

## MAIRÉAD BYRNE

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### Academic Positions

Rhode Island School of Design, Professor of Poetry + Poetics, 2002- present (Professor 2012)  
University of Mississippi, Assistant Professor of American Poetry and Creative Writing, 2001-2

### Education

PhD Theory + Cultural Studies Purdue University 2001  
MA American Literature + Creative Writing (Poetry) Purdue University, 1996  
BA English Language + Literature University College Dublin, 1977 (honors)

### Books

#### / poetry collections

*You Have to Laugh: New + Selected Poems*. New York: Barrow Street 2013. 174 pages  
*The Best of (What's Left of) Heaven*. Baltimore: Publishing Genius 2010. 220 pages  
*Talk Poetry*. Oxford, Ohio: Miami University Press, 2007. 88 pages  
*SOS Poetry*. UbuWeb: /ubu Editions, 2007. 90 pages  
*Nelson & The Huruburu Bird*. Bray, Co. Wicklow: Wild Honey Press, 2003. 125 pages

#### / poetry collections in translation

*Famosa na sua cabeça*. Tradução de Dirceu Villa. São Paulo: Dobra Editorial, 2015. 107 pages

#### / poetry chapbooks

*Lucky*. Houston, Texas: Little Red Leaves, 2011. Illustrations by Abigail Lingford. 25 pages  
*State House Calendar*. Chicago, Schaffhausen: Dusie Kollektiv, 2009. 14 pages  
*An Educated Heart*. Long Beach, California: Palm Press, 2005. 32 pages  
*Vivas*. Bray, Co. Wicklow: Wild Honey Press, 2005. 20 pages  
*Kalends*. New York, New York: Belladonna\* 2005. 16 pages  
*The Pillar*. Bray, Co. Wicklow: Wild Honey Press, 2000. 10 pages

#### / collaborations with visual artists

*Weaving Language III*. Francesca Capone. 99c Plus Gallery/Printed Matter, 2015 (newspaper)  
*Jennifer's Family*. Louisa Marie Summer. Amsterdam: Schilt 2012. 22 pages  
*Texts for Jennifer's Family*. Luxembourg: Centre National de l'Audiovisuel, 2013. 26 pages  
*Michael Mulcahy*. Contemporary Visual Arts in Ireland WORKS Series. Kinsale: Gandon, 1995. 32 pp  
*Eithne Jordan*. Contemporary Visual Arts in Ireland WORKS Series. Kinsale: Gandon, 1994. 32 pages  
*Joyce—A Clew*. With Henry J. Sharpe. Dublin: Bluett & Company, 1982. 32 pages

### Selected Essays

*Poet's Bookshelf II: Contemporary Poets on Books that Shaped Their Art*. Eds. Peter Davis & Tom Koontz. Seattle: Barnwood, 2008. 73-77  
"Avant-Garde Pronouns." *Avant-Post: The Avant-Garde in the Era of Post-Ideology*. Ed. Louis Armand. Prague: Litteraria Pragensia, 2006. 114-132  
"The Lion & The Tiger: Frederick Douglass in Ireland, 1845-6." *The Freedom Talks: Reflections from Rhode Island Scholars*. Providence: Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, 2004. 30-40  
"Some Differences Between Poetry & Standup." UbuWeb Papers. UbuWeb 2005.

