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IRISH STUDIES

Irish Film Series and Symposium



Niall Wright and John Joe McNeill in Irish Film Series selection *Mickybo & Me*

Over the past seven years, the Irish Film Series has screened more than sixty of the best and most innovative contemporary feature and documentary films. This year's film series opens on March 16 with Desmond Bell's *Rebel Frontier* about the Irish

and Finnish miners of Butte, Montana who found themselves up against not only the war-profiteering Anaconda Copper Company, but also the United States government during WWI. Bell, an award-winning filmmaker and academic, will be on hand to introduce the film and lead a discussion after the screening. The story, narrated by Martin Sheen, is told through the eyes of a young Pinkerton agent sent to Butte to spy on the radicals and break the strike. The following day, St. Patrick's Day, Terry Loane's acclaimed *Mickybo & Me* will be screened at the West Newton Cinema. Other films in the series include Paddy Breathnach's *Man About Dog*, Damien O'Donnell's *Inside I'm Dancing*, Brian Willis's *Short Order*, the classic 1968 Peter Lennon documentary *The Rocky Road to Dublin*, and Irish language film *Idir Dha Shaol*.

In an important departure from previous years, the film series will include a symposium on Irish-American film. *Screening Irish America* is a research project developed by Dr. Ruth Barton at the O'Kane Centre for Film Studies, School of Languages, Literatures and Film, University College Dublin and the Boston College Irish Studies Program. The Huston School of Film and Digital Media, National University of Ireland, Galway and the School of Film and Television Studies at the University of East Anglia have also collaborated on this initiative. This project brings together academics working in the field of film, television and electronic images of Irish America to facilitate the exchange of ideas and the publication of research. The Boston College symposium is the first of two events and will be followed by a major conference held at UCD in spring 2007.

In addition, The Early Cinema and the Irish Diaspora Network will be launched during the symposium. This research network, led by Professor Desmond

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Irish Film Series and Symposium, continued from page 1

Bell of Queen's University Belfast and supported by the United Kingdom Arts and Humanities Research Council, aims to provide a forum for research on early cinema and the Irish in America and plans a major exhibition on this theme for 2007. Professor Tom Gunning, Department of Art History, Cinema and Media Studies at the University of Chicago, will open the initiative with a keynote address on March 16. Gunning is a pioneer in film studies; his work on problems of film style and interpretation, film history and film culture has earned him an international reputation. His published work has concentrated on early cinema from its origins to WWI. His concept of the "cinema of attractions" has tried to relate the development of cinema to other forces than storytelling, such as new experiences of space and time in modernity and an emerging modern visual culture. For details of the symposium and film series, please see www.bc.edu/irish.



Emma de Caunes as Fiona in *Short Order*

Irish Institute

In 2006, the Irish Institute will host officials and policymakers from Ireland and Northern Ireland for professional development programs in areas such as government, non-profit, business, and education. All exchange programs run by the Institute aim to contribute to social, political, and economic stability through cross-border and cross-community cooperation. In addition to its long-term partnership with the University of Ulster's Business Institute, the Irish Institute continues to receive major funding from the United States Congress through the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs as part of American support for the Peace Process. At a historically high level of funding of \$750,000, the

Institute designed eight federally-funded programs this year on a variety of topics, with four of them completed last fall and four more scheduled for this spring. Programs balance classroom seminars led by Boston College faculty with site visits to innovative and effective leaders in Massachusetts and across the US.

Educators and school administrators traveled to Boston and Montgomery, Alabama in January to examine innovative approaches to strengthening the concept of civil society and active citizenship among the school-age population. Later in the semester, the City Management Program (Boston and Charleston, South Carolina) will look at the role of strategic partnerships and citizen engagement in community development and the revitalization of cities. Focusing on strategies for encouraging very young children to celebrate diversity and difference, the Very Early Childhood Education Program in March (Boston and Seattle) will visit award-winning preschools and projects that promote tolerance. Young leaders from universities, communities and political parties will visit Boston and Richmond, Virginia in April to explore the role and potential of young people in various levels of American political life. The E-Governance Program (Boston and Denver) will give executives from local and national governments a thorough view of the role of the Internet and information technologies in the public sector in the United States, showcasing the effectiveness of technology in improving service delivery and empowering the citizenry. For more information, please visit www.bc.edu/irishinstitute or contact the director, Mary O'Herlihy, at opherlihm@bc.edu or 617-552-4503.

