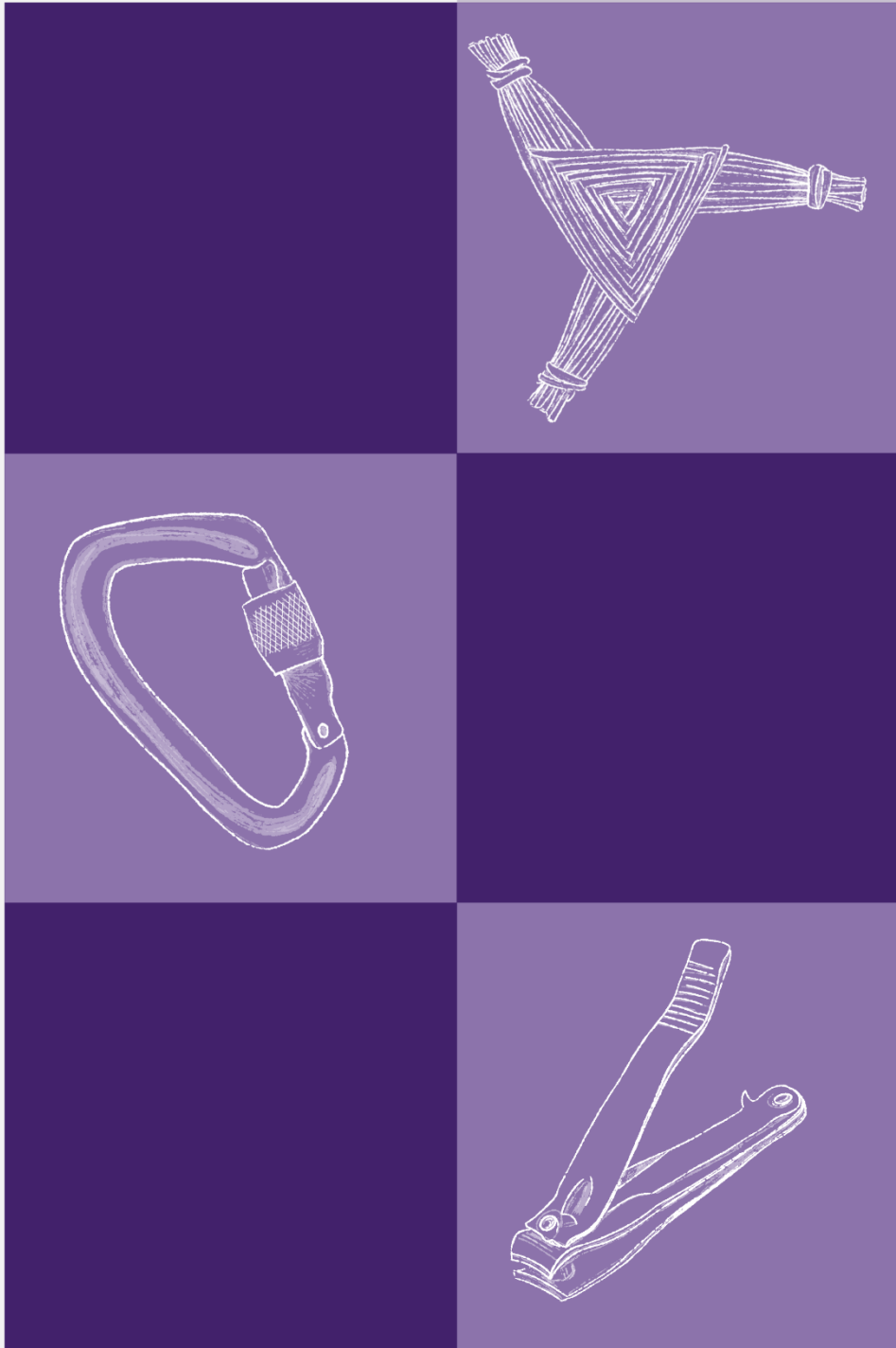


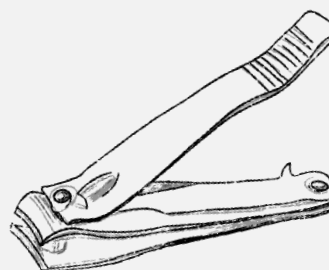
15th – 17th May  
CORK, Ireland



PROGRAMME

NB: Final programme and up-to-date info will be uploaded to [our website](#). Check the Book of Abstract for session details. Find map of locations on last page.

