

Adventurers, Emissaries and Settlers: Ireland and Latin America

27-30 June 2007, National University of Ireland, Galway

The Society for Irish Latin American Studies was founded in July 2003 to promote the study of relations between Ireland and Latin America. The range of interest of the Society spans the settlement, lives and achievements of Irish migrants to Latin America and their descendants, the contemporary presence of Ireland in the life and culture of Latin America and the presence of Latin Americans in Ireland.

From the mythical visit of Saint Brendan the Navigator to Mexico in the sixth century and the migration of tens of thousands of people from the Irish midlands to Buenos Aires province in the nineteenth, to the conviction of three Irishmen with alleged IRA connections in Colombia and the settlement of a community of Brazilians in South County Galway in the twenty-first century, the pattern of relations between Ireland and Latin America has been heterogeneous, fragmentary, and erratic.

Adventurers, Emissaries and Settlers: Ireland and Latin America is the first conference of its kind, including papers on any aspect of the multitudinous connections between Latin America and Ireland from academics and the general public in disciplines such as history, geography, politics, literature and linguistics. The aim of the conference is to promote the exchange of views and research findings on a diverse range of issues and on an inter-disciplinary basis.

The SILAS conference will take place concurrently and in conjunction with the Fifth Galway Conference on Colonialism.

SILAS is extremely grateful to the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs for its support of the conference.

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