



Ulster  
Museum

explore / engage / enjoy



NORTHERN BANK  
ULSTER MUSEUM  
**LECTURE  
SERIES**  
**2010**

ULSTER MUSEUM  
WED 10 MARCH - THUR 29 APRIL 2010

<sup>Belfast</sup>  
**Telegraph**  
Media Partner

Northern Bank

# FOREWORD



**Tim Cooke**

Director  
National Museums Northern Ireland

I am delighted to welcome back the Northern Bank Ulster Museum Lecture Series for 2010. We are now in our thirtieth year of the Series and are grateful to Northern Bank for their loyal partnership in these ever popular lectures.

In recent years, as part of the museum outreach programme, we had taken the Lecture Series 'on the road' as the Ulster Museum underwent a major rejuvenation project. This project is now complete and the public response has been exceptional. We are now very pleased to bring the Lecture Series back 'home' to the reinvigorated Ulster Museum.

Our aim is that every visitor to the Ulster Museum will be enriched by their experience and find inspiration in the museum's galleries, exhibitions and events. The Northern Bank Lecture Series is an important part of the museum's events programme designed to engage and inform all ages and interests.

I hope you will thoroughly enjoy the diverse and distinguished line-up of speakers in the 2010 Northern Bank Ulster Museum Lecture Series.

My thanks also go to the Belfast Telegraph, media partner of the Lecture Series, for its valuable support.



**Gerry Mallon**

Chief Executive Officer  
Northern Bank

Northern Bank's award-winning association with the Ulster Museum is one of our longest standing partnerships.

Over the past three years, as our friends and colleagues at the Museum closed its doors to undertake an ambitious rejuvenation of the much loved venue, we were proud to enable the popular Northern Bank Ulster Museum Lectures to take place at venues across Northern Ireland. This year, with the reopening of the wonderfully transformed Ulster Museum we are coming back to the landmark venue. We look forward to welcoming this year's interesting and entertaining speakers to a breathtaking museum of which we can all be very proud.

Congratulations to National Museums Northern Ireland for a wonderful achievement in enhancing this iconic building for generations to come.

Whether you are a regular follower of this well established lecture series or a newcomer this year, we look forward to welcoming you.

AN EVENING WITH

# Neil McCormick

Music writer and author

**Is there too  
much music?**

**Wednesday 10th March**

**Ulster Museum 7.30pm**

Neil McCormick is one of the UK's best known music critics. His weekly column in the Daily Telegraph is syndicated around the world and he is a regular guest on BBC television and radio.

Neil started working for Hot Press music magazine in Dublin as a 17-year-old punk rock art school drop out in 1978. He was a schoolfriend and confidante of U2, and misspent most of his youth as a singer in a succession of obscure bands, including Frankie Corpse and the Undertakers, The Modulators, Yeah! Yeah! and Shook Up! His musical misadventures are laid out in painful detail in the acclaimed 2003 memoir Killing Bono (published in the UK as I Was Bono's Doppelganger) which Bono described as "Very funny, very moving." Indeed, Bono was so impressed with Neil's autobiography, he asked him to collaborate on U2's. Neil is the author of U2 By U2, the best selling music book in the world in 2006. He is currently working on his first novel.



A film of Killing Bono is in production, with principal shooting taking place in Belfast in January and February this year, with city streets dressed up to represent Dublin and London. Ben Barnes (The Picture Of Dorian Gray and Prince Caspian in the Narnia film series) stars as Neil and Martin McCann as Bono, and it is directed by Belfast born Nick Hamm (The Hole, Godsend). It will be released late 2010.

Despite the discouragement of some of his fellow critics, Neil continues to make music on the sidelines under the alias The Ghost Who Walks.

## **Ticket Hotline**

028 9044 0051

(Tues–Sun 10am–5pm)

## **Ticket Price**

£7.50

£4.50 Student rate

£4.50 Group discount (6 or more)

**For more information:** [www.nmni.com](http://www.nmni.com)

**Email:** [info@nmni.com](mailto:info@nmni.com)

AN EVENING WITH

# Matthew Fort

Award winning food writer and critic

**Food isn't a matter of life and death.  
It's more important than that.**

**Monday 29th March**

**Ulster Museum**

**7.30pm**

Matthew Fort's food writing career was founded in 1986 when he began a column about food in the Financial Times Saturday Review. In 1989 he became Food & Drink Editor of The Guardian, a position he still holds. Since then he has written for a wide variety of British, American and French publications.

