



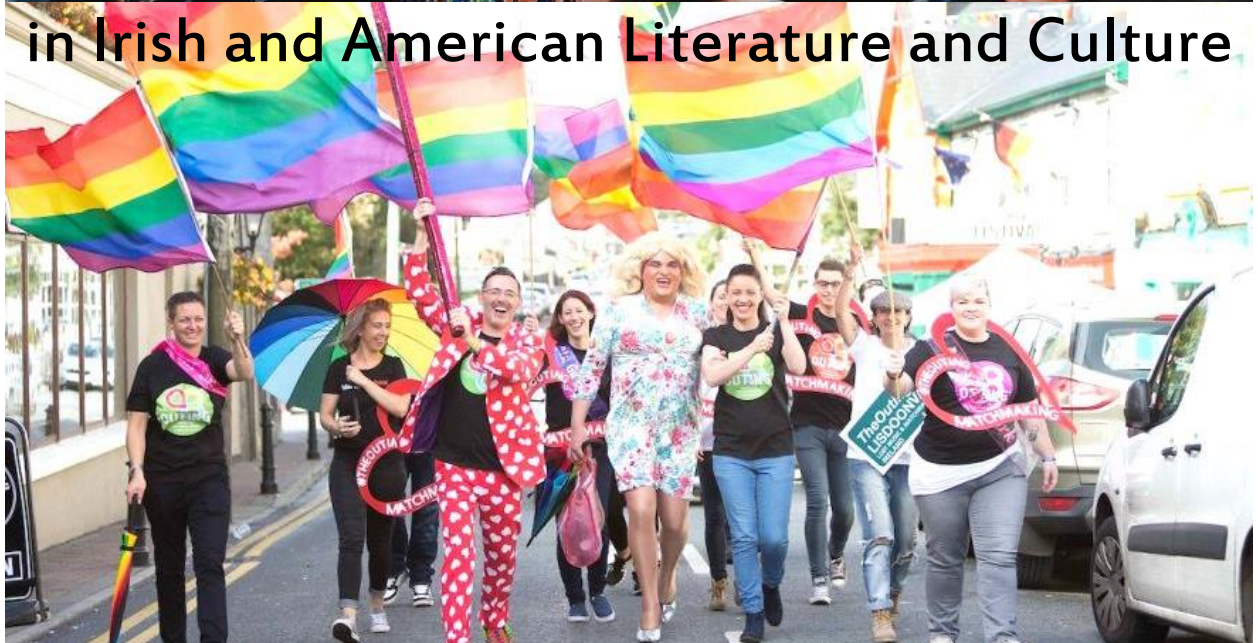
# COMMON GROUND

POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE

2018



## Divided Selves and Societies in Irish and American Literature and Culture



26 – 27 OCTOBER 2018  
BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

Welcome to Common Ground Conference 2018.

This event brings together postgraduate and early career researchers from across the humanities and the world at Queen's University Belfast, to explore the theme of divided selves and societies in 20th and 21st century Irish and American literature and culture.

We look forward to meeting you, to hearing your papers, and to continuing vital discussions about the racial, ethnic, political, religious, sex-gender, sexual, class and economic divides that dominate contemporary American and Irish culture.

We are also delighted to welcome Dr Sinéad Moynihan of Exeter University, and Dr Oona Frawley of Maynooth University, as our keynote speakers.

### **The Organising Committee**

Kelsie Donnelly, Emma Kelly, Patrick Macfarlane and Lauren Moffat



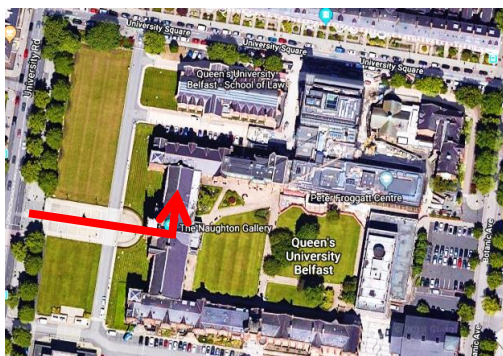
**@commongroundqub**



**commongroundsymposium.wordpress.com**

### **Venue: The Canada Room**

Approach the university's main building, the 19th century Lanyon Building, through the gates on University Road. After entering the main doorway, turn left and ascend the stairs to the first floor. Follow the signs to The Canada Room.



