

A *Taste* of Ireland's *Yeats Summer School* in New York

Saturday, February 29, 2020

NYU Glucksman Ireland House

1 Washington Mews, east side of Fifth Avenue 1 block north of Washington Square Arch, NYC



Every summer, aficionados of the poet William Butler Yeats come from all over the world to enjoy nine days of lectures, readings and theater in Sligo, Ireland, and to tour nearby "Yeats Country." Here is an opportunity to sample the Yeats International Summer School for a day in New York. Along with a full day of programs, we'll have information on the 61st summer School—see summary at right.

Program

- 9:30 am Registration and refreshments - Irish tea and coffee, baked goods all day.
- 10:00 Opening remarks Doris Marie Meyer, board member.
- 10:15 A video introduction: "Yeats" **John Sutherland** (UC London, Caltech) surveys the poet and his era. This is part of a chapter, "Joyce and Yeats," in "Classics of British Literature," one of The Great Courses DVDs.
- 10:30 Refreshment break We'll have books and other items for sale.
- 10:45 "The Great House and Colonial Politics: Yeats and Walcott" **Deborah Fleming** (Ashland) relates how the two poets accepted with compassion the literary heritage the colonizer gave, rather than focusing on what it took away.
- 11:35 "Yeats Entitled" **Jonathan Greenberg** (Montclair State) on great books—such as "Things Fall Apart and "No Country for Old Men"—that take their titles from Yeats. Do they tell us something about his literary afterlife?
- 12:25 pm Luncheon on your own, with many Greenwich Village restaurants to choose from (we'll have a list). For those who chose to stay or return with food, another video "**Citizen Lane**" will be presented. This 84-minute theatrical docu-drama tells the story of Hugh Lane's fight to establish a public modern art gallery in Dublin, his untimely death on the Lusitania, his contested will, and the continuing effort to recover for Ireland Lane's bequest of 39 masterpieces by Monet, Renoir, Manet and Pissaro, now held by the National Gallery in London.
- 2:30 "'Every discolouration of the stone, / Every accidental crack or dent': Yeats's 'Lapis Lazuli' and Ekphrastic Poetry" **Jeff Cassvan** (Queens) discusses Yeats's contribution to poetic representations of visual art.
- 3:20 A preview of the Lady Gregory exhibit at the New York public Library March 6-August 1 (see next page). **Declan Kiely**, former Yeats Society board member and director of exhibitions at the library, gives a description of this major exhibition co-curated by Colm Tóibín and James Pethica.
- 3:45-5 Social and a Summer School reunion. Wine, refreshments and a **tasting of Coole Swan**, premium Irish cream liqueur, the finest single malt Irish whiskey from one of Ireland's oldest distilleries blended with white Belgian chocolate and fresh, natural dairy cream. Coole Swan was inspired by Yeats's famous poem, "The Wild Swans at Coole," about the search for lasting beauty in a changing world.

Fees Entire program, including refreshments and the afternoon social is \$39; morning only \$20; afternoon with social \$25. **Send a check to WB Yeats Society of NY, National Arts Club, 15 Gramercy Park South, NYC 10003** with your name, address, phone number, email. Put the date on your calendar; your name will be on a registration list at the door. Fees are \$5 more at door.

WB Yeats Society of NY

www.YeatsSociety.org