

Embassy of Ireland, News Update

November 2015



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Irish Embassy on Twitter

In order to improve our communication with the Irish diaspora in Austria, we are now on Twitter. We will keep you abreast of Irish-themed cultural events across Austria, our own activities as well as any important consular information.

You can follow us at [@IrEmbVienna](https://twitter.com/IrEmbVienna)

Julian Gough: Reading and Writers' Workshop, 12th, 14-15th November, 2015

Renowned contemporary Irish writer Julian Gough, winner of the 2007 BBC Short Story Award, will hold a reading and facilitate a workshop in Vienna this November.

"This novella is very funny – laugh-out-loud at times... Gough is one of our most talented satirists" — The Irish Independent

On the evening of Thursday 12th November, Gough will read excerpts from his work in a convivial atmosphere at Lane & Merriman's Pub. Refreshments will be provided.

"Sheer comic brilliance" - The Times

The following weekend, Gough will hold a workshop for Write:Now, the association of English-language writers in Austria. The workshop is entitled "Short Story Writing for the Twenty-First Century", and will aim to help young writers better to understand their own minds, to gain a deeper insight into the fundamentals of the short story and to offer an overview of the publishing world today.

READING

Thursday November 12th, 2015, 19:30

Lane and Merriman's Pub
Spitalgasse 3, 1090 Wien

WORKSHOP

Saturday and Sunday November 14th and 15th, 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

€105 for non-members of Write:Now, €94.50 for members; €80 for students

WUK Werkstätten- und Kulturhaus
Währinger Straße 59
A-1090 Wien

More information available [here](#).

Irish Artists Exhibited in Graz Museum – Hall of Half-Life

Three Irish artists - Gerard Byrne, Sam Keogh and Stephane Bean Hanly – are featured in a series of newly commissioned works exhibited at the Graz Museum as part of the Steirischer Herbst programme.

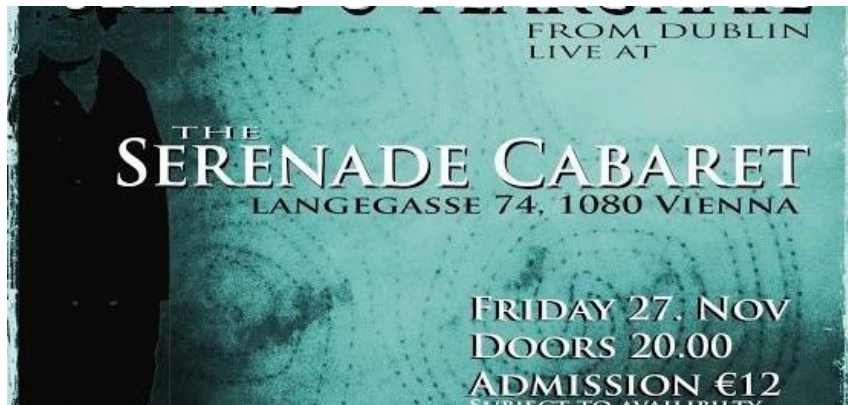
The exhibition, “Hall of Half-Life”, confronts us with an evolution of forms, meaning and language, presenting artworks in the maelstrom of a changing current of planetary and geological impact, whose force can only be imagined in the nascent Anthropocene age. The majority of the works on show were specially commissioned, with the artists digging for the bones of the past, envisioning the erstwhile coral reefs on which modern-day Graz stands, listening to the stories linked to supposedly banal everyday objects, or inspecting ancient relics and even bog bodies. “Hall of Half-Life” explores the terrain of those marks, carriers of meaning, monuments, ruins and wastelands that can be seen as inscriptions of the modern age.

More information on the exhibition is available [here](#).

Shane Ó Fearghail Live @ Serenade Cabaret, Friday 27th November

Shane Ó Fearghail is an Irish Singer Songwriter and multi-instrumentalist from Dublin.

An Animator/Storyboard Artist by trade, Shane took to music full time when he



established his band Caruso in 2008 to launch his critically acclaimed debut album 'The Watcher & The Comet'. His second album 'Everything You Need Is Here', recently released under his own name Shane Ó Fearghail, is following on from where 'The Watcher' left off. Both albums have received publishing and also attracted Sync & licensing deals in Europe and the US.

Live at Serenade Cabaret will introduce new songs from Shane as well as new musicians. We look forward to seeing you there!

