

The Girl With Green Eyes (1963)
Wednesday April 10th
at 6.30pm IFI
Adapted from *The Lonely Girl* the film details the exploits of naive Co Clare teenager Kate Brady (Rita Tushingham) and her exuberant flatmate Baba Brennan (Lynn Redgrave) as they discover the temptations of Dublin city life including a doomed affair with an urbane middle-aged writer (Peter Finch). The film is particularly rewarding for its array of Dublin locations. 91 mins/B/W



I Was Happy Here (1965)
Wednesday 17th April at 6.30pm
Cass (Sarah Miles), escapes from an arid marriage in London and returns home to Co. Clare. The rekindling of passion with her old sweetheart is complicated by the arrival of her husband and the disapproval of locals. Lively scenes of London emigrant experience contrast starkly with life in the faded seaside town in this tale of romance and melancholy. 91 mins/ B/W
All screenings in IFI, 6 Eustace Street, Dublin 2. Tickets in person or at www.ifi.ie

Irish Writers Centre Workshops
April 13th and 18th
The Irish Writers Centre is paying homage to *The Country Girls Trilogy* and 1950s Ireland with bespoke offerings arising from themes in the books. Workshops will cover such topics as: researching social history for authentic writing, developing a character over time and the tricky task of writing sensual stories with the uncompromising flair of Edna O'Brien. Plus a panel discussion focusing on class and urban/ rural divides in Irish society. Featuring some acclaimed Irish writers including Catherine Dunne and Dermot Bolger.
Irish Writers Centre, 19 Parnell Square North, Dublin 1. Booking and further info at irishwriterscentre.ie FREE

The Country Girls at The Abbey Theatre
Edna O'Brien revisits her era-defining debut novel in a new stage adaptation of *The Country Girls* at the Abbey Theatre from 23rd February to 6th April. Directed by Graham McLaren. After the Dublin run, *The Country Girls* will go on a national tour.
For more information visit abbeytheatre.ie or call Box Office on Tel: 8787 222.

Meanwhile in Edna O'Brien's birth county of Clare...
Clare County Libraries are taking part in this year's festival, with library book clubs joining their Dublin counterparts by reading *The Country Girls Trilogy* during April. The trilogy will be the choice for the monthly Radio Book Club on the Morning Focus show on Clare FM on Wednesday 24th April.

Clare County Libraries Book Club Event
Thursday 18th April at 6.30pm
A special book club event to celebrate 2019's choice *The Country Girls Trilogy* by acclaimed Clare-born author Edna O'Brien. Guest speaker tbc.
Scariff Public Library, Mountshannon Road, Scariff, Co. Clare. Tel: 061 922 893 for more information & for bookings

Book on One on RTÉ Radio 1
The weekday radio programme will feature readings from *The Country Girls Trilogy* nightly at 11:20pm from Monday to Friday across the month, starting on Monday the 8th April.

For more information visit: www.rte.ie/radio1/book-on-one/
Check dublinonecityonebook.ie for additional events in April



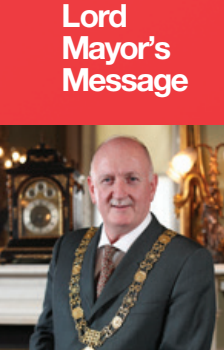
When *The Country Girls*, Edna O'Brien's first novel, appeared in 1960, it predated and anticipated the feminist revolution. It stood out and stood alone, upturning every category.
The Country Girls grew over time to what we now know as *The Country Girls Trilogy*. It tells the story of two young girls from Country Clare, Cait Brady and Baba Brennan, and tracks them from childhood through the vicissitudes of adolescence, marriage, moving to Dublin and then to London and the terrible reckonings of adult life. Cait, the timid romanticist, who unfailingly falls for the wrong kind of man and suffers accordingly, is contrasted with Baba who is more hard-nosed, cynical, and pragmatic.

The Country Girls Trilogy is outstanding because of its stylistic variation and the uncanny accuracy of its vision: each of the novels is tonally quite different but each achieves the same level of precision and insight into the social and emotional conditions of lives in 1950s rural Ireland and in London in the 1960s.

