

Irish Travellers / Mincéirs and the State, 1922-2022

Provisional Timetable

Ollscoil na Gaillimhe – University of Galway, 16-17 September 2022

EVE OF CONFERENCE: THURSDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

8.30-9.30 pm: The Cube, Áras na Mac Léinn

Drama Performance: ‘Ireland Shed a Tear’ with Michael Collins

The Carrickmines tragedy brought a public outpouring of grief, and, it seemed at the time, a lot of soul searching about the way Travellers are treated by mainstream society and the state. People lined the streets during funerals. Politicians and religious leaders wrung their hands. Newspapers gave blanket coverage. But it was no wake-up call, Michael Collins now wryly observes. It did not reset a dysfunctional relationship.

DAY ONE: FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

9.00-9.30: Conference Opening:

Official opening by Mags Casey, introduced by Helen Maher, VP for Equality, Diversity, Inclusion, NUI Galway

Hallvard Gorseth, Secretary of Council of Europe’s Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion

9.30-11.00 Keynote Panel 1: *Language, Culture and Heritage*

Aoife Bhreatnach, Robbie McVeigh, Rosaleen McDonagh, and Oein de Bhairduin.
Chaired by Patrick Nevin

11.00: *Coffee/Tea Break*

11.30-12.50: Keynote Panel 2: *International Context*

Martin Collins, Owen Ward, Alen Tahiri and Oana Tabă. Chaired by Anastasia Crickley

12.50-14.00: Lunch and Exhibition

13.30: Performance: Trish Reilly

14.00-15.30 *Spotlight Panels in Hardiman Building, GO10, GO11 and Bridge Room*

14.00-15.30 *Spotlight Panel 1a: Law and Justice*

Chair: TBC

Sindy Joyce, Olive O’Reilly, et al, *The Relationship between Travellers and the Police as Enforcers of Laws Criminalising Traveller Culture*

Heather Rosen: *The need for Audio-Recording in Hearings for Equality Investigations*

Cristian Jura: *Jurisprudence of National Council for Combating Discrimination in Romania*

14.00-15.30 Spotlight Panel 1b: Education and Participation Chair TBC

Jan Hero (COE): *Roma language, education, culture*

Nicole Kelly: *The experiences of and attitudes towards Irish Travellers in the education system, 1963-2000*

Andrew Ó Baoill, Anne Boyle (RIP): *Voice, Participation, and Visibility*

14.00-15.30 Spotlight Panel 1c: Creative responses Chair: TBC

Justin Carville, *From Worlding to Life-worlding: Photography as Irish Traveller Heritage and History*

Martin Beanz Warde, Tanya Kiang et al: *Traveller Wellbeing through Creativity*

Dave Lordan et al, *The Shuttleknit Project*

15.30-15.50: Coffee/Tea Break

15.50-17.25: Keynote Panel 3: Accommodation

Nora Corcoran, Rory Hearne, Padraic Kenna, Emily Murtagh. Chaired by Bernard Joyce

18.30: Dinner for invited speakers in Galway City

20.30: Podcast live from city venue, *Activism, Advocacy and Allyship*

Rose Marie Maughan, Vincent Browne, Patrick Nevin.

Chair: TBC

DAY TWO: SATURDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

9.30-10.00: Tea/Coffee

10.00-11.30: Spotlight Panels in Hardiman Building, GO10, GO11 and Bridge Room

10.00-11.30 Spotlight Panel 2a Discrimination: reality and impact Chair: Owen Ward

Mags Casey, Neasa Nic Dhomhnaill et al: *The psychology of oppression: impact of racism on mental health*

Sarah-Louise Martin: *Experiences of Discrimination Among the Irish Traveller Community*

Michael Ward, Patrick McCann: *Impact of Discrimination / Racism on the traveller community in regards to mental health and addiction*

10.00-11.30 Spotlight Panel 2a Chair: John Cunningham

Bernard Sweeney: *Traveller History, Origin and Ethnicity*

Rohini Bannerjee: *'What's your Band Number, eh?' From Pahari Indian to Brahmin Bannerjee'*

Anca Minescu et al: *'Identifying evidence-based methods to effectively combat discrimination of the Roma in the changing political climate of Europe: The Case of Irish Travellers in the Republic of Ireland 2019-2021'*

10.00-11.30 Spotlight Panel 2c: Remembering

Chair: TBC

Paddy Daly: *Recalling Hillside in 10 Pictures - People and Place*

Nora Corcoran, *Galway Traveller Movement, 'Reimagining Life on the Road'*

Rachel McArdle, Michael Collins, et al: *A Travellers' Map of Coolock: Storied Places of Belonging and Unbelonging*

11.30-11.45: Coffee/Tea Break

11.45-13.00: Keynote Panel 4: Trauma and Psychology

Geraldine Moane, Bernard Sweeney, AN Other. Chair: Elaine Martin

13.00-14.00: Lunch / Performance

14.15-15.45 Spotlight Panels in Hardiman Building, GO10, GO11 and Bridge Room

14.15-15.45 Spotlight Panel 3a: Knowledge and Recognition

Chair: TBC

Dr Anne Marie Kavanagh; Dr Caitríona Ní Cassaithe: *'Using Mincéir knowledge systems to think differently about the natural environment'*

Jack Loughnane (Migration and Diversity Lab Research Group): *'The challenges of engaging in research with and about Irish Traveller communities in Ireland'*

Lina Vosyliūte et al: *Transitional Justice and Roma*

14.15-15.45 Spotlight Panel 3b: Initiative and ambition

Chair: Mary Harris

Jason Sherlock, *The Mincéir Whiden Society*

Richard O'Brien: *Travellers taking their place in the church: Diocese of Kerry's ground breaking initiative*

Mike Geraghty: *"Born on the side of the road": Anthony McDonagh's story*

14.15-15.45 Spotlight Panel 3c

Chair: Patrick Nevin

Kate Miskella, Lisa Connell: *Trade union perspectives on Travellers' rights in the workplace*

Séamus Nolan: *Traveller Collection: Mobilising the Participation and Representation of Marginalised Communities within Museum and Cultural Institutions*

Katie Blackwood, *'Archival material on traveller craftspeople'*

16.00-17.15: Keynote Panel 6: Education

Wendy Lee, Anne-Marie Ward, Bridget Ward. Chaired by Daniel Savery

17.15: Closing address and Reception

The conference is part of the Government of Ireland's Decade of Centenaries programme and is supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. The Conference Steering Group also acknowledge the participation of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on Roma and Travellers and the Department of Foreign Affairs

Conference Steering Group: Patrick Nevin, Elaine Martin, Owen Ward, Sarah-Anne Buckley, Mary Harris and John Cunningham