



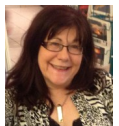
**LILA LIZABETH WEISBERGER** is founder and Creative Director of the International Academy for Poetry Therapy (iaPOETRY). She is co-author of 'The Healing Fountain: Poetry Therapy for Life's Journey', and is on the Editorial Board of the 'Journal of Poetry Therapy'. Lila is a New York State licensed Creative Arts Therapist and a Poetry Therapy Practitioner. She is also the founder of BridgXngs Poetry Centre in New York.



**VICTORIA FIELD** is Certified Poetry Therapist with US National Association for Poetry Therapy. She works widely with PT in health and social care, and leads workshops and training courses worldwide, most recently in Kuwait. She is a former Director of Survivors Poetry and past Chair of Lapidus. She is also a Visiting Lecturer on an MSc in Creative Writing for Therapeutic Purposes ([www.metanoia.ac.uk](http://www.metanoia.ac.uk)).



**JILL TEAGUE** is a Welsh poet and Poetry Therapy Practitioner based in Snowdonia, North Wales, where she founded 'Out of the Blue Writing' where she facilitates writing groups, works with individuals and provides online courses. She has developed a branch of poetry therapy work called 'Treading Softly – Writing in Nature' which combines walking and writing in the natural landscape. Jill is Assistant Director of iaPOETRY and is a tutor for the Academy.



**GER CAMPBELL** is founder member and chair of IPTN (Irish Poetry Therapy Network) and is an accredited psychotherapist with HSE in Waterford. She lectures and co-ordinates for NUIM in addiction studies and facilitates in-service PT groups in many settings, including rape crisis centres, with addiction counsellors, and in Life Long Learning. Ger is in her final year of poetry therapy training with Niall Hickey.



**CAROL BOLAND** is a published poet and author who has facilitated creative writing and Self-Discovery workshops in Dublin, Wicklow and Wexford. She is secretary of IPTN (Irish Poetry Therapy Network) and is in her final year of PT study with Niall Hickey. Having completed her Counselling Skills Certificate with NUI, Carol is now studying for a BSc in psychotherapy.

PoetryReach and iaPOETRY present



## 'Precious Jewels and Broken Vases'

Finding a Map by Exploring Poetry Through Creative Writing

GLENROYAL HOTEL, MAYNOOTH

Wed 11—Sun 15 September '13

Poetry Therapy in action. Feel the magic and power of poetry therapy through experiential techniques and therapeutic writing, versus lecture.

Full Convention : €300

Daily Rate : €100

Booking essential

Niall Hickey T: (01) 6291066

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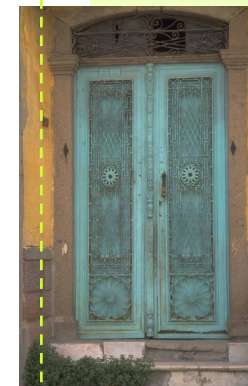
PoetryReach and iaPOETRY

# Poetry Therapy Convention 2013

## 'Precious Jewels and Broken Vases'

Finding a Map by Exploring Poetry Through Creative Writing

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Tel: 01 6291066

<http://poetryreach.wordpress.com>  
[www.iapoetry.org](http://www.iapoetry.org)

# PROGRAMME

## WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

**6pm – 7pm : Welcome/Registration** – Niall Hickey

**7pm – 9pm : The Art of Resiliency — Poetry Therapy: An Experiential Journey. A Life View of not Just Surviving but Thriving** — Lila Weisberger

‘Be like a good seismograph: sensitive enough to register what happens but strong enough not be wrecked . . . human beings have to occupy that position between being so steady and dull that they can’t register, and being so sensitive that they’re wrecked by anything they register.’  
William Stafford

## THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

**10am – 1pm: In Pieces—Fragmentary Writing**  
- Jill Teague

‘And did you get what you wanted from this life, even so? I did. To call myself beloved, to feel myself beloved on this earth.’  
Late Fragment by Raymond Carver

Often we are moved or inspired by just a line or two of a poem or a piece of prose. In many instances these ‘fragments’ have a lasting resonance. During this session we will explore fragmentary writing as a genre, using a wide range of contemporary fragmentary writing from diaries, notebooks and letters, aphorisms, short prose pieces and vignettes.

**2pm – 5pm: Finding the Treasure in the River of Life** – Ger Campbell

‘the stories buried in the mountains/give out into the sea/and the sea remembers’  
David Whyte

In this session, we will explore our own hidden depths through writing and poetry. Rivers feature in so many song titles, and as poetry and music nourish and sustain us so the river also nourishes the land through which it flows. Together we will immerse ourselves in the creative flow of words and ideas and allow the current to take us on our own creative journey.

## FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

**10am – 1pm : Amethyst Remembrances** – Jill Teague

‘I held a jewel in my fingers  
And went to sleep.  
The day was warm, and winds were prosy;  
I said: ‘Twill keep.’  
I woke and chid my honest fingers, -  
The gem was gone;  
And now an amethyst remembrance  
Is all I own.’

Emily Dickinson

In this session we will explore the nature of opportunity and chance, and our personal responses to each of them.

**2pm – 5pm: The Cracked Pot** — Victoria Field

This is an image that occurs in fables and parables in many traditions. A water bearer carries two pots on a yoke across her back. When she reaches her destination, the cracked pot is empty, all the water having leaked away. However, over the weeks and months, flowers have grown all along the side of the path where the pot leaked. There’s an image circulating on the net of a pot where the cracks have been filled with gold. Leonard Cohen famously sang in Anthem, “There is a crack, a crack in everything / That’s how the light gets in.”

In this session, we will explore the therapeutic potential of this image in poetry, prose and collage.



**PoetryReach** is directed by Dr Niall Hickey who provides training in Ireland for those who wish to acquire a qualification in the use of poetry therapeutically. The title ‘Poetry Practitioner’ is awarded to those who complete a training programme in accordance with accreditation requirements of iaPOETRY.

## SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

**10am – 1pm: The Mask and the Music** — Carol Boland

‘When I talk to my friends I pretend I am standing on the wings of a flying plane . . .’

Jason Shinder

The persona, for Carl Jung, was the social face the individual presented to the world, ‘a kind of mask, designed on the one hand to make a definite impression upon others, and on the other to conceal the true nature of the individual.’

This workshop will explore the themes of identity and persona using specific poems, fun exercises and African music to encourage group discussion and creative writing.

**2pm – 5pm: Poetry As Applause** — Lila Weisberger

Explore with humour, poems about waiting and wanting to be recognised.

**DON’T SIGN YOUR BOOK WITH A LEAKY PEN!**

‘ . . . Work is what you have done/after the play is produced/and the audience claps./Before the friends keep asking/when you are planning to go out and get a job . . .’

Marge Piercy

## SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

**10am – 12pm: R.S. Thomas as a Source of Buried Treasure for Poetry Therapy** — Victoria Field

‘ . . . that was the pearl/of great price, the one field that had/treasure in it . . .’

The poetry of R.S. Thomas covers a wide variety of themes but nearly all of his work stems from his conflicted relationship with his country, Wales, and his struggle, even as a priest, to make sense of his spirituality. In this session, we will look at examples of his poems, discuss their therapeutic potential and write in response.

**12.15pm — 1pm: Closing of Convention** — Niall Hickey

Group Poem - Ger Campbell