THE WORLD'S FIRST FESTIVAL OF ECONOMICS AND COMEDY

YANIS VAROUFAKIS • GIDEON RACHMAN
PIPPA MALMGEN • ADAM HILLS
GILLIAN TETT • RORY SUTHERLAND
DAVID MOWILLIAMS • ARDAL O’HANLON
LINDA YUEH • PATRICK HONOHAN • JOHN KAY
STEVE KEEN • MARTIN LOUSTEAU • MEHREEN KHAN
BILL BLACK • MARLA DUKHARAN • KATE RAWORTH
SIMON KUPER • ANDREW MAXWELL
AND MANY MORE!

“BRILLIANT... BUT MORE THAN THAT, IT FELT LIKE DEMOCRACY” SIMON KUPER (FT)

TICKETS AT KILKENOMICS.COM
BOX OFFICE: 76 JOHN STREET, KILKENNY

THURS 9TH - SUN 12TH NOV 2017
KILKENNY, IRELAND

PHONE: 056 776 3837
Welcome to the eighth edition of Kilkenomics — Europe’s first economics festival — which brings together some of the world’s leading economists, financial analysts and media commentators with some of our funniest, sharpest standup comedians. We’ve been called “Davos with jokes” and we wouldn’t disagree with that assessment.

The standups put the economists under the spotlight to talk through vital issues such as the case for a universal basic income, whether bankers can be tamed, the ongoing housing crisis, modern education and of course America under Donald Trump.

We’re also talking Russia, post globalization, Bitcoin and Europe’s refugee crisis.

New to this year is Pitchenomics, Saturday morning shows for early birds and — by popular demand — an added brunch on Sunday hosted by Adam Hills.

**HERE’S A TASTE OF WHAT THE PRESS HAD TO SAY ABOUT KILKENOMICS:**

“Davos with jokes”
THE AUSTRALIAN

“One of the oddest festivals anywhere, comedy with a pint and a point”
UK SUNDAY TIMES

“An utterly bizarre idea but the public love it”
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

“Kilkenomics is just what economics needs: an event bridging the gap between academic analysis and the ordinary people whose lives are turned upside down by economic mayhem.”
THE ECONOMIST

“A little jewel where players manage to talk human without being patronising”
THE IRISH TIMES

“Having a laugh despite the gloom”
BBC WORLD SERVICE

“Lenny Bruce meets John Maynard Keynes”
BLOOMBERG

“Wildly successful”
THE GUARDIAN

“I’ve been to lots of festivals and conferences, but Kilkenomics may be the best. More than that: it felt like democracy.”
Simon Kuper, FINANCIAL TIMES columnst
WE'D LIKE TO THANK ALL SPONSORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE FESTIVAL IN 2017

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VENUE DETAILS

1. Cleere's Theatre Bar
2. The Hole in the Wall
3. The Set Theatre, Langtons Ballroom
4. The Ormonde Hotel (Kilbride Suite) (Kings Suite)
5. Watergate Theatre

BOOKING DETAILS
Box Office: 76 John Street, Kilkenny
Tel: 056 776 3837
Online booking now at WWW.KILKENOMICS.COM

FESTIVAL TEAM

Founder Directors: Richard Cook and David McWilliams
Programme Director: Naoise Nunn
Production Manager: Michael Burke
Box Office Manager: Lilian Burke
Festival Manager: Miriam Dunne
Volunteers Manager: Tommie Ryan
Festival Administration: Margaret-Mary Murphy

Public Relations: Conway Communications
Web and Print Design: RedLemonade.ie
Box Office Team: Brian Butler, Garret Brennan, Niamh Moyles, Ralph Sheehan, Paula McDonald
Video production: Adrian Brett - ClickZoom.ie

Special thanks to Colm O'Regan for programme input.

Programme subject to change; correct at time of going to print.
PETER ANTONIONI
is a Kilkenomics regular and co-author of Economics for Dummies. He was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford and Birkbeck College, London. He is currently a lecturer in management at University College, London. Peter’s research interests are diverse and include the football transfer market, the process of enterprise in technology markets and the techniques and practice of the arcane field of long-range scenario planning.

FOLLOW PETER @GuerillaEcon

PRASENJIT BASU
is the founder and Chief Economist at REALEconomics.com, an independent economic research firm. He is also the author of “Asia Reborn: A continent rises from the ravages of colonialism and war to a new dynamism”.

FOLLOW PRASENJIT @PrasenjitKBasu

RAFAEL BEHR
is a political columnist for the Guardian. He has been political editor of the New Statesman, chief leader writer on theObserver and a foreign correspondent for the Financial Times in Russia and eastern Europe. He was named Political Commentator of the Year in the 2014 Editorial Intelligence comment awards.

FOLLOW RAFAEL @rafaelbehr

DANIEL BILAK
is The Director of Ukraine Invest and Chief Investment Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ukraine. A Canadian-qualified lawyer with over 25 years of professional experience in Ukraine, he advised major international and Ukrainian businesses in the energy, agribusiness, infrastructure and technology sectors.

BILL BLACK
is a Kilkenomics regular. He is an American lawyer, academic, best-selling author and former bank regulator. He is currently an associate professor of economics and law at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Bill assisted Icelandic and French leaders responding to their fiscal crises and has testified to US Congress about the financial crisis, specifically on regulatory failures and the role of control fraud in the bubble and crisis.

FOLLOW BILL @WilliamKBlack

JUNE CARBONE
is the inaugural holder of the Robina Chair of Law, Science and Technology at the University of Minnesota. She is the author of From Partners to Parents: The Second Revolution in Family Law, the third and fourth editions of Family Law with Leslie Harris and the late Lee Teitelbaum, and Red Families v. Blue Families with Naomi Cahn. She is also a member of the Yale Cultural Cognition Project.

FOLLOW JUNE @carbonej
NORAH CASEY
is CEO (and owner) of Harmonia, Ireland’s largest magazine company printing over four million magazines annually for the Irish, British and US market.

FOLLOW NORAH @NorahCasey

JOHN CLEERE
is director of Kilkenny based Red Lemonade Creative; an experienced digital, UX and branding design agency. Two years ago John initiated #TechThursdayKK a well attended monthly meeting in Kilkenny for promoting and creating new tech employment. He is also a regional advisor for TechIreland and an organiser of the first Google TechStars Startup Weekend in Kilkenny this November.

FOLLOW JOHN @redlemonade

PADDY CULLIVAN
of Callan’s Kicks and Kilkenomics brings you an audiovisual spectacular on the Rising Centenary. Using Satire, Imagery, Historical Insight and Song, Paddy reveals the 10 strangest things that happened during our Rising, Revolution and Counter-Revolution. He parallels those events’ effects on modern Ireland, drawing out fundamental changes that need to happen, no matter what Government we end up with.