# FRIDAY 15/05



08:40 – 09:40	Registration & Coffee	Location: Aula Maxima
09:40–10:00	Welcome	

## 10:00 – 11:30

### Parallel Sessions

Please choose 1 panel session or workshop to attend

#### Panel 1

Location: Boole 1

#### Aesthetic Representations: Transgressions, Difficulties & Subterfuge

**Paper 1:** The Virgin's Transgressions: The Sapphic-Marian Iconography of the Black Madonna of Częstochowa— Aleksandra Gajowy (University College Dublin)

**Paper 2:** Wrap, Contain, Gather: Uncovering a Lesbian Presence in Harmony Hammond's Late-1970s Wrapped Sculptures — Amy Krimm (The Courtauld Institute of Art)

**Paper 3:** Gentleman Jack ballet panel discussion - Ballet is an art form that has been particularly challenging for lesbian representation. - Clare Croft (OVPR/Arts Initiative, University of Michigan)

#### Panel 2

Location: Boole 2

#### Resistance in Times of Violence

**Paper 1:** Who wins?: Productive Divisions in 'Anti-Gender' Times — Kath Browne (University College Dublin)

**Paper 2:** "Still Resisting: Queer and Feminist Challenges to Autocracy in the US - Sally O'Driscoll (Resisting Project 2025)

**Paper 3:** Protecting women and lesbians? Sex/ual exceptionalism and weaponisations of accusations of sexual violence—S. Lambie (Birkbeck, University of London) & Alyosxa Tudor (SOAS, University of London)

### Panel 3

Location: Boole 3

#### New Directions in Lesbian Studies

*Ella Ben Hagai* is an Associate Professor of Psychology, at California State University, Fullerton, and the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Lesbian Studies.

*Róisín Ryan-Flood* is a Professor of Sociology and Director of the Centre for Intimate and Sexual Citizenship at the University of Essex. She is co-editor of the journal *Sexualities: Studies in Culture and Society* (Sage).

*Dr. Stacy I. Macías* earned a Ph.D. in Women's Studies from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

*Lily House-Peters* is a broadly trained environmental geographer and political ecologist.

*Laurie Essig* is Professor of Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies at Middlebury College

#### Opening Film:

##### LESVIA

Screening of the film by Director Tzeli Hadjidimitriou followed by a Q&A session with Ilaria Todde (EL\*C).

Location: Boole 4

#### Workshop 1

Location: O'Rahilly Building 1.01

##### Lesbians Talk Issues Revisited – A Reading Group

Nazmia Jamal (University College London)

11:30–11:45

Break

Location: Aula Maxima

11:45 – 13:00

### KEYNOTE

#### DARING TO BE ORDINARY: LGBTQ+ LIVES IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Dr. Aoife Neary

Lecturer in Education, University College Cork

Room Location: Aula Maxima

13:00 – 13:45

Lunch

Location: Aula Maxima

# 13:45 – 15:15

## Parallel Sessions

Please choose 1 panel session or workshop to attend

### Panel 4

Location: Boole 1

#### The Apparitional Lesbian in Literature

**Paper 1:** Contemporary Sapphic Sonneteers: A Creative-Theoretical Examination of the Lesbian Lineages of the Sonnet – Aishvarya Arora (Cornell University)

**Paper 2:** The Fourth Part: Style, The Self, Ethics in a Swedish Biographical Minority History – Hanna Hallgren (Linnaeus University)

**Paper 3:** Literary Presence, Institutional Invisibility: Lesbians in Contemporary Polish Literature- Karolina Lewińska (University of Wrocław)

### Panel 5

Location: Boole 2

#### The Politics of Visibility

**Paper 1:** "But It Had to End Well": Debating the Politics of Visibility in 1990s Canadian Lesbian-Driven Cinema – Tamara de Szegheo Lang (Queen's University, Canada) & Dan Vena (Queen's University, Canada)

