

"De/Mythologising Ireland on the Big Screen"

The history of Irish cinema provides privileged access to an analysis of some of the major myths of Irish cultural identity. The aim of this lecture is to study how a variety of different cinematic perspectives run counter to the stereotypes of Gaelic Catholic Rural Ireland which dominated the country's (self-)image for the better part of the 20th century. Examples discussed will include *Man of Aran* (1934), *The Quiet Man* (1952), *Poitín* (1978), *The Field* (1990), *Michael Collins* (1996), *The Butcher Boy* (1998).

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