

## We love literature like Ireland!

**74 guests - including 13 authors from Ireland, 27 author meetings, 45 exhibitors at the Book Fair, 12 festival spaces, 9 discussions, 9 workshops and meetings for children, 3 film screenings, 1 art installation, 1 translation workshop, 1 radio drama, 1 day with translators on duty, 1 premiere theatre event, 1 urban game. The 11th edition of the Sopot by the Book Festival will open on Thursday, 18 August 2022.**

This year's post-pandemic edition of Sopot by the Book takes place in the shadow of the war in Ukraine, inflation and the uncertainty of tomorrow. 'When planning the Irish edition of the festival a year ago, we were convinced that it would allow us to reach for topics that we had pushed to the background while focusing on the most current problems. Meanwhile, we should still remember what hurts so much and what we have not changed so far. I am thinking here both of the fight by women for their rights and of further dialogue with the Catholic Church, which has still not managed to engage in genuine reflection on how it operates and on the abuses it has committed.' - explains Joanna Cichocka-Gula, the Director of Goyki 3 Art Incubator and the organizer of the Sopot by the Book Festival.

As in previous years, the festival will host leading Polish authors in the thematic series you are familiar with: Nogaś on the Beach, h/History, (Un)consciousness, Debuts. Also, we would like to show you Ireland in its various versions. The Republic of Ireland will meet Northern Ireland, literature will meet visual arts and activism, and there will also be a translation workshop.

For the festival organisers, an important part of Sopot by the Book are discussions whose topics are programmed in relation to the current socio-political situation. The debate about the Church in Ireland and in Poland, with the participation of Professor Tom Inglis, Professor Catriona Crowe and Tomasz Terlikowski, will touch upon the subject of whether change is possible. Another debate, *What does Dorian Gray Tell us About Today's World?*, will host Professor Christopher Morash, Tomasz Stawiszyński and Tomasz Wiśniewski. On the one hand, this debate is meant to show the multi-layered interpretations and the topicality of Oscar Wilde's story. On the other hand, it is meant to find strikingly current references in the book. Another important debate will be *Feminism of Intimate Risk. The Body and Writing as a Battlefield*. Its participants include people who are incredibly involved in their own work, such as Emilie Pine or Jana Shostak, but also those who participate in the process of change and act as activists, such as Ailbhe Smyth. Northern Ireland will be the protagonist of David Zane Mairowitz's documentary radio drama *James's Story*, Aleksandra Łojek's book *Belfast. 99 ścian pokoju*, and Aga Zano's workshop *(Un)pronounceable Identities. How to Translate Northern Ireland*.

The Sopot by the Book Festival is not only about meetings with authors and debates, but also includes film screenings, workshops, a radio drama and an urban game. For the first time, translators from the Polish Literary Translators Association will be on duty during the festival. For the second time, the Festival will feature art - this time in two forms. In creating *Deasghnáth/Ritual*, Jane Butler was inspired by the spa traditions of Sopot. The artist is going to design a temporary installation which, through structurally supporting and wrapping the tower, will represent a monumental gesture of care. Jane Butler comes from Belfast in Northern Ireland. Her project is part of a year-long visual arts programme at Goyki 3 Art

# LITERACKI SOPOT

Incubator, which, in 2022, is dedicated to caring and doing things together. The Protest Nadziei (Protest of Hope) project, initiated by the Goyki 3 Art Incubator, is a personal statement by artists on the subject of individual freedom, collective freedom and, finally, norms the violation of which provokes protest and requires an artistic response. The authors of the banners that will hang in the park at Goyki street are: Alicja Karska, Diana Lenart, Agata Nowosielska, Ania Witkowska, Gosia Golińska, Emilia Orzechowska, Grażyna Rigall

This year's edition of Sopot by the Book features the book premieres of the festival guests. Lucy Caldwell - two collections of her short stories, *Intimacies* and *Multitudes*, will be published in a single volume (transl. by Aga Zano, Pauza Publishing House); Eimear McBride *The Lesser Bohemians* (trans. by Maria Zawadzka-Strączek, Pauza Publishing House) and *Something out of Place* (trans. by Aga Zano, Pauza Publishing House); Anna Dudzińska *Dubaj* (Marginesy Publishing House); Deniz Ohde *Streulich* (trans. by Zofia Sucharska, Marpress Publishing House); Liz Nugent *Our Little Cruelties* (transl. by Mateusz Rulski-Bożek, Wielka Litera Publishing House); *Ziarno granatu. Mitologia według kobiet* (Pomegranate Seed. Mythology according to women, Agora Publishing House).