**Paper 2:** Widowed, Sad, and Sexless: Eddy's butch Vida and the limits of historic queer Latinx representation on television – Melissa Mora Hidalgo (California State University, Long Beach)

**Paper 3:** Serious Business: Publishing Lesbian Erotica into the 90s – Isabel Imhorst (King's College London)

### Panel 6

Location: Boole 3

#### Queer Voices, Silences, and Public Cultures

**Paper 1:** Lesbian/Feminist/Queer Silences from East Asia – Grace Enyūyi Ting (University of Hong Kong)

**Paper 2:** Sexual fluidity challenges for women in Hungary – Anita Kricsfalvi (Independent writer, Hungary)

**Paper 3:** 'A Voice Answering a Voice': The Radical Queer Ecology of Orlando – Chetana Gavini (University of Sussex)

**Location: Boole 4**

### Film Screenings

Part 1 (13.45–14.30) :

#### **Uncovering Lesbian Lives in Animated Film**

Screening followed by a discussion hosted by Director Barb Taylor (Toronto Animated Image Society, Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto, Canadian Media Producers Association)

Part 2 (14.30–15:15) :

#### **Spotlight on LGBTQIA+ and dementia**

Screening followed by a discussion hosted by Dr Clare Hammerton (University of Exeter)

### Workshop 2

**Location: O’Rahilly Building 1.01**

#### **Lesbian Spaces, Dyke Nights**

Aoife O’Toole and Neev Kennedy (Dyke Night)

15:15 – 15:30

**Refreshment Break**

**Location: Aula Maxima**

## 15:30 – 17:00

### Parallel Sessions

Please choose 1 panel session or workshop to attend

#### Panel 7

**Location: Boole 1**

##### **Genealogical Thinking**

Paper 1: “Life without you in the army – well, honey, I hate to even think of it.”: Exploring the relationships of lesbian enlistees in the US Women’s Army Corps, 1943 – 1946— Katie Marshall (University of Sussex)

Paper 2: Exploring lesbian histories and queer futures of boat-dwelling on the UK canals— Georgia Dimdore-Miles (Royal Holloway, University of London)

Paper 3: Lesbian trans subjectivities in punk music and culture — Duna Torres Martin (Independent Scholar)

Paper 4: Turning the Tables: A Speculative Sonic Genealogy on All Fours — Cameron Jade MacDonald (University of Toronto)

#### Panel 8

**Location: Boole 2**

##### **Finding Ourselves in a Book: Lesbians Reading**

**Paper 1:** Gender Non-Conformity Pronouns in Literature — Lena Mattheis (University of Surrey)

**Paper 2:** Neglected Foremother: June Arnold and *The Cook and The Carpenter* and *Sister Gin*

Andrea Freud (Retired Associate Professor of English, Medgar Evers College, CUNY, author of This Place)

**Paper 3:** Lesbian Readers, Lesbians Reading: The Role of Literature in Our Lives — Anna Klimek (Jagiellonian University)

**Paper 4:** We are something by ourselves': transmasculine strategies in Mary Renault's fiction — Kit Fryatt (Dublin City University)

### Panel 9

**Location: Boole 3**

#### Queer Gendering & Feminist Erotics

**Paper 1:** Podcast as Practice: (Un/)Intentionally Constructing Self and Gender Together — Shu Perera (Tokyo University of the Arts)

**Paper 2:** Living an (In)human Transbian Life — Jay Szpilka (SWPS University, Warsaw)

**Paper 3:** Lesbian Sexual Joy as Feminist Method: Reclaiming the Erotic Against Cisheteronormativity — JJ Wright (MacEwan University)

**Location: Boole 4**

#### Film Screenings:

Part 1 (15.30–15.50) :

#### **Salt & Pepper Collective – 'I'm in Love with Mother Nature'**

A film created on mobile phones through group participative process by 'Salt & Pepper Collective, a group of older LGBTQ+ people living rurally around Skibbereen in the South West of Ireland. Directed and facilitated by artist Toma McCullim, edit and camera facilitation by Julie Ballands.

