

WORKSHOP

For teachers, researchers, and students at advanced level in literature, language, education, and gender studies.

Narrating Identity

In narratives, how do the concepts of authenticity and authority feed into the formation of identities? How does this relate to fiction as sites of learning?



Invited lecturer

Kelly Hickey,

PhD candidate, Performing Arts,
Edge Hill University, Ormskirk, UK.

Friday 9th of June

10.15–12.00 presentation by Kelly Hickey and discussion

13.15–16.00 workshop with practical activities useful in the classroom

Location: The Learning Lab at Campus Blåsenhus
Uppsala University,

http://www.blasenus.uu.se/about_blasenus/visit_us/find_us/?languageld=1

We will treat you with snacks. Let us know if you will join us for the workshop! Email: linn.areskoug@edu.uu.se

The workshop is hosted by the research node “Identity Matters: Power, Knowledge and Place” at the Faculty of Education, Uppsala University in cooperation with the Centre for Professional Development and Internationalisation in School.

Presentation by Kelly Hickey

Voicing Voicelessness: Explorations of Northside Dublin Through Narratives that Empower and Narratives that Oppress



Telling stories is as basic to human beings as eating. More so, in fact, for while food makes us live, stories are what make our condition human.
(Kearney, 2002, p.3)

This presentation will discuss narrative structure and formation and the integral role this plays in shaping firstly personal identities and secondly wider cultures. As Richard Kearney contends; 'In our postmodern era of fragmentation and fracture, [...] narrative provides us with one of our most viable form of identity – individual and communal.' (Kearney, 2002, p.4)

Utilizing the philosophical framework of Paul Ricoeur and Richard Kearney the trilogies produced by Dermot Bolger and Roddy Doyle will be juxtaposed, revealing a stark variation of representations of Northside Dublin, particularly the working class and lower class communities from this area. These trilogies provide a unique insight into contrasting representations of Northside Dubliners and chart the development of the Northside working class in Dublin through the sharp rise and fall of Celtic Tiger Ireland. Beginning with the dramatic narrative of Doyle's *Barrytown Trilogy* (*The Commitments* (1990), *The Snapper* (1991), *The Van* (1992) whose timeline coincides with the early years of Ireland's economic boom; moving on to Bolger's Ballymun trilogy (*From These Green Heights* (2004), *The Townlands of Brazil* (2006), *The Consequences of Lightning* (2008) that comment on one of Ireland's most ambitious urban regeneration projects during the height of the boom and the subsequent bust.

The juxtaposition of these trilogies generates a diptych which offers a bifurcation of representations of the Northside and an insight into the culture which socially stratifies Ireland's Capital. According to Henry Giroux's 'culture is where the social gravity of power is organized in both the circulation and use of representations and in the material experiences that shape everyday life.' (1996, p.17) This presentation will discuss these two trilogies under the sub headings of 'Power, Sex, Class', interrogating how the intersectionality of these within each trilogy present narratives that predominantly empower or oppress the working and lower classes in Dublin.