

# SIPTU Programme 1916 2016

Celebrating the centenary of the Easter Rising

1916 - 2016  
SIPTU: Organising for  
Fairness at Work and  
Justice in Society

**PÓBLAICHT NA h-ÉIREANN.**  
**THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT**  
**OF THE**  
**IRISH REPUBLIC**  
**TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.**

**IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN:** In the name of God and of the dead generations from which we receive the tradition of our national life, we hereby solemnly protest against the wrongs and injustices of the British Empire.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible.

The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally...

THOMAS J. CLARKE  
SEAN W. HALEWYLA, THOMAS WATSON  
P. H. HARRIS, DANIEL CLARKE,  
JAMES CONNOLLY, JOSEPH KELLY

**THE DREAM OF AN IRISH REPUBLIC WAS BORN**



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# Liberty Hall and the Rising

**Liberty Hall is the birthplace of the Irish Citizen Army (ICA) and cradle of the Irish revolution. It is where the Easter Rising was planned and where the 1916 Proclamation was printed.**

It is where the leaders of the Rising assembled on Easter Monday and where they and members of the ICA, Cumann na mBan and the Irish Volunteers marched to the GPO and the other centres of rebellion. (The ICA was formed by James Connolly, with union members, to protect workers during the 1913 Lockout.)

Led by Connolly, the acting general secretary of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union (now SIPTU), and the other signatories of the Proclamation, these courageous men and women were the founders of modern Ireland, many of them laying down their lives during and after Easter Week one hundred years ago.

The events outlined in this programme are intended to highlight the role played by working people, the ICA, James Connolly and Liberty Hall in the Easter Rising, including the printing of the Proclamation and preparations for the insurrection. Glórtha 1916 will celebrate the centenary through music and song.

The centenary programme will also focus on how the vision of the men and women who led and participated in the Easter Rising compares with the reality of Ireland today through discussion and debate on current issues of national and international significance.

*February 2016*



# 1916 Wrap on Liberty Hall

A wrap depicting images, including the Proclamation, prominent Irish Citizen Army (ICA) and other activists during the 1916 Rising will be erected on three sides of Liberty Hall in early March, 2016.

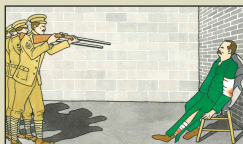
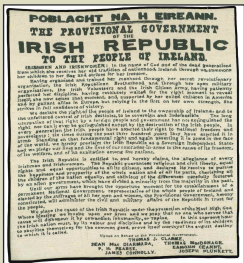
The wrap will highlight the crucial role played by the labour movement and the ICA, the first workers army and the only military organisation of the era to admit women as members. It will feature new designs based on the events of Easter 1916 by artist, Robert Ballagh.



# Tapestries

Seven new tapestries depicting images from the Irish Revolution and based on drawings by Robert Ballagh will be produced by volunteers for Easter Week 2016. They will be displayed in Liberty Hall during the centenary events along with the 30 tapestries produced in 2013 to commemorate the Dublin Lockout.

In 1913, members of the Irish Transport and General Workers led by Jim Larkin and James Connolly took on the employers of Dublin led by William Martin Murphy who refused to recognise the right of workers to join the trade union of their choice.



Lockout tapestry panel

# Glórtha 1916

**Sunday 13th March**

## **Mise Eire and Saoirse?**

Celebration of two iconic  
films by George Morrison

Introduction by SIPTU President,  
Jack O'Connor

Presentation to George Morrison  
by President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins

Music interval with Peadar O'Riada

**2.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.**

**Liberty Hall Theatre**



**Entry €10;  
Tickets from  
www.ctb.ie or  
Tel: 01 858 8217.  
Email: info@siptu.ie**

**Organised by  
Reclaim the Vision,  
Progressive Film Club  
and SIPTU**

**Wednesday 16th March**

## **'The Devil's Crew' –**

Remembering Peadar Kearney

Featuring: Eva Kearney, Liam O'Connor, Sally Corr,  
Noel Pocock, Pat Goode, Martin Whelan, Des Geraghty

**8.00 – 11.00 p.m.**

**Clé Club**

**Cois Life Bar**

**Liberty Hall**

**Admission €5 at door**





**Saturday 19th March**

## **Conference: Workers and the Rising**

Speakers include: Ethel Buckley (SIPTU), Bernadette Devlin-McAliskey, Dan Finn (New Left Review), Bhaskar Sunkara (editor: Jacobin Magazine), Padraig Yeates, Mary McAuliffe (UCD), Jesse Jones, Sarah Browne, Donal Fallon, Brian Hanley, Moira Murphy, Sarah-Anne Buckley (NUIG), Niamh Puirseil, Terry Moylan, Lynn Ruane (TCDSU), Jer O'Leary

**11.00 a.m. – 6.30 p.m.**

**Liberty Hall Theatre**

**Free admission**

**7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.**

**Social in Cois Life bar:**

**For further info contact:**

**Ronan Burtenshaw:**

**087 174 1254 or 01 858 8217**

**Sunday 20th March**

## **Raising of the flag**

A ceremony will be held to mark the raising of the flag of the Irish Republic over Liberty Hall on Palm Sunday, 1916. This will be performed by descendants of Molly O'Reilly who was asked by James Connolly to raise the original flag. The re-enactment will also involve the Fintan Lalor Pipe Band and Dublin Fire Brigade Band which will perform music from the period and activists from the union and the north inner city community in Irish Citizen Army and period dress.

