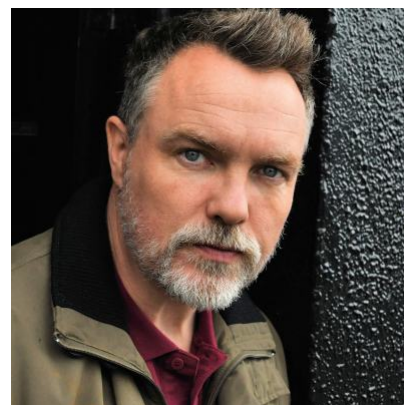


Ciarán McMenamin

Latest publication **THE SUNKEN ROAD - Harvill Secker - February 2021**

Francie, Archie and Annie grew up playing together in the hills and rivers of Fermanagh. But in 1914, the boys are seduced by the drama of the war in Europe and leave the village to join up. Before they leave, Francie swears to Annie that he'll keep her little brother safe.



Agents

James Gill
jgill@unitedagents.co.uk

Assistant
Amber Garvey
agarvey@unitedagents.co.uk
020 3214 0864

Publications

Fiction

| Publication Details | Notes |
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SKINTOWN

2017

DOUBLEDAY

County Fermanagh, 1994: Skintown is in fact two towns, that exist on top of, and beside each other. Two communities live totally separate lives; different schools, different pubs, different shops, different names – yet cheek by jowl in this corner of the very far west of the United Kingdom. Their coming together happens only for a half hour or so at closing time every weekend on Chippie Street, or by chance in the town’s watery hinterland.

Vincent Duffy’s already checked out, and can only think of how to escape beyond the town’s narrow horizons; chucked out of school and with a “job” chopping chicken and ribs for a Chinese takeaway, he’s kicking his heels – pint-by-pint, joint-by-freshly-rolled-joint. Too many of both one weekend evening, leads to a mindless act of kindness, putting Vincent in a compromising and dangerous position – but out of which seems to have arisen a most unlikely business opportunity. There are rumours of a ceasefire, rumours of change on the way – if Vinny can stay alive long enough to see it. But first he’s got to learn some immediate lessons about the economics of supply and demand.

Might he just have found a way to make it out of Skintown? And might his horizons not be the only thing about to be expanded? Because where the government’s failed, the churches have failed, and even the mighty Manchester United Football Club has failed to bring two communities together – might the second summer of love, old-skool trance, and the powerful psychoactive effects of Methylenedioxymethamphetamine be the broom to sweep away the hatred and replace it with love, so much love?

SKINTOWN is a perfect evocation of time and place, and the story of a young man and a town at a pivotal moment in our recent history. It’s the debut novel of Ciarán McMénamin, one of Ireland’s finest contemporary actors, and marks the arrival of a joyous new voice in Irish fiction.