Part 2 (15.50–17.00) :

#### **Greer Ralston – Giving It All To Art**

Directed by Rachel Dax (University of South Wales, Cardiff University)

### Workshop 3

**Location: O'Rahilly Building 1.01**

**LESBIAN: Mapping the Personal History of a Word** (visual art/written piece)

Fiona Carey (Independent visual artist)

### Workshop 4

**Location: O'Rahilly Building 1.56**

#### Roundtable on Archives

Red Washburn (City University of New York) & Giulia Nazzaro (Ghent University)

17:00 – 18:00 Authors in conversation	<b>BOOK EVENT</b> <b>Authors in conversation</b> Katherine O'Donnell (SLANT) and Chloe Michelle Howard (Sunburn/Heap Earth Upon It).
Room Location: Aula Maxima	

## Friday AA Recovery Meeting

### Recovery Meeting:

You are cordially invited to a meeting on recovery during the Lesbian Lives 2026 Conference. Meeting is open to all and will take place on Friday the 15th May: 18:00 in the "Ardpatrick", College Road (next to the Chaplaincy).

## Friday Social Cabaret

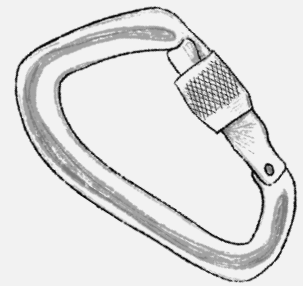
**Registered attendees get 3€ OFF**  
**Promocode: UCClesbian**

**Purchase here: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/lesbianlives/socialactivities/>**

Location: Cyprus Avenue, Cork

Mnásome Cabaret (followed by FLIRT DJ Set)
€22 (use promo code UCClesbian)
8pm until 11pm (followed by FLIRT DJ Set)


# SATURDAY 16/05



09:00– 09:30	Registration & Coffee	Location: Aula Maxima
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**9:30 – 11:00**

## **Parallel Sessions**

Please choose 1 panel session or workshop to attend

### **Panel 10**

**Location: Boole 1**

#### **How to Write Lesbian Lives in Times of Crisis: Panel Discussion**

'We Were Never Meant to Survive': LGBTQ+ Histories of Childhood Sexual Abuse  
Lauren Jae Gutterman, University of Texas at Austin (Presenter and moderator)

Solidarity with All Lesbians, Or Else

Tamara Chaplin, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign / Université de Paris Panthéon-Assas (Presenter)

How Lesbians Saved Poetry: Creative and Critical Methods for Writing Lesbian Lives

Lisa L. Moore, University of Texas at Austin (Presenter)

Re/presenting Butches: Putting Butch and Transmasc Lives on the Page

Amy Tooth Murphy, Royal Holloway, University of London (Presenter)

## Panel 11

Location: Boole 2

### Radical Activism

**Paper 1:** Reclaiming Radicalism: Healing infighting and transphobia through intergenerational collective care— K.A. Harper (Goldsmiths, University of London)

**Paper 2:** “Free Sharon Kowalski!” A Dialogue About Lesbian Activism and History in the 1980s-1990s — Felicia Kornbluh (University of Vermont) & Carolyn Weathers (ONE Archives, University of Southern California)

**Paper 3:** A Path Towards a Dyke Anticapitalism — Nicole Chrenek (Royal Holloway, University of London)

## Panel 12

Location: Boole 3

### Access All Areas

**Paper 1:** Crip & Lesbian Futures: Reimagining the Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities — Carla M. Reale (Institute for Minority Rights, Eurac Research) & Ilaria Todde (EuroCentralAsian Lesbian\* Community)

**Paper 2:** Reframing HIV Vulnerability” Tawsif Hossain (Bandhu Social Welfare Society; Pioneering Health Research and Learning Center) — Tawsif Hossain (Bandhu Social Welfare Society; Pioneering Health Research and Learning Center)

**Paper 3:** Womxn and Access to Football: Queer-Feminist Practices — Suzi Andreis (independent researcher)

Location: Boole 4

### Film Screening:

#### “Free Beer Tomorrow”

Screening with a discussion session hosted by Co-Producers/Directors Julia M. Applegate, M.A. and LuSter P Singleton, M.A.

