



Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh
University College Cork, Ireland

UCC

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Corcaigh

Feeling the Limits: Censorship and Creative Freedom in Theatre, Film, and Visual Arts in the Age of Populism

23-25 October 2025

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

(All sessions are held in the building of the Faculty of Philology
– 171/173 Pomorska Street)

Thursday, October 23

Time	Room	Event
13:00-13:30	Second floor	Registration
13:30-15:00	2.20	Session 1: CINEMA 1 Chair: Katarzyna Ojrzyska Milo Farragher-Hanks (University of St. Andrews) “Censorship without Censors? <i>Blue Story</i> and the Decentralisation of Moral Panic” Alina Popescu (University of Bucharest); Paul Şoptirean (Université de Paris 1 Panthéon – Sorbonne) “Fashion and Censorship in Contemporary Romanian Films During the Communist Period (1960s-1980s)”
	2.07	Session 2: CONTRAINS IN LITERARY CIRCULATION Chair: Joanna Matyjaszczyk Paschalis Nikolaou (Ionian University) “Oblique Revoicings: On Long-Standing and Contemporary Interplays of Literary Translation and Censorship” Hysni Kafazi (University of Szeged) “Censorship and Self-censorship as Existential Bad Faith in Tennessee Williams’s Drama” Aneta Wyczechowska (University of Lodz) “‘We’ll ha’ the rest o’ the play at home’: Ben Jonson’s <i>Bartholomew Fair</i> as a Response to Puritan Antitheatrical Views and Actions of Censorship”
15:00-15:30	Second floor	Coffee break

15:30-17:00	Aula A3	Keynote lecture 1 Chair: Michał Lachman Anne Etienne (University College Cork) “The Sound of Silence: Testing the Limits of Freedom of the English Stage”
17:00-17:30	Second floor	Coffee break
17:30-19:00	2.20	Session 3: CINEMA 2 Chair: Agnieszka Rasmus Raul Boros (Université de Montpellier) “Conflictual Normativities: Populism’s Re-signification of Law through Cinematic Narratives” Aparna Shastri (George Mason University) “Censorship, Streaming, and Public Culture in India” – online Maciej Piaskowski (University of Lodz) “Trump’s Politics and Its Influence on International Media”
	2.07	Session 4: THEATRE Chair: Michał Lachman Martí Alós López (Universitat de Barcelona) “The ‘La Torna’ Conflict: The Spanish Transition to Democracy and the Fight for the Freedom of Speech” Reza Shirmarz (Southern Illinois University) “Harnessing the Stage: Theocratic Censorship and Theatrical Subversion in Post-Revolutionary Iran” – online Małgorzata Budzowska (University of Lodz) “Performing art as a self-censored counter-hegemonic practise. Institute of Performing Law by Michał Zadara”

19:00-21:00	Second floor	Poster exhibition opening “The Censorship of War and Politics, or What They Would Like to Ignore” – Sabina Laskowska-Hinz (University of Gdańsk) Conference reception
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Friday, October 24

Time	Room	Event
9:00-10:30	2.07	Session 5: FEMALE VOICES Chair: Katarzyna Ojrzyńska Marta Struglińska (University of Lodz) “Discussion of Female Experience as a Way to Dismantle Past Censorship in the Poetry of Medbh McGuckian and Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin” Edyta Lorek-Jezińska (Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń) “The Challenges of ‘the D-word’: ‘Coming-of-disability’ Plays by Jackie Hagan and Matilda Ibini” Pelin Doğan Özger (Munzur University) “Populism, Hegemonic Masculinity, and Censorship: Suzie Miller’s <i>Prima Facie</i> ”
	2.20	Session 6: ART, THE STILL IMAGE AND THE WORD Chair: Justyna Stępień Anna Wołosz-Sosnowska (University of Lodz) “[T]hese pulp-paper nightmares” – Censorship and Criticism of Comics Adaptations of Literature” Sabina Laskowska-Hinz (University of Gdańsk), Katarzyna Matul (indep.) “The Censorship of War and Politics, or What They Would Like to Ignore vs Ignored or Ignoring? Polish Posters and the Paradox of Censorship in the Polish People’s Republic”