## Anthologies

*Out of Everywhere 2: Linguistically Innovative Poetry by Women in North America & the UK*. Ed. Emily Critchley. Hastings, UK: Reality Street, 2015. 58-64. 9 poems.  
*If Ever You Go: A Map of Dublin in Poetry and Song*. Dublin: Dedalus Press, 2014. 105-6, 198-200. 2 poems  
*poem, home: An Anthology of Ars Poetica*. Eds. Jennifer Hill, Dan Waber. Kingston, PA: Paper Kite, 2009.  
*Not for Mothers Only: Contemporary Poets on Child-Getting and Child-Rearing*. Eds. Catherine Wagner, Rebecca Woolf. New York: Fence Books, 2007. 213-215. 4 poems  
*The Best of Irish Poetry 2007*. Ed. Maurice Riordan. Cork: Munster Literature Centre, 2007. 28. 1 poem  
*A Fine Excess: Fifty Years of the Beloit Poetry Journal*. Ed. Marion K. Stocking. Lamoine, Maine: Beloit Poetry Journal Foundation, Inc, 2000. 386-7. 1 poem  
*Wild Cards: The Second Virago Anthology of Writing Women*. Eds. Andrea Badenoach, Maggie Hannan, Pippa Little, Debbie Taylor. London: Virago Press, 1999. 170-177. 4 poems  
*Krino 1986-1996: An Anthology of Modern Irish Writing*. Edited by Gerald Dawe, Jonathan Williams. Dublin: Gill & Macmillan, 1996. 189-90. 2 poems  
*Ireland's Women: Writings Past and Present*. Eds. Katie Donovan, A. Norman Jeffares, Brendan Kennelly. London: Kyle Cathie, 1994. 454-5. 1 poem  
*The New Younger Irish Poets*. Ed. Gerald Dawe. Blackstaff Press, 1991. 65-74. 7 poems

## Poetry Journal Publications

*5 AM, American Poetry Review, Argotist Online, Ars Poetica, Beloit Poetry Journal, Big Bridge, Black Clock, Black-letter, Bryant Literary Review, cannot exist, Callaloo, Carve, Cimarron Review, Coconut, Conduit, Court Green, Crab Orchard Review, Denver Quarterly, Drunken Boat, Dusie, Effing, Epoch, Famous Reporter, Fin, Fascicle, FlashPoint, Folio, Free Verse, Fulcrum, Hiram Poetry Review, Horseless Review, Intercapillary Space, Krino, Lit, Literary Review, Litter, Margin, Masthead, Matrix, MiPOesias, Modo de Usar, Natural Bridge, Necessary Fiction, Ocean State Review, One Less, Poetry Project Newsletter, Poetry Ireland, Poetry Salzburg, RealPoetik, Seneca Review, An Sionnach, Tin Lustre Mobile, To Topos, Poetry International, Truck, Unlikely Stories, Veer, West 47, Yalobusha Review.*

## Selected Readings

"A Wildish Space." Writing Art in Digital Space/International Conference on Artistic Research.  
The Hague, April 29, 2016  
Boston Poetry Marathon, Outpost 186, 2016, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2010  
Widener University, Distinguished Writers Series 2015, April 1, 2015  
University of Rhode Island Ocean State Summer Conference, June 21, 2013  
Literary Death Match (winner). AS220, October 16, 2012  
University College Dublin. February 20, 2012  
Bridgewater State University. With Aidan Rooney. NE Conference for Irish Studies. Oct 15, 2011  
University of Connecticut. With Penelope Pelizzon. September 22, 2011  
SoundEye Festival of the Arts of the Word 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2003  
London Cross-Genre Festival, Greenwich University. July 16, 2010  
Poetry Project, St. Mark's Church, New York. With Andrew Zawacki. March 8, 2010  
Royal East, Cambridge. With Bill Corbett, Richard Deming, Forrest Gander, Peter Gizzi, Nancy Kuhl, C.D. Wright. May 8, 2009  
University of Rhode Island. With Renee Gladman. November 13, 2008  
Jacobson House Native Art Center, University of Oklahoma. November 27, 2007  
Bronx Museum. Poets from the Islands. With Tisa Bryant, Dan Machlin, Michael Scharf, Mónica de la Torre, Edwin Torres. October 27, 2007  
McCormack Family Theater, Brown University. With Trevor Joyce. October 24, 2007  
Burke Theatre, Trinity College, Dublin. Gerald Dawe special issue of *An Sionnach*. July 4, 2007  
Stain Bar, Brooklyn. MiPO Reading Series 2007. With Elaine Equi, David Lehman. April 27, 2007