**11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.**

**Liberty Hall**



# Glórtha 1916

The Rising Centenary Concert

**Easter Saturday,  
26th March 2016**

**Liberty Hall •  
8.00 p.m. - 11.00 p.m.**

*Christy Moore*

*Damo*

*Paula Meehan*

*Matt Molloy*

*Louise Mulcahy and Conon McKeon*

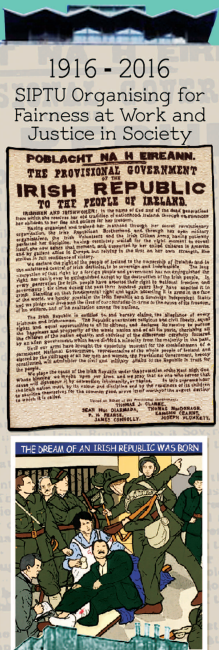
*Stephen Murphy*

*Mick Blake*

*Robert Ballagh*

**Special guests:  
President Michael D Higgins  
and Sabina Higgins**

**Tickets: €30 • Tel: 01 858 8217  
Email: [info@siptu.ie](mailto:info@siptu.ie)**



# Easter Monday 28th March

## Liberty Hall and the Rising

**SIPTU - RTE Co-Production.**

**Featuring**

MC: Pádraig Murray

Frances Black (Songs of the Rising)

Francis Devine, (Making the Proclamation)

Nell Regan, (on Helena Molony)

Rachel Phelan (Flags of the Rising)

Mick Halpenny (The Irish Citizen Army)

Joe Duffy (Children of the Rising)

**2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.**

**Liberty Hall**

**Free public event**

**Tickets available from**

**Liberty Hall**

**Tel: 01 858 8217**

**or [www.rte.ie/1916](http://www.rte.ie/1916)**



# Easter Tuesday 29th March

## State Commemoration of Irish Citizen Army



President Michael D. Higgins will lay a wreath at the statue of James Connolly at Liberty Hall and unveil a plaque to the members of the Irish Citizen Army who died during the Easter Rising. Relatives of those members of the ICA who lost their lives during the Rising and of survivors will attend. A public viewing area will be erected for the wreath laying ceremony.

**11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.**

**Liberty Hall**



**Wed. 30th March – Fri. 1st April**

## **Pull Down a Horseman**

Play by Eugene McCabe

The debate between James Connolly and Pádraig Pearse on the aims and objectives of the Easter Rising  
Performed by Declan Brennan and M J Sullivan

**1.00 p.m. - 2.00 p.m.**

**Dublin Lyric Theatre**

**Connolly Room, Liberty Hall**

**Tickets at door: €10**

**(including soup and sandwich)**

**Wednesday 30th March**

## **Connolly Was There – songs of labour and the Irish Citizen Army**

Clé Club centenary session

Featuring: Tommy Sands, Liam O'Connor,  
Bread and Roses, Síle Denvir

**8.00 p.m. – 10.30 p.m.**

**Clé Club, Liberty Hall**

**Tickets €5 at door.**

**Thursday 31st March**

## **Women at Work:**

An historic and contemporary reflection on women's role in society over the last 100 years - Exploring the aspirations for Women in the 1916 Proclamation with drama, music and talk

Speakers include Sara Durkan, Mary McAuliffe, Mags O'Brien, Anne Speed

Featuring singers, Niamh Parsons and Eric Fleming.  
Photographic exhibition.

Book launch of *'Helena Molony'* by Nell Regan

**6.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.**

**Liberty Hall Theatre**

**Free public event.**

# **Glórtha 1916**

# **Traditional Music and Poetry Night**

**Friday 1st April**

8.00 p.m. – 10.30 p.m.

Liberty Hall Theatre

**Theo Dorgan**

**Lynched**

**Liam Ó Maonlaí**

**Declan O'Rourke**

**Niall and Caoimhín Vallely**

**Karan Casey**

**Aoife Ní Bhriain**

**Kate Ellis**

**Cora Venus Lunny**

**Lisa Dowdall**

**Louis de Paor**

**Mick O'Brien**



**Tickets: €20 from [www.ctb.ie](http://www.ctb.ie) or**

**Tel: 01 858 8217 • Email: [info@siptu.ie](mailto:info@siptu.ie)**

**Saturday 2nd April**

## **Mothers**

A short film about the men in County Laois who fired the first shots of the Rising

With Lia Egan and Michael D McKiernan.

**5.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.**

**Connolly Room**

**Liberty Hall**

**Admission: €5 at door**

**Followed by reception in Cois Life Bar**

**Sunday 24th April**

## **March re-enactment**

Re-enactment of the march by the Irish Citizen Army, Irish Volunteers and Cumann na mBan from Liberty Hall to the GPO on Easter

Monday 1916 with community and trade union activists.

