), and the Tullamore Screen Acting Company. No walk-ins (advance booking only).

Bookings: arts@offalycoco.ie

BOOKING ESSENTIAL | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

Collection of works
at The Arch Gallery

4–9 PM: ARCH GALLERY LAUNCH

VENUE: THE ARCH GALLERY, JKL STREET, EDENDERRY

Culture Night 2021 sees the official opening of The Arch Gallery featuring an exhibition of works by Declan Marry and other local artists.

Venue capacity – 8 persons maximum at any one time.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

Cormac Lally

6 PM: POETRY TOWN PRESENTS:

TULLAMORE POET LAUREATE REVEAL EVENT

VENUE: TULLAMORE LIBRARY

Join us with Tullamore's Poet Laureate Cormac Lally for the reading of his poem, written especially for the town. 'His work is a mix of utter lies, hard truths, politics and family life, dropped on the listener with a cutting humour with deep emotional levels, delivered in a flowing rhythm.' Also expect special guest poets from the county including Eileen Casey, Pauline McNamee and Richard Brennan as well as a visit from students and their own poems created through Cormac's poetry workshops 'Transcending the Page'.

No walk-ins (advance booking only).

Bookings: arts@offalycoco.ie

BOOKING ESSENTIAL | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

Projection installation
in Birr Castle Science Centre

6–8 PM: SELF-GUIDED TOURS OF THE SCIENCE CENTRE

VENUE: BIRR CASTLE DEMESNE

The Science Centre reveals the wonders of early astronomy, engineering and photography, with a special emphasis on the brilliant design and assembly of the world famous Great Telescope by the 3rd Earl of Rosse. Highlights of the galleries include a welcome video, hologram of Mary Countess of Rosse and a letter from Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon.

COVID19 compliance measures are in place with a limit of 6 people in any of the galleries.

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

Bog Gothic Man
Lino-print by Sheila Hough

6 PM: THE BOG GOTHIC POP UP MUSEUM AND EXHIBITION
VENUE: JJ HOUGH'S SINGING PUB, BANAGHER

This event weaves together perspectives from different parts of the community, old and new, through interviews, art work and objects sourced through local community groups such as the Bord Na Mona Men's Shed and New Horizon's Refugee Advice and Support, which react to and reflect on the role the Bog has played in the community and psyche of the Midlands. The project includes the work of artist Sheila Hough and Margo McNulty, commissioned by Offaly County Council Arts Office.

No booking required - limited numbers, first come first serve.

Exhibition is also available at johnhough.wixsite.com/theboggothic

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

Eileen Casey

7 PM: TREASURE | FILM LAUNCH FEATURING THE POETRY OF EILEEN CASEY

VENUE: LOUGH BOORA VISITOR CENTRE

Treasure (Produced by Hello Camera, Birr) features poems by Eileen Casey, photography by Tina Claffey and art work by Caroline Conway. The film forms part of an exhibition, 'The Strange Case of The Irish Elk', a collaboration between Poet Eileen Casey and Visual Artist/Anthropologist, Curator and Poet, Jeanne Cannizzo. *Treasure* showcases bog themed poems set against a backdrop of Irish Peat Lands. Supported by The Arts Council of Ireland and commissioned by Offaly County Council Arts Office.

No walk-ins (advance booking only).

Bookings: arts@offalycoco.ie

BOOKING ESSENTIAL | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

Photo credit: James Crombie

7 PM: PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND | AWARD WINNER'S EXHIBITION AND TALK

VENUE: BIRR THEATRE & ARTS CENTRE

This year Birr Theatre & Arts Centre brings a captivating talk from the Press Photographers Association of Ireland (PPAI) winner James Crombie, (Hurling on the Moon).

This compliments the PPAI Winning and Shortlisted Photographic Exhibition currently on show in Birr Theatre.

No Walk-ins (advance booking only).

Bookings: birrtheatre.com or the box office 057 9122911 (1-5.30pm).

BOOKING ESSENTIAL | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | FAMILY FRIENDLY



OFF-LINE

Nigel Linden

8 PM: NIGEL LINDEN: NOTES AT CLONONY CASTLE
VENUE: CLONONY CASTLE, CLOGHAN

Join exquisite Pianist Nigel Linden plus special guests as he takes you through the world of classical, jazz, blues, and Traditional Irish music. Clonony Castle will also treat online viewers to a live stream from the enchanting Clonony Castle via the Clonony Castle Facebook Page.

Limited numbers; No walk-ins (advance booking only).

Bookings: clononycastle@gmail.com

BOOKING ESSENTIAL



OFF-LINE

The O'Connell Family

8 PM: SMOKEY SAVES THE O'CONNELLS
VENUE: LARKINS, EDENDERRY

This is a premiere of the documentary *Smokey Saves the O'Connells* produced by John Kelly and presented by Greg Traynor. In 1945 the Market House, Edenderry (now Town Hall) caught fire. Inside were the O'Connell family and their dog Smokey. This well-known local story is discovered again via the medium of film.

Limited numbers; No walk-ins (advance booking only).

Bookings: gregtraynor77@gmail.com or 086 3821739

BOOKING ESSENTIAL | AGES 12+



OFF-LINE

8:30 PM: POETS ON THE WALL
VENUE: TIN JUG STUDIO, ST BRENDAN STREET, BIRR

Tin Jug Studio welcomes passers-by to live and recorded readings through an innovative projection. The written words of 'modest' Birr poets have been shared abroad to wide acclaim. On this night there will be readings of a selection of these, by rising star and Offaly actor Darragh O'Toole, and lauded writers/ poets Eileen Casey and Rita Kelly. This is a collaboration of Gerry Murphy and Rosalind Fanning.

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | AGES 12+



OFF-LINE

Dr. Niamh Shaw
Photo credit: D. Kilfeather

8:30–11:30 PM: NIGHT SKY | STARGAZING

VENUE: BIRR CASTLE DEMESNE (VIA THE MAIN GATE AT OXMANTOWN MALL)

Join Dr. Niamh Shaw and members of Midlands Astronomy Club for a tour of the night sky over Birr through telescopes. This Stargazing event is inspired by Birr's astronomy heritage from the time of William Parsons, 3rd Earl of Rosse (1800 - 1867) and currently I-LOFAR's astrophysical observing facility within Birr Castle Demesne. Exploring Birr Skies is a community project in collaboration with Birr Theatre & Arts Centre, Birr Tidy Towns, Birr Castle Demesne and AstroLands with I-LOFAR, led by Trinity College Dublin. Supported by the Creative Ireland Programme (2017 - 2022) in partnership with Offaly County Council.

Limited numbers; No walk-ins (advance booking only).

Bookings: birrtheatre.com or the box office 057 9122911 (1–5.30 pm).

BOOKING ESSENTIAL | WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE | FAMILY FRIENDLY

ONLINE EVENTS



'Like' Culture Night Offaly Facebook page as we will share everything on the night. Links to all online events will also be on the Events page of www.offaly.ie/arts and on www.culturenight.ie.

OFFLINE EVENTS



Offline events are subject to current restrictions and have limited capacity. Most are outdoors so please do bring an umbrella! If for any reason we need to cancel we will endeavour to showcase the event live or pre-recorded online. Please keep up to date with all news on Culture Night Offaly Facebook page or www.offaly.ie/arts.



**Culture Night is brought to you by The Arts Council
in partnership with Offaly County Council Arts Office**