Princeton University Center for the Creative and Performing Arts. With Greg Delanty. Feb 23, 2007  
 National Park Service Visitors Center. Lowell, MA. With David Robinson, Franz Wright. March 2, 2006  
 RISCA 2006 Fellowship Reading. Newport Art Museum & Art Association. February 9, 2006  
 SoundEye International Poetry Festival. With Nathaniel Mackey. July 9, 2005  
 NightBoat Poetry Series. ChThonic Clash, Beacon, NY. With Sina Queyras. February 13, 2005  
 Zinc Bar Talk/Reading Series. New York, New York. With Jack Kimball. January 9, 2005  
 Mother Redcaps, Dublin. Denise Duhamel, Michael Rothenberg, Terri Carrion, Andrew Lovatt. 8.4.04  
 Castlerea Prison. Co. Roscommon, Ireland. April 23, 2004  
 Cúirt International Poetry Festival. Town Hall, Galway. With Tomaž Šalamun. April 22, 2004  
 Segue Poetry Series: Manifesto Marathon. The Bowery Poetry Club, New York. October 24, 2003  
 Fall Reading Series, Rhode Island School of Design. With Keith Waldrop. October 9, 2003  
 University of Mississippi. Sarah Isom Center for Women. April 8, 2002  
 Constance Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts. Ithaca, NY. With Joanna Smith-Rakoff. October 3, 2000  
 Cornell University. Big Red Barn. March 17, 1999  
 Limerick Civic Centre. Exhibition of work by Irish Travelers curated by Martin Folan, 1993  
 Trinity 400. With Thomas Kilroy, 1992  
 Old Museum Building. Belfast, 1991  
 Fine Arts Work Center. Provincetown, 1988

## Selected Conferences

“Janus-faced: The Writing MFA in Art School and the University” [proposer/moderator/presenter].  
 With Amaranth Borsuk, John Cayley, Peter Gadol, Tracie Morris. AWP 2016. Los Angeles, March 31.  
 “Four Letters from Dean.” Associated Writers and Writing Programs. Minneapolis. April 11, 2015  
 “Kenneth Goldsmith for Example.” Uncreative Practices: A Cross-Divisional RISD Symposium with  
 Kenneth Goldsmith. 2015 RISD Faculty Biennial [organized by Mairéad Byrne, Shona Kitchen,  
 and Clement Valla]. March 11, 2015  
 “Stein’s Sound.” A Valentine for Gertrude Stein. University of Copenhagen. May 9, 2014  
 “The Poet Magician: Writing Out of Single Motherhood.” With Dairena Ní Chinnéide, Khadijah  
 Queen, Leah Souffrant, Marcela Sulak. AWP Boston, March 8, 2013  
 “A Question of Color.” post\_moot. Miami University, Ohio. April 25, 2010  
 “Writing Spaces, Dimensional Homework: A Material Poetics.” SVA Annual Conference on the  
 Liberal Arts and the Education of Artists. New York, New York. October 4, 2009  
 “The Transatlantic Writer: Challenges and Strategies.” AWP2008, New York. January 31, 2008  
 “Metaphor & Translation.” SoundEye West: Poetry Between Languages. USC, October 5, 2007  
 “Talk Poetry: Poetry as Lingua Franca.” Poetry & Public Language. Univ of Plymouth. March 31, 2007  
 “Paternal Ancestors, Maternal Ghosts: Frederick Douglass in Ireland, 1845-46.” Transatlantic Exchange:  
 African Americans & The Celtic Nations. Swansea University. March 29, 2007  
 “Poets on Appropriative Writing.” AWP Annual Conference. Atlanta, GA. March 1, 2007  
 “Equilibrium & Tumult: Working in Archives & the Production of Popular Art.” Popular Culture/  
 American Culture Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA. April 14, 2006  
 “The Lion & The Tiger: Frederick Douglass in Ireland, 1845-1846.” Frederick Douglass and Herman  
 Melville: A Sesquicentennial Celebration. Melville Society 5th International Conference. June 24, 2005  
 “Some Differences Between Poetry & Standup.” Popular Culture Annual Conference, San Diego, March  
 26, and Performance Studies International Annual Conference, Brown University, March 31, 2005  
 “The Lion & The Tiger: Frederick Douglass in Ireland, 1845-1846.” Seminar. Centre for Human  
 Resettlement and Historical Change, National University of Ireland, Galway, July 25, 2003