He was Glenfiddich Food Writer of the Year and Restaurateurs' Writer of the Year in 1991, Glenfiddich Restaurant Writer of the Year in 1992, and Glenfiddich Cookery Writer of the Year in 2005. In 1998 he published *Rhubarb & Black Pudding* (Fourth Estate), a book about the Michelin-starred chef, Paul Heathcote. His second book, *Eating Up Italy* (Fourth Estate), was the Guild of Food Writers' Book of the Year in 2005. His most recent book, *Sweet Honey, Bitter Lemons* (2008; Ebury Press), a food portrait of Sicily, won the Premio Sicilia Madre Mediterranea in 2009.



Recent television series include *Greatest Dishes in the World* (Sky; 2005); *The Forager's Field Guide* (ITV; 2005). Currently he's a judge on *The Great British Menu* (BBC2; 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010), and he co-presents *Market Kitchen* (UKTVFood) with Tom Parker Bowles.

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AN EVENING WITH

# Wendy Houvenaghel

World champion and Olympic cyclist

Wendy Houvenaghel in conversation  
with Stephen Watson.

Thursday 15th April

Ulster Museum

7.30pm

Hailing from Upperlands near Maghera in Co Londonderry, racing cyclist Wendy Houvenaghel has put Northern Ireland on the cycling map. In only 3 years as a professional, she has won an Olympic Silver Medal, a World Championship Silver Medal and is two times a World Champion at the Velodrome.

Wendy entered the world of professional cycling comparatively late in life, yet immediately made an impact by winning the UCI World Cup competition for the 3000m Individual Pursuit at her first attempt. This show of talent and ability was quickly rewarded with a place on British Cycling's Olympic Podium Plan with the aim of medalling at the Beijing Games.

Wendy qualified fastest in the initial round of the Individual Pursuit competition at the Beijing Olympics and went on to win silver, losing out on gold to her team mate by just two seconds. She later won silver again in the same event at the 2009 Track World Championships. She has also been pivotal in maintaining the GB trio's stranglehold on the Team Pursuit over the last 2 years during which time they have won two World Championship titles and broken the World Record.



Wendy is also a world class Time-Trialist on the road, with numerous British titles to her name as well as having won International events in Europe.

In 2008, Wendy, with the GB cycling team, won the BBC Sports Personality of the Year team award and she went on to be named as Northern Ireland Sports Star of the Year for 2008 at the Belfast Telegraph Sports Awards.

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AN EVENING WITH

# Bettany Hughes

Historian, writer and broadcaster

**Femmes Fatales – the greatest and most dangerous women in history.**

**Thursday 29th April**

**Ulster Museum**

**7.30pm**

Bettany grew up in West London with her brother the cricketer Simon Hughes. Her parents were in the theatre: she learnt early the importance and delight of sharing thoughts and ideas with a wider public. Bettany won a scholarship to read Ancient and Modern History at Oxford University and then continued her post-graduate research while traveling through the Balkans and Asia Minor. In recognition of her contribution to research, Bettany has been awarded a Research Fellowship at King's London.

Bettany lectures throughout the world. She has been invited to universities in the US, Australia, Germany, Turkey and Holland to speak on subjects as diverse as Helen of Troy and the origins of female 'Sophia' to concepts of Time in the Islamic world. She considers her work in the lecture hall and seminar room amongst the most important and rewarding she does.

She has written and presented a number of documentaries for television including When The Moors Ruled Europe, Helen of Troy and The Spartans for Channel 4. In the next few months she is involved in a number of history programmes on BBC1, Channel 4, BBC Radio 4, including an 8 week documentary series entitled The Story of the Ancient World with Bettany Hughes starting on 24th March on More4.



Bettany is frequently asked to sit on academic and cultural jury panels, most recently the RTS and Grierson Documentary Awards. She is a Research Fellow of King's College, London.

Her book Helen of Troy - the first serious and wide-ranging book ever to have been written about Helen - was published in 2005 to great critical and popular acclaim. She is currently writing a book on Socrates.

Bettany sits on the Innovation Committee of NESTA and she is an advisor to the Foundation for Science Technology and Civilisation.

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The logo for Ulster Museum, featuring the text "Ulster Museum" in white and orange, set within a white outline of a stylized map of Northern Ireland.

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Tickets may also be obtained in advance by post by sending a cheque made out to National Museums Northern Ireland.

Refunds cannot be given.

Post to:

Northern Bank Lectures  
Ulster Museum  
Botanic Gardens  
Belfast  
BT9 5AB

For further information visit:

[www.nmni.com](http://www.nmni.com)