

Irish Heritage Symposium at UPEI

By Ryan O'Connor

Fans Of Irish culture rejoice!

You are cordially invited to attend an Irish Heritage Symposium, entitled "The Candle In The Window: Depictions of Home and Away in Irish Literature." This event will be taking place on the UPEI campus on March 23 and 24. Focussing on the recurring motifs in Irish literature of travelling and adventure, the programme offers a number of lectures, readings, films, and music.

The first event Friday, March 23 is the keynote address, entitled "Irish Autobiographical Writing and the Ambiguities of Exile." Dr. Bernice Schrank of Memorial University will speak to those gathered at 2:00pm. The first session follows at 3:30pm, and will be a panel presentation on

"Depictions of Home and Away in Poetry and Drama from Ireland."

This session will be followed at 4:30pm by a reception, which will feature readings from Irish poetry and drama. The session, which wraps up at 5:30pm, is followed by a break. When activities resume at 7:00pm, two Irish films will be played. These are *Krapps Last Tape*, from the play by Samuel Beckett and *An Eileann Eile*, which is a documentary about the Basket Islands.

Saturday morning's events begin at 9:30am with the second session. "Survival Literature: The Irish Folktale on Prince Edward Island," will be presented by the province's foremost folklorist, Professor John Cousins of the University of Prince Edward Island. After a break, the day will

proceed at 11:00am with the third session, "Contemporary Literature in Irish: A Parasite's Delight (or Sùgáin, Sougawns and Straw Ropes)," presented by Dr. Pádraig Ó Siadhail, the Thomas D'Arcy McGee Chair of Irish Studies at Saint Mary's University.

The fourth session begins at 1:30pm. "The Importance of Reading Carleton" will be presented by Dr. Cyril Byrne, Professor of English and Coordinator of Irish Studies at Saint Mary's University. Session five, "The Ghosts of Cloon na Morav," will be presented at 3:00pm by Dr. Brendan O'Grady, Professor Emeritus at the University of Prince Edward Island.

Saturday night features events at the Charlottetown Hotel. The gala dinner will be presented

from 6:30pm to 7:45pm. Following that, a concert featuring a mix of traditional and classical Irish music will entertain from 8:00pm to 9:30pm.

Students may register for the events at a reduced rate. The symposium section of the event costs \$10.70 for students (\$21.40 for non-students) while the weekend package of the symposium, gala dinner and concert is \$20.70 (\$46.40 for non-students). The gala dinner and concert alone are \$30.00.

Those interested in attending the symposium, or wishing to gain more information, are invited to contact Professor Kay Diviney by phone at 566-0961, fax at 566-0363, or email at <kdiviney@upei.ca>.



CHOICE CUTS!

READ IT!

The Eyes of the Dragon by Stephen King is a novel full of fantasy and a prince who has to reclaim his kingdom's throne from an evil wizard (who is a character that reappears in *The Stand* and the *Dark Tower* series). It's a little old, but it's also quite different from most of his horror-themed works.

DO IT!

Skiing is for chumps. **Tubing** lets lazy people have the same rush as skiing without all of the work. It only costs five dollars per hour at Brookvale. Go before the snow disappears.

WATCH IT!

Ang Lee's *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* is one of the most beautiful films in recent years. This Mandarin-language film has some amazing action sequences that fit well into the structure of the story. If you don't like subtitles, then tough cookies for you.

BROWSE IT!

If you're planning on visiting the Halifax area and want to check out its underground music scene, then be sure to check out www.halifaxlocals.com. This is the latest project from Harry Doyle, the creator of www.cblocals.com.

DOWNLOAD IT!

Tammy Wynette's *Stand by your Man* is a good song to sing along with, even if you don't know the words. It will make you cry. Also check out some sad country songs by Richard Buckner, Wilco, Jim White, Supersuckers, Steve Earle, Gram Parsons, Emmylou Harris, The Guthries, and Neko Case.

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NO COUPON NECESSARY!