



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd

| Pre-Festival Community Events | | |
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| 18:00 | Festival Launch: Official festival opening by keynote speaker Prof. Kevin Rafter, Chair of the Arts Council of Ireland. Readings by the winners of the 2022 Writing Competition and prize-giving ceremony. This event is followed by a festival buffet. | Stella Maris Centre |
| 20:00 | Poetry Readings: Award-winning Donegal-based poet James Finnegan , (Half-Open Door and The Weather-Beaten Scarecrow) and Cork-based Matthew Geden , Writer in Residence for Cork County Library and Arts Office. Matthew's collections include Swimming to Albania, The Place Inside, Fruit and Smoke and Mirrors. **This is a Free Write By The Sea/Doire Press Collaboration Event** | Stella Maris Centre |