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October 2016

Oscar Wilde in America: The Importance of Being Irish



For our October 18th meeting of the IHRT, we are pleased to welcome Christine Kinealy. She will be speaking on Oscar Wilde and his visit to America. Oscar Wilde was born in Dublin, in 1854, in the wake of the Great Hunger. A brilliant young scholar, he was sent to study in Oxford University, developing an English accent and a taste for aestheticism. Neither led to a job. So, in 1882, he traveled to America on a lecture tour. This lecture will examine Wilde's time in America and how it helped him discover his Irish identity.

Since completing her PhD at Trinity College in Ireland, Christine Kinealy has worked in educational and research institutes in Dublin, Belfast, and England. In 2013, she was appointed the founding Director of Ireland's Great Hunger Institute at QU. She has published 18 books on modern Ireland, focusing on the Great Hunger. In 2013/14, Professor Kinealy was named one of the top 100 educators in <u>Irish America</u>.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- October 18 IHRT Board meeting after lecture
- November 27 (Sunday),2pm----Irish Book Club; reading "Where are you really from?"