

Dublin and Galway Launches for Rita Ann Higgins

Ireland Is Changing Mother, the latest collection from prominent Irish poet Rita Ann Higgins, will be launched in her home city of Galway on 16 September. The special event, introduced by renowned comedian Tommy Tiernan, will take place at the Galway Arts Centre. This will be followed by a Dublin launch on 20th September at the Dublin Writers' Centre.

Rita Ann Higgins' new collection chronicles the lives of the Irish dispossessed, before as well as since the demise of the Celtic tiger, with her provocative mix of humour and telling social comment. From the expenses scandal to the property collapse, these hard-hitting poems don't shy away from difficult truths, but take them on in a 'poetry in which anger is transformed into irony' (Fiona Sampson).

Rita Ann Higgins was born in Galway, where she still lives. She was in her late 20s when she started writing poetry. She has since published nine books of poetry, including *Throw in the Vowels: New & Selected Poems* (2005, re-issued 2010 with audio CD of Rita Ann reading a selection of her poems) and *Ireland Is Changing Mother* (2011) from Bloodaxe, plus *Hurting God* (2010) from Salmon. Her many awards include a Peadar O'Donnell Award and several Arts Council bursaries. She is a member of Aosdána. Rita Ann Higgins is available for interview.

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***Ireland Is Changing Mother* by Rita Ann Higgins**

is published on Friday 16 September 2011 by Bloodaxe Books, price £8.95, p/b

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For interview requests, call Rita Ann Higgins on +353 (0)87120 6975

For full book details plus audio clips, see www.bloodaxebooks.com

Galway Arts Centre launch, introduced by comedian Tommy Tiernan

Galway Arts Centre, 47 Lower Dominick Street, Galway City, Friday 16 September 2011, 6pm

Dublin launch, introduced by critic and journalist Fintan O'Toole

Irish Writers' Centre, Parnell Square, Tuesday 20th September, 7.30pm

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