



Queen's University
Belfast

SCHOOL OF
History and Anthropology



SCREENING HISTORY AT THE ULSTER MUSEUM

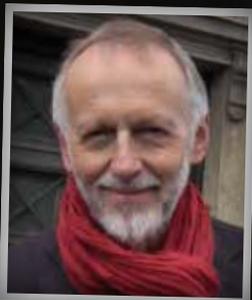
30 APRIL – 23 MAY

www.qub.ac.uk/sites/frankryan



SCREENING HISTORY

AT THE ULSTER MUSEUM



ULSTER MUSEUM, 1 PM, WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL

Ian Christie (Birkbeck, University of London): *Never mind the facts: why films invent the past*

Dramatic films notoriously take liberties with the historical record, and are often accused of misleading public opinion. In this illustrated talk, Ian Christie argues that we should take films seriously for the ways they bring the past to life, but not mistake them for textbooks.

Ian Christie, FBA, is Professor of Film and Media History at Birkbeck. A Queen's graduate, he has published widely on Russian and British cinema; early film; Powell and Pressburger; and Martin Scorsese. A regular broadcaster, Ian is currently directing a project in the Czech Republic on 'Representing the Past'.

ULSTER MUSEUM, 6 PM, THURSDAY, 8 MAY

Screening: *The Enigma of Frank Ryan* (Des Bell, 2012).

Followed by Q&A with director, Des Bell (NCAD) and historical consultant, Fearghal McGarry (Queen's University Belfast).

Frank Ryan's life remains an enigma. The teenage IRA volunteer, dissident republican and Spanish International Brigade volunteer ended his life working for the Nazis in wartime Berlin. A leading film-maker, Des Bell employs the imaginative resources of the creative documentary to explore a human story of truly tragic proportions.

Desmond Bell is Head of Academic Affairs and Research at the National College of Art and Design, Dublin. He has directed several films for television and cinema including *Child of the Dead End* (2009) *Rebel Frontier* (2005) and *Hard Road to Klondike* (1999).



ULSTER MUSEUM, 1 PM, THURSDAY, 15 MAY

James Chapman (University of Leicester): *Film and public history*

More people 'know' their history from seeing movies than reading books but what responsibility does this place on the film-maker as historian? Professional historians have typically been dismissive of film for its factual errors and misinterpretation. This lecture, which explores how films present ideologies of nationhood, class, gender and imperialism, will argue that film is often as valuable a source for understanding the present in which it was made as the past in which it is set.

James Chapman is Professor of Film Studies at the University of Leicester. He has published widely on film and cultural history including on the British at war, James Bond, national identity, and Dr Who. His most recent publication is *Film and History* (Palgrave, 2013).



ULSTER MUSEUM, 1 PM, FRIDAY 23 MAY

Alison Ribeiro de Menezes (University of Warwick), *Screening Memory: The Spanish Civil War*.

The Spanish Civil War ended 75 years ago, yet its legacy is still keenly debated in Spain today. This talk explores how the war been depicted in film, and the contribution that film as a medium might make to the remembrance of conflictive pasts.

Professor Alison Ribeiro de Menezes is head of Hispanic Studies at Warwick University. She has published widely on contemporary Spanish narrative and cultural memory. Alison's new monograph, *Embodying Memory in Contemporary Spain*, has just been published by Palgrave Macmillan.