FOLLOW PADDY @paddycullivan

FRANK CROWLEY
is an economist and is lecturing at CUBS, University College Cork. Frank has a particular interest in cities, the creative economy, innovation, regional policy and economic geography matters. He has published in many of these areas in international peer reviewed journals and is currently researching the importance of creative occupations, regional resilience and the links between talent, tolerance, diversity, well-being and entrepreneurship in Ireland and Europe.

FOLLOW FRANK @frankgcrowley

CAROLINE DANIEL
is a partner in the London office of The Brunswick Group, an advisory firm specializing in business critical issues.

FOLLOW CAROLINE @carolinefdaniel

LIAM DELANEY
is SIRE Professor of Economics at the Scottish Institute for Research in Economics and Stirling University and Director of the Scottish Graduate Programme in Economics PhD programme. He lectured econometrics, health economics and behavioural economics in University College Dublin and supervised post-graduate students in economics and public health.

FOLLOW LIAM @LiamDelaneyEcon
MIHIR DESAI
was born in India and raised in
Hong Kong and New Jersey. He is
a professor and award-winning
teacher at Harvard Business School
and Harvard Law School. His
scholarship on corporate finance,
international finance and tax policy
has prompted several invitations to
testify before the U.S. Congress
and serves as the basis of his
advisory role to leading global
companies and organizations.

FOLLOW MIHIR @desaimihira

MIKE DRIVER
started, built and sold M2 before
cofounding Convex Capital. Convex
Capital helps entrepreneurs sell
their businesses. Mike has sold 29
total entrepreneur owned businesses
mainly in the tech sector in the last
four years with a collective value
over $1 billion. Mike is an advocate
for the role that real entrepreneurs
can play in rejuvenating economies.

FOLLOW MIKE @mdvex

MARLA DUKHARAN
is Chief Economist for Bitt Inc,
promoting the adaptation of
technology in the Caribbean to
boost financial and economic
inclusion and lower the cost of
financial services, enabling the
region to transcend the constraints
of traditional business and banking
channels. Marla is recognized as a
top economist and thought-leader
in the Caribbean, well-known for
her monthly Caribbean Economic
Report, monitoring major economic
developments in over 20 countries.

FOLLOW MARLA @Marladukharan

STEPHEN FLOOD
is the CEO of international gold
broker, GoldCore.com. Stephen
has been instrumental in growing
GoldCore from humble beginnings in
2003 to a world-renowned provider
of precious metal trading and
storage services, with $140 million
of bullion assets in storage and
sales in excess of $1 billion dollars.
Stephen is passionate about gold,
fintech and the blockchain and is
an expert on precious metals and
related finance and economics.

JULIEN GARRAN
After five years as a consultant with
CRU, the commodities research
unit, Julien joined ABN AMRO as
their global commodities & mining
strategist. He then took on a role as
head of European equity strategy at
the same institution, following that
with a global macro strategy role on
the hedge fund desk. Julien moved
to Legal & General in 2005 as Head
of Asset Allocation, and he launched
and managed its global macro fund,
focussing on achieving absolute
returns, uncorrelated with the S&P.

KEVIN GILDEA
is a comedian, award-winning
playwright, performer, TV presence
and book reviewer. Kevin is a writer/
performer on RTE TV’s satirical
sketch show Irish Pictorial Weekly.
He was Ted Meaney in TV’s Bridget
and Eamonn and Fr Cave in TV’s
Father Ted. He performs his stand-
up all over the global shop.
He is an award winning writer,
winning awards for his writing. He
lives by the sea with his two cats –
Timmy and FiscalHole.

FOLLOW KEVIN @ComedyGildea
HENRY LEVESON-GOWER has been a practicing economist and policy analyst for almost 25 years. He has worked on issues from international trade and environment to economic and environmental regulation design.

FOLLOW HENRY @GowerHenry

NICHOLAS GRUEN is CEO of Lateral Economics and is a widely published policy economist, entrepreneur and commentator who has had regular columns in the Australian Financial Review, the Age and the Sydney Morning Herald. He has advised Cabinet Ministers, sat on Australia’s Productivity Commission and founded Peach Financial. He chairs The Australian Centre for Social Innovation; and The Open Knowledge Foundation.

FOLLOW NICHOLAS @NGruen1

LIAM HALLIGAN is among the UK’s most influential economics commentators. He writes a weekly column in the Sunday Telegraph, is a resident panellist on CNN-Talk and makes documentaries for Channel 4. His latest book ‘Clean Brexit – How to Make a success of leaving the EU’ was published by Biteback in September 2017. Liam has previously worked for The Economist, The Financial Times and Channel 4 News.

FOLLOW LIAM @LiamHalligan

ADAM HILLS is a stand up comedian and TV presenter. He has taken the UK by storm with his own talk show on Channel Four – The Last Leg, originally a one-off series for the 2012 London Paralympics. Dubbed as the nicest guy in comedy, when he is not conquering the small screen he is treading the boards as one of Australia’s finest stand-up comedians, selling out rooms around the country and around the world.

FOLLOW ADAM @adamhillscomedy

CONSTANTIN GURDGIEV is Professor of Finance (Visiting) at Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, California and Adjunct Professor in Finance at Trinity College Dublin.

FOLLOW CONSTANTIN @GTCost

PATRICK HONOHAN is an economist who was Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland from September 2009 to November 2015.

FOLLOW PATRICK @PatrickHonohan
A brand new Kilkenny initiative in conjunction with Kilkenomics is offering Irish startups and existing small; large and medium companies an opportunity to fast-track their business through investment and will be offering this potentially-life-changing opportunity at this year’s Kilkenomics Festival.

www.pitchenomics.kilkenomics.com

Sunday
12th November 2017
11:45am - 12:45pm
Harry’s Bar
Mehreen Khan is a Financial Times reporter with fastFT in London. She writes about finance and economics and was previously a business reporter at The Telegraph.

Follow Mehreen @mehreenkhn

John Kay is one of Britain’s leading economists. His interests focus on the relationships between economics and business. His career has spanned academic work and think tanks, business schools, company directorships, consultancies and investment companies.

Follow John @JohnKayFT

Konstantin Kisin is an award-winning Russian comedian. He has performed all over the UK and Ireland, including Kilkenny Cat Laughs Comedy Festival. With a background in economics and political science, he is the ideal presenter for serious discussions.

Follow Konstantin @KonstantinKisin

Steve Keen is an Australian-born, British-based economist and author. He considers himself a post-Keynesian, criticising neoclassical economics as inconsistent, unscientific and empirically unsupported.

Follow Steve @ProfSteveKeen

Simon Kuper has been working with The Financial Times since 1994. He is the author of several books including Football Against the Enemy (winner of the William Hill prize for Sports Book of the Year); Ajax, The Dutch, The War: Football in Europe During the Second World War and Soccernomics, which he co-authored with Stefan Szymanski. In 2008, Simon won the Manuel Vazquez Montalban prize for sports writing.

