

Lady Gregory Of Coole - An Autumn Gathering

Fourteenth Lady Gregory Autumn Gathering 26, 27 and 28 September, 2008

The autumn gathering is a programme of social and cultural events to highlight the unique contribution of a Galway woman, Lady Gregory, to the national life of 20th century Ireland.

Friday 26th September at The Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

2.30 p.m. Guided Tour (including the Persse graves in Killinan graveyard) with Sr. Mary de Lourdes Fahy and Councillor Bridie Willers. Coach from the Hotel at 2.30 p.m.

6.30 – 7.15 Registration

7.30 Reception and Welcome by the Director Ronnie O’Gorman

8.00 The Formal Opening will be performed by Richard Persse, grandnephew of Lady Gregory; followed by the cutting of the traditional Gort Barm Brack

8.45 Address by author and playwright Christopher Fitz-Simon

Saturday 27th September at Coole Park

LECTURE SESSION chaired by Dr. Joe Hassett, lawyer and Yeats scholar.

10.00 a.m. “Irresponsible Beings” ? : Irish landlords as cultural nationalists
Madeleine Humphreys, Author of a recent biography of Edward Martyn

11.15 Coffee.

11.45 Hugh Lane Gallery – the return of the thirty nine paintings
Barbara Dawson, Director of the Hugh Lane Gallery Dublin

1.00 p.m. Lunch.

2.15 Lady Gregory’s stage translations and adaptations
Tom Kilroy, Award-winning dramatist and novelist

3.30 Forum : An opportunity for discussions with the speakers.

4.00 – 5.30 Guided Walk in the Woods of Coole (with a guide from the National Parks and

Wildlife Service) OR View the exhibition and documentary film about Lady Gregory and Coole Park.

7.00 p.m. Reception at Coole Park for 7.30 : Candlelit Dinner

Followed by The Workhouse Ward presented by The Wild Swan Theatre Company

Sunday 28th September at Coole Park

10.30 a.m. Visit to Tulira Castle, home of Edward Martyn, by kind permission of Ruud and Femmy Bolmeijer.
Coach from the Hotel at 10 a.m. for Tulira; leaving Tulira at 12.30 p.m. for Coole Visitors' Centre.

1.00 p.m. Lunch at Coole,
Followed by Christopher Fitz-Simon reading from his widely acclaimed recent book *Eleven Houses : A Memoir of Childhood*

3.15 (app.) Return to Lady Gregory Hotel for Tea and Brack, then Goodbye and Slán abhaile!

***PLEASE NOTE:** Due to limited seating capacity at Coole early booking is essential to avoid disappointment*

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