

# WHY PUBLIC HISTORY?

**Inaugural Conference of the Centre for Public History**

**Queen's University Belfast**

**7-8 December 2017**

**THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER**

**9.30 – 9.50 Registration, tea & coffee, Canada Room**

**9.50 Welcome and announcements**

10.00 – 11.30

**Panel 1: Creative commemorations of war and revolution (PFC/02/009)**

Paul Long, Charlotte Stevens and Nick Webber: *Public History, creativity and the commemoration of World War I*

James Wallis: *Reflections on the centenary of the First World War: learning and legacies for the future*

Aoife Whelan: *The Revolution Papers: balanced, biased or bestseller?*

**Panel 2: Public history from below? Exhibiting alternative narratives (Canada Room)**

Yang Song: *Living on the fringe: recording the history of Chinese migrant labourers in a 'museum'*

Kelly Fitzgerald: *Hentown, the spoken and unspoken in Dublin tenement life*

Alicja Podbielska: *Museum of the Righteous or self-righteousness? Holocaust rescue in Poland and the politics of commemoration*

11.30 – 12.30

**Panel 3: Challenging the past (and present) through dramatic performance (PFC/02/009)**

Alex Hutton: *Putting the people in the pageant: contested histories, protest, and counter-narrative in British historical pageants, c.1905-1970*

Ramona Wray: *Henry V after the War on Terror*

**Panel 4: Dissonant heritage and public responsibility (Canada Room)**

Jessica Moody: *Slavery, public history and the British country house*

Roger Panetta: *"Does public history have a conscience"? The Sing Sing Prison Museum*

**12.30 – 1.30 LUNCH (Canada Room)**

1.30 – 3.00

**Panel 5: i-Engagement: digital approaches to public history (PFC/02/009)**

Qianyun Yu: *Public engagement of history museums in the New Media age*

Susan Schriebman: *Letters 1916-1923: documenting the birth of a nation*

Konstantinos Papadopoulos: *Utilising the phygital and participatory design to explore contested history*

**Panel 6: Dark Heritage and the public (Canada Room)**

Dan Johnson: *The role of the public historian in dark tourism: providing context and nuance to British prison museums*

Rhiannon Pickin: *'Executed according to their sentence': visitor confrontations with difficult topics in museums of crime and punishment*

**3.00 – 3.30 TEA & COFFEE**

3.30 – 5.00

**Panel 7: Inventive approaches to educational engagement (PFC/02/009)**

Holly Dunbar, *Breaking out of the ivory tower: UCD Breakout Research as a case study of public engagement*

Karol Mullaney-Dignam, *Preaching what you practice: public history in the university classroom*

Tara Doyle and Maeve Casserly, *Historians in residence in Dublin city: a unique public history project*

**Panel 8: Heritage, local communities, and the role of the historian (Canada Room)**

Jack Crangle, *Oral history and ethnic minorities: approaches, methods and outcomes*

Pete Hodson, *Performing heritage: memory, memorials and museums*

Mark Freeman and Paul Readman, *Pageants, places and publics: reflections on 'The Redress of the Past'*

5.30—6.30 Keynote Lecture (Canada Room)

**The Keith Jeffery Annual Lecture**

**Jock Phillips**

***Going Public – a historian's life beyond the academy***

**6.30 Reception and launch of Centre for Public History (Canada Room)**

## FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER

### 9.30 – 11.00

#### **Panel 9: Commemoration in the Decade of Centenaries** (LAN/OG/074)

Jason Burke: *The Trouble(s) with First World War commemoration in Northern Ireland*

Felix M. Larkin: *The black magic of the Easter Rising*

Marie Coleman: *Northern Ireland's Decade of Centenaries*

#### **Panel 10: Who do we think we are? Collective and individual identities** (Canada Room)

Stephanie Snow: *Putting history to work in the UK's National Health Service (NHS)*

Mhairi Brennan: *Public broadcaster, public history: The BBC Scotland Television Archive and the 2014 Scottish Independence Referendum.*

Jerome de Groot: *The structure, the body, the archive: DNA and history*

### **11- 11.30**

**Tea & coffee** (Canada Room)

**11.30 – 12.30**

**KEYNOTE LECTURE** (Canada Room)

**Professor Ludmilla Jordanova,**

***Provocation, Potential and Professionalisation***

### **12.30 – 1.30**

**LUNCH** (Canada Room)

### 1.30 – 3.00

#### **Panel 11: Commemoration, remembrance and celebration: seeing the past through round-numbered anniversaries** (LAN/OG/074)

Sophie Vohra: *Commemorating the past, shaping the future: the anniversary celebrations of the Stockton and Darlington railway, 1875-1975*

Harriet Beadnell: *Round number anniversaries and the figure of the Second World War veteran since 1945*

Steven Franklin: *Magna Carta 800<sup>th</sup>: celebration; commemoration; meaning.*

#### **Panel 12: Opportunities and challenges for public history at site-specific museums** (Canada Room)

Gillian O'Brien: *Two many cooks...? Challenges associated with developing narratives for site-specific museums*

Danielle O'Donovan: *Turning the key on a new museum*

Ciaran Wallace: *From a non-specific site to website-specific, considering some premises for Public History*

### **3-4pm ROUNDTABLE** (Canada Room)