

The Animal in Ireland, Real and Imagined: An International and Interdisciplinary Symposium

University of Würzburg, 21-23 February 2024

Final Programme (as of February 19, 2024)

Wednesday, 21 February 2024: Residence, Toscanasaal & Martin von Wagner Museum

18:00: Conference Opening

Welcome Addresses:

Dean, Faculty of Arts, Prof. Dr. Thomas Baier

Chairman, German-Irish Association Würzburg, Mr. Matthias Fleckenstein

Consul, Irish Embassy, Ms. Sarah Dooley

Deputy Executive Director, English and American Studies & Irish Studies Würzburg, Prof. Dr. Kirsten Sandrock

Irish Studies Würzburg, Prof. Dr. Maria Eisenmann

Irish Studies Würzburg, Prof. Dr. Ina Bergmann

Travelling Visiting Professor in Irish Studies & Irish Studies Würzburg, Prof. Dr. Maureen O'Connor

18.30: Poetry Reading: Moya Cannon

Chair: Maureen O'Connor (University of Würzburg, Germany/University College Cork, Ireland)

Music: Ella Zlotos, Georg Zobel & Nik Jira

20:00: Reception

Thursday, 22 February 2024: ZHSG/Z6, 2.010 + 2.011 & online

9:30-10:30: Keynote 1: Martín Veiga (University College Cork, Ireland): "Nonhuman Animals and Posthuman Restitution in Contemporary Irish and Galician Poetry"

Chair: Maria Eisenmann (University of Würzburg, Germany)

10:30-11:00: Break

11:00-12:00: Panel 1: Lyrical Encounters with Irish Animals

Chair: Anne-Sophie Hornung (University of Würzburg, Germany)

- Jessica Bundschuh (University of Stuttgart, Germany): "Enchanted Encounters with Eamon Grennan's 'Double-Life Creatures' in *Plainchant*"
- Eóin Flannery (University of Limerick, Ireland): "*When Species Meet*: Animal Encounters in the Poetry of Ciaran Berry"

12:00-13:00: Lunch

13:00-14:00: Panel 2, Part 1: Imagined Animals

Chair: Lena Pfeifer (University of Würzburg, Germany)

- Kathleen Costello-Sullivan (Le Moyne College, NY, United States): "“Being human never did... any good”: Disability and Empathy in Sara Baume’s *Spill Simmer Falter Wither*”
- Dilara Yilmaz (University of Kiel, Germany): “Irish Animals in the Anthropocene: Nonhuman Voices in Contemporary Irish Literature”

14:00-14:30: Break

14:30-15:30: Panel 2, Part 2: Imagined Animals

Chair: Lena Pfeifer (University of Würzburg, Germany)

- Franca Leitner (University of Mannheim, Germany): “Haunting Humans? Animals in Tana French’s *In the Woods* (2007) and *Broken Harbour* (2012)”
- Maureen DeLeo (University of Galway, Ireland): ““Tá mé ag caint leis na fáinleogaibh/I am talking to the swallows’: Animals in Patrick Pearse’s Short Fiction”

15:30-16:00: Break

16:00-17:00: Keynote 2: Kathryn Kirkpatrick (Appalachian State University, NC, USA): "Animal Poetics and Climate Crisis"

Chair: Ina Bergmann (University of Würzburg, Germany)

19:00: Dinner

Friday, 23 February 2024: ZHSG/Z6, 2.010 + 2.011 & online

9:30-10:30: Panel 3, Part 1: The Economy of the Irish Animal

Chair: Jennifer Meier (University of Würzburg, Germany)

- Christian Huck (University of Kiel, Germany): “The Cow that Drank all the Water”
- Selina Guinness (Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dún Laoghaire, Ireland): “Farm Yard to White Cube: Livestock Process in Contemporary Irish Visual Arts”

10:30-11:00: Break

11:00-11:30: Panel 3, Part 2: The Economy of the Irish Animal

Chair: Jennifer Meier (University of Würzburg, Germany)

- Laurent Daniel (University of Southern Brittany, Lorient, France): “The Hare, the Greyhound and the Sport of Coursing”

11:30-12:00: Panel 4: Imagined Animals in Comparison

Chair: Kirsten Sandrock (University of Würzburg, Germany)

- Jochen Achilles (University of Würzburg, Germany): "Animal Agency in Nineteenth-Century Short Fiction: Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu and Harriet Prescott Spofford"

12:00-13:00: Lunch

13:00-14:30: Panel 5: Animals in Myths, Legends, and Fairy-Tales

Chair: Camille Lavoix (University of Würzburg, Germany)

- Julianna Leibold (Sciences Po Paris, France): "Concepts of Nature and Culture in Selected Irish Fairy Tales: Selected Irish Fairy Tales as Examples of a Narrative Tradition Documenting Indigenous Learning-with and Becoming-with the More-than-human World"
- Síle Ní Mhurchú (University College Cork, Ireland): "Animals in the Fionn Cycle of Irish Mythology"
- Klára Witzany Hutková (Charles University Prague, Czech Republic): "Cats and Swans: The Symbolism of Animals in Marina Carr's Midlands Plays"

14.30-15.00: Break

15:00-16:00: Panel 6: Animalizing the Irish

Chair: Kirsten Sandrock (University of Würzburg, Germany)

- Dieter Fuchs (University of Vienna, Austria): "The Animalised Irish and the Early Modern Discourse of the Wetnurse"
- Teresa Dunne (University of Galway, Ireland): "Masculine Animality in Liam O'Flaherty and Pádraic Ó Conaire's Fiction"

16:00-16:30: Farewell Address:

ISWÜ, Prof. Dr. Ina Bergmann, Prof. Dr. Maria Eisenmann, Prof. Dr. Maureen O'Connor and Prof. Dr. Kirsten Sandrock