

- Rita Ann Higgins-CV

- Contact rahiggins@gmail.com

- Rita Ann Higgins was born in 1955 in Galway, Ireland.
- She has published 10 collections of poetry
- A memoir in 2010 and a book of essays with poems in 2019.
- She left formal education at 14. As an adult, in NUIG she received a Diploma sa Gaeilge and a Diploma in Women's Studies 1994-1996.

- Poetry collections: (from Salmon Poetry)

- *Goddess on the Mervue Bus*(1986),
- *Witch in the Bushes* (1988),
- *Goddess and Witch* (1990),
- *Philomena's Revenge* (1992)
- *Higher Purchase* (1996)

- *Poetry collections from Bloodaxe*
- *Sunny Side Plucked* (1996),
- *An Awful Racket* (2001),
- *Throw in the Vowels: New & Selected Poems* in May 2005 (to mark her 50th birthday)
- *Ireland is Changing Mother*(2011).
- *Tongulish* 2016.

- *Memoir & Essays*

- *Hurting God*, part essay part rhyme 2010 (Salmon)a memoir in prose and poetry.
- *Our Killer City*, essays and poems. Salmon 2019

- Her plays include: *Face Licker Come Home* (1991), (published by Salmon)
- *God of the Hatch man* (1992),
- *Colie Lally Doesn't Live in a Bucket* (1993)
- *Down All the Roundabouts* (1999),
- *The Big Break* 2004 (screenplay)
- *The Empty Frame* (inspired by Hanna Greally, 2008),
- *THE PLASTIC BAG* (A play for radio 2008).
- *The Colossal Longing of Julie Connors* (2012)

- Screenplays in the Irish Language

- *Straois / The Smirk* (2018) Screenplay
- *Í dTeanga Eile/ They Speak in Tongues* (2018)

- EDITED

- *Out the Clara Road: The Offaly Anthology* (1999),
- *Word and Image: a collection of poems from Sunderland Women's Centre and Washington Bridge Centre* in 2000.

- Co-edited '*FIZZ*' Poetry of resistance and challenge, an anthology written by young people, in 2004.
- AWARDS
- Galway County's Writer-in-Residence in 1987, Writer in Residence at the National University of Ireland, Galway, in 1994-95, Writer in Residence for Offaly County Council in 1998-99.
- Green Honors Professor at Texas Christian University, in October 2000.
- Other awards include a Peadar O'Donnell Award in 1989, several Arts Council bursaries.
- *Sunny Side Plucked*' received a Poetry Book Society Recommendation.
- Honorary Fellow at Hong Kong Baptist University Nov 2006.
- She is a member of AOSDANA

- Competition Judge
- IMPAC fiction prize in 2005
- The Listowel Novel of the Year prize in (2013)
- The Fish Prize (2000)
- The Listowel Prize for poetry in (2007)
- The Hotpress ,Write Here, Write Now prize (2018)

- Anthologies: (Selected)
- Dogs singing, Ed Jessie Lendennie. Salmon Poetry
- Everything to Play For: Ed, John Mc Auliffe
- Images of Women: An Anthology of Contemporary Women's Poetry,Ed By Myra Schneider & Dily's Wood.
- Modern Irish Writers: A Bio-critical Sourcebook. Ed by Alexander G Gonzalez.
- Lucy Collins: Poetry by Women in Ireland a critical Anthology.
- Fermata-writing inspired by music Ed by Eva Bourke & Vincent Woods.
- The Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing Volume V.
- Arguments of Heart and mind: Selected essays 1977-2000 Janet Montefiore.
- The Penguin Book of Irish Poetry Ed Patrick Crotty.
- The Wake forest Book of Irish Women's Poetry 1976-2000
- Dodging Around the Grand Piano, Sex, Politics and Contemporary Irish Women's Poetry by Ailbhe Smyth.
- Shine On: Daedalus Press Ed Pat Boran.
- Don't Ask me What I mean (poets in their own words) Ed Claire Brown & Don Patterson.

- Radio:
- Arena (several times)
- The Brendan O Connor Show
- Playback (several times)

- Lyric FM
- BBC Northern Ireland
- BBC Manchester.

- National Television Appearances:
 - The Saturday Night Show 2014
 - The Late Late Show 2016
 - The Late Late Show 2017

- Prison Workshops:
 - Cork Prison
 - Limerick Prison
 - Loughan House Open Prison. Co Cavan
 - Mountjoy Prison
 - Mountjoy Women's Prison Dochas
 - Mahgaberry Prison Belfast
 - Highpoint Prison UK.

- Voluntary Community workshop 2013-2015
 - With Galway Grow Group- promoting positive mental health.
 - Where they produced a play based loosely on Chekov's
 - Ward No Six. Written and performed by the group.