

Heinrich Böll Weekend

May 4th – May 6th 2018
Achill Island Ireland

Friday May 4th

Ticket 1 €20

19:00 Welcome Reception. **Cyril Gray Hall Dugort**

19:30 Official Opening: **H.E. Mrs. Deike Potzel:**
Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany.

20:30 **Patricia Byrne:** *The Preacher and the Prelate: Achill Mission Colony and the battle for souls in famine Ireland.* Book Launch. Introduction: **Sheila Mc Hugh.** Edward Nangle sets out to lift the destitute people of Achill through his Achill Mission Colony. In the years of the Great Famine the ugly charge of ‘souperism’, offering food in return for religious conversion, tainted the Achill Mission. John MacHale, Archbishop of Tuam, spearheaded the Catholic Church’s fightback against Nangle’s colony.

21:15 **Frank Finlay:** Heinrich Böll’s “Afterlife” in the Berlin Republic – a tale of “lost honour” ?

When Heinrich Böll died in 1985, the first citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, he was widely regarded as the country’s foremost writer and one of its most influential public figures. In the intervening years his reputation was notably downgraded. This was the case in a number of heated literary debates following Unification. Critical response to a number of Böll’s novels published posthumously since the turn of the Millennium and the contribution they made to the fiercely contested area of Germany’s public memory of National Socialism, WWII and the Holocaust. I offer some thoughts on the vitality of Böll’s legacy as we commemorate the 100th anniversary of his birth.