

# Lifeworlds: Space, Place and Irish Culture

Ómós Áite International Conference  
Centre for Irish Studies, NUI Galway

Conference Programme  
27-30 March 2014



*Dancing in the Kitchen*  
(Bridie Callinan and Kathleen O'Loughlin, Co. Clare)  
Photograph by Christy Mc Namara© 1993-94.

The international conference *Lifeworlds: Space, Place and Irish Culture*, hosted by the Ómós Áite: *Space/Place Research Network*, will take place at NUI Galway, 27-30 March 2014. Conference sessions, plenary lectures and the mapping workshop are free and open to the public. Places are limited for all events - early booking is advised.

*Lifeworlds: Space, Place and Irish Culture* specifically focuses on the centrality of space and place in Irish 'lifeworld' experiences, both within the geographical boundary of the island of Ireland and the migrant spaces of the Irish diaspora. The conference brings together a unique network of international scholars and community-based practitioners in an effort to broaden our understanding of the role of space and place in the construction of modern Irish culture and identity at home and abroad.

Conference panel sessions and plenary lectures will take place at NUI Galway, with a public Community Mapping Workshop hosted by the Galway City Museum, Saturday 29 March 2014.

**Conference Venues:** The Moore Institute, Hardiman Research Building, NUI Galway, and the Galway City Museum, Spanish Arch, Galway City.

**Contact:** Dr Tim Collins [timncollins@gmail.com](mailto:timncollins@gmail.com) and Dr Nessa Cronin [nessa.cronin@nuigalway.ie](mailto:nessa.cronin@nuigalway.ie)

**Conference Website:** [www.nuigalway.ie/centre\\_irish\\_studies/](http://www.nuigalway.ie/centre_irish_studies/)

## Conference Organisers

*Lifeworlds* is organised by Dr Tim Collins and Dr Nessa Cronin, co-convenors of the *Ómós Áite: Space/Place Research Network*, Centre for Irish Studies, NUI Galway.

### ***Lifeworlds* – supported by:**

- *Ómós Áite: Space/Place Research Network*, Centre for Irish Studies, NUI Galway
- School of Humanities, NUI Galway
- Community Knowledge Initiative (CKI), NUI Galway
- The Moore Institute, NUI Galway
- The Ryan Institute, NUI Galway
- Galway Dance Days and Galway Dancer in Residence
- Centre for Creative Arts and Media (CCAM), Galway and Mayo Institute of Technology
- Education Office, Galway City Museum
- *Space&Place*, Geography, NUI Maynooth
- *Burren Beo Trust*, Kinvara, Co Galway
- *Mapping Spectral Traces International Network*
- *Irish Landscape Institute*
- *Uniscape*, Villa Medicea Careggi, Florence, Italy

### ***Lifeworlds* and Galway Dance Days Festival, 28-30 March 2014**

*Lifeworlds* is a partner symposium to the *Galway Dance Days Festival* and *Corp\_Real Symposium*, curated by the Galway Dancer in Residence, and *Ómós Áite* affiliated artist, Dr Ríonach Ní Néill. The *Corp\_Real Symposium* is a locus for artists and scholars interested in body-based practice and performance to share knowledge of practice, performance and research. Events for Galway Dance Days take place at the Town Hall Theatre, NUI Galway and various Galway city and county locations.

**Contact details:** Ríonach Ní Néill - [galwaydancedays@gmail.com](mailto:galwaydancedays@gmail.com)

For further details see [www.ciotog.ie](http://www.ciotog.ie) and [www.facebook.com/galwaydancedays](http://www.facebook.com/galwaydancedays)

***Ómós Áite: Space/Place Research Network*** was established by Dr Tim Collins and Dr Nessa Cronin in 2009 to promote the interdisciplinary study of issues relating to the social, cultural and political production of space and place in modern Irish society. Work conducted by the group critically examines how personal and national identities, cultures and communities ground themselves and construct their sense of place in a world that is becoming increasingly globalised and is sometime perceived as being 'placeless'. While such spatialised concerns are wide-ranging and demand a critical engagement across a variety of discourses, the focus of much research underway with members is with the significance and role of place and space in Irish culture and society today.

*Ómós Áite* meets on a monthly basis at the Centre for Irish Studies, NUI Galway, to discuss theoretical readings and practice-based issues relating to questions of space. The research group seeks to forge further thematic connections across key disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences, with a particular emphasis on both foundational texts and current work underway in Cultural Geography, Irish Studies, Modern Languages and Literatures, Critical Theory, Philosophy, Performance Studies, and Visual Art and Design.

The network is also affiliated with the *Space&Place* research network, Geography, NUI Maynooth, and with the *Mapping Spectral Traces* international collective.

*Ómós Áite* is an interdisciplinary collective of academics, affiliated artists and community practitioners located in the West of Ireland, engaged with contemporary issues of space and place in Irish culture and society. New members are most welcome at any time.

Further details: [www.nuigalway.ie/research/centre\\_irish\\_studies/omos\\_aite.html](http://www.nuigalway.ie/research/centre_irish_studies/omos_aite.html)