Follow Simon @KuperSimon

Pinchas Landau

Born and educated in London, Pinchas Landau has been living in Israel since 1976 and is one of the country’s leading independent analysts and commentators on Israeli economic and financial affairs. Prior to establishing an independent consultancy in 1997, he was for many years one of Israel’s most prominent financial journalists.
**FIONA LOONEY**
is a writer and broadcaster. She wrote *Dandelions* and *October*, both enjoying very successful runs at the Olympia Theatre, Dublin, and at The Opera House, Cork. Are you there Garth? It’s me, Margaret enjoyed an extended run at the Olympia in 2015. Prior to her debut as a playwright, she was a columnist for the Sunday Tribune and, for the past four years, the Irish Daily Mail and the Irish Mail on Sunday.

**MARTIN LOUSTEAU**
is a former Minister of Economy and Production of Argentina. At the age of 37, he was the youngest person to occupy this office in more than five decades. Most recently he was the Argentine Ambassador to the United States.

**CORMAC LUCEY**
is a chartered accountant based in Dublin who teaches finance. He served as a special adviser to Michael McDowell between 2002 and 2007. He previously worked in industry and in corporate finance both in Ireland and Germany.

**JORIS LUYENDIJK**
is a London-based journalist and author. In 2011 Joris started a long-running investigation into the City of London and the world of global finance on behalf of the Guardian about how bankers can live with themselves and whether the crash of 2008 was a one-off or something more sinister. His book *Swimming with Sharks* is about the culture at major banks in the City of London. Other books include ‘Hello Everybody’.

**HARALD MALMGREN**
is a scholar, Ambassador, international negotiator, senior aide to US Congress and four US Presidents, advisor to many foreign leaders and CEOs of financial institutions and corporate businesses, and frequent author of articles and papers on global economic, political, and security affairs.

**PIPPA MALMGREN**
is an American policy analyst. She served as Special Assistant to the President of the United States for Economic Policy on the National Economic Council and is a former member of the U.S. President’s Working Group on Financial Markets. She is the founder of the DRPM Group and co-founder of H Robotics.
KATIE MARTIN is the head of fastFT, the FT’s breaking news service. She also writes for other parts of the FT, mainly about markets. She was previously at the Wall St Journal and Dow Jones.

FOLLOW KATIE @katie_martin_fx

ANDREW MAXWELL is renowned for his cutting edge comedy and intrepid social commentary, double Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee (2007 & 2011) and star of Sky’s John Bishop’s Only Joking and BBC’s Live at The Apollo, host of the BBC3 Edingburgh Comedy Marathon and series regular on Sky’s Wall of Fame.

FOLLOW ANDREW @andrewismaxwell

DEARBHAIL MCDONALD is Group Business Editor of Independent News and Media. Dearbhail has won a series of awards for her legal affairs coverage. Dearbhail is also a former Young Irish Medical Journalist of the Year. She is a member of the Law Council of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and holds an LL.B (Law) from Trinity College Dublin as well as a Masters Degree in Journalism from Dublin City University.

FOLLOW DEARBHAIL @DearbhailDibs

IAIN MCGILCHRIST is a psychiatrist and writer who practised in London, but now lives on the Isle of Skye, where he continues to write and make a living by lecturing. He is committed to the idea that the mind and brain can be understood only by seeing them in the broadest possible context, that of the whole of our physical and spiritual existence, and of the wider human culture in which they arise – the culture which helps to mould, and in turn is moulded by, our minds and brains.

FOLLOW IAIN @divided_brain

DAVID McWILLIAMS is co-founder of Kilkenomics and one of Ireland’s leading economic commentators. He was one of the very few to accurately predict that the boom was a bubble that would all end in a monumental crash with bank failures, negative equity, rising unemployment and emigration. He is an economist, broadcaster and bestselling author and writes columns for the Sunday Business Post and Irish Independent. David also runs an daily economic bulletin called 360 Macro.

FOLLOW DAVID @davidmcw

JULIEN MERCILLE is a columnist for The Sunday Business Post, The Journal.ie and Broadsheet.ie. He appears regularly on Irish television and radio as an expert on current affairs. He received his PhD in 2007 from UCLA in geography (geopolitics and US foreign policy). Previously, he received an MA from the University of Kentucky in geography, and a BA from McGill University, Montreal, Canada, from whence he hails.

FOLLOW JULIEN @JulienMercille
STEVE MOORE
is the Director of London based think tank VolteFace, curator of the Big Tent Ideas Festival and author of the upcoming of Brain Boxes – how think tanks changed world. He has spent a career working across media, politics, public affairs and campaigning. He was was Director of David Cameron’s Big Society Network, founder of Britain’s Personal Best and strategic counsel to Channel 4 Television.

FOLLOW STEVE @steve4good

VIKAS NATH
teaches at the Instituto de Empresas, a business school in Madrid, Spain. He is also the CEO for UK and Europe, Adani Group, an Indian infrastructure company. However, most of his professional career has been in financial services – as an emerging markets strategist at several investment banks in the City of London and New York. He also ran an emerging markets fund for 5 years.

FOLLOW VIKAS @vikasnath

TOM NICHOLS
the author of “The Death of Expertise: The Campaign Against Established Knowledge and Why it Matters” and Professor of National Security Affairs at the US Naval War College, an adjunct professor at the Harvard Extension School, and a former aide in the U.S. Senate.

FOLLOW TOM @RadioFreeTom

NAOISE NUNN
is programme director of Kilkenomics. He is also artistic director of the Cat Laughs Comedy Festival. He established the Leviathan political cabaret, mainly hosted by David McWilliams and the MindField spoken word arena at Electric Picnic which has now been running for ten years. Naoise has worked on a number of political campaigns and co-authored a book with Public Accounts Committee Chairman, John McGuinness.

FOLLOW NAOISE @naoisen

ARDAL O’HANLON
is an award-winning standup comedian and actor. Best known for the British television show Father Ted, he has also appeared in films, including The Butcher Boy.

FOLLOW ARDAL @ardalfoley

COLM O’REGAN
Comedian, columnist and broadcaster. He writes a weekly column for the Irish Examiner and has written for national publications in Ireland and UK as well as BBC Online Colm is also a columnist with RTE Radio 1’s Drivetime, BBC World Service’s In The Balance and BBC World News’ Talking Business. He has also written and presented the PPI national radio award winning “Colm Oregan wants a word” for Radio 1.

FOLLOW COLM @colmoregan
GIDEON RACHMAN
is chief foreign affairs commentator for the Financial Times. He joined the FT in 2006, after fifteen years at The Economist, where he served as a correspondent in Washington D.C., Brussels, and Bangkok. In 2010 Rachman published his first book, Zero Sum World, which predicted the rise in international political tensions and turmoil that followed the global financial crisis. In 2016 he won the Orwell Prize, Britain's leading award for political writing.

FOLLOW GIDEON @gideonrachman

KATE RAWORTH
(‘Ray-worth’ just FYI) is a renegade economist passionate about making economics fit for the 21st century. Her best-selling book ‘Doughnut Economics: seven ways to think like a 21st century economist’ has been translated into seven languages and was long-listed for the 2017 Financial Times & McKinsey Business Book of the Year award.