Edna O'Brien's works include 18 novels, 9 collections of short stories, 5 plays, biographies of James Joyce and Byron, a cultural history of Ireland, memoirs, and a volume of poetry. Edna O'Brien would be revered if she had written nothing other than *The Country Girls Trilogy*. However, she has continued to produce distinctive and engaging novels and stories that particularly follow the course of women's lives and capture the emotional fabric of their worlds with unfailing accuracy and insight. Her fiction is above all to be relished for its truth, its wit, its emotional scale and depth, and the incisiveness of its style.

To read Edna O'Brien, is to make the acquaintance of a writer with a drive to represent the modern world in all of its uncomfortable and unlovely but eminently human aspects, and of an artist besotted with the English language, which she deploys with fastidious care.

Edna O'Brien is the recipient of many awards, including the Irish PEN Lifetime Achievement Award, the American National Arts Gold Medal, the Frank O'Connor Prize and the PEN/Nabokov Award for Achievement in International Literature. Born and raised in the west of Ireland, she has lived in London for many years.



Dublin One City One Book

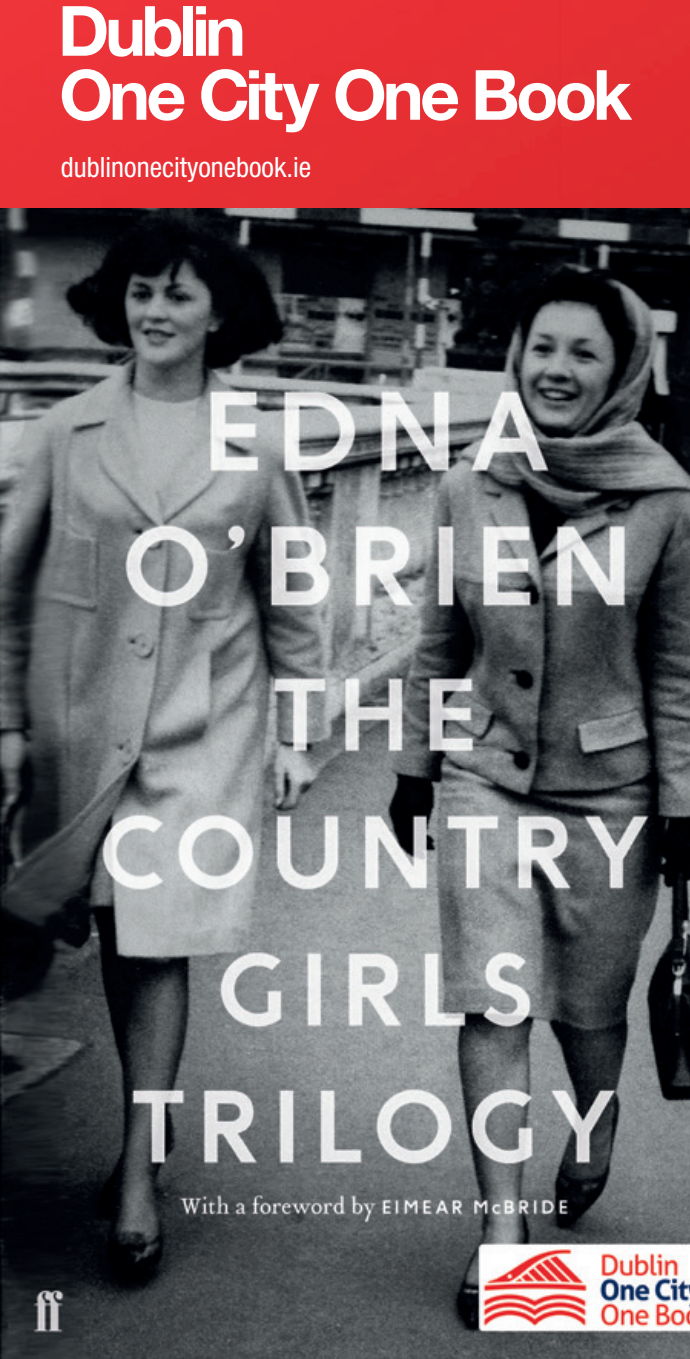
Edna O'Brien is one of Ireland's most treasured authors so I am very proud that our capital city is honouring her talent and legacy in this way. Dublin City Council's initiative is a creative and inclusive way to get all our citizens reading. With copies of *The Country Girls Trilogy* available to borrow for free throughout our public library network, it just remains for the people of Dublin to enjoy this great book.'

