

January 28, 2016

**Fund for Irish Studies at Princeton University presents**

**“Carnival and Ruin: Looting in the 1916 Rising”**

***Scholar and theater critic Fintan O’Toole delivers***

***the 2016 Robert Fagles Memorial Lecture at Princeton University***



Photo caption: Fintan O’Toole, Visiting Lecturer in Theater at the Lewis Center for the Arts at Princeton

Photo credit:

What: “Carnival and Ruin: Looting in the 1916 Rising,” a lecture presented by Princeton University’s Fund for Irish Studies in recognition of the centenary of the 1916 uprising

Who: Irish theatre critic and scholar Fintan O’Toole

When: Friday, February 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) Theatre critic and scholar Fintan O’Toole will present the 2016 Robert Fagles Memorial Lecture entitled, “Carnival and Ruin: Looting in the 1916 Rising,” on Friday, February 12 at 4:30 p.m. at the Lewis Center for the Arts’ James M. Stewart ’32 Theater, 185 Nassau Street. Part of the 2015-16 Fund for Irish Studies series at Princeton University, the event is free and open to the public.

**Fintan O’Toole**, one of Ireland’s leading public intellectuals, has written for *The Irish Times*, *New York Daily News*, *Sunday Tribune* (Dublin), and *In Dublin Magazine*. His books on theater span a wide range of topics, from his biography of Richard Brinsley Sheridan to theater currently appearing on Irish stages. He is the assistant editor, a columnist, and a feature writer for *The Irish Times*. He also contributes to *The New York Review of Books*, *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *The Guardian*, *The Observer*, and other international publications. In 2011, *The Observer* named O’Toole one of “Britain’s top 300 intellectuals.” He has received the A.T. Cross Award for Supreme Contribution to Irish Journalism, the Millennium Social Inclusion Award, and Journalist of the Year in 2010 from TV3 Media Awards.

O’Toole’s most recent project, *History of Ireland in 100 Objects*, covers 100 highly charged artifacts from the last 10,000 years. It has been published in book form by the Royal Irish Academy and as an application for iPad, iPhone and Android devices.

The lecture, presented in recognition of the 1916 uprising or Easter Rising, considers the armed insurrection in Ireland during Easter Week, 1916. The Rising was mounted by Irish republicans with the intent to end British rule in Ireland and establish an independent Irish Republic while the United Kingdom was heavily engaged in World War I. It was the most significant uprising in Ireland since the rebellion of 1798.

Robert Fagles, for whom the annual Memorial Lecture is named, was a member of the Princeton faculty for 42 years in the Department of Comparative Literature and a renowned translator of Greek classics. His critically acclaimed translations of Homer’s “The Iliad” and “The Odyssey” became bestsellers.

The Fund for Irish Studies, chaired by Princeton professor Clair Wills, 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.” The series is co-produced by the Lewis Center for the Arts.

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

* James Shapiro, author of *Contested Will: Who Wrote Shakespeare?* and *1606: William Shakespeare and the Year of Lear*, who will give a talk on March 4
* A one-day symposium of debate and performance on March 5 centered on Irish versions and adaptations of Shakespeare’s plays, with contributions from leading Irish directors, actors and critics
* Matthew Campbell, Professor of Literature at University of York, on March 25
* Anne Enright, Ireland’s first fiction laureate, who will visit on April 8

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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