

Invitation to apply

DLR's Hugh Leonard Writer's Award 2009

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Arts Office

The Hugh Leonard Award

To honour the late Hugh Leonard, to celebrate the significant contribution he made to Irish theatre, TV and film and to mark the special relationship he had with his home-place of Dalkey, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Arts Office is delighted to invite applications for **The Hugh Leonard Award 2009**.

The award is open to mid-career script-writers. Applicants must be residents or citizens of Ireland. The award will consist of a bursary of €5,000 and the production of a rehearsed reading of one of the writer's scripts at *From the Mountains to the Sea, DLR Literary Festival* in September 2009. There will be a budget of €5,000 fully inclusive for the production of the rehearsed reading. The rehearsed reading and its associated budget will be managed by DLR Arts with significant input from the selected recipient of the award. To benefit from the process the successful applicant will need to be available from the 8th – 12th September for the rehearsed reading.

Context

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, through its **Arts Strategy 2007-2010** and its extensive Arts Programme of festivals, exhibitions, recitals, residencies and awards is committed to producing and supporting the development of the arts across all art disciplines and practices.

Hugh Leonard

Hugh Leonard was born in 1926 and grew up in Dalkey. He had already written plays for the Abbey and other theatres when Granada Television in the UK beckoned in 1958. While working for Granada his literary career blossomed both in Ireland and as a writer for television in England. He returned to live in Dalkey in 1970. He was Literary Editor at the Abbey Theatre from 1976-1977 and Festival Director of the Dublin Theatre Festival for over ten years. He had a prolific writing career: writing thirty-two stage

plays, several adaptations of others' work for stage; numerous plays for television; work for over forty TV series totalling well in excess of one hundred and twenty original episodes; and in excess of one hundred episodes for serials based on the works of others (Bronte, Dickens, Dostoevsky, Flaubert and Somerville & Ross) as well as over a dozen film scripts.

His plays include **A Leap in the Dark, Madigan's Lock, A Walk on the Water, Stephen D, Dublin One, The Poker Session, The Saints Go Cycling In, Mick and Mick, The Au Pair Man, The Patrick Pearse Motel, Da, Summer, Suburb of Babylon (Time of Wolves and Tigers, Nothing Personal and The Last of the Last of the Mohicans) Time Was, A Life, Kill, Scorpions (Pizzazz, A View from the Obelisk and Roman Fever (adapted from Edith Wharton), The Mask of Moriarty, Moving, Chamber Music (Senna for Sonny & The Lily Lally Show), and Love in the Title.**

His awards include four Tony Awards for **Da**, including Best Play in 1978; his play, **A Life** was nominated for a Tony in 1980; the novelisation of his four-part BBC drama **Parnell and the Englishwoman** won the 1992 Sagittarius Award. He has published two volumes of autobiography, **Home Before Night** and **Out after Dark** and two highly praised novels, **A Wild People** and **Fillums** and a memoir entitled **Rover and other Cats**. He also wrote a popular column for the Sunday Independent for over thirty years.

Hugh Leonard died on the 12th of February 2009, aged 82.

Selection procedure

Selection will be made by way of an open submission competition.

Stage I

Applicants will submit 3 copies of the following:

- A typed curriculum vitae (maximum 3 pages);
- Publications, programmes or published articles;
- Typed expression of interest to include;
 - A short paragraph stating reasons for applying;
 - A short description of the benefits of the award to his/her stage of development as a script-writer
 - Details of which script the writer would like to nominate for the rehearsed reading (this can be a new or previously published/performed work)

Please ensure that all submitted materials are clearly marked with the writer's name.

Stage II

Interviews may be held in early August for short-listed applicants if deemed necessary by the selection panel.

Criteria for selection

- Artistic merit and distinctiveness of proposal;
- Quality of previous work;
- Suitability of the script for a rehearsed reading

Closing date: 4pm on Friday 17th July

Summary of key dates

Call for submissions:	Wednesday 17th June
Deadline stage I submissions:	Friday 17th July
Selection panel:	Thursday 23rd July
Rehearsed reading	September

Interviews/presentation of proposals by shortlisted writers may be held in early August.

Budget information

- An award of €5,000 will be made to the selected recipient
- The total budget for the rehearsed reading is €5,000. Please note that DLR Arts will manage this budget.

The successful script-writer will be required to provide Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council with a tax clearance certificate.

Freedom of Information

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to Dun Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed to a request for information under the aforementioned Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

DLR Arts reserves the right not to make an award if no applicant is deemed suitable.

Applications to be submitted to:

Carolyn Brown,
Senior Arts Administrator,
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council,
Moran Park House,
Queen's Road,
Dun Laoghaire,
Co Dublin.