Nial Ring

Dublin: One City, One Book is an award-winning Dublin City Council initiative, led by Dublin City Libraries and Dublin UNESCO City of Literature, which encourages everyone to read a particular book during the month of April every year.

Borrow *The Country Girls Trilogy* from any branch of Dublin City Public Libraries - or indeed any public library nationally - or buy it from your favourite bookshop. *The Country Girls Trilogy* is also available in audio book format and has been produced in Braille by the National Council for the Blind of Ireland.

Thanks to our partners Faber & Faber, the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, RTÉ Supporting the Arts, and especially to all the organisations, venues, speakers and performers involved in this year's programme.



Programme 2019

Responses to The Country Girls Trilogy

Monday 1st April at 6:30pm
Historian Donal Fallon's talk will examine reactions to O'Brien's work, both positive and negative, in the context of the Ireland of the time and its culture of censorship. Ballymun Library, 9 Ballymun Rd, Dublin 9. Free event. Booking at Tel: 842 1890

Reading Dublin One City One Book

Wednesdays 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th April from 10:30am – 12:30pm
Presented by Garrett Fagan, students read a variety of books chosen to relate thematically to the 2019 Dublin One City One Book choice. No prior knowledge is required for this course beyond an enjoyment and an interest in reading and in finding out more about your city. Fee €100
Dublin City Library & Archive, 138 – 144 Pearse St., Dublin 2. Bookings online https://bit.ly/2Uxd9kZ; Tel: 716 7123; Or in the UCD Access & Lifelong Learning Centre, James Joyce Library Building, Belfield.

Kitchen Promises: Keeping Country Girls at Home with Rural Electrification

Wednesday 3rd April at 7:30pm
A talk by Dr. Sorcha O'Brien of Kingston University London, who is a design historian specialising in technology and identity in Ireland. Rathfarnham Castle, Dublin 14. Admission free. Booking essential at Tel: 493 9462 or rathfarnhamcastle@opw.ie

Evil Literature: Banned books in the collections of Dublin City Library and Archive

Wednesday 3rd April at 6:00pm
Join us for the launch of the new Dublin City Libraries exhibition on banned

books, *Evil Literature*. This exhibition is based on the collections of Dublin City Reading Room and Dublin City Archives. Following the launch and refreshments, there will be a discussion on the history of book censorship in Ireland with Dr Margaret Kelleher of UCD, Tom Quinlan, Keeper of the National Archives and historian Donal Fallon, moderated by Sunday Independent literary editor, Madeleine Keane. The exhibition runs until the end of May
Dublin City Library & Archive, Pearse St., Dublin 2. Free. Booking on Eventbrite.ie

Musical Tales at Farmleigh House
Saturday 6th April at 3:00pm
A concert presented by the **Contemporary Music Centre**, with curation by composer Jane O'Leary, featuring performances by students of DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama of music with connections to *The Country Girls Trilogy*, by composers Eibhlís Farrell, Amanda Feery, David Fennessy, Marian Ingoldsbys, Finola Merivale and Joan Trimble. Interspersed with readings and interviews with the composers. Farmleigh House, White's Rd, Phoenix Park, Dublin 15. €5 per ticket / €15 family ticket (4). Booking on Eventbrite.ie

The Country Girls at the Abbey Theatre: A Post-Show Talk
Saturday 6th April at 3:30pm
Join us after the Saturday matinee for a talk-back session with members of the Abbey theatre production. The Abbey Theatre, Abbey St, Dublin 1. Book free tickets at email: boxoffice@abbeytheatre.ie or Tel: 8787 222

An Afternoon at Pearse Museum featuring Music and Readings
Sunday 7th April from 3:00pm to 4:15pm
The Rathfarnham Concert Band and Habemus Choir will perform music of the 1950s and 1960s with readings from *The Country Girls* performed by author Zoe Miller. Pearse Museum, Dublin 16. Admission free. Booking essential at pearsemuseum@opw.ie or Tel: 493 4208

Responses to The Country Girls Trilogy
Monday 8th April at 6:30pm
The Country Girls Trilogy made headlines internationally owing to censorship in Ireland. Historian Donal Fallon will examine reactions to O'Brien's work, both positive and negative, in the context of the Ireland of the time. Walkinstown Library, Percy French Road, Walkinstown, Dublin 12. Free. Booking at Tel: 455 8159