Summer Research Fellowship Awarded

We are pleased to announce that Eibhear Walshe has been appointed this year's Summer Scholar in Irish Studies. Professor Walshe is Lecturer in Modern Literature in the English Department of University College, Cork. His publications include *Kate O'Brien: A Writing Life* (2006) and a number of distinguished edited collections such as *Representing the Troubles: Texts and Images 1970-2000* (2004), *Selected Plays of Teresa Deevy* (2003), *Elizabeth Bowen Remembered* *Summer Research Fellowship, continued on page 3*

Summer Research Fellowship, continued from page 2 (1998), *Sex, Nation and Dissent* (1997), and *Ordinary People Dancing: Essays on Kate O'Brien* (1993). He will use his time at Boston College to examine sources in the Burns and O'Neill libraries for his latest book project, *Oscar's Shadow: Wilde, Homosexuality and Modern Ireland*. Walshe's book will be the first full-length study to propose that Wilde's influence on cultural and sexual discourses in twentieth-century Ireland differed significantly from his impact and legacy in Britain.

Lesser Lights or Major Literary Influences? Five Irish Women Writers of the Nineteenth Century



From: *Ireland, Its Scenery, Character, & c.* by Mr. and Mrs. S.C. Hall. Philadelphia: Gebbie & Barrie. 1860's Volume 2, p. 455

A new exhibit in the Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Library at Boston College is featuring a display of portraits, brief biographical sketches, quotations, and critical editions of works by Irish writers Mary Tighe,

Sydney Owenson (Lady Morgan), Edith Somerville and Martin Ross (Violet Martin), and Lady Augusta Gregory. Landscape prints by such artists as Jonathan Butts and William Ashford and a print of an oil painting by Edith Somerville are used to set the biographical text in the Romantic, sometimes Gothic era reflected by much of the authors' writings. Each biographical sketch provides personal biographical details, formative influences and a look at how each author inspired, supported or influenced male authors who came to be included in the canons of literary traditions while the women authors were disregarded, neglected or forgotten. The aim of the exhibit is to bring the women to life, stressing their ideals, their talents and their impact upon writers of their own or future generations and, by doing so, inspire a fresh look at the lives and works of the five women and other women authors of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Library plans to have an online component of the exhibit. It will be available on the following site: <http://www.bc.edu/libraries/news-events-pub/exhibits/>.

Philip O'Leary Named IACI/National University of Galway Visiting Professor in Irish Studies

An international board of adjudicators recently named Philip O'Leary the 2006 Irish American Cultural Institute, National University of Ireland, Galway Visiting Professor in Irish Studies. O'Leary is an internationally renowned scholar of Irish-language literature who has produced a body of significant scholarship. His latest book, *Gaelic Prose in the Irish Free State, 1922-1939*, is the second work in a series of books on prose writing in Irish. This book and O'Leary's first book, *The Prose Literature of the Gaelic Revival, 1881-1921*, are widely regarded as the exhaustive and definitive treatments of the subject. While in Galway, he intends to complete another volume that will consider prose writing since 1939. O'Leary has also just finished editing, with Margaret Kelleher, the *Cambridge History of Irish Literature*.



John Atteberry

Consummate Librarian John Atteberry Closes the Book

Bayou native and Navy veteran John Atteberry has been the affable, knowledgeable face of Burns Library to thousands of scholars from Boston College and around the world for almost two decades. The Burns Senior Reference Librarian officially retired in December after 33 years of service to Boston College Libraries, 18 of them spent at Burns, which houses the University Archives, rare collections and constantly changing exhibits. “John is the consummate professional librarian,” says Burns Librarian Robert O’Neill.

During his tenure as Senior Reference Librarian, Atteberry saw Burns’ holdings grow by leaps and bounds, and witnessed an equally dramatic expansion in the world of library technology. He recalls one conversation with the inaugural Burns Library Visiting Scholar in Irish Studies Alf Mac Lochlainn, in which the then director of the National Library

of Ireland told him that a library should be so well-catalogued and well-arranged that people can navigate the holdings themselves. “I have often thought of that, particularly in the past few years,” Atteberry says. “We’ve got so many more works catalogued now. People can get into our library system from anywhere to find out what our holdings are. It’s been a great boon and a wonderful thing to see how much of this material has been made available so that people can actually help themselves.” Atteberry does not see the demand for reference librarians diminishing, however. “There are always people who need to know how to access these materials,” he says. “There are always people who come in, and for a scholarly reason, want to look at the object itself.”

Atteberry won’t be leaving Burns completely: he has agreed to return to help finish a catalogue for an upcoming exhibit. He also hopes to work as a volunteer at the American Antiquarian Society, a national research library of American history, literature and culture that is located near his Worcester home. Atteberry also plans to devote some time to a favorite hobby — gourmet Creole cooking.

