

## Mary Morrissy



**Mary Morrissy** was born in Dublin in 1957. She has published a collection of short stories, “A Lazy Eye” and two novels inspired by real events: “Mother of Pearl”, the story of a baby kidnap in 1950s Dublin and “The Pretender”, a fictional biography of the woman who claimed to be the Anastasia, the daughter of the last Romanov Tsar. A third novel, “The Rising of Bella Casey”, based on the life of playwright Sean O’Casey, is under consideration. She reviews fiction for The Irish Times and is currently working on her second collection of short stories.

In 1984, she won a Hennessy Award for short fiction and a Lannan Literary Foundation Award in 1995. Her novel, “Mother of Pearl,” was shortlisted for the Whitbread Award and “The Pretender” was nominated for the Dublin Impac Award.

She has taught creative writing at the University of Arkansas, Trinity College Dublin and George Washington University, and is a faculty member on the University of Iowa's summer writing programme based in Dublin.

She is currently Writer-in-Residence at University College Dublin.