## Teaching

### Rhode Island School of Design, 2002-present

#### / New Courses Developed

Contemporary Poetry (poetry since 2000)  
Digital Poetics (poetry opportunities, challenges, and achievements in digital environments)  
Irish Nonsense (Irish Comic Tradition)  
Material Poetics (“the gear and tackle and trim of poetry,” physiology and technologies)  
Metaphor (classical, literary, and contemporary theories)  
Sound Poetry (Western tradition, 20th century avant-garde to hip-hop)  
Visual Poetry (cross-cultural, “poetry that is meant to be seen”)  
Writing+ (imagining writing in 2050)  
Writing as Art + Design (cross-genre graduate writing workshop)

#### / Core Courses

Beginning Poetry Writing Workshop  
Advanced Poetry Writing Workshop  
First Year Literature Seminar

#### / Interdisciplinary Courses Co-Developed / Co-Taught

Dada Today (with Martha Swetzoff, Senior Lecturer in Film, Animation and Video)  
Stories of a Living River (with Lindsay French, Professor of Anthropology)  
First Year Writing Seminar (with Mark Milloff, Professor of Experimental and Foundation Studies)  
Visual Poetry (with Jan Baker, Professor of Graphic Design)

### University of Mississippi, 2001-2002

MFA Poetry Workshop  
20th Century Poetry  
World Literature 1650 to the present (lecture, 120 students, 2 graduate TA for discussion sections)  
Beginning Poetry Workshop (Honors College)

#### / Marshall County Correctional Facility, 2001-2002

Introduction to Creative Writing  
Advanced Creative Writing

### Ithaca College, 1998-2000

Introduction to Poetry  
Introduction to Fiction  
Introduction to the Short Story  
Introduction to Literature  
Introduction to African-American Literature (initiated course)

### MFA Thesis Committees (7)

Jiangliu Dong (MFA Jewelry + Metalsmithing ‘14), RaMell Ross (MFA Photography ‘14), Odette England (MFA Photography ‘12), Catherine Siller (MFA Digital + Media ‘12), Shirin Adhami (MFA Photography ‘09), Angela Guzman (MFA Graphic Design ‘09), Louis Bourgeois (MFA Poetry ‘03)

### Graduate/Undergraduate Independent Studies (16)

Paige Mehrer (BFA Illustration ‘15), Daniel Christenen (BFA IL ‘15), Marissa Goldman (BFA Film Animation Video ‘15), Anastasia Xirouchakis (BFA Printmaking ‘16), Steve Ryu (BFA FAV ‘15), Lauren Allegrezza (BFA Painting ‘14), Wil Lennard (BFA Furniture ‘14), Isabella McCormick (Brown/RISD Dual Degree ‘15), Eriko Hattori (BFA Painting ‘13), Morgan Selin (BFA Apparel ‘13), Phoebe Stubbs (MFA Glass ‘11), Sarah Rockower (BFA Textiles ‘05), Conor McDonald (BFA Industrial Design ‘04), Monis Rodrigues (BFA IL ‘04), Rebecca Volinsky (BFA Painting ‘04), Jonathan Cole (BFA Graphic Design ‘03)

