

IBBY Ireland announces

Green Gables to Globalization: Crossover, Canada and Children's Books

**A one-day conference to be held on October 18th 2008
in The Church of Ireland College of Education, Upper Rathmines, Dublin 6.**

The main theme of the conference will examine ways in which children's literature transcend boundaries of all kinds, focusing in particular on crossover fiction and a sense of belonging in books from Canada, a post-colonial, multiethnic society.

Keynote speakers



Sandra L. Beckett is a professor in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures at Brock University. She is a member of the Royal Society of Canada and a former president of the International Research Society for Children's Literature. She has authored numerous books, including *Crossover Fiction: Global and Historical Perspectives* (Routledge, 2008), *Red Riding Hood for All Ages: A Fairy-Tale Icon in Cross-Cultural Contexts* (Wayne State UP, 2008), *Recycling Red Riding Hood* (Routledge, 2002), and *De grands romanciers écrivent pour les enfants* (Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1997). She is the editor or co-editor of many books, including *Beyond Babar: The European Tradition in Children's Literature* (Scarecrow, 2006), *Transcending Boundaries* (Garland, 1999), *Reflections of Change: Children's Literature Since 1945* (Greenwood, 1997).



Irene Gammel is Professor of English and holds the Canada Research Chair in Modern Literature and Culture at Ryerson University, Toronto. She is also the director of the Modern Culture Multi-Media Centre, which is dedicated to the preservation and study of early twentieth-century modern texts and artifacts. She has served as president of the Canadian Comparative Literature Association, editorial board member of *Canadian Literature*, co-chair of the L. M. Montgomery Institute, vice-president of the Canadian Comparative Literature Association, and director of Women's Studies at UPEI. She is the author and editor of eight books, including *Making Avonlea* (PEI Heritage Award), *The Intimate Life of L.M. Montgomery* and *Looking for Anne: How Lucy Maud Montgomery Dreamed Up a Literary Classic* (published by Key Porter books 2008). She is also the curator of 'Anne of Green Gables: A Literary Icon at 100' an exhibit that will be touring across Canada between April, 2008, and March, 2009 to celebrate the centenary anniversary of the publication of *Anne of Green Gables*.



Tim Wynne-Jones has written over two-dozen books including adult novels, picture books, short story anthologies and young adult novels. He has twice won the Canadian Governor General's Award for children's literature: for *Some of the Kinder Planets*, and *The Maestro* and The Canadian Library Association Book of the Year Award three times. He has also won the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for *Some of the Kinder Planets*, the first Canadian to do so. His work has been translated into Japanese, Korean, Danish, Dutch, German, French, Italian, Hebrew and Catalan. His novel, *The Boy in the Burning House*, won the Edgar Award of the Mystery Writers of America, the Arthur Ellis Award

of the Crime Writers of Canada, and was short-listed for the Guardian Prize in Great Britain. *The Maestro*, retitled *The Survival Game* in the UK, was short-listed for the Guardian Prize, as well. His 2006 novel, *Rex Zero and the End of the World*, was short-listed for the Toronto-Dominion Children's Book Centre Book of the Year, was chosen a Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor Book, and made the American Library Association's Best Books for Children List. The sequel, *Rex Zero, King of Nothing*, was published in 2007.

There will be shorter presentations from a number of other speakers including Kieran Fanning, Brian O'Neill (DIT, Rathmines) and Martina Siefert (Queen's University).

Programme

- 9.30 a.m. Registration
Welcome by President of iBbY Ireland, Valerie Coghlan
- 10.00 a.m. Opening of the conference by the Canadian Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency Patrick Binns.
- 10.30 a.m. Irene Gammel
Looking for Anne of Green Gables: A Literary Icon at 100
- 11.30 a.m. Coffee break
- 12 p.m. Perspectives on Canada and Children's Books:

Kieran Fanning,
After the rain, the rainbow: A Christian reading of Robert Cormier's The Chocolate War and Beyond the Chocolate War.

Brian O'Neill,
Young people's media education in Canada

Martina Siefert,
Imaginary Canada: How some guys in shorts fooled a nation
- 1.30p.m. Lunch
- 2.30 p.m. Sandra Beckett:
Crossover Fiction and Border Crossings in a Globalized World.
- 3.30 p.m. Tim Wynne-Jones
Between Belonging and Otherness: The Book as Passport.
- 4.30 p.m. Close of conference followed by a wine reception sponsored by the Canadian Embassy, Dublin and the presentation of IBBY Honour Book Certificates to Éilís Ní Dhuibhne, Oliver Jeffers and Siobhán Parkinson, and Hans Christian Andersen Award Certificates to Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick and Kate Thompson.

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iBbY Ireland would like to thank the Canadian Embassy Dublin for sponsoring the wine reception.