By Reid Oslin

Irish Music Events Feature Visiting Performers

On Sunday, February 19th, Dr. Mick Moloney, Robbie O’Connell, John Doyle, and Athena O’Lochlainn will offer an afternoon of lively songs and instrumentals. Mick Moloney, professor at NYU and a 1999 recipient of the National Heritage Fellowship, is known worldwide as a performer, lecturer, producer, and author. Singer and songwriter Robbie O’Connell has performed at almost every major venue in the US, from Carnegie Hall to the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts in Los Angeles. Winner of the Boston Music Award as Outstanding Celtic Act, Robbie has recorded fourteen albums. John Doyle, formerly of the group Solas, is known for his distinctive style of guitar-playing and innovative tunings. His CD *In Play* with Liz Carroll has won critical acclaim, as has his solo CD, *Evening Comes Early*. Fiddler Athena O’Lochlainn is a veteran of *Riverdance* on Broadway, and has a fiddle duet CD to her credit, *Journey Begun*, which she recorded with Scottish fiddler Laura Risk.

Irish Music Events, continued on page 5

Irish Music Events, continued from page 4

On Wednesday, March 15th, the harp/guitar duo of Máire Ní Chathasaigh and Chris Newman will return to Boston College to perform music of Ireland and Scotland, swing jazz, baroque, and bluegrass. In 2001, Máire Ní Chathasaigh received the TG4 Irish Traditional Music Award for Musician of the Year, for the “excellence and pioneering force of her music, the remarkable growth she has brought to the music of the harp and for the positive influence she has had on the young generation of harpers.” Chris Newman is one of Britain’s leading guitarists, as well as a prolific composer and arranger. Chris toured until 1997 as a member of Boys of the Lough in North America, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Estonia, Denmark, China, and Italy. He has toured with Irish harper Máire Ní Chathasaigh since 1988.

Finally, BC’s own fiddle, whistle, and dance students and instructors will perform as the opening act of the annual Boston College Arts Festival at noon on Thursday, April 27th.



Harpist Máire Ní Chathasaigh and guitarist Chris Newman

Fellowships for Students

MAEVE O'REILLY FINLEY FELLOWSHIP

Boston College alumna Maeve O'Reilly Finley established this fellowship out of appreciation of her alma mater and recognition of the Irish Studies Program. A longtime friend of Irish Studies, Ms. O'Reilly Finley expressed a great interest in encouraging graduate study in Ireland. Since 1986, the Irish Studies Program has awarded the Maeve O'Reilly Finley Fellowship to graduating Boston College seniors demonstrating outstanding achievement in Irish Studies and entering an Irish University graduate program or Boston College graduate students wishing to do academic research in Ireland. Students interested in being considered for the Maeve O'Reilly Finley Fellowship should submit their curriculum vitae and transcript, a short essay (3-5 pages) describing a plan of study, and two letters of reference from Boston College faculty. Applications should be sent to Marjorie Howes, c/o Boston College Irish Studies Program, Connolly House, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. Any questions regarding this fellowship can be emailed to irish@bc.edu. The deadline is March 15.

DALSIMER FELLOWSHIP

Each year, Boston College awards the Adele Dalsimer Graduate Research/Dissertation Fellowship in memory of the cofounder of the Irish Studies Program. The fellowship is designed to recognize outstanding Boston College doctoral students in Irish Studies. Doctoral candidates applying for the Dalsimer Fellowship should submit a letter of interest describing their research, their curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation. Students wishing to be considered should contact Liz Sullivan, c/o Boston College Irish Studies Program, Connolly House, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. Any questions regarding this fellowship can be emailed to irish@bc.edu. The deadline is March 15.

Events at the Centre for Irish Programmes, Boston College Ireland

During the fall, Boston College's Centre for Irish Programmes in Dublin hosted a series of events, such as the launch of Fearghal McGarry's critically acclaimed biography of Eoin O'Duffy (Oxford, 2005). The book was launched by Maurice Manning, author of the first major study of the Blueshirts and currently President of the Irish Human Rights Commission. During the term, lectures were given by a range of leading figures in the field of Irish Studies including former Burns Scholars Peter Gray and Gerald Dawe.

Collaboration between the Centre for Irish Programmes in Dublin and the Clinton Institute for American Studies at University College Dublin inaugurated a series of seminars on the theme of Ireland and Americanization; this series will continue throughout the spring. The *Cambridge History of Irish Literature* lectures are being staged to celebrate the publication of this two-volume history, which has been edited by Margaret Kelleher and Philip O'Leary and will be launched in March 2006. Each lecture brings together contributors to the collection to discuss their work.

