

Fieldwork: Letterfrack 2016 AlterRuralty3
6th – 9th June 2016

National Centre for Excellence in Furniture Design & Technology GMIT Letterfrack
<http://www.gmit.ie/national-centre-excellence-furniture-design-and-technolgy/gmit-letterfrack>

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



Monday 6th June

- 12h45 Early birds gather in front of the College, on the green
- 13h00 set off on the Diamond Hill walk: Connemara National Park (3 hours)
- 16h00 tea: ELLIS HALL, Letterfrack village
- 16h30 conference launch: lecture room (ground floor)**
- Deirdre O'Mahony *GMIT*
Dominic Stevens *DIT*
Sophia Meeres *UCD*
Kevin Heanue *Connemara West Ltd*
- 17h00 KEYNOTE 1
AlterRuralty & the AlterEconomy : Pieter Versteegh (*Psyché Architecture*)
- 18h00 drinks served in the corridor
- 18h30 KEYNOTE 2
Striving for excellence in rural Letterfrack: Dermot O'Donovan (*Head, National Centre for Excellence in Furniture Design & Technology, GMIT Letterfrack*)
- 19h15 KEYNOTE 3
Unfinished history: Sheila O'Donnell & John Tuomey (*ODonnell + Tuomey*)

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Wednesday 8th June

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| 9h | plenary session 3 (4x 20minutes+ 10minutes questions) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Donaghy & Dimond (UCD) <i>Genius of Place: Tibradden House & Farm</i>• Mary Laheen (UCD) <i>Water based rituals</i>• Sarah Sheridan (DIT) <i>Fields of clover, daisies & waving corn: Peamount Sanitorium</i>• Beatrice Mariolle (ENSA Paris La Villette) <i>Meteo-logic house. Adaptation & repair. Single family houses towards climate change</i>• Cathy Rannou (ENSA Paris Val de Seine) <i>Trans-rural Lab, Caulnes. A pedagogical experiment.</i> |
| 11h | coffee break |
| 11h30 | plenary session 4 (4x 20minutes+ 10minutes questions) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helena Fitzgerald (Blackstairs Upland Farmers) <i>Who cares for the Blackstairs?</i>• Amelie Fontaine (ENSAP Lille) <i>Exploring farming, participant observation method – field immersion</i>• Elena Barthel (Rural studio, Auburn) <i>Rural Studio garden</i>• Zack Denfield & Catherine Kramer (Centre for genomic gastronomy) <i>A just, biodiverse & beautiful food system</i> |
| 13h | KEYNOTE 6
<u>Living locally: Lisa Fingleton</u> (<i>artist, smallholder</i>) |
| 13h30 | posters & lunch: ELLIS HALL |
| 14h30 | guided walks 1, 2 or 3 |
| 17h00 | tea: ELLIS HALL |
| 18h30 | KEYNOTE 7
<u>The Culture Economy, Authenticity and Power: a focus on food along the Wild Atlantic Way: Aine Macken-Walsh</u> (<i>researcher, TEAGASC</i>) |
| | KEYNOTE 8
<u>title tbc: Nuno Sacramento</u> (<i>director, The Scottish Sculpture Workshop</i>) |
| 20h30 | dinner for all ELLIS HALL (Bring Your Own Bottle) |

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Thursday 9th June

- 9h plenary session 5 (5x 20minutes+ 15minutes questions)
- Adam Sutherland (by Skype) *Grizedale Arts*
 - Riet Eeckhout (KU Leuven) *Thoughts and drawings on a landscape in formation, Marconi Site, Clifton, Ireland*
 - Guillaume Vanneste (UC Louvain) *Territories, and internal limits*
 - Rita Occhuito (UC Leige) *Hidden Ruralty in a Wallonia looking for modernity*
 - Jingru Cheng Cyan (AA): *A Rural Project for China: From Family to Territory*
- 11h00 coffee break
11h30 plenary session 6 (4x 20minutes+ 10minutes questions)
- Corinna Dean (Westminster) *A recent etymology of the rural*
 - Charles Holland (Ordinary Architecture) *A House For Essex: Place and Pilgrimage*
 - Victoria Watson (Westminster) *Ruralty & Global Culture*
 - Pauline O'Connell (artist) *The Milk Well and The Tea Well*
- 13h KEYNOTE 9
Looking ahead: Connemara West Ltd, Kevin Heanue (Chairman: CW)
- 13h45 Closure
- 14h LUNCH: ELLIS HALL

See overleaf for walks...

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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

AFTERNOON WALKS AND TALKS

Please bring outdoor gear, waterproofs in case of rain, swimming costume in case of fine weather and sturdy walking shoes for all activities

Monday afternoon

A walk up **Diamond Hill**

Tuesday afternoon

Choose between four guided walks in the countryside of Letterfrack

- **Walk 1: “The Water Glossary” walk - Carol Anne Connelly**

‘With her book *The Water Glossary*, Carol Anne Connolly has made something beautiful. She has gathered together Irish terms for water in different contexts. The result is amazingly rich and descriptive of the landscape and the weather, not to mention very useful in the circumstances’

Aidan Dunne, *Disappearing islands and a planet on the edge: visual art round-up*, *The Irish Times*, Tue, Nov 24, 2015

Influenced by the work of academic and writer Robert MacFarlane, who in his book *Landmarks* celebrates the power of language to shape our sense of the world, **The Water Glossary** addresses the complex interrelations of landscape and language.

The diminishing use of nature-related words is indicative of the relationship we now have with landscape: our vocabulary, designed to accurately and richly define the intricacies of our natural environment, is succumbing to homogenisation. Language, both culturally and ecologically, is a fundamental means of connection and of understanding, so a shift in the way we describe landscape, reflects a change in our relation to it. *The Water Glossary* aims to counteract this lexical dissolution by forging, in the Irish language, a collection of words related to this most prevalent element.

The Water Glossary essentially re-produces a descriptive landscape, layered with words that have been sourced from old texts and drawn from a diverse range of people, including fishermen, farmers, weather forecasters, scholars and poets.

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Tuesday afternoon continued...

- **Walk 2: Settlement history archeology walk - Michael Gibbons**

Michael Gibbons is one of Ireland's leading field archaeologists. Born and raised in Clifden, Connemara where he still lives with his family, Michael is a graduate of University College Galway with a degree in History and Archaeology. He is a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland with thirty years of experience as an archaeologist and completed a 5-year term on the Archaeology Committee of the Heritage Council. He has worked with the Department of Antiquities in Jerusalem and for the Museum of London City Excavation Programme.

- **Walk 3: Mussel picking, and walking - Rory Keatinge**

Rory Keatinge, MSc (Agr) has been foraging for food in the Letterfrack area since his childhood, an interest that certainly contributed to him specializing in fisheries management in his professional life. He will bring us to a secret location to collect mussels and help us clean and prepare them for dinner.

- **Walk 4: Turf cutting & sheep herding - Killary sheep farm**

Killary Sheep Farm in Connemara is a traditional working farm with 200 ewes and lambs roaming freely in the mountain overlooking Killary Fjord, on the Wild Atlantic Way. On the farm run mainly blackhead horned sheep, which are best suited to survive on the mountains during harsh winters. At Killary Sheep Farm we will see sheepdog demonstrations and turf cutting demonstrations - both of interest in themselves, but also interesting with regards to the engagement between farming and tourism.

Wednesday afternoon

Choose between three of the guided walks (described above)

- **Walk 1: "The Water Glossary" walk - Carol Anne Connelly**
- **Walk 3: Mussel picking, and walking - Rory Keatinge**
- **Walk 4: Turf cutting & sheep herding - Killary sheep farm**