

Saturday 16th September

2pm - 3pm: **A critical discussion of Dermot Healy's fiction and poetry. Keith Hopper, Peter Fallon, Liza Costello. Chaired by Vincent Woods.**

The Glens Centre. €5

Keith Hopper teaches literature and film studies at Oxford. He has written a biography of Flann O'Brien and he co-edited a series of 4 books by and about Healy. Peter Fallon's new poetry collection, *Strong, My Love. Deeds and Their Days* (after Hesiod) will be published in October. He published Healy's poetry from 1992, including a posthumous collection with *Gallery Press*.

Liza Costello is a poet and critic from Healy's native Westmeath. She is writing a PhD on his poetry and memoir.



3.30pm: **Presentation by the poet Vona Groarke of the International Dermot Healy Poetry Prize 2017**

The Glens Centre. FREE

This recognises the best in international poetry and was set up with Healy's blessing in 2014. Vona Groarke has published many collections of poetry and this year won the Hennessy Award for her outstanding contribution to literature. She will present the award, a stunning sculpture of one of the barnacle geese beloved by Healy, by sculptor Jackie McKenna. Groarke will also read from her own work. In an exciting new development The Glens Centre will launch the Fierce Moon Dermot Healy Bursary for an emerging writer of drama or fiction.



Saturday 16th September

6pm: **'On Broken Wings' by Dermot Healy Presented by the Hacklers drama group from Cavan, directed by Damien O'Brien**

Ballroom of Romance, Glenfarne. €30 (including ballroom supper and scenic bus trip) €15 play only. 8.30pm

This is a very special occasion: a rare presentation of Healy's evocative play set on the Mullet Peninsula in Mayo, performed by the theatre group which he founded in 1980 with his friend Ray O'Connor. Damien O'Brien worked on many shows with Healy and was his friend. He recalls "manually operating the (fierce) moon for the play which he built as Dermot loomed over him puffing on a fag!"



Before the show guests will be served a special Ballroom Supper (with a vegetarian option also available) courtesy of Lilly and Lee of the wonderful Café Bia Slainnte.

"It is the most sympathetic and intuitive dramatic rendering of Healy's vision I have seen, a dream in every sense" Pat McCabe

"A treat in theatrical brilliance". Noel Monahan Poet and Dramatist.

"Wonderful high energy physical acting, spell bindingly good masks, it could stand as a culchie companion to Philip Roth's 'Everyman'. I can't think of a play I have enjoyed more!"
Damian McCarney Acting Editor The Anglo Celt

Sunday 17th September

Sunday morning: **Masterclasses Vincent Woods with other artists and writers.**
The Glens Centre. €8



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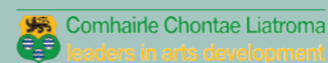
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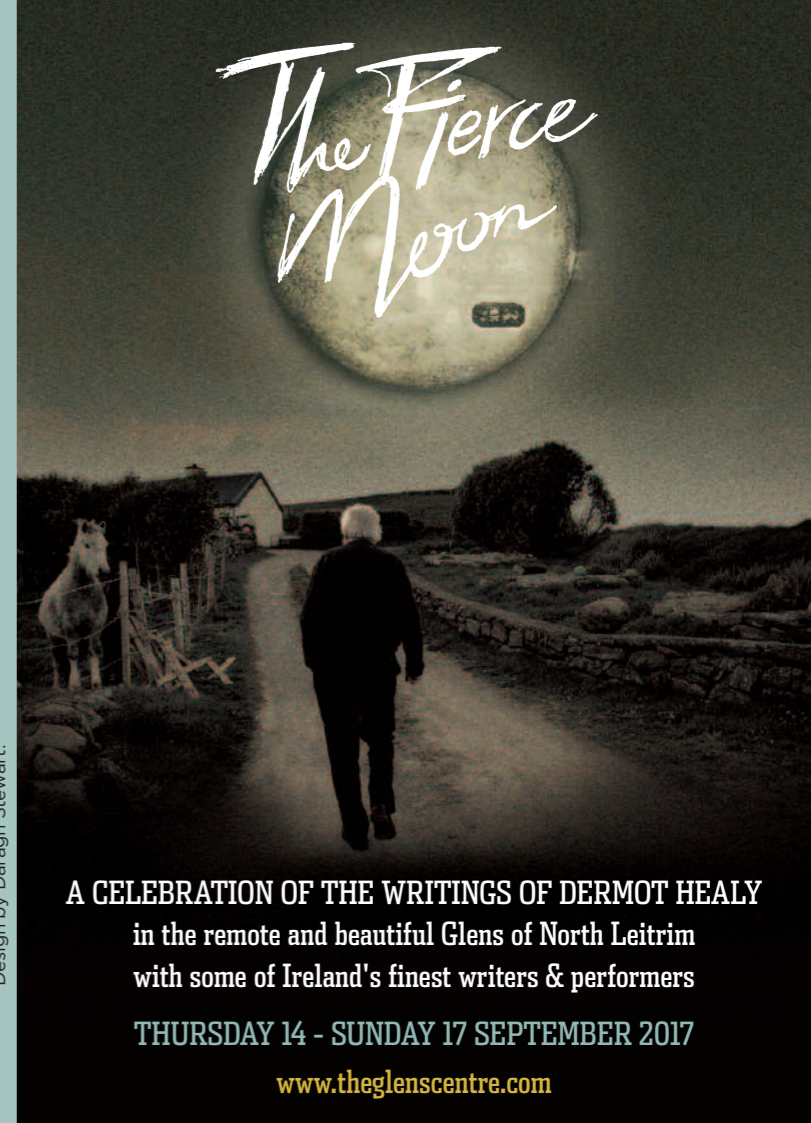


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Festival directed by Susan McKay with Vincent Woods and Brian Leyden. Thanks to Crona Gallagher for the *Fierce Moon* etching, Seán McSweeney for *The Poet's House* painting, Brian Farrell and Dallan Healy for their photographs of Dermot.