For the third time, the festival programme includes an Hour of Free Reading series (#GodzinaWolnegoCzytania) created by the Coalition of Summer Literary Festivals, of which Sopot by the Book is the originator. You can immerse yourself in reading in between author meetings, debates or other festival activities. It is a moment alone with a book, a little relaxation and a break from the hustle and bustle of the city and everyday duties

The Festival will also traditionally feature a Book Fair. Stands located at Plac Przyjaciół Sopotu will exhibit, in alphabetical order:

Sopot Library, Centrala - every book matters; Centrum Architektury + Radio Architektura, Gdańskie Wydawnictwo Psychologiczne; Goyki 3 Art Incubator, Grupa Wydawnicza Relacja; Karakter; Krytyka Polityczna; Książkowe Klimaty [krainakniazek.pl](http://krainakniazek.pl); Księgarnie Świat Książki; Sopot Museum, Baltic Sea Cultural Center in Gdańsk; Przytulak Przytul Książkę; The Conscious Publishers; Tajfuny; timof comics; Tu się czyta – Buka, Format, Tako, Albus, Druganoga; Wielka Litera; Afera Publishing House; Agora Publishing House; Akapit Press Publishing House; Copernicus Center Press Publishing House; Czarne Publishing House; Debit Publishing House; Drzazgi Publishing House; Dwie Siostry Publishing House; Hokus-Pokus Publishing House; Kameleon Publishing House; Literatura Publishing House; Literackie Publishing House; Marginesy Publishing House; Kropka Publishing House; Marpress Publishing House; Mięta Publishing House; Pauza Publishing House; Poznańskie Publishing House; słowo/obraz terytoria sp. z o.o Publishing House; Smak Słowa Publishing House; Sonia Draga Publishing House; SQN Publishing House; Tashka Publishing House; W.A.B Publishing House; Wytwórnia Publishing House; Zakamarki Publishing House; ZNAK Publishing House; The Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute

In addition to books, it will also be possible to purchase festival merchandise including drawstring bags, water bottles, tumblers and blanket bags. Souvenirs will be available to buy online at [www.goyki3.pl](http://www.goyki3.pl) and in person at the Book Fair.

A detailed programme, with indication of streamed meetings: [www.literackisopot.pl/events](http://www.literackisopot.pl/events)

# LITERACKI SOPOT

The Sopot by the Book Festival has become a permanent feature in the calendar of literary events in Poland. Over a decade of activities to popularise literature and reading, it has gained recognition not only among participants but also critics. In 2020, the Sopot by the Book Festival won the ‘Supermiasta’ (Supercities) readers poll, organised by the *Gazeta Wyborcza* daily, as the most important achievement of the last 30 years in Sopot; the seventh edition of the festival won the prize for ‘the best cultural event of 2018’ (Cultural Storm of the Year 2018); in 2016, the listeners of the Polish Radio Three voted the festival as the ‘event of the year’; Sopot by the Book won the *Kulturalny Sztorm Roku 2012* award (Cultural Storm of the Year 2012) based on a poll in the *Gazeta Wyborcza Trójmiasto* daily. In 2019, the organisers of the Sopot by the Book Festival led to the establishment of #KoalicjaLetnichFestiwaliiLiterackich (#CoalitionofSummerLiteraryFestivals). Also in 2019, Sopot by the Book was awarded the EFFE Label of Excellence. It is a symbol of belonging to a group of exceptional and innovative cultural events on the map of Europe.

Media accreditation and contact:

Marta Szadowiak  
marta.szadowiak@goyki3.pl  
tel. 502 404 394