Boston College in Ireland now hosts the annual lecture series of the Irish Historical Society. The Society is one of the most vibrant historical organizations in Ireland, and brings some of the best-known working historians into BC. All lectures are prefaced by a postgraduate seminar that enables the historians of tomorrow to showcase their work. For more information about the Society, contact the Secretary, Ivar Charles McGrath, at mcgratci@tcd.ie.

Summer School

This June, Boston College Ireland will offer a three-week summer school based around the theme of Contemporary Irish Culture. Summer school participants earn course credit and work with Boston College faculty and prominent Irish academics, as well as attending occasional lectures by leading figures from the worlds of business, culture, and politics in Ireland. Over the course of the summer school, students spend time in the university towns of Galway, Derry, Belfast, Maynooth and Dublin. On a typical day, students spend three hours in the classroom and then visit places of interest, such as the Aran Islands, Stormont, the National Gallery of Ireland, and Croke Park. The main themes of the summer school will be history, politics, literature, popular culture and modernization. The summer school is open to BC undergraduates and non-BC students. For details, please visit <http://www.bc.edu/centers/irish/dublin/about/activities/>.

IRISH STUDIES COURSES SPRING 2006

ENGLISH

INTRODUCTION TO MODERN IRISH II
Joseph Nugent

CONTINUING MODERN IRISH II
Joseph Nugent

THE BALLAD TRADITION
Ann Morrison Spinney

TWENTIETH CENTURY IRISH WOMEN
WRITERS
Rebecca Troeger

IRISH ASCENDANCY FICTION
Vera Kreilkamp

TWENTIETH CENTURY IRISH FICTION
James Smith

HISTORY

STUDY AND WRITING OF HISTORY:
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE IN THE AGE OF
REVOLUTION
Kevin O'Neill

EARLY IRISH HISTORY
Gene Haley

IRELAND SINCE THE FAMINE
Robert Savage

MODERN IRISH HISTORY (GRADUATE
COLLOQUIUM)
Robert Savage

MANAGING OUTCAST IRELAND
Maria Luddy

IRISH MUSIC & DANCE

IRISH DANCING: BEGINNER, ADVANCED
BEGINNER AND NOVICE
Meghan Allen

TRADITIONAL IRISH FIDDLE
Séamus Connolly & Laurel Martin

TIN WHISTLE: ADVANCED BEGINNER TO
INTERMEDIATE
Jimmy Noonan

POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLITICS OF NORTHERN IRELAND,
1921-PRESENT
Robert K. O'Neill

BC IRELAND SPRING CALENDAR

February 7

Irish Historical Society lectures: History and Literature

Chair: Andrew Carpenter, University College Dublin

Discussant: Katharine Simms, Trinity College Dublin

Discussant: P.J. Mathews, University College Dublin

Respondent: John Kerrigan, St. John's College, Cambridge

February 14

Cambridge History of Irish Literature lectures

Marc Caball, University College Dublin

Máire Ní Mhaonaigh, St. John's College, Cambridge

February 16

Ireland and Americanization series

White Ethnic Multiculturalism and the Vicissitudes of Race and Class: the Case of Million Dollar Baby

Hamilton Carroll, University College Dublin

March 1

Cambridge History of Irish Literature lectures

Claire Connolly, Cardiff University

Chris Morash, NUI Maynooth

March 7

Irish Historical Society lectures: Oral History Roundtable Discussion

Sean O'Connell, Queen's University Belfast

Hugo Manson, University of Aberdeen

Comdt Victor Laing, Military Archives

Maura Cronin, Mary Immaculate College (UL)

Anna Bryson, Trinity College Dublin

March 21

Cambridge History of Irish Literature lectures

Patrick Crotty, Aberdeen University

Colin Graham, NUI Maynooth

March 30

Ireland and Americanization series

American and Vietnamese Versions of Irishness

Mark Maguire, NUI Maynooth

April 11

Irish Historical Society lectures:

Art, Architecture and History

Chair: Edward McParland, Trinity College Dublin

Discussant: Roy Foster, Hertford College, Oxford

Discussant: Fintan Cullen, University of Nottingham

Respondent: Christine Casey, University College Dublin

April 18

Cambridge History of Irish Literature lectures

Philip O'Leary, Boston College

Máirín Nic Eoin, St Patrick's College, Drumcondra

Louis de Paor, NUI Galway

All events take place at the Centre for Irish Programmes, Boston College Ireland, 42 St Stephen's Green. The Irish Historical Society lectures begin at 7:00 pm. All other events begin at 6:00 pm. For further details, see <http://www.bc.edu/centers/irish/dublin/> or call 01-6147450

IRISH STUDIES SPRING CALENDAR

February 1

Concert: Music in the Afternoon

Laurel Martin (fiddle), Jimmy Noonan (flute and whistle), Beth Sweeney (piano), and Meghan Allen (Irish Dance).