## Recent Institutional Service

Department of Painting Junior Reviews, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013  
Department of Film, Animation, and Video Open Media Senior Degree Projects, 2016, 2015 (2), 2014  
Committee for Faculty Appointments, 2014-2016  
Ryan Trecartin + Lizzie Fitch, Screening of Recent Works / Q & A. Dada Today (Turner Fund), co-taught with Martha Swetzoff. RISD Chace Center, April 5, 2016  
Literary Arts + Studies Concentration Coordinator, 2012-2013; 2014-2015 (88 Concentrators).  
Two May Conversations (on reverse hierarchization in event Google docs, and “The Body of Michael Brown”). RISD Writing Center. May 26 and 27, 2015  
*Say What You Want*. Site-specific show of 55 posters by RISD Literary Arts + Studies Concentrators. College Building, April 2015  
*Uncreative Practices: A Cross-Divisional RISD Symposium with Kenneth Goldsmith*. Co-produced with Shona Kitchen and Clement Valla. Introduced by Lisa Z. Morgan. Presentations by Kenneth Goldsmith, Mairéad Byrne, Mimi Cabell, Aly Ogosian and Jane Long, Daniel Peltz, and Clement Valla. 150 in attendance. A 2015 RISD Faculty Biennial event, RISD Museum, March 11, 2015  
*Writing+ Speaker Series* (John Cayley, Kenneth Goldsmith, Nick Montfort, Amaranth Borsuk, and Alan Sondheim). Hosted by RISD Graduate Studies. Funded by RISD 2050. Fall 2014  
Department of Teaching + Learning in Art + Design. Facilitator, Masters in Art + Design Education workshop. Advisory Panel Committee visit, May 1, 2014  
Department of History, Philosophy, and the Social Sciences. Visiting Writer. Life Stories. Jan 31, 2013  
Foundation Studies, Spatial Dynamics Search Committee, 2012-2013  
Brown University/RISD. Visiting writer. Art and Science of Visual Perception. September 20, 2012  
Faculty Steering Committee, 2010-2012 (Chair, 2011-12)  
Department of Landscape Architecture. Visiting Critic. Urban Systems, May 2012  
RISD Strategic Plan Working Group, 2011  
RISD President’s Diversity Task Force, 2010-2012  
Department of Teaching + Learning in Art + Design. Visiting critic/presenter, 2012 (2), 2008, 2006  
Project Open Door. Writing mentor and visiting critic, 2008-2011  
Office of Multicultural Affairs. Discussion facilitator. Diversity Program for Orientation, Sept 2010  
--- . Panel participant. From Her Perspective: Narratives of Work and Family. March 25, 2010  
Brown/RISD Dual Degree Oversight Committee, 2008-2009  
Brown/RISD Dual Degree Admission Committee, 2007-2009  
RISD Admissions Committee, 2006-2009  
A Reading by Christian Bök. Funded by the RISD Liberal Arts Humanities Fund. April 7, 2008.  
RISD Presidential Search Committee, 2007-2008.

## Recent Service to the Field

Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts. Juror, 2014.  
Millay Colony. Juror, 2013, 2012  
*Couscous*, 2008-2013. Monthly poetry/performance/music event, in collaboration with Mark Milloff in Providence, 2008-2013; and in collaboration with SoundEye Festival of the Arts of the Word in Cork, 2008-2010). 100+ students participated in *couscous providence*, with twice that number of poets from the community, and out-of-town. Seventy-seven readers participated in *couscous cork*, including poets on the SoundEye program, poets from the community, immigrant poets living in Ireland, and visiting poets from many parts of the world.  
Harriet Monroe Poetry Institute/New Media Project. Fair Use focus group. November 20, 2009  
British + Irish Poets. Listserv co-manager, 2005-2008.  
Rhode Island State Council on the Arts Poetry Fellowship. Juror, 2007.



