

## 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Association for Franco-Irish Studies (AFIS)



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# CONSOLATION(S) IN FRANCE AND/OR IRELAND

**MAY 22-23, 2025**

Salle du Conseil B1 401, Room B1 240  
Amphithéâtre Daniel Huet (bât. B)  
Université de Caen Normandie  
Campus 1 - Esplanade de la Paix - Caen



### Keynote speakers:

Eamon Maher (TU Dublin)  
Amanda Dillon (DCU, Government of  
Ireland Researcher)  
Brigitte Bastiat & Frank Healy  
(Université de la Rochelle)

### Scientific committee:

Bertrand Cardin, Alexandra MacLennan  
Eamon Maher & Sarah Nolan

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# THURSDAY, 22 MAY

## Amphithéâtre Daniel Huet

### 08.30 - Registration and Coffee

### 09.15 - FORMAL OPENINGS

- **Lamri Adoui**, President of the University of Caen Normandy
- **Anne-Catherine de Bouvier**, head of GREI (Irish Studies Research group) at the University of Caen Normandy
- **Sarah Nolan**, President of the Association of Franco-Irish Studies

### 10.00 - KEYNOTE LECTURE 1 - Chair: **Bertrand Cardin**

- **Eamon Maher**, TU Dublin, 'Getting the Words Right': The Consolatory Power of Literature for Jean Sullivan and John McGahern

11.00 - Coffee Break

### 11.15 - PARALLEL PANELS

#### Salle B1 240

##### (1) Transcultural Consolations - Chair: **Benjamin Keatinge**

- **Brian A. Murphy** [TU Dublin], Consolation in Crisis: Exploring Loss, Redemption and Identity in F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Babylon Revisited*
- **Aleksandra Budrewicz** [University of National Education Commission, Krakow], Consolation for the Poles in Ireland: Edmund Naganowski's novel *Hessy O'Grady*
- **Lauren Clark** [Chiang Mai University], Consolations, Covid19, and Climate Change: Ecopoeitics of the Navajo Nation and Ireland

#### Salle du Conseil B1 401

##### (2) The Consolations of Nature - Chair: **Anne-Catherine de Bouvier**

- **Sarah Nolan** [IADT], 'My Anguish is a Worn-out Forest': Consoling Intertexts in Seán Hewitt's *All Down Darkness Wide*
- **Maria Parsons** [IADT], Consolations and Sacred Nature in Showtime's *Yellowjackets* (2021-present)
- **Bertrand Cardin** [Université de Caen Normandie], The Solace of Nature in Times of Trouble: Kerri Ní Dochartaigh's *Thin Places* (2020) and Dara McNulty's *Diary of a Young Naturalist* (2020)

### 12.45 - Buffet Lunch - Foyer of the Amphithéâtre Daniel Huet

### 13.45 PARALLEL PANELS

#### Salle du Conseil B1 401

##### (3) Consolation, Compassion and Care - Chair: **Eamon Maher**

- **Áine Larkin** [Maynooth University], Care as Consolation in French Narratives of Illness and Disability
- **Maguy Pernod-Deschamps** [Université de Bourgogne], Consolation in the Face of Dementia in Ahmed Kalouaz's *Demain c'est le beau monde* (2017) and Kate Durrant's *In the Silence*
- **Barbara Kavanagh** [TU Dublin], Compassion, Complexity and Consolation in John McGahern's *The Pornographer*
- **Jane Sevastopulo** [TU Dublin], Consolation in the Writings of Edith Somerville (1858-1949) and Violet Martin (Martin Ross) (1862-1915)

## Salle B1 240

### (4) The Consolation of Culinary Traditions - Chair: Máirtín Mac Con Iomaire

- **Mathieu Belledent** [TU Dublin], Consolations during Christmas Festivities in Provence at the Turn of the Twentieth Century: An Exploration of the History and Traditional Practices of le Gros Souper and les Treize Desserts
- **Francesco Noci**, Sarah Berthaud [ATU], Taking Consolation from Research in VET Culinary Education in France and Ireland: Lessons from the SCOOK project
- **Elaine Mahon** [TU Dublin], Prestige or Consolation?: Decoding the Language of the Diplomatic Meal