Welcome to Flatland: Irish Women's Experiences in the 1960s, from Rural to Urban
Monday 8th April at 6:30pm
Deirdre Foley will look at the differing life experiences of "country" and "city" girls and the new lives that awaited the young women who moved into areas such as Rathmines and the other outposts of Dublin's flatland in the 1960s. Rathmines Library, Rathmines Road Lower, Dublin 6. Free. Booking on Tel: 497 3539

History Ireland Hedge School
Tuesday 9th April at 7:00pm
Join History Ireland editor Tommy Graham and panel for a lively discussion on censorship in Ireland. This hedge school is inspired by this year's Dublin One City One Book choice. National Library of Ireland, Kildare St., Dublin 2. All welcome. Booking not required.

The Work and the Archive: Researching Edna O'Brien's Papers at University College Dublin
Thursday 11th April from 5:00pm to 6:30pm
This seminar will focus on the Edna O'Brien papers held by UCD Library Special Collections, showing the rich insights that they provide into her work. Speakers: Dr Dan O'Brien (Irish Research Council Edna O'Brien Scholar) and Evelyn Flanagan (Head of Special Collections). James Joyce Library, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4. Free booking on Eventbrite.ie

Coming of Age Novels
Thursday 11th April at 6:30pm
Join authors Catherine Dunne and Alan McMonagle to discuss *The Country Girls Trilogy* and why coming of age stories are so powerfully resonant for readers. Chaired by Michael G. Cronin, lecturer in English at Maynooth University. Dublin City Library & Archive, Pearse St., Dublin 2. Free. Booking on Eventbrite.ie

Girl Trouble: Controversy and The Country Girls, a talk by Dr. Maureen O'Connor (UCC)
Thursday 11th April at 7:00pm
Edna O'Brien was one of five finalists in 2018's 'Clare's Greatest Ever Person' contest. That O'Brien is regarded today with such respect and appreciation by the people of Clare represents a significant change since she published her first novel in 1960, when the novel and its creator were widely condemned. Ballyroan Library, 54 Orchardstown Ave, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14. All welcome.

Turning Memory into Fiction with dlr Writer in Residence Sarah Maria Griffin
Saturday 13th April from 11.00am to 1.00pm
Sarah will look at some work that excels at reconstructing memory into poetry or prose, and participants will respond to it, developing their own fragments of work. Sarah will assist participants with framing their experience, taking them from their internal world onto the page. Level 5 Room 2, dlr Lexcon, Dún Laoghaire. Free. Booking essential at places limited. Email dlrllexconlib@dlrcoco.ie or Tel: 280 1147



The Country Girls Book Club
Monday 15th April at 2.30pm
Dublin City Libraries Book Clubs members are invited to attend a special event with author Rachael English and broadcaster Rick O'Shea, where they will discuss *The Country Girls Trilogy* – main themes, the importance of O'Brien's writing and more. Audience participation encouraged. Followed by complimentary refreshments. Limited places. Dublin City Library & Archive, Pearse St. Dublin 2. Free. Booking required at cityofliterature@dublincity.ie

Women's Magazines and 'Problem Pages' of the 1950s and 60s
Monday 15th April at 7.00pm
What were women reading for relaxation and entertainment during the 1950s and 60s? Find out more with Dr Caitriona Clear in this intriguing talk about women's magazines of the period. Caitriona is the author of *Women's Voices in Ireland: Women's Magazines in the 1950s and '60s*. Studio Theatre, dlr Lexcon, Dún Laoghaire. Free. Booking on Eventbrite.ie

Edna O'Brien: Life Stories, a Documentary Screening
Tuesday 16th April at 7.00pm
Directed by Charlie McCarthy and produced by Cliona Ní Bhuachalla of Icebox Films in 2012, this documentary is based on interviews with Edna O'Brien

An Evening with Edna
Wednesday 24th April at 8:00pm
Spend the evening in the company of Edna O'Brien, author of this year's Dublin One City One Book and one of Ireland's most treasured writers. Edna will be interviewed about her enormous contribution to world literature by Colum McCann. She will be joined by singer Moya Brennan and harpist Cormac de Barra, playing some of her favourite music. Selected excerpts from *The Country Girls Trilogy* will be read aloud by Seána Kerslake. The Round Room at The Mansion House, Dawson St., Dublin 2. Free. Booking is essential on Eventbrite.ie. Two tickets per booking.

