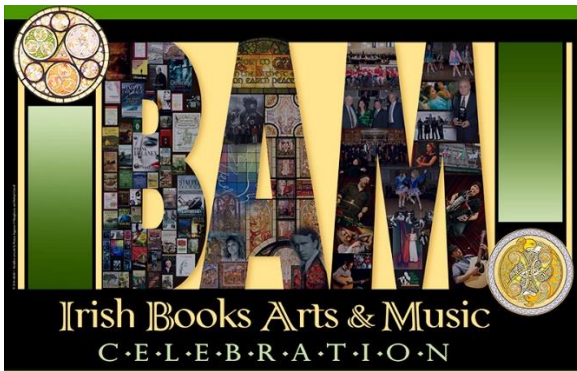


**Celtic Women International**  
**“Literary Salon”**  
December 12 & 13  
**Program Guide**



**Irish Books, Arts and**  
**Music— iBAM!**  
**2020**

## CWI Literary Salon Schedule

Sinead McCooole	Revolutionary Irish Women
Maureen Smith	Grace O'Malley: Pirate Queen
Mary Kunert	12 Patron Saints, 7 Celtic Nations
Mary Pat Kelly	How the Women of Ireland Transformed their Country, Liberated Me and Can Free You Too!
Theresa Choske	Cesca Chenevix Trench
Claudia Anderson	Four Traditional Child Ballads
Dolores Whelan	Recovering the Wisdom of the Celts
Jessica McCann	The Tale of the Titanic
Brigid Duffy	The March of the Mill Children: Reading as "Mother Jones"
Mark Piekarz	Just a Song at Twilight
Kathy O'Neill	And the World Went on Without Me
Rosemary Feure	Mother Jones's Memories of the March of the Mill Children, 1903
M. Maureen Garry	Eleven Notable Women of the Isle of Man



## **Revolutionary Irish Women**

### **Dr. Sinead McCoolle**

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<http://iaph.ie/members/sinead-mccoolle.com>

The illustrated presentation tells the story behind her play **Leaving the Ladies**. Sinéad profiles well known women the Countess, Constance de Markievicz, Dr Kathleen Lynn, as well as Mary

Perolz, Alice Ginnell, Dulcibella Barton and Margaret Loo Kennedy. It is based on an actual event that took place on December 11, 1917.

Dr Sinéad McCoolle is an Irish Historian, Curator and Author specializing in the role of women in Irish politics in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She has published widely in the area of Irish history and Irish art. She is a curator who has worked with Irish Cultural Institutions and the Irish Government with travelling exhibits that have been shown in the US, Europe, Asia and Africa.

***Note: CWI Chicago branch will perform a virtual staged reading of this play in April 2021.***



### **Grace O'Malley: Pirate Queen**

#### **Maureen Smith**

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Grace O'Malley or Granuaile, was a 16th century member (and later head) of a renowned seafaring family who controlled the southwest coast of County Mayo from her castle on Clare Island. Contemporary with Queen Elizabeth, her story in many ways parallels the queen's.

Maureen is an amateur history "nut" with master's degrees in Digital Humanities/Textual Studies and Computer Science. She heads the local branch of Celtic Women International and serves on the parent CWI Board.



## **12 Patron Saints, 7 Celtic Nations**

**Mary K. Kunert**

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A book is in the process for the above title. When I found out that Ireland had three patron saints and that one of them, Colm Cille is ALSO patron saint of Scotland, I had to research the rest of our Celtic Nations' patrons. I found 12 saints for the 7 nations. Each of them is unique, very Celtic and beloved by their country.

Mary is the oldest daughter of an American/Irish poet. She also writes poetry as did her father, Hutz Deeley. Loving her Irish roots, she has been active in Celtic Women International and local Celtic Groups for 20 years or more. She loves to share this background with everyone.



## **How the Women of Ireland Transformed their Country, Liberated Me and Can Free You too!**

**Mary Pat Kelly**

mpk@marypatkelly.com

After 50 years and 300 trips to Ireland I look at the way Irish women found their voice elected two female presidents and changed oppressive laws all without experiencing the kind of divisions we're seeing in our country now. I've been inspired by my own Irish Foremothers including those of my mothers family the Foley's who came to the US much earlier than the Kelly's and were instrumental in developing upstate New York, Wisconsin and Michigan.

