



Liverpool Poetry Café

with Pauline Rowe, Clare Kirwan and Dave Jackson

Reviewed by [Denis Joe](#) January 2012

Attending a poetry event in Liverpool can sometimes seem as if you have gate-crashed some group therapy session or some private fan-club party. In the way that you always see the same old faces on trade union marches these days, so too it is the case with the poetry events. If the person on stage isn't whinging about how they lost the love of their life, or ranting bile about their hatred for those 'lowlifes' from the north of the city then you will get some decent poetry, which is, sadly, lost in the dross.

The Poetry Café is the major poetry group in the city and they have attracted some big names such as Andrew Motion, Jo Shapcott and Brian Patten. It takes someone special for me to go to a poetry event in the city and it was **Pauline Rowe**, one of the finest poets writing today. Whilst Pauline is also a friend and the founder of

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, a charity I am involved with, I hope that I can be trusted to be objective.

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