15.15 Coffee Break

## 15.30 PARALLEL PANELS

### Salle du Conseil B1 401

#### (5) Consolation and Conflict Resolution - Chair: Christophe Gillissen

- **Benjamin Keatinge** [Trinity College Dublin], Inclusive Redress': Commemoration in the Work of Gerald Dawe
- **Andrew Finlay** [Trinity College Dublin], Cocky and the Good Samaritan: Coming to Terms with a Violent Assault in 1980s Belfast
- **Billy Gray** [Höskolan Dalarna], Irish Orientalism, Zen Buddhism and Transcultural Crossings in the Work of Chris Arthur

### Salle B1 240

#### (6) The Consolations of Food and Drink in Literature and Culture - Chair: Elaine Mahon

- **Anke Klitzing** [TU Dublin], A Recipe against Loneliness: Writing about Life and Food as Consolation in Irish Recipistolarly Memoirs and Novels
- **Máirtín Mac Con Iomaire** [TU Dublin], Food and Drink as Consolation at Irish Wakes and Funerals
- **Przemysław Michalski** [University of National Education Commission, Krakow], 'When we are caught without / People or drink': Consolation in Brian Moore's *The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne*

## Amphithéâtre Daniel Huet

### 17.00 - KEYNOTE LECTURE 2 - Chair: Thierry Dubost

- **Brigitte Bastiat** and **Frank Healy**, Université de La Rochelle, Consolation in the Theatres of Dreams

### 18.00 - Launch of La Rochelle proceedings

### 20.00 - Conference Dinner: Brasserie Gustave, Place Saint-Sauveur, Caen

## FRIDAY, 23 MAY

## Amphithéâtre Daniel Huet

### 09.30 KEYNOTE LECTURE 3

Chair: **Alexandra Macleannan**

- **Amanda Dillon**, Government of Ireland Researcher, DCU, 'Put my tears in your bottle' (Ps 56:8): A Contemporary Search for Consolation in the Pages of the Bible

10.30 - Coffee Break

## 10.45 - PARALLEL PANELS

### Salle B1 240

#### (7) Motherhood, Loss and Consolation in Contemporary Franco-Irish Fiction - Chair: Sarah Nolan

- **Sylvie Mikowski** [Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne], The Writing of Disaster and the Ethics of vulnerability in the Novels of Paul Lynch
- **Claudia Luppino** [University of Florence], The Ethics of Care in Donal Ryan's *The Queen of Dirt Island*, Colm Tóibín's *Long Island* and Claire Keegan's *Small Things Like These*
- **Catherine Lowry-O'Neill** [SETU], The Hawthorn Bough, the Silver Branch and Separation from the Mother: Reflections on the Theme of Consolation in the Works of Marcel Proust and John Moriarty

### Salle du Conseil B1 401

#### (8) Spiritual Consolation - Chair: Amanda Dillon

- **Alexandra Macleannan** [Université de Caen Normandie], 'Tell me about your consolations': the Consolations of Irish Clergy in Mission Countries
- **Declan O'Keeffe** [Clongowes Wood College], A Musician in Glass
- **Geraldine Mitchell** [TU Dublin], Pastors of Peace: Words of Consolation in Times of War in the Writings of Jean Lasserre and Dietrich Bonhoeffer

## Amphithéâtre Daniel Huet

12.15 - Buffet Lunch

13.15 - AFIS AGM

## 14.00 - PARALLEL PANELS

### Salle du Conseil B1 240

#### (9) Inconsolable: Anger and Despair in 21st-century Irish Performative Culture

Chair: Maria Parsons

- **Kelly Davidson** [IADT], Northern Irish Music, Post-punk Scenes, and Activism on Palestine
- **Paula Gilligan** [IADT], "My Sword and My Rose"-Rereading 'Mo Roisín Dubh' in a time of genocide
- **Darina Gallagher** [James Joyce Centre], Music, rituals and politics of consolation in James Joyce: the Jesuit legacy

### Salle B1 401

#### (10) The Consolations of the Poetic Imagination - Chair: Aine Larkin

- **Sarah Alyn Stacey** [Trinity College Dublin], The Consolation of Poetic Imagination: Du Bellay and the Living Antiquities of Rome
- **James Harpur** [Trinity College Dublin], The Mystic Ark: Notre-Dame, Sacred Space and the Poetic Imagination

15.15 - Coffee Break

## Amphithéâtre Daniel Huet

## 15.45 - PLENARY PANEL

#### (11) Academic Consolations - Chair: Brian A. Murphy

- **Keith Murphy** [TU Dublin], From Darkness to Light: An Auto-ethnic Exploration of an Academic Journey

Open discussion

## 16.30 - CONCLUDING COMMENTS

- **Eamon Maher**
- **H.E. Niall Burgess**, Irish Ambassador to France