MIC FEMFEST 2024

A festival highlighting the experiences & achievements of women

Caithfear Éisteacht

March Tuesday 5th Wednesday 6th Thursday 7th







Tuesday 5th March

Opening Event **

1pm G10

Justine McCarthy A Lot Done - More To Do

Justine McCarthy, a weekly columnist with The Irish Times, opens MIC FemFest 2024. Justine's address is followed by a choral reading by FemFest committee members of the FemFest Manifesto.

Afternoon Event

2.30pm G10

Feminist Song

Bread and Roses: A Socio-Musical Case Study of Feminist Resistance

Dr Gwen Moore, MIC, invites the audience to consider the power of music as a vehicle for social protest.

Feminist Anthems!

Jude Mc Inerney and Michelle Ryan, MIC, discuss an audio piece compiled from submissions of favourite Feminist Anthems from MIC staff and students, and the wider Limerick community.

Evening Event

Stretch On Your Grave: A Tribute to Sinéad O'Connor

Deirdre Clare, Dr David Clare, MIC, and other Limerick-based performers celebrate Sinéad O'Connor's life and music in reading and song.

5.30pm

Meditation Space, Foundation Building

Wednesday 6th March

Morning event

11am Halla

Student Performances

Matthew O' Rourke, Megan Warde, and Gránia Curran perform Us, Beneath, a work of performance poetry written by Matthew O'Rourke.

Mary I Dramatic Arts Society (MIDAS) present a performed reading of selected feminist plays from 1970s and 1980s Italy.

Lunchtime event

1pm G10

Song Seeking

In this event, Ukrainian women participating in Sing Ireland's Song Seeking Project share songs and insights from their homeland.

Afternoon Event

3pm G10

Talk by Professor Pat O'Connor

Professor Pat O' Connor reads from her recently published memoir: A 'proper' woman? One woman's story of success and failure in academia.

Evening Event

5.30pm G10

Celestial Realm: Discussing Memoir, Madness, and Maternal Lineage

Molly Hennigan talks about her first book, The Celestial Realm, which was nominated for the An Post Irish Book Awards Newcomer of the Year.

Thursday 7th March

MIC FemFest Committee Curated Day

Lunchtime event

12.30pm G10

Caoineadh/Keening

An exploration of the ancient ritual of Caoineadh or Keening- the Irish funeral lament. We will be joined by UCD professor emerita Angela Bourke and vocal and visual artist Ceara Conway to explore the role of women and the utilisation of the voice, lament and song in ritualising experiences of loss.

Afternoon Event

2.30pm G10

Behind the Scenes - Literary Women and the Complexities of Publishing

In association with the Irish Women's Writing Network (1880-1920)

This roundtable session introduces Lucy Hogan (Royal Irish Academy and Publishing Ireland) who will discuss her experiences in the business. She is joined by members of the Network who will offer snapshots of the legacy of Irish women writers and publishing. The session concludes with a short launch of recent MIC and Network publications relating to women's lives and writing

Evening Event

Sara Baume in conversation with Eimear Ryan

Sara Baume, author of Spill Simmer Falter Wither, A Line Made by Walking and Seven Steeples, talks about her work with author Eimear Ryan.

5.30pm T117

MIC THURLES

Tuesday 5th March

Opening Event # 11-1pm G16



Siobhán McQuillan of Amber Refuge -One Million Stars to end violence, Ireland opens MIC FemFest in Thurles. Introduced by Dr Deirdre Brady.

A series of **Star Weaving Workshops**, led by students, staff and community volunteers, takes place throughout the week.



One hour daily sessions: Tues 5th to Fri 8th March

'Ref' canteen

Rest as Resistance

Reclaiming the Right to Rest through the practice of Yoga Nidra

Dr Rebecca Purcell, MIC, explores 'rest' and the 'Rest' movement as processes of resistance against systems of oppression.

1-2pm The Chapel

Wednesday 6th March

Unheard Voices

10-11.30am Room 15

This panel reclaims space for those in Irish society whose voices have remained hidden, forgotten or ignored.

Panellists: Ms Molly Daly, Dr Hannagh McGinley, Dr Eimear Nic Conmhaic and Dr Catherine Stapleton. Chair: Dr Maria D. Ryan.

Tea & Conversation

Forging & sharing ideas- with colleagues from MIC, Limerick.

Staff Tearoom 11.30am

Closing of FemFest at MIC Thurles

Closing address by Head of School, Dr Finn Ó Murchú.

2.30pm

Guided College Tour

Ruth Talbot, MIC, leads this tour which focuses on the role of women within the College.

3pm

This exhibition of Mrs Alice Craven's papers spanning the nineteenth and twentieth centuries will recognise long forgotten widows and recover their lost voices. Curated by Dr Paul O'Brien, Dr Helene Bradley Davies, Dr Ursula Callaghan and Killian Webster, MIC.

The Foyer, Foundation Building

Poet Patricia-Anne Moore performs on Wednesday 6th of March at 7.30pm followed by an Open Mic. Presented by Limerick Writers' Centre and Lime Square Poets.

The White House Bar, Limerick

MIC Library will host an exhibition over the course of FemFest on topics related to the festival

Full Programme

