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FORENSIC SONGS

stories

MIKE McCORMACK

Soho Press | Trade Paperback | July 8, 2014

\$15.00 | 208 pages | 9781616954147

PRAISE FOR *FORENSIC SONGS*

“A true son of Myles na gCopaleen and Flann O'Brien, but there's also an echo of Philip K. Dick in the sergeant's desire to root out possible future subversion.”
—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

“*Forensic Songs* presents a roster of **haunting** stories... **gorgeously executed**.”
—LitReactor

“*Forensic Songs* is a **striking work** of cross-genre virtuosity, where hints of speculative fiction and fable bring a surprising spark to McCormack's serious literary sensibility. These pieces are clever, touching, timely and at times prescient. A distinctly Irish story collection, **perfect for fans of George Saunders's Tenth of December**.”
—Shelf Awareness

“McCormack's consummate craftsmanship and equal facility with black humor, sober realism, and speculative fiction distinguish him as **one of Ireland's leading literary talents**.”
—*Booklist*

“[B]y turns subdued, witty and raucous. **All 12 stories in this collection glisten with insight and poignancy**.”
—*Kirkus Reviews*, STARRED Review

“McCormack mimes the deep traditions of Irish short-fiction—Samuel Beckett, Frank O'Connor and John McGahern all come to mind—and twists it a bit into a new direction with stories that are **uniquely contemporary, often wildly funny, and always visionary**. Beneath his **clear, precise style** is a renegade in action, working the form into new shapes. Just when you think it's impossible for another great book of stories to come roaring out of Ireland, along comes **a brilliant collection**, *Forensic Songs*.”
—David Means, author of *The Spot*, *Assorted Fire Events* and *The Secret Goldfish*



Mike McCormack has published a collection of short stories, *Getting It in the Head*, and two novels, *Notes from a Coma* and *Crowe's Requiem*. In 1996, McCormack was awarded the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature. In 1998, *Getting It in the Head* was voted a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year. A story from the collection, "The Terms," was adapted into an award-winning short film.

PRAISE FOR MIKE McCORMACK

"Funny, fantastical tales that trample on the toes of the twentieth century itself. As for the formal constraints he imposes on himself let's just say that they serve as a rack on which **he stretches his nightmares skin tight.**"
—*The New York Times*

"Unabashedly macabre, McCormack's obsessions at times converge with those explored by Ian McEwan, Will Self and J.G. Ballard, but his clever ideas and **fluid, gracefully morbid style** are all his own." —*GQ*

PRAISE FOR *NOTES FROM A COMA*

"The greatest Irish novel of the decade just ended." —*The Irish Times*

"Subtle but haunting storytelling mixes with an insightful examination into the ethics of the penal system to produce **an unusual and unforgettable read.**"
—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review