

Athlone Literary Festival



Press Release

MICHAEL D. FOR PUBLIC INTERVIEW

Saturday 25th September, 4pm

The Poet and Labour Party President, Michael D. Higgins, is to take part in a public interview as part of the 2010 Athlone Literary Festival. The event, which is open to the public, will take place at 4pm on Saturday 25th September in The Prince of Wales Hotel.

Michael D Higgins is very well known as a Labour politician but perhaps less well known as an author. He is currently the Labour Party President and Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs, and is TD for Galway West. He is a former Minister for Arts, Culture, and the Gaeltacht (1993- 1997) and was first elected to the Dáil in 1981.

His first collection of poems, "The Betrayal", was published in 1990. His second book "The Season of Fire" in 1993, and his third collection "An Arid Season" was published in 2004. A collection of political writing, 'Causes for Concern' was published in 2006.

Michael is also an international campaigner for human rights and was awarded the Greek Peace medal in 1992 and in the same year he was the first recipient of the McBride Peace Prize of the International Peace Bureau.

The public interview will be conducted by Donncha O'Connell of NUI Galway and will cover the broad range of cultural, political and human rights issues that have been of concern to Michael D. Higgins in his political and academic careers. A likely topic of conversation will be his possible interest in running as a candidate in the 2011 Presidential Election. This should be a lively event, peppered with readings by Michael D from his own poetry, and costs €10 with a complimentary cocktail.

To book email literaryathlone@gmail.com or ring 086 367 1039.

Check out the Athlone Literary website www.athloneliteraryfestival.com
Become a fan on Facebook www.facebook.com/athloneliteraryfestival
Follow them on Twitter www.twitter.com/athloneliterary