

# CYPHERS

## Poems by

Martin Bennett Regina Derieva  
Jim Feeney James Finnegan  
Tom French Peggie Gallagher  
Ndrek Gjini Shirley Gorby  
Richard W. Halperin James Harpur  
Patrick Kehoe Eamonn Lyskey  
Pat Maddock Niall McGrath  
Eamon Mc Guinness Scott McKendry  
Triona Mc Morrow Dan O'Brien  
Ciaran O'Driscoll Laurence O'Dwyer  
Stuart Pickford Knute Skinner  
Gerard Smyth Matthew Sweeney  
Bogusia Wardein Yevgeny Yevtushenko

## Filíocht na Gaeilge

Eibhlís Carcione Julie Field  
Aifric MacAodh Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh  
Doireann Ní Ghriofa Gréagoir Ó Dúill  
Simon Ó Faoláin Seosamh Ó Murchú  
Gabriel Rosenstock

## Fiction

Padraic Walsh

## Two Photographs

Concetta Mazullo

Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin Stalking the  
negatives in recent poetry

Eamonn Wall

Philip Casey: an Appreciation

# Ndrek Gjini

## THE MOST BEAUTIFUL LADY

There was just one key in our house.  
This key was neither for the front door  
nor for any money safe.  
It was the key to a small cupboard  
where my mother kept her wedding clothes.  
I remember her  
opening that small cupboard every week,  
cleaning those clothes,  
putting quinces on them for a good smell,  
talking with them as if they were her friends.  
No one can remember when it was said  
that brides' clothes from their wedding day  
should be preserved to be worn  
on their day of death.

I do not know how many centuries  
had travelled this feeling, this lesson  
until it came to my childhood's home.

However, when my mother died,  
we dressed her in those clothes.  
With no doubt, she looked  
like the most beautiful lady in the world.

JIM FEENEY born in Dublin and has lived in Vancouver since 1979. He has published previously in *Cyphers*, *THE SHOp, In-Flight Literary Magazine*, *Oddball Magazine*, the *Galway Review*, *Anti Heroin Chic*, *The Basil O'Flaherty, Rat's Ass Review* and others.

JULIE FIELD Rugadh agus tógadh i i gcathair Chorcaí. Bhain sí céim agus MPhil amach sa Ghaeilge i UCC. Is múinteoir bunscoile í, i scoil Foghlaim le Chéile i gCorcaigh. Tá dánta foilsithe aici sna hirisí *Comhar, Feasta, Southword*, an *Irish Examiner*. Baineann clú agus cáil léi mar *performance poet* (Julie Goo), agus corónaíodh í mar seaimpín na Mumhan i 2013.

JAMES FINNEGAN Born in Dublin, he lives in Donegal. In 2016, he was highly commended in the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Competition, published in *The Canterbury Festival Anthology for Poet of the Year* (also in 2017). In 2017 he had work in *Skylight47, Sarasvati, North West Words, Cyphers*.

TOM FRENCH His books are published by The Gallery Press. He is currently editing *An Illustrated History of Oldcastle Camp 1914-1918*.

PEGGIE GALLAGHER Her work has appeared in literary journals in Ireland, England and North America. Shortlisted for the Strokestown International and Gregory O'Donoghue poetry awards. Winner of the Listowel Poetry Collection prize, 2012. Her first collection, *Tilth*, is published by Arlen House.

NDREK GJINI Graduated from the N.U.I Galway M.A. in Writing in 2011, and from the University of Shkodra in 1988. Originally from Albania, he lives in Galway since 2002 and is Managing Editor of the *Galway Review*.

SHIRLEY GORBY lives in Dublin. Her poems have been published in *The Irish Times New Irish Writing, Poetry Ireland Review*, and her work will appear in *Best New British and Irish Poets* (Eyewear May 2018).

RICHARD W. HALPERIN His forthcoming Salmon collection (June) is *Catch Me While You Have the Light*. His most recent Lapwing collections are *Prisms*, 2017; and *Three Poem Sequences*, 2018.

JAMES HARPUR His latest book is *The White Silhouette* (Carcanet 2018). He is the poetry editor of the *Temenos Academy Review* and lives in West Cork.

J. KATES Writer and translator living in New Hampshire.

PATRICK KEHOE His latest book is *The Cask Of Moonlight* (Dedalus, 2014); *Places to Sleep* is due from Salmon, June 2018. He taught English for two years in Spain. Poems have appeared in *Cyphers, Crannog, The Stony Thursday Book*, and *The Irish Times*. He lives in County Wexford.

EAMONN LYNKEY His third collection, *It's Time*, was published by Salmon in May 2017.

AIFRIC MacAODH Is é *Foreign News* (The Gallery Press, 2017) an cnuasach is déanaí aici. Tá sí ag obair ina heagarthóir cúnta leis an nGúm.

PAT MADDOCK is a long-ago Hennessy Poetry winner and 2017 winner of the Strokestown International Poetry Competition.

CONCETTA MAZZULLO Wrote a PhD on Flann O'Brien and has published articles on Irish writers in Italian journals. Her photographs have been exhibited in Italy and Nepal. She lives in Catania.