Three of Boston College's Irish music instructors present a concert of lively dance tunes and slow airs.

Gasson Hall Irish Room, 4:15-5:00 pm

February 1

Irish Dance and Céili

Live music by Sullivan Artist-in-Residence

Séamus Connolly (fiddle) and friends.

Meghan Allen will teach dances. Dancers of all levels are welcome.

Gasson Hall Irish Room, 6:30-9:30 pm

February 19

Concert: An Afternoon of Irish Song

Three renowned Irish-born singers, Mick Moloney, John Doyle and Robbie O'Connell, and fiddler Athena O'Lochlainn of *Riverdance* will perform traditional and contemporary Irish and Irish-American songs.

Gasson Hall Irish Room, 2:00 pm

Suggested Donation: \$10

February 20

*Lecture: The Sons of Cuchulainn: Violence, the Family and Irish Canons

Gerardine Meaney, School of English, University College Dublin

Connolly House, 4:00 pm

March 15

Irish Novelist John McGahern will read from his memoir *All Will Be Well*.

Connolly House, 4:00 pm

March 15

Concert: Máire Ní Chathasaigh (harp) and Chris Newman (guitar) blend Irish and Scottish music, swing jazz, baroque, and bluegrass.

Devlin 008, 7:00 pm

Suggested Donation: \$10

March 16

Film: *Rebel Frontier* (2004)

McGuinn 121, 5:00 pm

March 16 & 17

Symposium: Screening Irish America

Details to be announced.

March 17

Film: *Mickybo & Me* (2005)

West Newton Cinema, 7:00 pm

March 19

Film: *Man About Dog* (2004)

West Newton Cinema, 7:00 pm

March 19

Film: *Short Order* (2005)

West Newton Cinema, 9:00 pm

March 20

*Lecture: Maureen O'Hara: Pirate Queen, Feminist Icon?

Ruth Barton, School of Film, University College Dublin

Connolly House, 4:00 pm

March 20

Film: *Rocky Road to Dublin* (1968)

Followed by a screening of *Idir Dha Shaol* (2005)

Higgins 310, 7:30 pm

March 21

Film: *Inside I'm Dancing* (2004)

West Newton Cinema, 9:00 pm

April 10

*Lecture: Women Writers and the Death of Rural Ireland

Clair Wills, School of English and Drama, Queen Mary University, London

Connolly House, 4:00 pm

April 19

Colloquium: *Irish Studies* in a *Global Context*

Peter Kuch, Convener, Irish Studies, University of New South Wales

Connolly House, 12:00 pm

April 24

Dalsimer Lecture

Adam Chill, Department of History, Boston College

April 27

Concert: BC's Irish fiddle and tin whistle students, dancers, and teachers perform at the Boston College Arts Festival.

O'Neill Plaza, main tent, 12:00 pm

*Part of the Gender and Irish Studies Lecture Series

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Cambridge History of Irish Literature

The new *Cambridge History of Irish Literature*, the first comprehensive history of Irish literature in both its major languages, was edited by two scholars with Boston College ties: Philip O'Leary, a professor in the English Department and the Irish Studies Program, and Margaret Kelleher, a former Burns Scholar. The twenty-eight chapters in this two-volume history provide an authoritative chronological survey of the Irish literary tradition, both in Irish and English. Spanning fifteen centuries of literary achievement, the two volumes range from the earliest Hiberno-Latin texts to the literature of the late twentieth century. The contributors, drawn from a range of Irish, British and North American universities, are internationally renowned experts in their fields. The *Cambridge History of Irish Literature* comprises an unprecedented synthesis of research and information, a detailed narrative of one of the world's richest literary traditions, and innovative and challenging new readings. No critical work of this scale has been attempted for Irish literature before. Featuring a detailed chronology and guides to further reading for each chapter, this magisterial project (over 600,000 words, and a total of 1400 pages) will remain the key reference for literature in Ireland for generations to come. The volumes will be launched in London and Dublin in March.

Irish Studies is written and edited by Marjorie Howes and Robert Savage with Elizabeth Sullivan and Rebecca Troeger, and published by the Center for Irish Programs, Irish Studies.

For information, please visit www.bc.edu/irish or contact: Irish Studies at Boston College, Connolly House, 300 Hammond Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467, 617-552-3938, email irish@bc.edu.