

The Irish poet Paddy Bushe comes to Galicia with the collaboration of the Amergin University Institute of the UDC and the Hotel Bela Fisterra.

On April 8th Paddy Bushe will lecture about Amergin and the origins of Irish Literature at the Faculty of Philology of the UDC and on Saturday 12th there will be a great poetic event in Fisterra.

The Irish poet will be writing about his experience in the region during his literary residence at the Hotel Bela Fisterra.

The Irish poet Paddy Bushe will arrive next 7th April in A Coruña, for the second time, to carry out a literary residence in Fisterra. Through the University Institute of Irish Studies Amergin, of the University of A Coruña, and with the collaboration of the Hotel Bela Fisterra, the writer born in Dublin in 1948, who has lived for decades literally by the Atlantic, in the coastal town of Waterville (Kerry), will return to Galicia, one of the territories of Europe that have more relation with his literary production. Winner of The Irish Times Award in 2016, Bushe has an extensive poetic oeuvre deeply rooted in the Irish legendary past, in which his love for the west of Ireland and for the imprint left by myths stands out, especially the legend of Amergin, which tells of the Milesian druid who, according to tradition, reached the Irish coast from Galicia.

A writer in both English and Irish, whose language he promotes and often uses in his Kerry community, Paddy Bushe has also translated poems from Chinese (the oriental influence is important in his literature) and also some compositions by the famous poet Sorley MacLean, from Scottish Gaelic. Some of Paddy Bushe's poems have been translated into Spanish and Galician in the anthology *Fisterras atlánticas*, compiled by Antonio de Toro and J. Miguel A. Giráldez and published by Medulia.

Among his best-known collections of poems are *To Ring in Silence*, new and selected poems (Dedalus, 2008) and *My Lord Buddha of Carraig Eanna* (Dedalus Press, 2012). He has also written extensively, in prose, of the Iveragh peninsula and the anthropological and cultural environment that informs his poetry, through archaeological remains and the medieval past (*The Amergin Step*, Dingle). A keen trekker, who has even trekked in the Himalayas, Bushe's poetry is intimately connected to the energy that emanates from the terrain and landscape he inhabits.

The members of the Institute of Irish Studies at the University of A Coruña Amergin have been in close contact with Paddy Bushe for more than twenty years. For example, they have actively participated in several editions of the Amergin Poetry Gathering, a celebration dedicated to poetry and music held on the days of the summer solstice in Waterville, Kerry. Galician poets and musicians, such as Manuel Rivas and Carlos Núñez, among others, also took an active part in this unique event.

Paddy Bushe's presence in Galicia begins on the 8th of April with a lecture that will take place at the Faculty of Philology of the University of A Coruña, under the title 'Amergin and Irish literature' (given in English), 18.30, open to the general public.

Afterwards, the poet will start his literary residence at the Hotel Bela Fisterra, where he will stay several days writing about his impressions of the region, also in the company of some poets of the surroundings.

Finally, on Saturday 12th April there will be a literary event at the Hotel Bela Fisterra, where Paddy Bushe will read some of his poems, with versions translated into Galician language in the voice of poets like Xulio L. Valcárcel, Francisco Fernández Naval, Alexandre Nerium, Rivadulla Corcón, Modesto Fraga, and Xosé Iglesias, among those confirmed so far. Music will be provided by the duo Brigantia from A Coruña. At this literary event, David Clark, director of the Amergin Institute, will launch his latest book, a translation of '*So far away, How far!, The Poetic Legacy of Sir John Moore*' (published by Medulia). The event will take place at 1 p.m. at the Hotel Bela Fisterra and the admission is free.