August 22, 2014

**Fund for Irish Studies presents “Commemorating the Irish Famine”**

***Lecture by Art Historian Emily Mark-Fitzgerald at Princeton University***



Photo caption: Art historian Emily Mark-Fitzgerald

Photo credit: *Photo courtesy Emily Mark-Fitzgerald*

Who: Art historian Emily Mark-Fitzgerald from University College, Dublin

What: “Commemorating the Irish Famine,” a lecture on visual representation, commemoration and collective memory of the Irish Famine of the 1840s, presented by Princeton University’s Fund for Irish Studies

When: Friday, September 12 at 4:30 p.m.

Where: James M. Stewart ’32 Theater at Lewis Center for the Arts, 185 Nassau St., Princeton

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(Princeton, NJ) Art historian Emily Mark-Fitzgerald will open the 2014-15 Fund for Irish Studies series at Princeton University with a lecture entitled, “Commemorating the Irish Famine,” on Friday, September 12 at 4:30 p.m. at the Lewis Center for the Arts’ James M. Stewart ’32 Theater, 185 Nassau Street. The event is free and open to the public.

Mark-Fitzgerald, of University College, Dublin, is the author of *Commemorating the Irish Famine: Memory and the Monument* (Liverpool University Press, 2013), a book exploring the history of the 1840s Irish Famine in visual representation, commemoration and collective memory from the 19th century until the present, explaining why since the 1990s the Famine past has come to matter so much in the present. She has also launched a website that catalogues a sample of photographic records and information related to these commemorative monuments in Australia, Canada, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Britain and the United States - [www.irishfaminememorials.com](http://www.irishfaminememorials.com).

Mark-FitzGerald speaks regularly and publishes on the subject of public art, memory and commemoration, museology and the visual culture of migration/diaspora, and contemporary Irish and international art. She is the recipient of major fellowships and research funding from the U.S.-Ireland Alliance (Mitchell Scholarship), Mellon Foundation/Social Science Research Council, Humanities Institute of Ireland, Royal Hibernian Academy, Royal Irish Academy, Irish Research Council, and Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.

Since 2003 she has taught in University College, Dublin's School of Art History and Cultural Policy, where she was appointed Permanent Lecturer in 2008. Her teaching and research span both art history and cultural policy at the undergraduate and post-graduate level, informed by previous professional experience as an arts manager and an interest in visual art, its institutions and the public sphere.

Mark-FitzGerald holds a B.A. in Art History and Spanish from the University of Southern California, an M.A. in Arts Administration from Indiana University and a Ph.D. in Art History from University College Dublin. She is a founding editor of *Artefact: the Journal of the Irish Association of Art Historians* and the *Irish Journal of Arts Management and Cultural Policy*.

The Fund for Irish Studies, chaired by Princeton professor and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Paul Muldoon, affords all Princeton students, and the community at large, a wider and deeper sense of the languages, literatures, drama, visual arts, history, politics and economics not only of Ireland but of “Ireland in the world.”

Information on upcoming Fund for Irish Studies series events can be found at [fis.princeton.edu](http://fis.princeton.edu/) and includes:

* *riverun*, Olwen Fouéré’s one-woman show based on James Joyce’s *Finnegan’s Wake* on September 25 and 26 and a conversation with the performer on September 24
* Daithi O’Ceallaigh, former Irish ambassador to the United Kingdom, on “From the Belfast Bunker: Behind the Scenes in the Peace Process” on October 10
* Charles Fanning on “Banish the Bushwah! Why We Ought to Read James T. Farrell” on November 14
* Fintan O’Toole delivering the Robert Fageles Memorial Lecture on “Unspeakable Horror: How Ireland Fought the Great War” on February 13
* Glenn Patterson, the Belfast novelist, reads from his work on March 27
* Regina Ui Chollatain on “A ‘New’ Gaelic League Idea: Douglas Hyde 100 Years On” on April 10
* Poulomi Saha on “Easter Risings: The Irish Insurrection in India” on April 17
* Feile Na Bealtaine: The Ghost Trio in a concert of Irish traditional songs, cosponsored with Princeton’s Department of Music, on May 1

To learn more about the over 100 events presented each year by the Lewis Center for the Arts, visit [arts.princeton.edu](http://www.princeton.edu/arts).

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*The Lewis Center for the Arts encompasses Princeton University’s academic programs in creative writing, dance, theater, and visual arts, as well as the interdisciplinary Princeton Atelier. The Center represents a major initiative of the University to fully embrace the arts as an essential part of the educational experience for all who study and teach at Princeton. Over 100 diverse public performances, exhibitions, readings, and lectures are offered each year, most of them free or at a nominal admission fee. For more information about the Lewis Center for the Arts visit* [*arts.princeton.edu*](http://www.princeton.edu/arts)*.*