

Conference 2011

What Shall We Eat?

Beyond its function as a requirement for survival, food becomes, in almost all human contexts, the bearer of many kinds of cultural significance and potential. The choice of what to eat expresses political, cultural and social affiliations. The mechanisms by which food is produced and consumed constitute the key to the structure of entire economic systems and the costs and advantages they possess. This year's conference looks at the patterns, changes and interventions in the provision of food; the meaning of individual choices in consumption, and the relationship between food and cultural perceptions, environmental alteration, and national and local identities. The conference includes vegetarian cooking sourced from local products, food tastings, and readings from literary and philosophical texts that explore the sociability and meaning of the shared experience of meals and rituals connected with food.

Guest speakers

- Roger Scruton, Uomo Universale
- Yofi Tirosh, Tel-Aviv University Faculty of Law
- Victoria Rietig, project leader at Fairfood International
- Andrea Pieroni, University of Gastronomic Sciences, Pollenza
- Jim Cohn, Chief Academic Officer at Quest University, Canada
- Dan Fennelly, food expert, Dublin/Galway
- Frank Armstrong, St. Clare's College, Oxford
- Paolo Tullio, author, critic, chef, actor and broadcaster, Dublin
- Regine Rapp, artist and curator, Berlin
- Melanie Rehak, poet and author, New York