A Chairde~Friends,

Here at New York University's Glucksman Ireland House we are putting the finishing touches on some of our spring public programs. We hope you will consider joining us for some of these virtual gatherings and for the ones we will announce once the semester recommences. This academic year has been, and continues to be, a very unusual one. We continue to operate under the protocols and guidelines NYU put in place last spring but the events that surround us -- COVID-19, political unrest and the critical matter of social justice-- are to the forefront of our minds and we extend wishes of support and solidarity to all of you. We await the brighter days of spring in both the literal and metaphorical sense.

We kick off our programs on Friday, January 29 at 5pm with a collaboration with our colleagues at the Center for Media, Culture and History, a screening of The 8th (94 mins, 2020, Directed by Aideen Kane, Lucy Kennedy and Maeve O’Boyle). This film traces Ireland’s campaign to remove the 8th Amendment; a constitutional ban on abortion enacted in 1983. On February 4 at 12.30pm we will welcome Kevin Barry to discuss his latest book, That Old Country Music. On February 10 we collaborate with NYU’s Center for Neural Science in hosting Dr. Sindy Joyce as part of the Growing Up In Science Life Stories series. Dr. Joyce is the first Mincéir (Irish Traveller) to receive a PhD in Ireland and is a member of President Michael D. Higgins's Council of State. For details of our events, go to: https://as.nyu.edu/content/nyu-as/as/research-centers/irelandhouse.html

Also on February 10 (busy day!) we are thrilled to work with our colleagues at Columbia's Heyman Center on a symposium Disability and the Archive: Teresa Devy in Context. Dramatists, scholars, and disability activists have started taking an interest in a deaf Irishwoman who was once considered the premiere national playwright of her day. Interest in Deevy's life and works has taken different shapes, from those drawn to her representations of women living circumscribed lives in 1930s Ireland to those who want to recover a neglected history of deaf artistry. In a series of panels, we ask what it means to look in the archives for a writer as elusive as Teresa Deevy. For info see: http://heymancenter.org/events/disability-and-the-archive-teresa-deevy-in-context/

Later in February, on Tuesday the 23rd at 7pm, we will host our annual gala, which will take place online. Join us as we honor Bank of America's Anne Finucane and New York Times Pulitzer-winning journalist Dan Barry. Past honorees have included luminaries such as Loretta Brennan Glucksman, Pete Hamill, Buzzy O'Keeffe, Ted Smyth, Sir James Galway, Paul Muldoon, Alice McDermott, Colum McCann, Danny McDonald, Carl Shanahan, Niall O'Dowd, and Peter Quinn, Jim Rooney, Dómhnall Slattery and Colm Tóibín. Ms. Finucane will be presented with the Lewis L. Glucksman Award for Leadership and Mr. Barry will be presented with the Inaugural Pete Hamill Award for Excellence in Journalism. The Seamus Heaney Award for Arts and Letters Awardee will be announced soon, along with other details.

For the 16th consecutive year, NYU will commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr’s visit to NYU in 1961 and honor his legacy by hosting a week-long program (Feb 1–6). The themes and questions presented in Dr. King’s final book, Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or
Community?, still resonate today, perhaps more than ever. This central question will drive our efforts throughout the week as we examine the current state of our society and imagine a more inclusive future. Glucksman Ireland House's popular Black, Brown and Green Voices Series will return with more great speakers and collaboration with the NYPL Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and the African American Irish Diaspora Network. We will announce the details of these programs soon.

If you missed any of our past events please take some time to explore our YouTube channel, where you can catch up many of them, along with a host of other content: https://www.youtube.com/user/GIHNYU And if you are more of a radio person, tune in to This Irish American Life on Saturday’s on WNYE 91.5FM from 9am to 10am and on www.nyuirish.net/radiohour.

We would be remiss if we didn't send congratulatory wishes to the 46th President of the United States. We are encouraged that his pride in Ireland will buoy all of us who call Ireland home. We hope President Biden will continue to enthusiastically cite Irish poets!

Warm wishes from us in these challenging times.
Please stay safe.

Le meas,
Kevin (Director) and Miriam (Associate Director)
New York University’s Glucksman Ireland House