Dr. Fearghal McGarry is Reader in history at Queen’s University Belfast. His research focuses on modern Irish history and his most recent book explores the relationship between the Abbey Theatre and the Irish revolution. He has published books on Ireland and the Spanish Civil War; the socialist republican Frank Ryan; the fascist politician Eoin O’Duffy; and the Easter Rising. He is currently a member of the editorial board of Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy Section C and is a series editor of Irish Historical Monographs (Boydell and Brewer). He also serves as historical consultant for several projects to mark the centenary of the Easter Rising including the development of an interpretive center in Dublin’s General Post Office.

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THE EASTER RISING 1916: “A Terrible Beauty Is Born”

Friday evening, March 18

6:00 – 6:20  Introduction
            Colm Tóibín  “James Joyce and 1916”
7:15 – 8:00  Reception

Saturday, March 19

9:00 – 9:55  Alvin Jackson  “Irish Unionists and the 1916 Rising”
10:00 – 10:55  Emily Bloom  “Broadcasting 1916: Denis Johnston & the BBC”
10:55 – 11:25  Coffee
12:20 – 1:40  Lunch  (Faculty Dining Room, McElroy Hall)
1:40 – 2:35  Jim O’Toole  “Not Hanging But Shooting: The Irish in Boston & the Easter Rising”
2:40 – 3:35  Roisín Higgins  “Curators of Memory: Women & the Easter Rising”
3:35 – 4:15  Sheila Gallagher  “Teaching 1916, an Interdisciplinary Approach”
            Richard Kearney  “1916: Denis Johnston & the BBC”
            Robert Savage  “Lemass, Legacy and the Irish Revolution”
4:15 – 4:30  Coffee
4:30 – 5:30  Gallery tour  “The Arts & Crafts Movement: Making It Irish”
5:30 – 6:30  Reception  (sponsored by the Consuls General of Ireland at the U.K.)

Sunday, March 20

10:25 – 10:55  Coffee
11:00 – 11:55  Caoimhe Nic Dháibhéid  “An Intimate History of 1916: Grief & Loss in the Republican Aristocracy”
12:00 – 12:55  Elaine Sisson  “Pearse, Cúchulainn and 1916”
1:00  Lunch  (Faculty Dining Room, McElroy Hall)

Speaker profiles

Emily Bloom is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Columbia University specializing in modern British and Irish literature. Previously she has served as Assistant Professor at Georgia State University and Visiting Professor at the United States Air Force Academy. She has published articles on the radio broadcasts of W. B. Yeats, performance traditions in the works of James Joyce and Samuel Beckett, and Irish radio drama of the 1950s. Her book, *The Wireless Past: Anglo-Irish Writers and the BBC, 1931–1968*, forthcoming from Oxford University Press, connects modernist aesthetics with the rise of radio broadcasting.

Diarmaid Ferriter is one of Ireland’s best-known historians and is Professor of Modern Irish History at UCD. His books include The Transformation of Ireland 1900–2000 (2004), Judging Dev: A Reassessment of the Life and Legacy of Eamon de Valera (2007), Occasions of Sin: Sex and Society in Modern Ireland (2009), and Ambiguous Republic: Ireland in the 1970s (2012). His most recent book is A Nation and Not a Rabble: The Irish Revolution 1913–23 (2015). He is a regular broadcaster on television and radio and a weekly columnist with the Irish Times.

Sheila Gallagher is an Associate Professor in the Fine Arts Department at Boston College where she teaches contemporary art practice. She is an interdisciplinary artist and curator whose work explores perception, belief, and different modes of representation. Sheila has had numerous solo exhibitions, and has exhibited widely in galleries, museums, and universities in the US. She is the co-author of First-Hand and co-curator of the Becker Collection, a private archive of Civil War drawings that is currently touring the United States (2012–2016). Together with Richard Kearney, she directs the Guestbook Project, an international peace-building initiative that brings together youths from divided communities to exchange stories.

Roisín Higgins is a Senior Lecturer in History at Teesside University. She is the author of Transforming 1916: Meaning, Memory and the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Easter Rising (Cork, 2012), which won the ACIS James Donnelly Sr. Prize for History and Social Science. She is the co-editor, with Regina Ui Chollatáin, of The Life and After-Life of P. H. Pearse (Dublin, 2009). Roisín has also been historical advisor on the Commemoration zone of the GPO permanent exhibition in Dublin. She is the project leader on a Heritage Lottery-funded project, “Dear Mrs. Pennyman,” which is carrying out research into letters sent to Mary Pennyman from widows and mothers of men from Britain and Ireland who died in action during the First World War.

Alvin Jackson is Sir Richard Lodge Professor of History at the University of Edinburgh and a former Burns Visiting Scholar at Boston College. He has written extensively on a broad range of modern Irish historical themes. His latest works are The Two Unions: Ireland, Scotland and the Survival of the United Kingdom, 1707–2007 (OUP: 2012) and his edited *Oxford Handbook to Modern Irish History* (OUP: 2014). He was recently awarded a Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship to support his comparative research into constitutional unions in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Richard Kearney holds the Charles B. Seelig Chair of Philosophy at Boston College and has served as a Visiting Professor at University College Dublin, the University of Paris (Sorbonne), the Australian Catholic University, and the University of Nice. He also currently holds the Chair of the Institute for Critical Philosophy at The Global Center for Advanced Studies (GCAS). He is the author of over 20 books on European philosophy and literature (including two novels and a volume of poetry) and has edited or co-edited 14 more.
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