

Spring Lunchtime Lecture Series 2021



Natural & Human Heritages
School of Geography, Archaeology and Irish Studies

Note: All lectures take place online via Zoom and are free. The day before each lecture you will be sent a link, which will also be available on our Facebook page.

Sunrise, Lough Corrib, Co. Galway (Photo: A. Gallagher)

Lecture time: 1.00 - 1.50pm

Thursday, February 4th

Programme Introduction: Dr. Carleton Jones

Imagining Galway: A Look through its Urban Past

Galway is a city in transition. In this talk we discuss its past, present and future and introduce an audio journey we have recently created focusing on the former industrial district of Nuns' Island.

Speakers: Dr. Mark Justin Rainey & Dr. Patrick Collins

Thursday, February 11th

Blinkered Vision: Generational Renewal in Agriculture at the Expense of the Older Farmer?

This lecture will highlight the lack of consideration given by agricultural policy to the creation of an age-friendly environment at farm level, a concept defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as one in which 'policies, services, settings and structures support and enable people to age actively'.

Speaker: Dr. Shane Conway

Thursday, February 18th

Speculative Imaginaries: Rethinking our Relationship to the Natural World

Nessa Cronin brings the Irish experience to bear on the current debate on climate change, focusing on the need for new ways of being in this Age of Extinction.

Speaker: Dr. Nessa Cronin

Thursday, February 25th

In Dialogue with the Land

The strong link between ritual and terrain in the Irish Passage tomb tradition (4000 – 2500BC) reveals a very special attitude to topography without counterparts in the rest of Europe. This talk explores ways of thinking about terrain and ritual in the Neolithic, by contrasting some European examples with the passage tomb landscape of Sligo, suggested for inclusion on Ireland's Tentative List for UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Speaker: Dr. Stefan Bergh

Thursday, March 4th

From Ore to Masterpiece: precious metalworking in Early Medieval Ireland

Ever wondered how masterpieces like the Tara Brooch or Ardagh Chalice were made, and who made them? This talk will trace the processes and techniques employed by the skilled (non-ferrous) metalworkers of the era, and will investigate the people involved and their places of work.

Speaker: Dr. Michelle Comber

Thursday, March 11th

Moated Sites in Medieval Ireland: The Current State of Knowledge

At least a thousand moated sites were built in the Irish countryside during the late thirteenth and early fourteenth century, with many functioning as semi-defended farmsteads. This lecture will outline recent research carried out at NUI Galway on these earthworks, under the headings of distribution, numbers, functions, the ethnicity of their occupants and the status of these people within medieval society.

Speaker: Dr. Kieran O'Connor

Thursday, March 18th

A missed opportunity? Public participation in Ireland's local climate change adaptation strategies

In 2019, local authorities adopted their first Climate Adaptation Strategy, a new type of climate policy aiming at reducing Ireland's vulnerability to climate change. This talk critically addresses the apparent lack of participation in the development of these local climate policies.

Speaker: Axel Leahy

Thursday, March 25th

The Changing Soundscape of Irish Traditional Music in Galway, 1961-1981

Irish music revival of the 1960s and 1970s took place in Galway City in an intense manner. This talk explores the emergence and importance of a new public music scene.

Speaker: Anna Falkenau

Thursday, April 1st

'Thinking Green': plants and people at medieval castles

We know that present day landscapes hold evidence of past people. But can plants tell us anything further? Together we will explore what relict plants reveal to us of the 'green' lives of medieval people and their castles.

Speaker: Dr. Karen Dempsey

For updates see:

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/archaeology/>



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