

Noir Conference in Philadelphia



Deen Kogan (left), director of Society Hill Playhouse and co-chair of NOIRCON 2014, a bi-annual tribute to all things noir from literature to film to art and poetry. The conference is produced and headquartered at Society Hill Playhouse. At the awards dinner, the door prize, the Maltese Falcon, was won by Karen Levinson.



Jane Duffin and Northern Ireland novelist Stewart Neville, a featured speaker at NOIRCON



Bronwen Hruska, Soho Press publisher of Stuart Neville’s books. Northern Ireland novelist, Stuart Neville, was a featured speaker. Born in Armagh, from a working class background, and before writing full time, he’s been a musician, a salesman, a teacher, a baker, a film extra and a composer. He first came to prominence in 2009 when his debut novel, “The Twelve,” (published in the United States as “The Ghosts of Belfast”) won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in 2010.

Ireland: One Island, No Borders

Ireland is a place of mystical, enduring appeal for many, including the millions of Americans who claim its heritage—over one-sixth the current US population, according to the last census. This unique collaboration between Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Fein, and Elizabeth Billups, a Santa Fe-based photographer and activist, reveals the Ireland not always seen in guidebooks, as well as a side of Adams not usually captured in the news.

Ireland: One Island, No Borders presents the country as seen through the eyes of one of its most famous and passionate sons, and an equally passionate American of Irish ancestry.

Adams shares personal anecdotes and family stories

along with relevant historical details, legends, and myths, complemented by Billups’ photographs of their favorite places throughout the country, and her impressions culled from many visits.

Although he does not focus on politics, Adams’s discussion of his participation in the historic Good Friday Peace Agreement adds an important dimension to the text.

While there have been a number of illustrated books on Ireland, what makes this book unique is the fact that Gerry Adams has written over a dozen titles, but never on Ireland itself and his deep love for his country, as opposed to his political vision for its future. Looking at this gorgeously produced volume and

reading his text will make any reader understand why he fought so long and so hard for peace - and why so many people the world over share his great love of Ireland.

More information about the book is available at <http://giftbooks.com/books/Elizabeth.html>

Ireland:
One Island, No Borders
By Elizabeth Billups
and Gerry Adams
George F. Thompson
Publishing
www.giftbooks.com, \$45
192 pages, 150
color photos
ISBN: 978-1-938086-14-4

Poodles Two

Before we let them decorate... we check the tree for leprechauns!

Photo | Katharine Gilbert



The Ryder, Sherry, Donovan and Lawn families (some visiting from Ireland) helped Chris Ryder celebrate his 21st birthday recently at The Plough and Stars Restaurant in Center City.