Design by Daragh Stewart.



A CELEBRATION OF THE WRITINGS OF DERMOT HEALY
in the remote and beautiful Glens of North Leitrim
with some of Ireland's finest writers & performers

THURSDAY 14 - SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2017

www.theglenscentre.com

The Fierce Moon



Photo: Dallian Healy

Dermot Healy, novelist, poet, memoirist and dramatist, had a long and creative association with The Glens Centre in North Leitrim. He ran its writing workshop, known as the *Pig Executive*, and brought the Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney for a memorable event. He performed on the stage at this intimate venue in Manorhamilton's old Methodist church many times before his untimely death in 2014.

The Fierce Moon (the festival's name comes from Healy's poetry) brings together some of Ireland's most enthralling writers, musicians and photographers, many of whom knew, were influenced by, or had worked with Healy. The festival will host the Dermot Healy International Poetry Prize and will see the launch of a new bursary for an emerging dramatist or fiction writer. There will be a scenic bus trip to the Ballroom of Romance at Glenfarne for a performance of one of Healy's plays, a pop-up bookstand, food, wine and much more.

A €70 weekend ticket covers entry to all events and includes a special commemorative programme.

Thursday 14th September

8pm. **Music by Mary McPartlan and Seamie O'Dowd with readings by Michael Harding and Sally Rooney**
The Glens Centre. €15

Drumkeeran's **Mary McPartlan**, one of the most passionate voices in Irish singing today, roams with ease from *Barbary Allen* to *Rainy Night in Soho*. She is joined by the talented multi-instrumentalist **Seamie O'Dowd** whose fluency on guitar has led to comparisons with Rory Gallagher.

Irish Times columnist and author **Michael Harding** has received numerous awards for his searingly frank writing and performances.

Sally Rooney has just burst onto the literary scene with her critically acclaimed novel *Conversation with Friends*. She's been described as "Salinger for the Snapchat generation."

Join members of the *Pig Executive* in Heraghty's after the show.



Friday 15th September

11am: **Force 10 Exhibition Preview**
Leitrim Sculpture Centre. FREE
Exhibition: **McKenna's Shop**

Exhibitions of work by leading Irish photographers including *Force 10* stalwart John Minihan. Enjoy Heike Thiele's photographs of traditional Irish shops and bars, with text by Winifred McNulty from the book *High Shelves and Long Counters* where Dermot Healy says in the preface, "the disappearing world being recorded re-enters the consciousness and reappears in all its physicality."

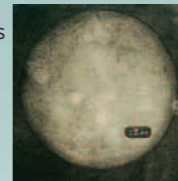


Diceman, Thom McGinty
Jo Gray

Friday 15th September

6pm: **Blood Wedding - Rehearsed Reading and Discussion**
The Glens Centre. €5

Rehearsed reading by Sligo IT drama students of extracts from Healy's adaptation of Lorca's *Blood Wedding*. Directed by lecturer and author **Rhona Trench**, who has published widely on Irish theatre. Trench will lead a short discussion on Healy's dramatic works.



7.30pm: **Pat McCabe and Friends**
The Glens Centre. €15

Pat McCabe, the dark instigator and master of Ireland's Border Gothic tradition, is the author of many best selling novels including *Butcher Boy* and *The Dead School*. His movies, directed by Neil Jordan, include *Butcher Boy* and *Breakfast on Pluto*. He is currently performing his "analogue monologues".



The acclaimed American poet **Tess Gallagher**, will bring out her tenth collection *Is, Is Not* in 2019. Many of her new poems were written at her home in Co Sligo.

Composer and musical director **Jane O'Leary** with the musicians of **Con Tempo** will present her settings of Healy poems. The poems will be read by writer and broadcaster,

Vincent Woods, from Drumkeeran. His most recent publication is *Fermata: Writings Inspired by Music*, co-edited with Eva Bourke.

Composer **John McLachlan** will present *Dog Ear*, which he describes as "a collage in the radiophonic tradition". This is a tribute to his late mother, the writer Leland Bardwell, who was one of Healy's closest friends.

Writer **Brian Leyden** will also read and remember Bardwell.

Gifted accordeonist **Martin Donohue** and other talented musicians will round off this magical evening.

Saturday 16th September

11am: **Opening of Force 10 Exhibition**
Leitrim Sculpture Centre. FREE

Official opening of *Force 10* Photographic Exhibition, by **Brian Leyden**. A contributor to the first issue of *Force 10*, Brian went on to edit issues 7 & 8 where prominence was given to the work of the photographers who were such an essential part of the literary journal. He will be joined by photojournalist **Brian Farrell** and by **Heike Thiele** and **Winifred McNulty** for a discussion on "photography and the fleeting moment".



Brian Leyden



Heike Thiele

12.30pm: **Book launch of 'The Yellow River'**
The Glens Centre. €5 (with wine, tapas and other refreshments)



The Poet's House
Seán McSweeney

Launch of *The Yellow River*, a collaboration between poet and critic **Gerard Smyth** and painter **Seán McSweeney**. The book explores the landscape of County Meath in poetry and paintings. Living in the wild and beautiful Atlantic landscape of North Sligo, McSweeney also painted portraits of his neighbour Dermot Healy.