**Jonathan Swift Festival**

23-30 November 2017

www.jonathanswiftfestival.ie

Honouring Swift on the anniversary of his 350th Birthday, the inaugural Jonathan Swift Festival takes place from 23-30 November 2017, celebrating his legacy as a writer, satirist, poet, and Dubliner of note. Animating the area around Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, the Festival will be packed with surprising, unique experiences.

**Festival Highlights include:**

* Glen Hansard and friends performing in the stunning setting of Saint Patrick’s Cathedral
* Film screenings including *Words Upon the Window Pane* introduced by Jim Sheridan (in association with the Irish Film Institute)
* An evening with multi-award-winning journalist, author, playwright and comedy writer, Paul Howard
* Swift’s Vision: a 350th Birthday Celebration in Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, featuring Stephen James Smith, Mary Coughlan, Paula Meehan, Mongoose, Dermot Kennedy and Geoff Finan (in collaboration with First Fortnight and St Patrick’s Mental Health Services)
* A unique Swift Tour of St Patrick’s Hospital brought to life by Wonderland Theatre
* Special walking tours of Swift’s Dublin guided by Pat Liddy
* A Service in Commemoration of the life of Jonathan Swift featuring a guest address by Fintan O’Toole
* The once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to eat a 17th century inspired candlelit dinner in Saint Patrick's Cathedral
* A behind the scenes viewing of the National Gallery of Ireland’s collection of prints and drawings of Swift
* Swift Unearthed, a specially commissioned project to examine Swift’s Death Mask
* Singer and traditional musician Pádraig ó Nualláin performing ballads from Swift’s Dublin
* Writing workshops for both kids and adults
* A panel discussion on Swift’s iconic *A Modest Proposal*

As a champion in his time for Irish rights, Swift’s actions on behalf of the people earned him the Freedom of the City of Dublin. Swift’s best-known work of fiction, *Gulliver’s Travels*, has never been out of print since it was first published in 1726, and has been adapted for screen, radio, and television across decades and throughout the world. Few Irish authors can claim as close a connection to Dublin city as Swift. Born in Hoey’s Court and buried in Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, Swift spent his most productive years in the environs around Dublin 8.

The Jonathan Swift Festival is run by Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin. It is supported by both Fáilte Ireland and Dublin City Council and collaborates with a number of cultural institutions across the city including Marsh’s Library, Christ Church Cathedral, The Science Gallery, The Irish Writers Centre, EPIC the Irish Immigration Museum, First Fortnight and St Patrick’s Mental Health Services.

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Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, Saint Patrick’s Close, Dublin 8, DZ08 H6X3

[www.jonathanswiftfestival.ie](http://www.jonathanswiftfestival.ie/)

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