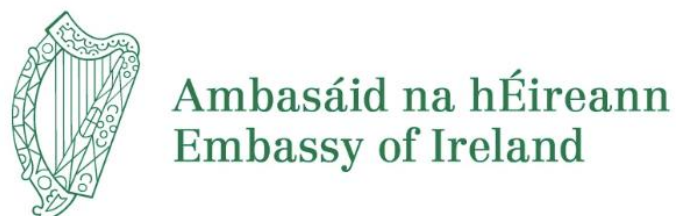
		Katarzyna Więckowska (Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń) “‘No More Excuses for Passivity’: The Art of Environmental Activism”
10:30-11:00	Second floor	Coffee break
11:00-12:30	2.07	Session 7: FEMALE AND QUEER RESISTANCE Chair: Jarosław Milewski Natalia Anna Michna (Jagiellonian University in Kraków) “Embroidery, Writing, and Weak Resistance: Feminist Artivism Confronting Contemporary Censorship” Katarzyna Szafranowska (University of Warsaw) “Monstrous Menstruation: Untangling Menstruation and Feminity” Mehmet Zeki Giritli (Koç University in Istanbul) “Resisting Through Performance: Independent Theatres and Queer Expression under Censorship in Turkey and Beyond”
	2.20	Session 8: CONTEMPORARY CENSORSHIP: MALTA, ITALY, POLAND Chair: Katarzyna Więckowska Vicki Ann Cremona (University of Malta); Marco Galea (University of Malta) “Beggars’ Banquet: State sponsorship and artistic liberty in contemporary Malta” Rita Agatina Di Leo (University of Bari Aldo Moro and University of Rome La Sapienza) “Là dove si uccide e si guarda / Where killing meets the gaze: Magazzini Criminali at Santarcangelo Festival”

		Marek Jeziński (Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń) “Silencing Music: ‘Top 10’ and ‘Best of’ Lists as a Form of Invisible Censorship and Symbolic Violence in Contemporary Music Criticism”
12:30-13:00	Aula A4	POLISH ASSOCIATION FOR IRISH STUDIES ANNUAL TRANSLATION AWARDS
13:00-14:00	Second floor	Lunch break
14:00-14:30	Aula A4	ONLINE LECTURE PERFORMANCE Chair: Anne Etienne (University College Cork) Mahana Narimani (Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham City University); Mehdi Mashhadi Kazemi (indep.) “Censorship and Contemporary Iranian Theatre”
14:30-16:00	Aula A4	DISCUSSION PANEL: “Feeling the Limits: Censorship and Creative Freedom in Theatre, Film, and Visual Arts in the Age of Populism” Chairs: Anne Etienne (University College Cork) and Michał Lachman (University of Lodz) Participants: Kate Heffernan (playwright, independent producer, designer, editor, Ireland), Mahana Narimani (playwright, theatre director, actress, Iran/UK), Mehdi Mashhadi Kazemi (actor, director choreographer, Iran/UK), and a statement from Reza Shirmarz (playwright, theatre scholar, Iran/USA)
16:00-18:30	ms2 Art Museum (19 Ogrodowa Street)	Museum Tour of <i>Eye of the Storm. Modernism in Ukraine</i>, a temporary exhibition at ms2 Art Museum (optional; the guided tour at the museum starts ca. 16:45)

Saturday, October 25

10:00-11:30	2.20	Keynote lecture 2 Chair: Anna Kowalcze-Pawlik (University of Lodz) Jacek Fabiszak (Adam Mickiewicz University) “The Censorship Effect, or Doublespeak after Doublespeak. The Case of Chrzanowski’s <i>Othello</i> (1981/84)”
11:30-12:00	Second floor	Coffee break
12:00-13:30	2.20	Session 9: CHALLENGING SELF-CENSORSHIP AND THE QUESTION OF ART IN SHAKESPEAREAN PERFORMANCE Chair: Magdalena Cieślak (University of Lodz) Imke Lichterfeld (University of Bonn) “‘Control and Agency’ – Casting in <i>Titus Andronicus</i>” Anna Kowalcze-Pawlik (University of Lodz) “‘To Avoid the Carping Censures of the World’?: Staging <i>Richard III</i>” Nicole Fayard (University of Leicester) “Disavowed Stages: Race, Constraint and Theatrical Silence in the French Republic”
	2.07	Session 10: TRANSLATION AND HYBRIDITY Chair: Michał Lachman Christopher Ballengee (Vincent Pol University in Lublin) “Creolization as Translation: Food and Music in the Indian Caribbean” Katarzyna Ćwikła (University of Lodz) “The Study of Censorship from the Perspective of Irish Colonial History and Its Impact on Artistic Expression in Irish Post-Colonial Literature” Michał Lachman (University of Lodz) “Between Cultural Censorship and Privacy of Culture: the case of B. Friel’s <i>Translations</i> and S. Heaney’s <i>Beowulf</i>”

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