



KEOUGH-NAUGHTON INSTITUTE
FOR IRISH STUDIES
KEOUGH SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY**
BELFAST

New Histories of Irish Art and Modernism: A Conference in Honor of S. B. Kennedy

22 May – 23 May 2025

Day 1: AGENDA

Thursday, 22 May 2025

Lecture Theatre, Ulster Museum

10:00	Registration Coffee & Tea
10:30	Welcome
10:40	Panel I: Defining Modernism, Part I Chair: Dr. Fionna Barber Dr. Fintan Cullen—University of Nottingham “Modernism, Whistler, and Irishness” Dr. Hannah Baker—Trinity College Dublin “Sarah Cecilia Harrison (1863-1941): A Traditionalist in Modern Ireland” Dr. Judith Stapleton—University of Notre Dame “‘Among the Radicals’: Staging Irish Modernism at Home and Abroad, William Orpen, 1910-1914”
12:00	Break
12:30	Panel II: Defining Modernism, Part II Chair: Dr. Róisín Kennedy Dr. Gavin Murphy—Atlantic Technological University “Unfinished Business: Jack B. Yeats, Modernity and the Avant-Garde” Dr. Niamh NicGhabhann Coleman—University of Limerick “Catholic Modernism in Ireland: Perspective and Interpretations”
13:30	Lunch Belfast Room

14:30	Panel III: Spheres of Influence Chair: Dr. Joseph McBrinn Katie Buckley—Prints & Drawings, National Gallery of Ireland “The Student Surpassing the Master? William Orpen and his Students at the Dublin Metropolitan School of Art (1902-1914)” Dr. Michael Waldron—Crawford Art Gallery “‘She gave them of her best’: Tracing Mainie Jellett’s Sphere of Influence” Sarah McAuliffe—National Gallery of Ireland “An [In]soluble Puzzle: creating and interpreting a vision of Ireland, 1920–1950”
16:00	Tour of the Collection Anne Stewart, Senior Curator of Art, Ulster Museum <i>By registration only</i>
17:00	Keynote Address: Lecture Theatre, Ulster Museum “Reflecting on S.B. Kennedy’s Life and Legacy” Dr. Riann Coulter, Curator F.E. McWilliam Gallery and Visiting Professor, Belfast School of Art Dr. Fionna Barber, Reader in Art History, Manchester School of Art Dr. Róisín Kennedy, Associate Professor of the School of Art and Cultural Policy, University College Dublin Respondent: Dr. Joseph McBrinn, Reader in Art and Design History at Belfast School of Art of the University of Ulster
18:30	Reception Belfast Room, Ulster Museum Book Launch: <i>The Routledge Companion to Irish Art</i> (2025) edited by Fionna Barber and Fintan Cullen

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DAY 2: AGENDA

Friday, 23 May 2025

Canada Room and Council Chamber, Queen's University Belfast

10:00	Registration Coffee & Tea
10:30	Panel IV: Paper Modernisms Chair: Dr. Judith Stapleton Marie Lynch —Centre for the Study of Irish Art, National Gallery of Ireland “A Pixie in Irish Art: Pamela Colman Smith and the Yeats Family” Chiara Harrison Lambe — Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin “‘My Own Work Made Me Happier’: Stella Steyn, James Joyce, and the Boundaries of Irish Modernism” Dr. Angela Griffith —Trinity College Dublin “Blurred lines: Irish Artists and Modern Illustration: Tradition and Innovation”
12:00	Break
12:30	Panel V: Exhibiting Ireland Chair: Dr. Róisín Kennedy Dr. Billy Shortall —Trinity College Dublin “Irish Visual Art and Artifice in the Early Years of the Irish Free State” Dr. Elaine Sisson —Institute of Art, Design and Technology “Modernity and the Metropolis: Spectacle, Art, and Commerce, 1925–1940” Dr. Philip McEvansoneya —Trinity College Dublin “‘Cultural Expression in Time of War’: Seeing Modern Continental Art in Emergency Ireland”
14:00	Lunch

15:00	Panel VI: Geographies of Exchange Chair: Dr. Joseph McBrinn Dr. Elisabeth Ansel— University of Jena “The Story of an Unknown Exhibition: Jack B. Yeats and Irish Modernism in Germany” Dr. Cai Lyons—Independent Art Historian “Mary Swanzey’s Exhibiting Practice as Transnational Modernist Exchange, c. 1900-1947”
16:00	Break
16:15	Panel VII: Irish Modernisms Then and Now Chair: Dr. Riann Coulter Seán Kissane—Irish Museum of Modern Art “Revisiting The White Stags” Dr. Kate Antosik-Parsons—Trinity College Dublin “Disruptive Encounters: Protest, Performance and Politics in Array Collective’s <i>The Druthaib’s Ball</i> (2021)”
17:15	Closing Remarks