Theatres of the Dead
Performance, Anatomy and Archaeology

Image: The Medical Museum, Queen’s College Cork at the beginning of the 20th century (O’Rahilly, 1949). Using UCC as our study site, the Living Well with the Dead project includes archival and ethnographic research on the display and pedagogical enlisting of the dead since the foundation of the university to produce bodies of knowledge and the ‘order of things’.

19 March 2019, 11am – 5.30pm, CACSSS Seminar Room ORB G27 & Film and Screen Media Centre in Kane Building B10 (Basement)

Speakers
Joanna Sofaer, Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton
Margaret Werry, Theatre Arts and Dance, University of Minnesota
Anna Furse, Department of Theatre and Performance, Goldsmiths University of London
Oonagh Kearney, Independent Film-maker

This transdisciplinary workshop, which will include a screening of Oonagh Kearney’s award winning film *Five Letters to the Stanger who will Dissect my Brain*, is the fourth in the series of workshops in the project *Living Well with the Dead in Contemporary Ireland* (see https://livingwithdead.wixsite.com/website). This project aims to find new ways of thinking about, researching and responding to contemporary public disquiet in Ireland about uncared-for dead bodies.

Through creative and critical approaches from theatre and performance studies, digital media and film, museology and archaeology, this workshop offers provocations and insights into the ways bodies become theatres, performances or sites, and where questions of who and what are displayed and for what audience, what is onstage and what is ‘obscene’ (off-stage), will continue to develop the on-going debates of the Living Well with the Dead project.

Programme
Welcome and introduction – Róisín O’Gorman, Department of Theatre

11.15 Joanna Sofaer, Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton
The Body as Material Culture. Reflections Between Archaeology and Live Art

12.30 Lunch

1.30 Margaret Werry, Theatre Arts and Dance, University of Minnesota
On the Afterlives of Teratological Specimens

2.30 Anna Furse, Theatre and Performance, Goldsmiths University of London
I am Not a Piece of Meat: the public and private dead body as comprehended through Anna Furse Performs an Anatomy Act, a Show and Tell

3.30 Coffee

4.00 Oonagh Kearney
Screening and discussion of Five Letters to the Stanger who will Dissect my Brain

5.15 Roundtable discussion

The readings for this event are available
at: https://livingwithdead.wixsite.com/website/events

The workshop is open to all, but if you plan on attending please email Robert Bolton at robert.bolton@ucc.ie