**11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.**

**Liberty Hall**



**Thursday 12th May**

## **Centenary commemoration of the execution of James Connolly**

**Prominent keynote speaker and performers to be announced.**

**Liberty Hall Theatre**



## Sunday 15th May Annual James Connolly commemoration



Wreath laying by SIPTU President, Jack O'Connor at the grave of James Connolly.

Wreath laying at grave of Eamon Ceannt by IMPACT general secretary, Shay Cody.

Wreath laying by leader of the Labour Party, Joan Burton.

**12.00 noon**

**Arbour Hill cemetery**

## Thursday 4th August TUC and Irish Labour Party 1916 meeting in Sligo

The Sligo/Roscommon/Leitrim district committee of SIPTU will commemorate the meeting of the Trade Union Congress and the Irish Labour Party which took place in the Town Hall, Sligo on 7th and 8th August 1916. Speakers include Padraig Yeates and local historian, Brian Scanlon.

**7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.**

**Town Hall, Sligo**

# Exhibition

An exhibition of Irish Citizen Army and union memorabilia from 1916 including photographs, paintings and other items of historical interest will be on display in Liberty Hall during the Easter commemoration events.



# Commemorative badge

SIPTU will produce a commemorative Irish Citizen Army badge to mark the centenary year and the role the men and women of the ICA and the union played in the events that marked the birth of the modern Irish state.



# Liberty

A special edition of the SIPTU newspaper, Liberty, will be produced in March 2016 to remember the role of the members of the Irish Citizen Army and the ITGWU who fought and died for national and social liberation during and after the Easter Rising. It will feature original articles, features and photographs from the revolutionary year.



# SIPTU commemorative diary

A special commemorative 2016 diary recording the events of 1916 before, during and after the Easter Rising with illustrations and images from the period.



# Irish Citizen Army plaques

SIPTU's Dublin District Council will unveil plaques in locations where ICA sections were based around the city involving talks, street theatre and music events in conjunction with community based organisations. The first plaque will be unveiled on 11th March, 2016, at Connolly House, Five Lamps, Dublin 1.





## ITUC Archives 1900 – 1925

The ITUC archives will go online by August 2016. These files contain a wealth of information on political, economic and social developments in Ireland, North and South, for the first quarter of the 20th century.

Through the reports of the Parliamentary Committee (National Executive) and debates of delegates at conferences they provide a unique insight into the problems confronting working people across the island in a period that witnessed the rise of the modern labour movement, the First World War, the Easter Rising, the War of Independence, Partition, the Belfast Pogroms, and the Civil War, as well as the establishment of the Northern Ireland Parliament and the Irish Free State.

So far these records have only been available to a small group of labour historians.

## DMP Records for 1905 – 1918

The Prisoners Books will be put online by SIPTU in partnership with University College, Dublin during the centenary events. They contain the names, age, occupation, alleged offence and, in most cases, the outcome of cases involving more than 30,000 people arrested by the Dublin Metropolitan Police between 1905 and 1918. There are some gaps but the volumes are complete between 1911 and 1918.

The entries cover trade unionists, suffragettes and republican activists, as well as citizens charged with crimes ranging from larceny and theft to murder, child neglect, shop lifting and illegal possession of looted goods in the Easter Rising.

They also contain details of British soldiers arrested for desertion and absenteeism from their units in the Great War. They provide a unique and previously unexplored aspect of Dublin life in the revolutionary period.

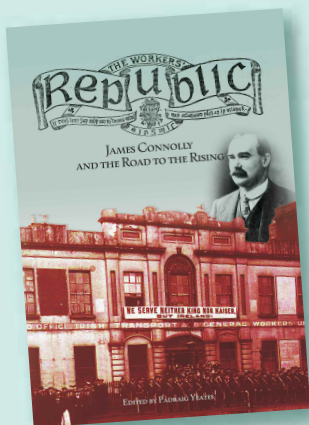


# The Workers Republic

This new publication by SIPTU is available at Liberty Hall during the centenary year. The Irish Worker was suppressed by Dublin Castle at the end of 1914 and, after unsuccessful attempts to revive it, James Connolly published the first edition of The Workers Republic on 29th May, 1915.

It came out every week until 22nd April 1916, two days before the Rising, relentlessly attacking John Redmond's support for Britain's war effort, opposing the threat of conscription, advocating international working class solidarity and calling for Irish independence.

Through the pages of the newspaper, Connolly prepared readers for the coming insurrection and his decision to align the forces of the labour movement with those of militant nationalism and republicanism which had a major impact on the development of modern Ireland. This is the first time that a complete collection of the newspaper has appeared in book form. It will be of immense value to all students of the Irish revolution, the international labour movement and the First World War.



**Hardback: €40;  
Paperback: €20**

**Available from:  
The Communications  
Department,  
Liberty Hall,  
Eden Quay, Dublin 1.**

**Tel: 01 858 8217  
Email: [info@siptu.ie](mailto:info@siptu.ie)**

1916  
2016



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