Mary Pat Kelly is the author of *Of Irish Blood*, as well as the bestselling novel *Galway Bay* and *Special Intentions*. She has worked as a screenwriter for Paramount and Columbia Pictures, and as an associate producer with *Good Morning America* and *Saturday Night Live*. A graduate of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, she received her Ph.D. in English from the CUNY Graduate Center, New York. Born and raised in Chicago, she lives on New York's Upper West Side with her husband app developer Martin Sheerin from County Tyrone, Ireland.



**Cesca Chenevix Trench**

**Theresa Choske**

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Cesca was born Francesca Georgina Chenevix Trench in 1890 in Liverpool. She became a staunch Nationalist. Her love for Ireland was obsessive. From age 15 she became intensely interested in Irish literature, national politics and the Irish language. She died in the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic.

Theresa is a frequent cultural programming presenter and volunteer at the Irish American Heritage Center. She was born in Tullow, Co. Carlow and emigrated to Chicago in 1957.



**Four Traditional Child Ballads**

**Claudia Anderson**

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Claudia has been spending the past nine months participating in virtual singing clubs based in Ireland, which have inspired her to expand her repertoire of traditional unaccompanied song. She shares four songs of those anthologized by Francis James Child during the second half of the 19th century. The songs: My Son David, Annachie Gordon, The Cruel Mother, and Clyde Water, all include dialogue--between mothers and sons and fathers and daughters.

Claudia Anderson is Professor Emerita with The Theatre School, DePaul University with 45 years of full-time teaching as a voice and speech specialist. She is a singer of traditional and contemporary folk songs, with particular interest in Irish, Scots, and English songs and culture.



## **Reovering the Wisdom of the Celtic Spiritual Tradition**

**Dolores Whelan**

<http://www.doloreswhelan.ie>

Dolores will discuss the awareness of the sacred spaces of Ireland. She offers ways to mindfully interact in the natural world to see the divine

and find one's connection with the world.

Dolores has been involved with education all her adult life, initially as a Biochemistry lecturer, and for the past 25 years as an educator and spiritual guide working in the area of human and spiritual development. She holds an M.Sc in Biochemistry from TCD and an MA in Spirituality from ICCS California.



## **Eleven Notable Women of the Isle of Man M. Maureen Garry**

[tag12552@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tag12552@sbcglobal.net)

This presentation provides information on eleven prominent women who contributed to the culture of the Isle of Man through language, literature, poetry, folklore, music, dance, research, and position.

Maureen is a retired instructor, and department instructional chair of She is a longtime member and current president, of Celtic Women International.



### **Just a Song at Twilight**

**Mark Piekarz**

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Just a Song at Twilight features music with Tenor Mark Piekarz on piano and vocals. He performs Irish tunes, folk songs, pop music and standards. Piekarz is a classically trained tenor who has performed at the Steppenwolf Theatre, the Newberry Library, solo concerts in Polish at Prop Thtr, the Chicago Public Library, and has performed with the CSO

under the direction of Riccardo Muti. He is a member of Wicker Park Choral Singers.



### **And the World Went On Without Me**

**Kathy O'Neill**

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Kathy will read stories and poems about growing up Irish Catholic in New Jersey in the 80s.

Kathy O'Neill is a writer and storyteller in the Chicago SLAM story tradition. The award winning writer, arts producer and journalist has been published in New City, Book and Film Globe and ABCNews.com. She has read her stories at a sold out performance at Steppenwolf Theatre and such productions as Is This a Thing?, Storylab, Do Not Submit and This Much is True. Recent performances include the November Irish American Writers & Artists Salon with Malachy McCourt. O'Neill trained in storytelling under two-time Moth Slam winner Scott Whitehair, and at the University of Limerick Frank McCourt Summer School at New York University, under writers Joseph O'Connor, Donal Ryan and poet Martin Dyar.



**Mother Jones's Memories of the  
March of the Mill Children, 1903**  
**Rosemary Feurer**

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[motherjonesmuseum.org/statue](http://motherjonesmuseum.org/statue)

Brigid Duffy performs Mother Jones' account of how she led children on a campaign to end child labor, in a march on Wall Street and to President Roosevelt's home. This powerful account of the conditions of children who were used to provide the coal and textiles of the early twentieth century allows us to see Mother Jones' spirit and defiance. Then learn about the campaign to place a statue of Jones in Chicago, with a discussion by Professor Rosemary Feurer.

Brigid Duffy has performed Mother Jones in the Chicago area for many years. You can listen to her in "After the Fear Come the Gifts" written by Kay Metres (Irish descent) on Audible and see her in "A Christmas Movie Christmas" on Amazon Prime, tubitv.com and Hallmark Movies Now. Rosemary Feurer teaches history at Northern Illinois University and directs the statue campaign.