The organisers gratefully acknowledge the financial support of:



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**THE CENTRE  
FOR THE  
AMERICAS**

# PROGRAMME

*Note: lunch with tea and coffee will be provided in The Canada Room on both days.*

## FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER

### 09:00 Registration

09:20 Opening remarks

### 09:30 Gender and Northern Ireland

Eli Davies (Ulster University): 'Home as a radical space in Northern Irish women's writing'

Seán Kennedy (Maynooth University): 'Gender, trauma and cultural meaning in Deirdre Madden's *Hidden Symptoms* and *One by One in the Darkness*'

Aimée Walsh (Liverpool John Moores University): 'From mythological capital to canonical memory'

10:50 Break

### 11:00 The Object, Ruins, Resistance and the Body

Levent Atikoglu (Queen's University Belfast): 'The responsibility for one's body'

Hattie Induni (University of Leeds): "'Squabbling on the graveyard clay": Ruin and historical boundaries in Máirtín Ó Cadhain's *Cré na Cille*'

Eva Isherwood-Wallace (Queen's University Belfast): "'Seeming strangeness": Mina Loy's poetics of disruption and Julia Kristeva's semiotic/symbolic model'

12:20 Break

### 12:30 Keynote by Dr Oona Frawley

### 13:30 Lunch

### 14:30 Challenging Female Stereotypes

Jéssica Bispo (Universidade Nova de Lisboa): 'In darkest Ireland: social political and religious division in "Carmilla" and *Dracula*'

Shannon Dullard (University of Alabama): 'Gender and nationality: The Irish Miss Myrtle of Lady Helen Dufferin's "The Charming Woman"'

Gráinne O'Hare (Newcastle University): "'These women aren't – womanly": Sisterhood and (a)sexuality in feminist utopia'

Francesca Vavotici (University of Edinburgh): 'Before Betty Friedan: the "feminine mystique" in Richard Yates's *Revolutionary Road*'

16:10 Break

### **16:20 Race and Migration**

Barry Cole (University of Alabama): 'Feminine grief and shunned space in the writings of Jesmyn Ward'

Joseph Phillips (University of Bristol): "'Just whose literature is it anyway?": Us, them, and problems of national authorship in NoViolet Bulawayo's *We Need New Names*'

Georgia Woodroffe (University of Exeter): "'Crossing the threshold": San Francisco's Chinatown in early 20th century literature'

17:40 Break

### **18:00 Wine Reception and Creative Readings**

Lisa Kennedy (Queen's University Belfast): from *Straight and Narrow*

Christina Collins (Queen's University Belfast): from *After Zero*

## **SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER**

### **09:00 Heaney and Division**

Chris Laverty (Queen's University Belfast): 'Heaney's Lowell: Masking and misreading'

Caitilín Gormley (University of Exeter): "'Blabbing on about guns": The ghost of the gun in Seamus Heaney's *District and Circle*'

Ian Hickey (Mary Immaculate College, Limerick): "'Humanity is but a collection or series of ghosts": Norse hauntings in the poetry of Seamus Heaney'

Kübra Özermis (Freie Universität Berlin): "'My heart besieged by anger, my mind a gap of danger": Protest and lamentation in Seamus Heaney's "The Road to Derry" (1972)'

10:40 Break

### **10:50 Freedom and Sovereignty**

Elizabeth Byrne (Queen's University Belfast): 'Chernobyl's red forest: examining possibilities within contemporary eco-apocalyptic fiction to re-imagine catastrophe as an overthrow of the meanings of borders'



Anna-Grace Scullion (University of East Anglia): 'Paradoxical politics of reconciliation: home mobility and borders in the work of Louise Erdrich'

Sarah McCreedy (University College Cork): 'Naturalistic false consciousness in Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*'

12:10 Break

**12:30 Keynote by Dr Sinéad Moynihan**

**13:30 Lunch**

**14:30 Performing Borders**

Abby Ashley (University of Bristol): "'I never asked him, Adoptive brother, what's your existence like on this planet?": Adoptee identity and the disruption of national borders in Patty Yumi Cottrell's *Sorry to Disrupt the Peace*'

Gerard Gibson (Queen's University Belfast): "'I'll be someone different tomorrow": Rewriting the self in cognitive play, embodied citation and postural rhetoric through cosplay at MCM Comic Con NI 2017 and Q-Con 2018'

Claire Green (Queen Mary University of London): 'Music and the incarcerated self in the Northern Irish conflict'

Dr Eva Urban (Queen's University Belfast): 'Fractured liminality in Kabosh's *Green and Blue* and *Lives in Translation*'

16:10 Break

**16:20 Sexuality and Gender**

Amy Finlay-Jeffrey (Queen's University Belfast): 'Emma Donoghue's *Landing* (2007) and the privilege of homonormativity in migration narratives'

Dearbhaile Houston (Trinity College Dublin): "'Every house is a grave": Hauntology of domestic space in Lorrie Moore's "Real Estate" and "The Juniper Tree"'

Dr Jennifer-Raphaela Krassnitzer (Independent): 'Divided perspectives on equal gender-based societal approaches in contemporary Irish and American young adult fiction'

Sara Ruzza (University of Edinburgh): 'Queering boundaries in Sandra Cisneros's *The House on Mango Street*'

18:00 Conference ends