FOLLOW KATE @KateRaworth

AIDAN REGAN
is an Assistant Professor of Politics and International Relations at University College Dublin (UCD), and Director of the Dublin European Institute (DEI). Prior to moving back to Ireland, he was a postdoctoral fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies in Germany (MPHG) and the European University Institute (EUI) in Italy. His research is focused on the study of globalisation, European integration, housing, industrial relations and the welfare state.

FOLLOW AIDAN @aidan_regan

SINEAD RYAN
is a consumer and personal finance journalist for the Irish Independent and Herald newspapers and also on RTE’s “Today with Sean O’Rourke” and Newstalk’s “The Hard Shoulder” programmes. She worked in financial services for 15 years prior to becoming a columnist and co-authored “Cents and Sensibility”, which teaches teenagers about money.

FOLLOW SINEAD @sinead_ryan

ANDREW SHEERIN
is a founding director of TerrorBull Games and a designer & theorist of satirical and political games, particularly interested in games and play as forms of subversion or protest.

FOLLOW ANDREW @sheerinability

ROBERT SHRIMSLEY
is the Managing Editor of FT.com. Before this he has served as the FT’s chief political correspondent and news editor. He writes weekly for the Notebook column, a satirical look at the week’s news and for the FT Weekend Magazine.

FOLLOW ROBERT @robertshrimsley
**Rory Sutherland**
is widely regarded as one of the most creative and influential minds in the advertising business, Rory Sutherland is executive creative director of Ogilvy UK, part of one of the biggest agencies in the world. His sharp and witty TED talks on life and business have been viewed by millions and his Wiki Man column in The Spectator is essential reading for anyone with an interest on how technology affects us.

Follow Rory @rorysutherland

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**Gerard Stembridge**
is an author, playwright, screenwriter, director, broadcaster and co-creator of, among many things, the legendary Scrap Saturday satirical radio series. His most recent book, a satirical novel called The Effect of Her, was published in 2014 and his hit series ‘Hiding Out’ was recently broadcast on Radio 4.

Follow Gerard @mdvex

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**Gillian Tett**
serves as US managing editor, leading the Financial Times’ editorial operations in the region across all platforms. She writes weekly columns for the Financial Times, covering a range of economic, financial, political and social issues throughout the globe.

Follow Gillian @gilliantett

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**Yanis Varoufakis**
is the former finance minister of Greece. He co-founded DiEM25 (Democracy in Europe Movement), a pan-European, cross-border movement of democrats. We’re delighted to have him back at Kilkenomics after his sell out appearance two years ago.

Follow Yanis @yanisvaroufakis

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**Linda Yueh**
is an economist, broadcaster, and author. Linda is Fellow in Economics at St Edmund Hall, Oxford University, Adjunct Professor of Economics at London Business School, and Visiting Professor of Economics at Peking University. She is a TV and radio presenter, including for BBC Radio 4 and BBC World Service, as well as having fronted BBC TV series The New Middle Class, Next Billionaires, and Working Lives.

Follow Linda @lindayueh

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**Karl Spain**
is probably best known in Ireland for his TV series Karl Spain Wants a Woman, which was a major success in that not only did he get huge ratings but also found himself a woman! He’s performed stand-up on television and live all over the world – the US, the Middle East, Australia and the UK. He regularly does corporate gigs and spends all his money on sweets and comics. He has also performed at every Cat Laughs Comedy Festival since 2002.

Follow Karl @karlkingov
THE ECONOMICS OF KILKENNY AS A SMART CITY
THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER
Once again Kilkenomics is joining forces with ‘Tech Thursday, Kilkenny’ for this special show. We make cities for communities to come together, create culture, commerce and conviviality. We don’t develop smart cities in order to make buildings, infrastructure or tech, that’s the economic side effect. How do we take the first steps in a city like Kilkenny? Join us as we discuss smart ideas and new technological opportunities with a specific focus on Kilkenny for better economic outcomes. See #TechThursdayKK on Twitter.

Host: John Cleere
Contributors: Bill Black, Steve Moore

12:30pm-1:45pm (75 mins)
The Set Theatre
FREE (Booking Required)

IS AMERICA WORKING? – THE US ECONOMY UNDER TRUMP
THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER
One year on from the political earthquake of Trump’s election, has he fulfilled his economic promises to the millions of blue collar workers who elected him? He’s said he’s going to take jobs back from overseas – including Ireland – and he’s withdrawn from the Paris Agreement and threatening to do the same with NAFTA. Can the Donald claim credit for the fact that the stock exchange is at an all-time high, employment numbers are improving and GDP is growing or would it have happened anyway? Get unique insights from a father and daughter who’ve served seven US Presidents as economic advisers between.

Host: Konstantin Kisin
Contributors: Harald Malmgren, Pippa Malmgren, June Carbone, Gillian Tett

8:30pm-9:30pm (60 mins)
Hole in the Wall
SOLD OUT

BREXIT ONE YEAR ON: A GRAVE MISTAKE OR ENLIGHTENED OPPORTUNISM?
THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER
Britain’s exit from the EU, voted on by the British people last year, is a game changer. Some in the UK regret the decision as it becomes clear how costly it could be, while others still see a gleaming opportunity. With the Germans fighting extremism at home, the young Macron government paralyzed, Catalonia on its way out of Spain and Italy flirting with bankruptcy, might the Brits have got out of the EU at the right time? Or are they deluded? And what effect will the Brexit have on Ireland, our Northern cousins and our relationship with them?

Host: Gerard Stembridge
Contributors: Peter Antonioni, David McWilliams, Patrick Honohan, Mehreen Khan, Prasenjit Basu

7:00pm-8:15 (75 mins)
The Set Theatre
SOLD OUT

HOW TO REALLY FIX THE HOUSING CRISIS
THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER
The price of 3-bed semi in Dublin is rising by €500 a month. By Christmas the average price of a 3-house in the capital will be €450,000 – ten times the average wage. How the hell did this happen, again? Who is benefiting and how will it all end this time? If economics is the art of the possible, what are the ten solutions to ensuring that everyone has a permanent, affordable roof over their head?

Host: David McWilliams
Contributors: Frank Crowley, Aidan Regan, Karl Spain

9:30pm-10:30pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
SOLD OUT
THE WORLD 10 YEARS AFTER THE CRASH: IS IT TIME TO BREATHE EASY IN 2018?
THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER
Even in the best of times, economists generally remain staid and poker-faced. Inspired by the dismal science, they're there to burst any bubbles that emerge from the froth. True to form, we've got a gathering of the festival's most eminent contributors who'll take a critical look at what's been happening in local and global economics this year and sound the alarm at any danger signs.