## Selected Critical Reception

- Leonardo Fróes, "Eu Mudo, imito/eu recito, imito" (I change, translate/I recite, imitate). Postscript to *Famosa na sua cabeça*. São Paulo: Dobra Editorial 2015
- Lee M. Jenkins. "Interculturalism," *The Cambridge Companion to Twentieth Century British and Irish Women's Poetry*. Ed. Jane Dowson. Cambridge University Press 2011
- Nerys Williams. "Negotiating Experiment in Irish and Welsh contemporary poetry." Invited Lecture on the poetry/poetics of Peter Finch and Mairéad Byrne. Cardiff University. Jan 24, 2011
- Michael Leong, "Between Blog and Book: Mairéad Byrne's *The Best of (What's Left of) Heaven*." *Big Other*. September 13, 2010
- Vanessa Place, "Poets Without Products." *The Constant Critic*. September 12, 2010
- Joseph Goosey, "Body Odor Can Be a Room." *The Rumpus*. September 22, 2010
- Steve Fama. "Va-Va-Voom." *The Glade of Theoric Ornithic Hermetica*. April 25, 2010
- Steve Fama. "The color of the stone against the color of the sky." *The Glade*. February 11, 2010
- Adam Robinson. *Talk Poetry* review. *JMWW*, Fall 2007
- Ian Seed. "A Clownlike Kafka." *Stride Magazine* (UK), Fall 2007
- Sina Queyras. "Talk Poetry." *Lemon Hound*. May 20, 2007
- Rosa Alcalá. "An Educated Heart." *Artvoice*. January 2007
- Melissa Flores-Bórquez. "Mairéad Byrne, *Vivas*." *Intercapillary Space*. August 2006
- Erika Howsare. "An Educated Heart by Mairéad Byrne." *Cutbank Poetry*. June 16, 2006
- Jacquelyn Pope. "An Educated Heart." *Salamander* Vol 11, No. 2. 2006. 103-4
- C.A. Allen. "Those Decapitated Similes: *Vivas* and *An Educated Heart*." *Litter*. January 2006
- Martin Stannard. "About Mairéad Byrne." *Exultations & Difficulties*. September 1, 2005
- Michael Begnal review of *Nelson & The Huruburu Bird*. *The Burning Bush* # 9. Spring 2003
- Martin Stannard review of *Nelson & The Huruburu Bird*. *Stride Magazine*. Spring 2003
- Alan Sondheim review of *The Pillar*. *Readme* 4. Fall 2000

## Selected Awards + Honors

- Cill Rialaig Project Residency. West Kerry, Ireland. January 2017.
- Seoul Art Space\_Yeonhui. Residency, November / December 2016
- Siena Art Institute. Residency, October 2016
- John R. Frazier Award for Excellence in Teaching. Rhode Island School of Design, June 2016
- RISD Robert Turner Theatrical and Performance Design Project. For *Dada Today: 100 Years of Radical Performance*. Developed and co-taught with Martha Swetzoff (FAV), Spring 2016
- RISD Global Engagement and Curricular Development Fund. Research visit to South Korea investigating the challenges of RISD students serving in ROK Armed Forces, Fall 2015
- Distinguished Writer 2015. Widener University, March 30-April 2, 2015
- RISD 2050 Fund. For *Writing+*, graduate class imagining writing in 2050, with speaker series, Fall 2014
- RISD Chief Critic, European Honors Program in Rome, July–December 2013
- Poet-in-Residence, University of Rhode Island/Ocean State Summer Conference, June 20-22, 2013
- Rhode Island State Council on the Arts Poetry Fellowship 2006
- RISD Kyobo Fund Award to co-teach Visual Poetry with Jan Baker (Graphic Design), 2004-5
- Rhode Island Council for the Humanities Freedom Grant. Frederick Douglass in Ireland. 2003-2004
- Cornell University, Institute of European Studies, Regional Visiting Fellowship, 1999-2001
- Purdue University, Virgil L. Lokke Prize in Literary Theory, 2001
- Constance Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts One Month Residency, September 2000
- Purdue University Annual Poetry Award, 1998, 1997
- Arts Council of Ireland/An Chomhairle Éalaíon / Aer Lingus Travel Grants, 1993, 1991
- Trinity College Dublin Community Workshop. Directed by Eavan Boland, 1990
- National Writers' Workshop. Directed by John McGahern, 1989