Doors 20.00 – Entry €12 – Subject to availability
Online Tickets – €10 – Book tickets online [here](#)

Serenade Cabaret
Lange Gasse 74
1080 Vienna

Irish Artists and Bands at Blue Bird Festival

Four Irish artists and bands will be performing at this year's Blue Bird Festival in Vienna at the end of November. Singer-songwriter Rhob Cunningham and the bands Villagers, All the Luck in the World, and Wild Promises will all take to the stage over the course of the three-day festival in Vienna's Porgy and Bess.

There is a tradition of Irish artists being represented at the festival, with Jape, Mick Flannery and Gemma Hayes all having performed in recent years.

Blue Bird Festival
November 26th-28th, 20:00
Porgy and Bess
Riemergasse 11
1010 Vienna

More information at the [festival's website](#).

New Irish Passport Card



The Irish Passport Card can be used by Irish citizens for travel within the EU/EEA and Switzerland. The Card is available to all Irish citizens who are over 18 years and hold a valid Irish Passport.

Applications can be submitted **online** or **through the free app** from anywhere in the world. The Embassy cannot process applications for the Passport Card.

The fee for a Passport Card is €35. There will be an additional €5 postal fee for residents outside Ireland.

More information available [here](#).

Global Irish Newsletter

Global Irish have launched a bimonthly newsletter to increase communication with the Irish diaspora across the world. You can subscribe to the newsletter and read previous editions [here](#).

If your organisation wishes to submit material to the newsletter, you can do so by [email](#). Please note that any submissions should be suitable for a global audience.

Global Irish also provide more regular updates through their [Twitter account](#).

Vienna Hosts Pan-European GAA Finals

On Saturday 17th October, Vienna played host to the Pan-European GAA finals. Over 450 enthusiastic players from across Europe converged on the Rudolf Tonn Stadion just outside the city to take part with Irish accents from all over the country mixing with German, French, Spanish and many more to give a true European feel to things. Fortunately the sun shone for the day and the excellent organisation by the Vienna Gaels committee ensured a great day out for everyone.



Ellen Butterly giving her all for the Gaels

Congratulations to Belgium GAA who took home both the Men's and Ladies' Senior Titles. However, Vienna did secure some glory in the shape of the Men's European Intermediate Title, just reward for the hours of recent training. The attendance at Friday night bootcamps is just one example of the dedication found amongst GAA players of which we are all so proud.

Congratulations to the winners and to all players, supporters, volunteers and organisers.

More information about the activities of the Vienna Gaels is available at their [website](#).

The English Teacher Training College

The English Teacher Training College and its initiative, ABCi, is a unique Austrian not-



for-profit organisation, which invites people from all over the English speaking world, including Ireland, to come and teach English in the Austrian Alps.

Through the initiative, native English speakers and Austrian children are brought together to assist Austrian teachers to create a bilingual learning environment. The College is situated in Vorchdorf, Upper Austria, with accommodation for its teachers in Graz, Vienna, St Pölten and Gmunden.

Since its founding in 2011, the organisation has seen a vast expansion thanks to the support of its sponsors, partners and schools. The programme now reaches 80,000 Austrian children per year, bringing over 100 native English speakers to all areas of Austria, in which students would otherwise be unlikely to meet a native speaker. For the native speakers who come to Austria, they are provided with a TEFL certification as well as some wonderful Alpine views!

One of the College's Irish Senior Course Tutors, Robert Hanley, describes his first experiences of being in Austria and gives advice to those who are new to Austria:

"Don't let the rolling green hills and cloudy landscape fool you - Austria is quite different to Ireland in more ways than the shape of the beer glass.

There were a couple of disarming moments upon finding my feet in Austria. A Sunday night stroll down Vienna had me paranoid about watch batteries and timezones, as the picturesque main drag takes on an otherworldly serenity from 9pm, with softly spoken ramblers few and scattered. By the way, get used to calling it 21 o'clock if you want to blend in with the locals, who, despite almost universal claims to speak 'only a little' English, speak to a level far beyond residents of typical holiday destinations and the 'cupla focail' your standard travelling Irish boy or girl will have to hand. You'll be taken aback too, by the delightful novelty of shops being

closed on Sundays and Saturday evenings - Austrians generally have more respect for the non-work side of the working week, a relic of an idea that has got a little lost in busy Ireland. Just like disappearing down one of those tempting dim-lit arching alleyways in Vienna only to do a loop and come back out, Austria is full of captivating diversions. A trip West from Vienna to Upper Austria will give a real sense of the beginning (or end, depending on where you're standing) of the Alps. Austrians have quite strong opinions on what makes a 'Proper Mountain' so get ready for some disputes if you're going to bring up that time you climbed Croagh Patrick!"

If you would like more information about the organisation and their projects and courses, please visit www.english-teacher-college.at or contact office@abci-english.at.