Host: Gerard Stembridge
Contributors: Bill Black, Patrick Honohan, Mehreen Khan, Julien Garran, Pinchas Landau

9:45pm-11:00pm (75 mins)
The Set Theatre
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

NORTH KOREA ON THE BRINK? THE COST OF GLOBAL INSTABILITY
FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER
Kim Jong-Un and Donald Trump have escalated their war of words with veiled and not-so-veiled threats of nuclear war among the personal insults, but what effect does all this have on the global economy? Most observers believe the prospect of a nuclear conflict is remote but how does it affect trade with China: a global economic powerhouse and North Korea's only ally? And is there a point at which it could all blow up?

Host: Konstantin Kisin
Contributors: Linda Yueh, Gideon Rachman, Pippa Malmgren, Simon Kuper, Rafael Behr

6:45pm-8:00pm (75 mins)
Cleere's Theatre Bar
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

THE END OF WORK? DOES EVERYONE HAVE TO BE AN ENTREPRENEUR NOW?
THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER
Technology is cutting out the middleman in Western economies, but much of those economies are based on the middle man taking a cut and, in a sense, we are all the middleman. As computers and robots take over more and more of the jobs that human beings used to, corporations, committed to perpetual growth and cutting costs, are getting rid of people as fast as they can. Is this the way forward for the world of work and is it sustainable? More to the point, should we embrace the liberation that the end of wage slavery affords?

Host: Konstantin Kisin
Contributors: Mike Driver, Vikas Nath, Peter Antonioni, Prasenjit Basu

10:00pm-11:00pm (60 mins)
Hole in the Wall
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

YANIS VAROUFAKIS IN CONVERSATION WITH DAVID McWILLIAMS
FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER
The swashbuckling, motor-cycle riding Greek economist and former finance minister is back in Kilkenny to talk Brexit, Trump, the EU and the international world order as well as insights from his new book: Adults in the Room: My Battle With Europe's Deep Establishment. Not to be missed.

Host: David McWilliams
Contributors: Yanis Varoufakis

7:00pm-8:15pm (75 mins)
Watergate Theatre
SOLD OUT

SHOWS
**DOUGHNUT ECONOMICS**  
**FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER**

Economics has too often been about chasing the false goal of GDP growth even as societies become increasingly unequal and we get ever closer to ecological collapse. Doughnut economics is all about meeting the needs of everyone on the planet within the means of the planet. The Doughnut of social and environmental boundaries is a playfully serious approach to framing that challenge. Author of Doughnut Economics, Kate Raworth joins a panel to discuss a new way of talking about economics and human progress.

Host: Andrew Maxwell  
Contributors: Kate Raworth, Henry Leveson-Gower, Julien Mercille, Peter Antonioni

- 7:00pm-8:00pm (60 mins)  
- The Set Theatre  
- €15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

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**DOES SCHOOL MAKE US STUPID?**  
**FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER**

The Irish secondary school system rewards a certain type of thinking and punishes other types of thinking. The danger is that it stifles creativity and contributes to groupthink at the very top, which makes big policy errors more likely. But this system of reward and punishment begins very early. Can Ireland ever be a creative country when our school system rewards learning by rote and punishes creativity?

Host: Fiona Looney  
Contributors: Mike Driver, Cormac Lucey, Sinead Ryan, Caroline Daniel

- 8:30pm-9:30pm (60 mins)  
- Hole in the Wall  
- €15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

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**BIG ECONOMIC IDEAS FOR 2018: REAL PROBLEMS AND FAKE PROBLEMS**  
**FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER**

Don’t miss these brilliant minds, one of the best Kilkenomics lineups, as they convene to gaze into their tea leaves, crystal balls and conjure up some predictions for how the economic world will unfold in 2018 and beyond. What are the problems they anticipate and what should we not worry about? Don’t miss this block-buster opener to the weekend.

Host: Andrew Maxwell  
Contributors: Patrick Honohan, Joris Luyendijk, Linda Yueh, Martin Lousteau, Marla Dukharan

- 8:15pm-9:30pm (75 mins)  
- The Set Theatre  
- €20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

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**OLD ENGLAND IS DYING: THE ECONOMICS OF DECLINE**  
**FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER**

Once the heart of an empire on which the sun never set, the United Kingdom now seems in danger of disintegration with renewed calls for Scottish independence after Brexit and a seemingly deeply divided and unequal society. How did this happen to a country that won the Second World War, together with the US and Russia, and helped define the world order? Is Old England dying or will the giant yet awake?

Host: David McWilliams  
Contributors: Robert Shrimsley, Gillian Tett, Rafael Behr, Mehreen Khan

- 8:45pm-10:00pm (75 mins)  
- Cleere’s Theatre Bar  
- €20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

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**THE PAT KENNY SHOW**  
**FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER**

Brought to you by Newstalk
INSATIABLE: THE NEW RISE OF GREED
FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

30 years ago, Gordon Gekko, the anti-hero of Wall Street played by Michael Douglas, declared that “greed is good”. Greed, it seems, has always been with us as humans but it now pervades every aspect of human life and inequality is off the scale. Is it because greed feeds on human nature or is it because the winner takes all has come to dominate all economics? Is it important to tackle greed and its effects or should we just give in to it?

Host: Colm O'Regan
Contributors: Yanis Varoufakis, Bill Black, Kate Raworth, Rory Sutherland

9:00pm-10:15pm (75 mins)
Watergate Theatre
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

IRELAND AND BREXIT: AN OUTSIDER’S PERSPECTIVE
FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

Our homegrown commentators and experts have worked themselves into a frenzy analysing the implications of Brexit on Ireland. Much doom and gloom is predicted with hard borders, export tariffs and disaster for Irish agriculture among the dire consequences. But what do the experts on the outside looking in see? Are we missing some easy wins that are right under our noses or is it actually even worse than we think?

Host: Colm O’Regan
Contributors: Katie Martin, Vikas Nath, Nicholas Gruen, Liam Halligan

10:15pm-11:15pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

WHY IS IRELAND SO BLOODY EXPENSIVE?
FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

Did you know that a pint of milk is 38% more expensive in Ireland than in Germany? Monthly Internet access in Ireland is 78% more expensive than in Germany, yet our wages are about the same. How can this be? A box of 32 tampons costs €4.64 here and €3.20 in Dusseldorf. You get the gist, why is Ireland so extortionate? Why are prices in Newry a fraction of those in Dundalk and what impact is this having on the society, the economy and where does all the money go?

Host: Naoise Nunn
Contributors: Cormac Lucey, Sinead Ryan, Julien Mercille, David McWilliams

10:00pm-11:15pm (75 mins)
The Set Theatre
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

THE GREAT GAME: ARE CHINA AND THE US ON A COLLISION COURSE?
FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

For almost the last century, the US has been the dominant world power. China is now challenging that dominance economically, politically and militarily. Both countries, with vastly different political systems, histories and values, believe in their own exceptionalism. At the moment the public discussion is about tariffs, trade and money, but when does it get serious and is an unthinkable conflict actually inevitable?

