



IRELAND AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

This one-day in-person event organised by the RIA Culture and Heritage Working Group will focus on culture, society and the specificities of pandemic experience. Topics covered will range from public health concerns and remembrance practices to media, journalism, and the impacts of the pandemic on everyday life.

14 JUNE 2023
09.00–17.30



Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann
Royal Irish Academy

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Programme

09.00 Opening remarks, Diane Negra, MRIA, Chair, RIA Culture and Heritage Working Group

09.10 **PANEL 1: RITES OF PASSAGE, PUBLIC TRUST, THE PANDEMIC AND AFTER**

Chair: Luke Drury, MRIA

Irish death culture and the online funeral—David McGowan

Previous pandemics— Dr Ida Milne, Carlow College St Patrick's and Trinity College, Dublin

Impacts on public trust in science and expert advice—Rowland Stout, MRIA, University College Dublin

10.30 **PANEL 2: SOCIAL COHESION IN THE PANDEMIC**

Chair: Dr Miriam Nyhan Grey, New York University

Different boats in the same storm: work and play during the COVID-19 pandemic—

Orla Muldoon, MRIA, University of Limerick

COVID-19: The challenges of providing advice to Government under emergency conditions—

Philip Nolan, MRIA, Science Foundation Ireland

Telling the story of the pandemic in Ireland—David McCullagh, journalist and broadcaster

12.00 Lunch: a sandwich lunch will be provided in Academy House.

12.45 **PANEL 3: THE IMPACT ON ARTS**

Chair: Mary Canning, MRIA

Theatre in/ and the Pandemic—Patrick Lonergan, MRIA, University of Galway

Cinema and cinemagoing during the pandemic—Ruth Barton, MRIA, Trinity College Dublin

Use of metaphors and rhetoric in media reporting of the pandemic—

Dan Carey, MRIA, University of Galway

14.15 **PANEL 4: ALTERED PERCEPTIONS OF LOCALITY AND CIVIC CULTURE**

Chair: Virginia Teehan, MRIA, The Heritage Council

Localism and the neighbourhood walk in Lockdown—Professor Sarah Moss, University College Dublin

The pandemic and the role of citizen assemblies—Professor Jane Suiter, Dublin City University

Cultural and psychological impacts of the pandemic—Professor Gillian O'Brien,
Liverpool John Moores University

15.45 **PANEL 5: SPORT, RECREATION AND LEISURE**

Chair: Barbara McCormack, RIA Librarian

COVID-19, Irish media and the GAA—Dr Seán Crosson, University of Galway,
and Dr Marcus Free, Mary Immaculate College

Books, reading, and the impact on Libraries—Dr Sandra Collins, University College Dublin

Sea swimming and the reconnection with nature—Sylvia Thompson, *The Irish Times*

17.15 **SUMMATIVE REMARKS**, Dr Siobhán O Sullivan, Executive Director, Royal Irish Academy

17.30 Reception in Academy House



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Image: *Pass Freely*, Asbestos with Hugh Lane Gallery. Photograph by Sean Curtis.