## Workshop 5

Location: O’Rahilly Building 1.56

### Love is Love - but what do we do when things go wrong?

Angela O’Connell, OSS Cork Domestic Violence Information Resource Centre, and Soph Eales-White, LINQ Ireland.

11:00 – 12:00	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><b>KEYNOTE</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>PROTECTED BY DYKES</b>          Karen Washington (Rise and Roots) with Lisa Fingleton and Rena Blake (The Barna Way)</p>
<b>Room Location:</b> Aula Maxima	

12:00– 13:00	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Location:</b> Aula Maxima
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## 13:00 – 14:30

### Parallel Sessions

Please choose 1 panel session or workshop to attend

Panel 13

Location: Boole 1

**Advocacy, Academia and Policy**

**Paper 1:** Lesbian Knowledge Hub: Building Synergies Between Advocacy, Academia, and Policy – Ilaria Todde (EuroCentralAsian Lesbian\* Community)

**Paper 2:** Sexual minority (LGBQ+) women's experiences of drug and alcohol addiction: a qualitative study— Dr. Miriam Hillyard (King's College London)

**Paper 3:** *Trans Feminist Epistemologies in the US Second Wave* (Book Talk) – Emily Cousens (Northeastern University London):

**Paper 4:** Telling our Story: Engaging Narrative to Support Trans-Affirming Care in US University Health and Counseling Centers – Dr. Rachel E. Gartner (University College Cork)

Panel 14

Location: Boole 2

**Making Community and Forging Solidarity**

**Paper 1:** Sparks of Joy: Using Queer Methods to Imagine Otherwise and Build Solidarity – Jennifer Fraser & Francis Ray White (University of Westminster)

**Paper 2:** The Master's Tools; a sectoral exploration of the impact of philanthropy on queer community development in Ireland' - Ciara Mulcahy Linehan

**Paper 3:** Queer home and queer lineage in Lesvia Michela Baldo (University of Birmingham)

**Paper 4:** "If you don't laugh, you'll cry": Queer Stand-Up Comedy Against the Anti-Gender Present – Martha Thickett (University of York)

**Panel 15**

**Location: Boole 3**

**Practices of Queerness**

**Paper 1:** On our own terms?: Relationality as a femme practice of queerness – Chloë Brushwood Rose (York University, in Toronto)

**Paper 2:** Femme pedagogy and the making of an alternative academic community – Jessica Fields & Jen Gilbert (University of Toronto)

**Paper 3:** Queer Non-Girls in the City: Rethinking Mobility and Belonging from Chennai – Sambhavi Varadarajan (CUNY Graduate Center)

**Location: Boole 4**

**Film Screening**

**“Loafers”**

Screening with a discussion session hosted by Director Orla Egan (Cork LGBT Archive)  
[Subtitled]

**Workshop 7**

**Location: O’Rahilly Building 1.01**

**Research Ethics as Ethics of Care**

Olu Jenzen, Lizzie Reed and Matty Kennedy (University of Southampton)

**Workshop 8**

**Location: O’Rahilly Building 1.56**

**Documenting the Past, Connecting the Present and Inspiring the Future: A Podcast**

*Virginie Jortay (Independent radio producer);*

*Ilaria Todde (EuroCentralAsian Lesbian\* Community);*

*Evien Tjabbes (EuroCentralAsian Lesbian Community)\**

14:30-14:45

Refreshment Break

Location: Aula Maxima

# 14:45 – 16:15

## Parallel Sessions

Please choose 1 panel session or workshop to attend

### Panel 17

Location: Boole 2

#### Lesbian Intimacies

**Paper 1:** The Motherhood Enigma: Activism for Married Lesbian Mothers in Britain, 1975–1991— Ellen Hope Durban (Independent cultural and legal historian & PhD, University College London (UCL))

**Paper 2:** Stone Sexuality as Erotic Framework: Boundaries, Agency, and Intimacy — Professor Róisín Ryan-Flood (University of Essex)

**Paper 3:** "Border Intimacies: Contemporary Perspectives on Lesbian–Genderqueer Relationality"— Susanna Jane Demelas (University of Oxford)

### Panel 18

Location: Boole 3

#### Fingering Through the Archives

**Paper 1:** Chain Reaction: Rebel Dykes in Their Own Words and the Ethics of Sex, Desire, Oral Histories and Archives — Rachel Smith (University of Essex)

