

**PAUL MULDOON'S "INCANTATA"
AND ITS SOURCES**featuring **DR. GUINN BATTEN, English**
Washington University in St Louis**PAUL MULDOON**

I thought of you tonight, a leanbh, lying there in your long barrow
colder and dumber than a fish by Francisco de Herrera,
as I X-Actoed from a spud the Inca
glyph for a mouth: thought of that first time I saw your pink
spotted torso, distant-near as a nautilus,
when you undid your portfolio, yes indeedy,
and held the print of what looked like a cankered potato
at arm's length—your arms being longer, it seemed, than Lugh's.

Incantata, Paul Muldoon

Professor GUINN BATTEN will discuss Paul Muldoon's earlier (and later) poems about Mary Farl Powers and her work; his use elsewhere of the forms of elegy, notably in relation to his unconventional ways of approaching the seemingly outworn genre, 'the love poem;' and his strong place in the traditions of British Romanticism and Irish literature as they have defined the love poem as also a political poem, notably in poetry's place in cultural nationalism. The lecture will be followed by a discussion with Professor Barbara Harbach (UMSL) and Chris King (Poetry Scores). Professor Harbach has written a musical score based on Muldoon's poems that will premier in the Touhill Performing Arts Center on Sunday, October 30, 2011.

GUINN BATTEN, Associate Professor of English at Washington University in St. Louis, is the author of a book on melancholy and commodity culture in English Romanticism and co-author of "Irish Poetry in English, 1945 to the Present" for the Cambridge History of Irish Literature." With several essays in print on contemporary Irish poetry, she is now researching and writing Romanticism and the Reinvention of Love in the Poetry of the Irish Troubles, the first booklength study of the sources of contemporary Irish poetry in romance and in the Romantic Enlightenment.

Thursday 27 October 2011 – 12:30-1:45 pm
Room 331 Social Sciences & Business Building
University of Missouri–St. Louis
Free and open to the public

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