

NUI Galway & Leitrim County Council present

# 2013 INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON

# JOHN MCGAHERN

Thursday May 23 - Saturday May 25

## John McGahern (1934 – 2006)

John McGahern is one of Ireland's most respected and celebrated authors. His fiction is critically acclaimed internationally and has been widely translated. McGahern was a member of Aosdána and won many awards, including the Irish-American Foundation Award, the Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres, and the Prix Etranger Ecureuil. He taught at universities in Ireland, England, the USA and Canada. In 1994 he was conferred with an honorary Doctorate by NUI Galway where he was made an Adjunct Professor of Irish Studies in 2001 and where his Literary Archive is held at The James Hardiman Library.

### Books by John McGahern

<i>The Barracks</i>	1963
<i>The Dark</i>	1965
<i>Nightlines</i>	1970
<i>The Leavetaking</i>	1974
<i>Getting Through</i>	1978
<i>The Pornographer</i>	1979
<i>The Leavetaking (rev. ed.)</i>	1984
<i>High Ground</i>	1985
<i>Amongst Women</i>	1990
<i>The Power of Darkness</i>	1991
<i>The Collected Stories</i>	1992
<i>That They May Face the Rising Sun</i>	2002
<i>Memoir</i>	2005
<i>Creatures of the Earth</i>	2006
<i>Love of the World: Essays</i>	2009

## Seminar Scholarships

Five Scholarships are available to assist students to attend the Seminar and visit the John McGahern Archive at NUI Galway. Scholarships are to the value of €500 each, and interested students should apply directly to the Academic Director, Dr John Kenny, at [john.kenny@nuigalway.ie](mailto:john.kenny@nuigalway.ie). A statement of intent (circa 500 words) should be included for purposes of application. Closing date for applications is 10th May.

## Thursday May 23

Venue: The Bush Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon

17.00	Registration
19.00	Welcome Nuala McGuinn, Director of Adult and Continuing Education, NUI Galway Enda Stenson, Mayor, Leitrim County Council
	Keynote Lecture Prof. Roy Foster <i>Handrails to the Past: McGahern and the Memory of the Irish Revolution</i>
	Followed by open discussion
20.30	Reception

## Friday May 24

Venue: The Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon

9.30	Tea/Coffee
10.00	Gerbrand Bakker & Claire Kilroy Readings, talks and open discussion
11.00	Tea/Coffee
11.15	Prof. Nicholas Allen <i>McGahern and the Republic</i>
12.00 - 13.00	Patrick McCabe Reading, interview and open discussion
14.30	Dr. Heather Laird <i>The Writer as Reader: McGahern on Irish Literature</i>
15.30 - 16.30	Prof. Angela Bourke <i>Woodbrook in Darkness and Light</i> In the year of David Thomson's 25th anniversary, Angela Bourke rereads his major work, <i>Woodbrook</i> (1974), a memoir much admired by John McGahern. Introduced by radio & television producer, Julian Vignoles.
18.00	Boat Trip Brian Leyden reads from <i>Woodbrook</i> aboard the Moon River as it passes the Woodbrook estate on its way to Cootehall. Delegates return by bus via Woodbrook to Carrick-on-Shannon.

In wet weather, capacity on the Moon River is limited to the first 70 delegates to book for the seminar. In this eventuality a bus will be provided to Cootehall for remaining delegates.

## Saturday May 25

Venue: Various

09.30	Bus trip to Aughawillan with readings from the works of John McGahern.
	Bus departs from the Bush Hotel car park at the rear of the hotel at 9.30 sharp. There will be brief stops at a number of points en route to Aughawillan where related excerpts from John McGahern's books will be read. Those not wishing to travel by bus may travel independently to Aughawillan Community Centre for Michael Harding at 11.00.
11.00	Michael Harding <i>Experience, Memory and Fiction</i>
12.00 - 13.30	Bus returns to Carrick-on-Shannon via the Workhouse Attic at St. Patrick's Hospital, which is part of the tour which continues after lunch.
14.30	Tour of Carrick-on-Shannon 2013 is the 400th anniversary of Carrick-on-Shannon. To mark the occasion, John Bredin of the Carrick-on-Shannon Historical Society will lead a tour of a number of significant historical sites in the town including St. George's Church and the Costello Chapel.
15.30	Fergus Fahey <i>The John McGahern Archive at NUI Galway</i>
16.00	Mark Patrick Hederman <i>McGahern and the Weather of the Times</i>
17.00	Closing Reception

Cover image by Derek Speirs

### Location

Nestled in the northwest of the country, County Leitrim is easily reached from all parts of Ireland and is serviced by the N4 and the Dublin-Sligo rail route. The Bush Hotel in Carrick-on-Shannon, where the events commence, is a 10-minute walk from Carrick-on-Shannon train station, which is also well serviced by local taxi companies. Ballinamore and Aughawillan, where events take place on Saturday, are a 20-minute drive from Carrick-on-Shannon, and buses are provided to and from these.

### Accommodation

Aisleigh B&B	071 962 0313
Atterly Lodge	071 962 0955
Bush Hotel	071 967 1000
Cryan's Hotel	071 967 2066
Hartley Lodge	071 965 0883
Landmark Hotel	071 962 2222

Further listings are available from [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

### Booking

To book contact Christine Kelly:  
Tel: 071 96 21694  
Email: [ckelly@leitrimcoco.ie](mailto:ckelly@leitrimcoco.ie)  
Web: [www.leitrimarts.ie](http://www.leitrimarts.ie)

### Fees

The fee for the Seminar is €60. This includes all talks, readings and field trips, opening and closing receptions, transport to and from the various locations and the boat trip. A reduced fee of €30 is available for students and unwaged.

[www.leitrimarts.ie](http://www.leitrimarts.ie)

[www.nuigalway.ie](http://www.nuigalway.ie)