Host: Konstantin Kisin
Contributors: Linda Yueh, Robert Shrimsley, Harald Malmgren, Prasenjit Basu, Gillian Tett

10:30pm-11:30pm (60 mins)
Watergate Theatre
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)
**KNOwing ME, KNoWING EU, MACRON!_: THE Future oF THE EUroPeAn PRoJECT**

**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**
Since its birth, the European project has seemed to be in perpetual crisis. Now, at 60 years old; and as populist political leaders across the EU’s member states win support with skeptical, anti-immigration, anti-Euro and pro-referendum platforms; what is the future of one of the world’s most ambitious economic and political experiments? Has the leadership of Europe now effectively passed from Angela Merkel to Emmanuel Macron and what does the future hold for us all?

Host: Colm O’Regan
Contributors: Yanis Varoufakis, Gideon Rachman, Rafael Behr, Prasenjit Basu, Mehreen Khan

**11:15am-12:45pm (90 mins)**
**The Set Theatre**
**€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)**

**SocIAL CAPITAL AND PUBLIC LIFE: WHY WE CANNoT PROSPeR WITH BROken COMMUNITIES**

**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**
Although the idea has been around for as long as humans, the concept of social capital has re-emerged in recent years as an antidote to the insatiable appetite for growth and wealth that has driven an unprecedented rise in global inequality. Social capital is all about achieving public good through communities, networks and cooperation — in Ireland, we know it as the meitheal. Can this new approach to economics serve as a new more caring and sustainable form of human development or is it all wishful thinking?

Host: Naoise Nunn
Contributors: Simon Kuper, Nicholas Gruen, Robert Shrimsley

**12:00pm-1:00pm (60 mins)**
**Ormonde Kings**
**€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)**

**TAMING BANKERS!**

**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**
Can bankers ever be tamed? From tracker scandals and collusion at home to yet another massive debt bubble abroad, the financial industry is in the news again for all the wrong reasons. Globally, debt levels are now 40 per cent higher than they were in 2008 making the system more unstable but generating more short-term profits for the banks. Here in Ireland, we have seen a series of scandals where customers are hoodwinked and threatened by nationalised banks that the customers actually own in the first place!

Host: Andrew Maxwell
Contributors: Bill Black, John Kay, Joris Luyendijk, Patrick Honahan, Marla Dukharan

**11:30am-12:30pm (60 mins)**
**Ormonde Kings**
**€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)**

**THE RAYMOND CROTTY INTERVIEW: FROM JFK TO TRUMP, THE ECONOMICS OF THE WHITE HOUSE**

**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**
Between them, father and daughter, Harald and Pippa Malmgren have served as advisers to no fewer than five US Presidents: John F Kennedy, Lyndon B Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and George W Bush. Join us for this rare and special opportunity to hear fascinating economic and political insights from the heart of the most powerful office in the world. Learn what made Presidents tick, how economic realities shaped policy and how capitalism won the Cold War.

Host: David McWilliams
Contributors: Pippa Malmgren, Harald Malmgren

**1:00pm-2:00pm (60 mins)**
**The Set Theatre**
**€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)**
**Mother Earth: How Do We Put a Price on Natural Capital?**

Natural capital is essentially the world’s stocks of natural assets which include geology, soil, air, water and all living things which make human life possible. As climate change continues to wreak havoc with extreme weather events and seriously impact the global economy, how can we get economists, business leaders and politicians to value and protect our natural resources so that we can continue to sustain human life and growth as well as the environment?

Host: Konstantin Kisin
Contributors: Vikas Nath, Kate Raworth, Nicholas Gruen, Constantin Gurdgiev, Henry Leveson-Gower

- 1:15pm-2:15pm (60 mins)
- Hole in the Wall
- SOLD OUT

**Breaking Down Brexit**

Brexit – Britain’s exit from the European Union – is the biggest challenge faced by Britain since World War II and the end of its empire. It is also one of the most serious cracks to develop in the EU since its foundation. Not to mind the effect on little old Ireland. Those in favour, claim that Britain could be on the cusp of a new golden age of international trade while those against fear marginalisation and slow decline into irrelevance. Our no nonsense panel cuts through the bluster and breaks down the facts on what Brexit means and could mean.

Host: Colm O’Regan
Contributors: Gideon Rachman, Cormac Lucey, Joris Luyendijk, Rafael Behr, Norah Casey

- 2:30pm-3:45pm (75 mins)
- Watergate Theatre
- €20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

**When Will the Next Financial Crisis Happen: Where and Why?**

It’s ten years since the start of the last banking crisis, so when’s the next one coming? There are signs of potential stress all around the world. There are the booms in property prices in several major markets, including the UK and Ireland and there’s a surge in consumer debt everywhere. Geo-political affairs are volatile with China and Russia challenging the US and, sooner or later, global interest rates will have to rise. Something’s got to give, but where and how?

Host: Gerard Stembridge
Contributors: Mihir Desai, David McWilliams, Daniel Bilak, Katie Martin

- 2:30pm-3:30pm (60 mins)
- The Set Theatre
- €20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

**The Rise of the White Collar Narcos: How Marijuana Became the Hottest New Commodity**

As more and more states in the US legalise marijuana, weed is becoming a boom industry with dozens of startups jostling to make the most out of legal highs. How did this happen in a country that is notorious for its war on drugs? Will the legalisation of marijuana and, perhaps, other drugs, lead to better outcomes for society or will the new white collar narcos become the new big tobacco in their pursuit of profits whatever the consequences?

Host: Kevin Gildea
Contributors: Steve Moore, Bill Black, Martin Lousteau, Peter Antonioni, Marla Dukharan

- 2:45pm-3:45pm (60 mins)
- Cleere’s Theatre Bar
- €15/€13 (Regular/Concession)
PUTIN AND US – RUSSIANOMICS
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

After two years of deep recession caused by depressed oil prices and a currency crisis, Vladimir Putin’s Russian Federation is now making a slow and steady economic recovery. Having traditionally cast the US as the enemy, Russia under Putin is making more conciliatory noises as Trump’s war of words escalates with China and North Korea. What does Russia’s economic future look like and how will it affect the new world order?

Host: Konstantin Kisin
Contributors: Liam Halligan, Constantine Gurdgiev, Tom Nichols, Pinchas Landau, Pippa Malmgren

4:15pm-5:15pm (60 mins)
The Set Theatre
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

UBER, AIRBNB, DELIVEROO: DISRUPTERS OR CORRUPTERS?
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Some of the biggest and most-hyped companies of modern times are taxi companies that own no vehicles, accommodation providers that own no properties and food service companies that don’t make food. We’re told it’s all about the technology platform and about “disrupting” traditional ways of doing business. Is this a brave new world offering better customer service and self-employment to self-starters or is it an excuse for wage slavery and a bubble that’s about to burst?