**Paper 2:** Tender mourning: lesbian\* life and living in and out of the archives — Caroline Gonda (University of Cambridge)

**Paper 3:** 40 years of Cork Women's Fun Weekend Exhibition: Display 6 pull up banners — Orla Egan (Cork LGBT Archive)

**Paper 4:** Finding and Not-Finding: Queer Archival Practices — Kimberley Mather (University of Manchester)

### Panel 19

Location: Boole 4

#### Lives dedicated to forging and sustaining lesbian communities through art-based activism

**Holly Hughes** (keynote performer *Lesbian Lives 2025*) is an internationally acclaimed performance artist whose work maps the troubled fault lines of identity. Her combination of poetic imagery and political satire has earned her wide attention and placed her work at the center of America's culture wars.

**Lois Weaver**, co-founder of *WOW Café* and *Split Britches*, is a Guggenheim-winning American artist, activist, writer, director, and professor emerita of Contemporary Performance at Queen Mary University of London.

**Moe Angelos** is an American theater artist, playwright, and performer. She is a member of the Obie Award-winning theatre company *The Builders Association* and a co-founder of the Obie Award-winning company, *The Five Lesbian Brothers*.

**Jill Dolan**, professor emerita of Princeton University, is an award-winning author, educator, blogger and feminist.

**Sara Warner**, Director of LGBT Studies at Cornell University, is an educator, writer and activist.

**Laura Flanders** (@GRITlaura) is the author of several bestselling books, the host of the nationally-syndicated public television (and radio) show *The Laura Flanders Show*, a contributing writer to *The Nation Magazine*, and the recipient of a 2019 Lannan Cultural Freedom Fellowship. She lives with her partner, the action-hero Elizabeth Streb in New York.

### Workshop 9

#### SNAPSHOT SELVES: An Autobiographical Collage & Zine Workshop

Eve Archer (University of Brighton)

Location: O’Rahilly Building 1.01

### Film Screening

#### Three Thousand Lesbians Go to York: the story of a lesbian arts festival

Screening followed by Q&A session hosted by Director Rachel Dax, editor Bonnie Rae Brickman, co-producer Kate O’Dwyer, and co-producer/ researcher Jane Traies, author of the book *3000 Lesbians Go to York*, on which the film is based.

Location: Aula Maxima

### Workshop 10:

Location: O’Rahilly Building 1.56

#### Lesbian\* life in “ordinary” places

Naoise Murphy (University of Manchester)

16:15–16:30

Refreshment Break

Location: Aula Maxima

16:30 – 18:00	<p><b>CONFERENCE CLOSING &amp; FINAL PLENARY</b></p> <p>How do we name and resist the challenges? How do we name and bring fourth our joys?</p> <p>Ilaria Todde, Grace En-yi Ting, Melissa Mora Hidalgo, Sambhavi Varadarajan and Amy Hassett, chaired by Katherine O'Donnell</p>
Room Location: Aula Maxima	

## Saturday AA Recovery Meeting

**Recovery Meeting:**

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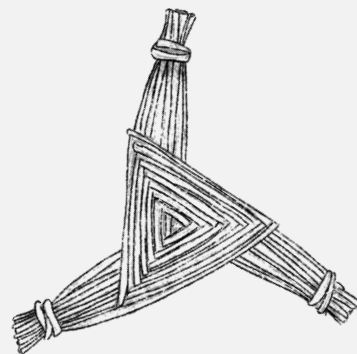
## SOLD OUT: Saturday Social Lesbian Lives After Party!

**Info here: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/lesbianlives/socialactivities/>**

Location: Kino Events House, 22 Washington Street, Cork

Time: 20:00 – 00:30
Ticket Price: €15


# SUNDAY 17/05



Check the conference website for the most up-to-date version of this programme.

