

IASIL Japan Newsletter

2015 No. 1

The Japan Branch of the International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures

April 2015

1. Election of New Executive Committee Members

As was announced at the Annual General Meeting last October, the term of the present IASIL Japan Executive Committee Members is to expire on 31 December, 2015 and we are now conducting an election for the new members. Hiroko Mikami and Masami Nakao have agreed to serve as Election Officers. Members in good standing (paid-up for 2014) receive a ballot sheet with this Newsletter. They are requested to choose 10 candidates and check the corresponding blank boxes, to place the ballot sheet in the small envelope, seal and post it in the return envelope. Please make sure that it will reach the office by May 25. The results of the election will be announced at the Annual General Meeting during the Annual Conference to be held at Prefectural Hiroshima University on 3-4 October.

2. Plans for IASIL Japan Conference 2015

At the Executive Committee Meeting held on March 7, plans for the 31st Conference were confirmed. We are happy to announce that the following distinguished guests have agreed to join us, and welcome proposals to read papers related to this year's conference theme "Commemorations: Marking Time in Ireland" or other aspects of Irish literature.

Dates: 3 & 4 October, 2015

Venue: Prefectural Hiroshima University

Theme: "Commemorations: Marking Time in Ireland"

Guest Speakers: 1) Roy Foster: special lecture, commentator at symposium 1

2) Moya Cannon: poetry reading, commentator at symposium 2

Symposium 1: "Yeats and the Ireland of Our Time" (tentative)

Chair: Andrew Fitzsimons

Symposium 2: "Poetry and Music" (tentative)

Chair: Yasuhito Sato

About the Guests

R. F. Foster is Carroll Professor of Irish History at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of Hertford College, Oxford. He is widely known as the author of the authorized biography of W. B. Yeats, *W.B. Yeats: A Life I. The Apprentice Mage* (1997); *II. The Arch-Poet* (2003). His most recent book is *Vivid Faces: The Revolutionary Generation in Ireland, 1890-1923* (2014).

Moya Cannon was born in Co. Donegal, spent most of her adult life in Galway and now lives in Dublin. She is a winner of the Brendan Behan Award and the O Shaughnessy Award. Her previous collections of poems are *Oar* (1990), *The Parchment Boat* (1997), *Carrying the Songs* (2007) and *Hands* (2011), which was nominated for the Irish Times / Poetry Now Award.

Call for papers and panelists!

Applicants for a 20 minutes paper reading are requested to send a synopsis of 250–300 words as a Word attachment to IASIL Japan office at <secretary@iasil.jp>. We welcome proposals of 250–300 words to join the panels for the two symposia as well. Besides the synopsis itself, please send details of the author’s affiliation, full postal and e-mail addresses, and telephone and fax numbers by **31 May**.

3. Payment of annual fees

Please find enclosed the 2015 Membership Fee remittance sheet payable to Japan Post Bank.

Membership with JIS	¥7,000	Couple membership with JIS	¥10,000
Membership with JIS & IUR	¥10,000	Couple membership with JIS & IUR	¥13,000

To members with overseas mailing addresses:

Kindly add the following international postal rates to your membership fee, and pay your own bank remittance fees to make sure that the exact amount will reach us.

International postal rates for <i>Journal of Irish Studies</i> & <i>Irish University Review</i>	Asia	Oceania, North America, Central America, Europe, Middle East	South America, Africa
<i>JIS</i>	¥ 750	¥ 1,000	¥ 1,300
<i>JIS & IUR</i>	¥ 1,500	¥ 2,000	¥ 2,600

You may choose to pay to the IASIL Japan account at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi below.

Bank Name: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, LTD.

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Tel: +81- (0)422-22-3731

Beneficiary’s Name: IASIL Japan Treasurer Yoko Kubo

Beneficiary’s Account No.: 0248851

4. IASIL Annual Conference, 20-24 July 2015

The IASIL conference will be held this year at The University of York in York, UK, with the theme of "Reconciliations".

5. *Journal of Irish Studies*

The deadline for submission to *Journal of Irish Studies* Vol. XXX is **25 April 2015**.

Contributors should send articles for consideration to: Masaya Shimokusu, Editor, as an MS Word attachment to: <mshimoku@mail.doshisha.ac.jp>, with a short biographical note as a separate file. Please inform details of the author's affiliation, full postal and e-mail addresses and telephone and fax numbers. More information is found on the back-cover of *JIS* Vol. XXIX as well as at our website. The editor suggests that papers submitted by those whose mother tongue is not English should be checked by a native speaker of English before submission. For further details, please contact the editor.

6. Obituary

In Memory of Daniel Albright (1945-2015)

We recently received the sad news that Dr. Daniel Albright, Professor of Harvard University passed away on January 3, 2015. He continually stimulated our intellect with such ground breaking works as *Quantum Poetics: Yeats, Pound, Eliot, and the Science of Modernism*, and his marvelous insights resulting from a deep interest in literature and music exemplified in *Modernism and Music: An Anthology of Sources*. His interest in music integrated perfectly with his interest in painting which blossomed into his most recent publication, *Panaesthetics: On the Unity and Diversity of the Arts*. Every reader of Yeats' poems has a tremendous appreciation for his volume on 'Complete Yeats Poems' accompanied by his original detailed commentary.

In 2005, Dr. Albright visited Japan as a guest scholar of Japan Yeats Society as well as IASIL Japan. As Secretary of IASIL Japan and also an organizer of a symposium at the Yeats Society Conference on "Yeats, Beckett and Noh" to which he was a commentator, I got in touch with him before and during the conference and was quite touched with his tender, warm, and very kind personality. At Musashino University where our annual conference was held, he gave a lecture, "The River that Flows from Japan to England: *Curfew River*," introduced by Professor Hiroyuki Yamasaki who was his long time friend. This lecture revealed his deep understanding of Japanese Noh, particularly *Sumidagawa* and Western music, specifically, Benjamin Britten's opera. I cannot forget his impressions on the performance of *Sumidagawa* which I also enjoyed together with him, with Umewaka Rokuro (present Gensho) as *shite* just before the conference at Kyoto Kanze Kaikan as well as how happily he laughed at a series of Kyogen plays performed in Kyoto a few days before that. From a very personal perspective, he also radiated a very sincere personality when he gave a lecture "W. B. Yeats and Music" to my students at Shiga University. We will sorely miss his academic insights and his very warm, friendly smile.

Akiko Manabe



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