Host: Colm O’Regan
Contributors: Mike Driver, Katie Martin, Rory Sutherland, Caroline Daniel

4:15pm-5:15pm (60 mins)
Ormonde Kings
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

AFTER GLOBALISATION: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Globalisation, which has been brought about by the increasingly freer movement of people, money and ideas has seen unprecedented resistance in recent times. The Occupy movement and populist political parties all over the world have blamed globalisation for growing income inequality, environmental chaos and a breakdown in society. Is this a fair assessment or has globalisation brought unparalleled wealth and opportunity? And if we are to move on from it, what is the next step?

Host: Kevin Gildea
Contributors: John Kay, Kate Raworth, Joris Luyendijk, Steve Keen

4:15pm-5:15pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

MILLIONS ON THE MOVE: EUROPE’S NEW REFUGEE CRISIS
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Recent elections in Europe have featured new and old political parties surfing a wave of a growing unease among citizens of member states about the rise in immigration from the war-torn Middle East and North Africa and the economic effects on them. What’s at the root of these historic and almost Biblical scale movements of people and how should Europe respond to the economic implications? Should our humanity and empathy conquer our fears and are there really net gains from accepting immigrants and refugees?

Host: Adam Hills
Contributors: Vikas Nath, Daniel Bilak, Yanis Varoufakis, Dearbhail McDonald, Peter Antonioni

4:30pm-5:45pm (60 mins)
Watergate Theatre
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)
**THE DEATH OF EXPERTISE: WHY KNOWLEDGE MATTERS**  
**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**

The collapse of support in traditional institutions across the world has happened at the same time as the explosion of the Internet and access to it. Everyone, it seems, is now an expert, or thinks they are. At the same time, real experts are derided, fake news abounds and ‘mainstream media’ has become a term of abuse. How did this all happen so quickly and what effect does it have on our economies when everyone knows everything but actually no one knows anything at all?

Host: David McWilliams  
Contributors: Tom Nichols, Martin Lousteau, Rory Sutherland, Katie Martin

6:30pm-6:30pm (60 mins)  
Ormonde Kilbride  
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

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**BITCOIN OR BUST: IS THIS THE END OF MONEY?**  
**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**

Are blockchain-enabled currencies like Bitcoin the future of finance or a disaster waiting to happen? And what impact do these cryptocurrencies have on money and the ability to trade? Supporters are evangelical about its possibilities and its surging share value, but detractors worry about security, regulation and volatility. The rapidly rising price of Bitcoin is leading many to question if the digital currency’s boom is about to bust.

Host: Colm O’Regan  
Contributors: Bill Black, Marla Dukharan, Stephen Flood

6:00pm-7:00pm (60 mins)  
Ormonde Kings  
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

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**THE WISDOM OF FINANCE**  
**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**

Many of us think of finance as an industry of greed and stupidity but is there wisdom to be found there? Based around Mihir Desai’s book of the same name, our panel takes a look at how and when we can discover humanity in a world of risk and return. Can bankers and financiers have any redeeming features and how can we better connect economics and the humanities so that we have a more empathetic world?

Host: Gerard Stembridge  
Contributors: Mihir Desai, John Kay, Henry Leveson-Gower, Robert Shrimley

6:00pm-7:00pm (60 mins)  
The Set Theatre  
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

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**UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME: A SPONGERS’ CHARTER OR THE LOGICAL WAY FORWARD?**  
**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**

Debate continues to ratchet up on the concept of governments providing their citizens with a fixed amount of money, regardless of their income; and cities in Finland and the Netherlands are already fully testing this concept. As technology and artificial intelligence begin to replace human paid work, has this idea become increasingly urgent? Our panel examines the pros and cons of free money for everyone and whether it’s a noble and necessary next step for mankind or a bonanza for the bone-idle.

Host: Fiona Looney  
Contributors: Constantin Gurdgiev, Pinchas Landau, Kate Raworth, Simon Kuper

6:00pm-7:00pm (60 mins)  
Cleere’s Theatre Bar  
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)
THE DIVIDED BRAIN
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

In his book The Master and His Emissary: The Divided Brain and the Making of the Western World, Iain McGilchrist presents a groundbreaking exploration of the differences between the brain’s left and right hemispheres, and how those differences have affected society, history, and culture. We’ve all heard the folk wisdom notions about left and right brained people and what they excel at and fail at, but this is an inspirational and thoughtful examination at the science behind it with a man who’s mastered the study with one of the world’s leading advertising gurus: the right-brained (or is it left?) Rory Sutherland.

Host: Naoise Nunn
Contributors: Rory Sutherland, Iain McGilchrist

6:45pm-7:45pm (60 mins)
Watergate Theatre
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

THE LUCKY COUNTRY – AUSTRALIA AND ITS 20 YEAR BOOM: WHAT ARE THE LESSONS?
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Australia has not had a recession since June 1991 and is now just one quarter short of the Dutch record set between 1982 and 2008. The country’s natural resources including iron ore and coal enabled the Aussies to be one of the very few economies to grow through the 2008 global financial crisis. So, what’s the secret? Is it just a vast wealth of nature’s bounty or is there something more at work?

Host: Adam Hills
Contributors: Nicholas Gruen, Steve Keen, Peter Antonioni

7:15pm-8:15pm (60 mins)
Hole in the Wall
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

UNITED IRELAND: AT WHAT COST?
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

The UK’s exit from the EU in March 2019 has prompted some politicians and commentators to suggest that a United Ireland is now a serious solution to the big problem that is Northern Ireland. Demographics are only going one way towards unity, maybe quicker than we expect. Crucially according to the Good Friday Agreement, people in the Republic will have no say in whether a United Ireland goes ahead. So who would pay the nearly £10 billion per annum bill? Could the Republic afford this and would the people – North and South – want it?

Host: Andrew Maxwell
Contributors: Liam Halligan, Steve Moore, David McWilliams, Robert Shrimsley, Dearbhail McDonald

7:00pm-8:15pm (75 mins)
Ormonde Kilbride
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

TRUMP: ONE YEAR ON
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

One year on from his shock election as US President, how is Donald Trump actually doing? Leaving aside the millions of hours and pages of commentary, what has he managed to achieve with the US economy and what can he claim credit for? What should we be looking out for over the next three years of his Presidency and could he win again?

Host: Gerard Stembridge
Contributors: Harald Malmgren, Pippa Malmgren, Bill Black, Mihir Desai, Gillian Tett, Vikas Nath

8:00pm-9:15pm (75 mins)
Watergate Theatre
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)
The concentration of media ownership in the hands of a few has become a contentious issue in democracies all over the world as the power of the Internet, TV and the press is often the difference between huge political power and irrelevance. What are the economics at play within today’s news media; how does it affect the information we consume and what is the effect on the editorial decisions that are made? What are the lessons for how media is funded and run?

