

Emerging Longford Writer in line for Majour Literary Awards

The talented Killoe writer John Connell has been shortlisted for the prestigious Bord Gais Irish Book Awards - Short Story of the Year Section

The story was published by Granta Magazine in Granta 135 New Irish Writing alongside the work of such internationally acclaimed writers as; Roddy Doyle, Donal Ryan and Colm Toibin's.

The short story, entitled The Birds of June, is set in Longford and concerns a nurse working in the local county hospital.

The nomination as a finalist of such a prestigious competition in the company of multi-award winning writers including a Booker Prize winner (Roddy Doyle) represents a majour milestone in the creative development of one of our most talented young writers. It also reflects very well on the number and quality of contemporary Longford writers.

Our emerging artists and writers need all the support we can give them for their individual development but also for the development of the national perception that Longford is a place of talent and creativity thus making the road a little easier for all our emerging artists.

The shortlisted story, The Birds of June, can be read on www.writing.ie sponsors of the award : <https://www.writing.ie/interviews/writing-ie-short-story-of-the-year-shortlist-read-vote/>

The overall winner will be selected both by the judges and by popular acclaim. Therefore you can play a very real part in helping John Connell bring the title of short story writer of the year back to Longford. All you have to do is log on to: <http://www.irishbookawards.irish/vote2016/>

Support your local writer and remember, in this week of presidential elections, the immortal words of Sen. Huey Long **“Vote early and vote often”!!!!**