and her two sons Carlo and Sasha. The film offers a glimpse of O'Brien's more private life and her writing process. Introduction by director Charlie McCarthy. Studio Theatre, dlr Lexcon, Dún Laoghaire. Free. Booking essential on Eventbrite.ie

From Convent Cloister to The Country Girls: the Irish Nun in History and Literature
Wednesday 17th April at 7:00pm
Convent life gave opportunities to Irish women to get a good education, avoid 'compulsory' marriage and indeed the chance for 'worldly' adventures. Find out more with Deirdre Raftery, author of *Nano Nagle; the Life and the Legacy* and Ireland Professor of Poetry, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin during an evening of talk and readings introduced by Nell Regan. Studio Theatre, dlr Lexcon, Dún Laoghaire. Free. Booking on Eventbrite.ie

The Country Girls: the Book, the Author and Society
Thursday 18th April at 1:00pm
Join Catriona Crowe of the Royal Irish Academy and Paula Shields of RTÉ Radio 1's Arena for a wide-ranging conversation about Edna O'Brien, her *Country Girls Trilogy* and the 1960s society that reacted to the book. Studio Theatre, dlr Lexcon, Dún Laoghaire. Free. Booking on Eventbrite.ie

Girls in their Married Bliss on stage
Wednesday 24th to Saturday 27th April at 7.30pm (matinee 27th at 2.30pm)
Presented by Dublin UNESCO City of Literature and The New Theatre. A selection of excerpts from the final book in Edna O'Brien's acclaimed trilogy. Romantic Kate and pragmatic Baba, now both married, experience the trials and troubles of love and passion against the backdrop of 1960s London. The New Theatre, 43 Essex St E, Temple Bar. Box Office: www.thenewtheatre.com / Tel: 670 3361. Tickets: €8 / €6 (concession)



Censorship in Ireland from The Country Girls to '100 Muses'
Monday 29th April at 7.00pm
Join Declan Kiberd and photographer Dragana Jurišić for a fascinating discussion about the censorship of the 1960s and the algorithmic censorship of social media today. Chaired by Nell Regan. Studio Theatre, dlr Lexcon, Dún Laoghaire. Free. Booking on Eventbrite.ie

The Best Banned in the Land: A Forum on Censorship of Artistic Expression
Tuesday 30th April from 11:00am to 4:00pm
The ordered removal of Maser's Repeal the 8th mural has brought censorship to the fore once again. Is freedom of artistic expression being limited in Ireland? Join a host of artists and speakers as we remember and examine censorship. This event is organised by the Irish Council for Civil Liberties, Irish Writers Centre, Poetry Ireland and Writers' Guild, and is kindly supported by Dublin UNESCO City of Literature. Project Arts Centre, 39 Essex St East, Temple Bar, Dublin 2. Free. Booking on Eventbrite.ie

Silencing The Country Girls: Edna O'Brien and the Censor
Tuesday 30th April at 7:00pm
In 1990, Edna O'Brien gave an interview to Julia Carlson for her seminal book, *Banned in Ireland: Censorship & the Irish Writer*. Julia Carlson will be joined by Eoin O'Dell, associate professor of law at Trinity, to revisit O'Brien's interview and the issues it raised which continue to resonate today. The acclaimed actor Noni Stapleton will then bring O'Brien's witty, candid, and serious interview to life in a special performance. Edmund Burke Theatre, Arts Building, Trinity College, Dublin 2. Free. Booking on Eventbrite.ie

Film Screenings:
Irish Film Institute & Dublin One City One Book present
A trilogy of films directed by Desmond Davis with screenplays by Edna O'Brien

The Country Girls (1983)
Wednesday 3rd April at 6.30pm
School friends Kate (Maeve Germaine) and Baba (Jill Doyle) yearn to escape their small-town lives of dull mediocrity. Their boisterous antics lead to expulsion from their convent school and catch the eye of local solicitor Mr Gentleman (Sam Neill) who introduces teenage Kate to the world of adult relationships. 84 mins/Colour