

National Irish Bank Building Northgate St, Athlone, literaryathlone@gmail.com, www.athloneliteraryfestival.com

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Athlone Literary Festival



Press Release

ATHLONE LITERARY FESTIVAL 2010

CLAIRE KEEGAN *Fiction Writing Seminar*

Saturday 25th September, 9.30am – 1.00pm



Athlone Literary Festival offers a fascinating opportunity to experience acclaimed author **Claire Keegan's** insights into the process of creating fiction. One of the most exciting voices in contemporary Irish fiction, Claire will lead a seminar on fiction writing which will be of interest to all who write – from beginners to advanced. Claire will focus on narrative structure, point of view and character development in her talk. She will also look at writing dialogue, creating tension and atmosphere and the effective use of senses. In Claire's exploration of the shape of prose she will use examples from Chekov, Mc Gahern, O'Connor and others. Claire will address participants' questions throughout the morning. This event promises to be a stimulating and enriching exchange of ideas on the shape of fiction.

The festival committee is delighted to welcome Claire for the first time. As well as being one of Ireland's finest short story writers she is an experienced creative writing teacher, with an MA in the Teaching & Practice of Creative Writing from the University of Wales. Claire has published two collections, [Antarctica](#) and [Walk the Blue Fields](#), and received many prizes.

Last year she was awarded the Davy Byrnes Memorial Prize by Richard Ford, for the story “Foster”. This story has just been published as a novella. Claire will also give a reading at the festival.

Claire Keegan’s seminar on fiction writing takes place on Saturday 25th September from 9.30am to 1.00pm at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Athlone. The cost of the seminar is €25 and includes free entry into Claire’s reading in the afternoon.

To book email literaryathlone@gmail.com or ring 086 367 1039 or write to Athlone Literary Festival, NIB Building Northgate Street Athlone, Co Westmeath.

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