## Sunday Afternoon

### LITREACHA – Open Mic Session

Where?	The Kino, Washington Street
When?	12pm to 2pm

LITREACHA is an open mic for Queer people in Cork city that has been running since July 2024, hosted by Queer Cork writers Em Egan Reeve and Louis Egan McCutcheon. Once a month we draw out the weirdest, wackiest and most heartfelt of what this fantastic creative city has to offer, and every night is full of surprises. Join us for this Lesbian Lives special crossover featuring some of LITREACHA's most prized performers to date, as well as a chance to share your own words and stories. Prepare for poetry and remember; Queerness is creative, creativity is Queer.

**Running Free of Charge!**

## Art and Exhibits: On display from Friday & Saturday

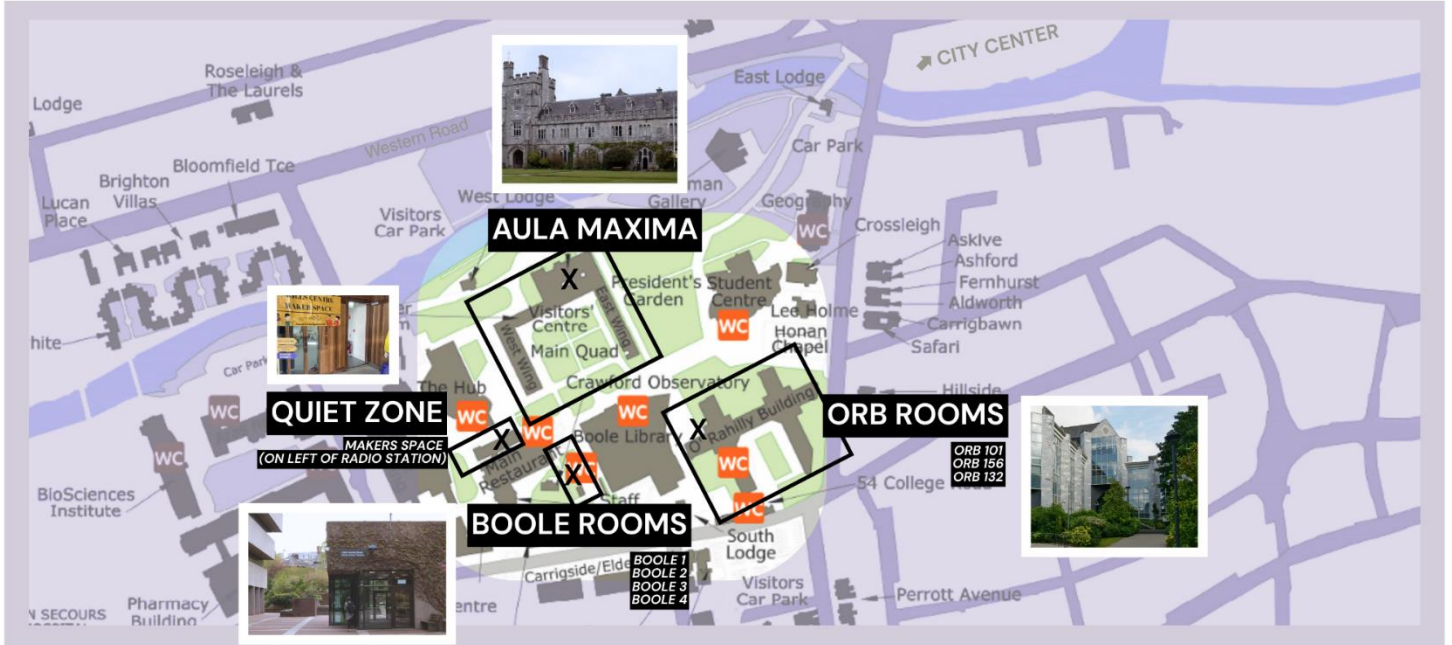
### Cork LGBT Archive

Exhibition marking 40 years since the first Cork Women's Fun Weekend, an annual lesbian social event, that is still running. This exhibition will be displayed in the Boole common areas during the 2026 Lesbian Lives Conference.

### Ráitseach

Artworks by Cork-based Queer artist Ráitseach will be on display in the Anteroom of the Aula Maxima. Alyssa Delahan Meade (Ráitseach) is a multidisciplinary artist and illustrator who centres their experience as a Queer Woman using figurative and natural imagery to create colourful watery dreamscapes.

# LL26 MAP



15th – 17th May  
CORK, Ireland

