



The 2nd Galway Cartoon Festival

November 10th - 17th 2018

PRESS RELEASE

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Thurs, Oct 25th
Programme Launch
Dáil Bar, Galway
7.00pm

Sat, Nov 10th
Cartoons in WW1 – A
Conference
NUIG
3.00pm

International Cartoon
Exhibition Launch
Town Hall Theatre
Gallery
5.30pm

Sun, Nov 11th
'A Peace to End All
Peace'
Armistice Centenary
Exhibition Launch
Black Gate Cultural
Centre
7.00pm

Thurs, Nov 25th
Schools' Cartoon
Workshop
NUIG
1.45pm

Last year, the cartoon festival started small, with just a hundred exhibits in two venues and a handful of talks. This year, we are getting much, much bigger – particularly in the international dimension. Work by over 70 cartoonists from all around the world will be displayed in a minimum of eight venues, and we're inviting artists personally from France, UK, Italy, Belgium and Ireland.

To commemorate the Centenary of Armistice Day in Europe on November 11th, the Galway Cartoon Festival presents a major international exhibition entitled 'A Peace to End All Peace', as well as a conference exploring the impact of cartoons during WW1 in Europe to be hosted by NUI Galway in collaboration with the French Department and the Embassy of Belgium. The conference will feature Prof. Grace Neville of UCC, recipient of the Légion d'Honneur, who will discuss the influence of press cartoons in Ireland after 1916. Philip Dine of NUI Galway will explore the post-Armistice world order as portrayed in Hergé's famous *Tintin* adventures, while colleague Coralline Dupuy will focus on the politics of gender representation in French-speaking cartoons during the First World War. French Honorary Consul Catherine Gagneux will give a presentation on the rise, use and influence of cartoons since WW1, using original drawings that will be part of the exhibition.

Special guest, renowned Belgian comics artist Jean-Claude Servais, will explain the creative process behind his work, with an emphasis on stories set during WW1. This presentation is sponsored by the Belgian Embassy and Wallonie-Bruxelles International.

Graeme Keyes is very well known as one of Ireland's funniest and most popular cartoonists. His work appears regularly in *Private Eye* (UK) and *Phoenix* magazines and he is currently the editorial cartoonist at the *Irish Daily Mail* and *Irish Mail on Sunday*. As well as drawing, Graeme has written scripts for comedian and satirist Oliver Callan, gags for *The Late Late Show* and *Nob Nation*, and is responsible for many of those *Private Eye* and *Phoenix* word-bubble covers that we all love. This year's festival will feature a retrospective exhibition of Graeme's work, and Graeme himself will be along to do a few drawings and say a few words. The exhibition will be on view in the Town Hall Theatre lobby during the festival.

Something a little different is the work of 3D artist Stephen Dee which proved hugely popular at a recent Galway International Arts Festival. There will be another chance to see Stephen's porcelain caricatures of the famous and infamous during the festival, as well as his 'Sculptories' – where he takes antique wooden printers' trays and uses them to house tiny porcelain figures to form a narrative, rather like a strip cartoon. You can see them displayed in the windows of Tigh Neachtain and Charlie Byrne's Bookshop.

The festival will also feature an Art Trail around the streets of Galway City, live drawing sessions, and a schools' cartoon workshop and competition. These are just a few of the exciting ideas that will form the festival and we have lots more to come.