Host: Konstantin Kisin
Contributors: Caroline Daniel, Cormac Lucey, Julien Mercille

8:00pm-9:00pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

The definition and scope of the modern family now goes way beyond the traditional model and leaps forward in equality for women and same-sex couples have fundamentally changed how families operate economically. Economic policy is often slow to catch up with societal changes, making life as a parent and a breadwinner frustrating and exhausting. Should parents be rewarded for having children as they’re providing the workers and consumers of the future or does that discriminate against those who don’t have kids?

Host: Fiona Looney
Contributors: June Carbone, Pinchas Landau, Constantin Gurdgiev, Norah Casey

9:00pm-10:00pm (60 mins)
Hole in the Wall
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

Conor McGregor is a one-off; a money-making, headline-hogging winner in “the winner takes all world” of elite sport. Sitting on his pile of cash he waves his two fingers at the Irish establishment, hero to some, villain to others. No sportsman, not even Roy, divides opinion quite like Conor. But is the “winner takes all” reward structure of elite sport that has made him rich now evident in many professions like medicine, the law, architecture and academia where the best make multiples of number 2, 3 and 4. What happens when the winners clean up? How do we level the playing field and how do we compete when the game is rigged?

Host: Adam Hills
Contributors: Simon Kuper, Mike Driver, Peter Antonioni, Martin Lousteau

9:00pm-10:15pm (75 mins)
The Set Theatre
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)

After 12 years in office and a difficult election in September, German Chancellor Angela Merkel has yielded the spotlight and the de facto leadership of Europe to the dashing young French President, Emmanuel Macron. But who is he, where did he come from and what’s his plan? Our panel examine Macron’s economic world view, his plans for the EU and how Ireland’s tax regime may be in his sights.

Host: Andrew Maxwell
Contributors: Yanis Varoufakis, Joris Luyendijk, Cormac Lucey, Julien Mercille, Gillian Tett

9:15pm-10:30pm (75 mins)
Ormonde Kilbride
€20/€18 (Regular/Concession)
26 + 6 = 1 THE ECONOMICS OF A FUTURE UNITED IRELAND
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER
Paddy Cullivan brings us a satirical visual and musical feast of a show from 2026. Brexit and demographics have combined to mean Ireland is united North and South. But what’s it like? Who’s paying the peace dividend? Who’s paying the civil service? And will Jeffrey Donaldson finally admit that he’s really Daniel O’Donnell? Find out what our United future looks like in this extraordinary show, debuted in Belfast’s Waterfront Hall in July.

Host: Paddy Cullivan

9:20pm-10:20pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
€16/€14 (Regular/Concession)

TED TALKS: THE ECONOMICS OF FATHER TED WITH LIAM DELANEY
SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER
The AIB Chair of Behavioural Economics at University College, Dublin, takes a jaundiced view of economics through the lens of the classic sitcom, Father Ted in a very alternative “TED” talk.

Host: Liam Delaney

10:45pm-11:45pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
SOLD OUT

THE KILKENOMICS BRUNCH
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
Kilkenomics’ most popular regular show is back with a heady mix of Sunday newspaper reviews, inspired insights and a healthy dose of good humour and craic.

(Includes buffet breakfast. Show starts at 12pm)

Host: Gerard Stembridge
Contributors: Ardal O’Hanlon, Karl Spain, Pippa Malmgren, Liam Halligan, Dearbhail McDonald

11:30am-1:00pm (90 mins)
Ormonde Kilbride
SOLD OUT

BRUNCH EXTRA!
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
Due to massive popular demand, we’re putting on another Kilkenomics Brunch show for those of you with the appetite for more economic analysis, financial insights and good old-fashioned craic. Join some of our brightest and best for a look through the Sunday papers, where we try to find good news and reasons to be cheerful.

Host: Adam Hills
Contributors: Daniel Bilak, Constantin Gurdgiev, Steve Keen, June Carbone, Gillian Tett

11:30am-12:45pm (75 mins)
Langton’s Ballroom
€25
PITCHENOMICS
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
The shortlist is in so come and find out who has won investment at this year’s festival.

Hosted by Karl Spain.
Contributors: Mike Driver, Vikas Nath, Sarah O’Connor

11:45am-12:45pm (60 mins)
Harry’s Bar, Langton’s
FREE (Booking Required)

CATALONIA: THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF A SPLINTERING EUROPE
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
Catalan nationalists want complete independence from Spain, claiming they would be much better off economically. The Spanish Government which already cedes considerable autonomy to Catalonia and its other provinces naturally does not want this to happen. Across Europe, often in wealthier regions, in Belgium, the Basque country, Bavaria and northern Italy, not to mention Scotland, separatists are pressing their claims. Are these claims justified, what does it mean for the economies of the rump states left behind and what happens if Europe starts to splinter?

Host: Konstantin Kisin
Contributors: Peter Antonioni, Daniel Bilak, Martin Lousteau, Pippa Malmgren

1:30pm-2:30pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

GROWING OLD GRACEFULLY: HOW TO SPEND YOUR CHILDREN’S INHERITANCE!
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
Life-expectancy has never been greater and is growing by the year; we’re expected to work later and later into old age; and our children either won’t fly the nest or have moved back in! What’s the sensible approach to pensions and savings? How can we better prepare for our golden years? And who should we trust with the answers to these questions?

Host: Gerard Stembridge
Contributors: Harald Malmgren, Tom Nichols, Marla Dukharan, Pinchas Landau, David McWilliams

1:30pm-2:30pm (60 mins)
The Set Theatre
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
After all the doom and gloom of the events of the weekend; after all the economists referring to one hand and then the other; after all the sighs of despair and hopelessness; there are still reasons to be hopeful and even cheerful. Join this bright-eyed and full-hearted panel of contributors as they are forced to find hope and positivity in the year to come.

Host: Karl Spain
Contributors: Adam Hills, Martin Lousteau, John Kay, Mike Driver

3:00pm-4:00pm (60 mins)
The Set Theatre
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)
THE ECONOMICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
Even though our attention has drifted from the horrors of Syria, that war rages on. So too do conflicts in Iraq and across the Middle East, much of it fueled by the thirst for oil of other countries as well as sectarian strife. How do the countries of the Middle East interact in terms of trade, how much power does OPEC still wield as oil prices remain low and what does the future hold economically.

Host: Colm O’Regan
Contributors: Pinchas Landau, Tom Nichols, Bill Black

3:00pm-4:00pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)

KILKENOMICS GAME SHOW WITH ANDREW SHEERIN
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
In a post-Fordist world obsessed with profit and consumption, what room is there for play – an activity famously characterised by Roger Caillois as ‘complete waste’. Andrew Sheerin, radical game theorist and founder of TerrorBull Games, explores how games and play can be used to interrogate and learn from the world around us and – far from being extraneous to ‘real life’ – are essential for the very fabric of culture.

Host: Andrew Sheerin

5:00pm-6:00pm (60 mins)
Cleere’s Theatre Bar
€15/€13 (Regular/Concession)
If you’re going to tell the truth make them laugh or they’ll kill you.