

Press Release.....Press Release.....Press Release.....Press Release



Comhairle  
Chontae  
Ros Comáin



## Comhdháil an Chraoibhín 2011

### Douglas Hyde Conference 2011

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November the 2011 Douglas Hyde Conference will take place in the BMW Regional Assembly Conference Room, Ballaghaderreen for a one day event completing the third year of the Culture and the Economy cycle associated with this annual conference.

Roscommon County Council and the Western Development Commission again bring together a number of artists, academics, politicians, commentators and public bodies to discuss and debate this year's theme of

#### ***The Economy vs The People - Ireland's Divided Mind***

This subject explores the concept that a society is more than an economy and much more than a balance sheet. Beneath the obvious and challenging economic uncertainty there is a strong civil and cultural society at work which will ultimately define who we are, and who we want to be, as people. In particular the WDC has shown through its recent work on the *Creative West* how important this sector continues to be for our future societal and economic wellbeing.

The conference with its theme of our struggle for identity has a special significance in this presidential election year. The figure of Douglas Hyde, our first president, who strived in his own time to create an identity for the people through the Irish revival, offers many parallels for discussion.

Key note speakers include Professor Diarmaid Ferriter, Professor of Modern Irish History at UCD, Finbarr Bradley, Former Professor of Finance at DCU and co author of *Capitalising on Culture* Catriona Crowe, Senior Archivist of the National Archives and Betty Purcell, Senior Producer RTE Television, Series Producer Arts Programmes.

The conference will be chaired by poet and broadcaster Theo Dorgan.

Limited places are available. Booking is essential. Further details will be available on [www.roscommonarts.com](http://www.roscommonarts.com)

#### **Conference coordinators:**

Richie Farrell

PH: 090-66-37271

Caitlín Conneely

PH: 090-66-37298

[dhydeconference@roscommoncoco.ie](mailto:dhydeconference@roscommoncoco.ie)

**ENDS**