

*The Graduate Program in Folklore and Folklife and the Center for Folklore and Ethnography proudly present:*

**Dr. Guy Beiner,  
Ben-Gurion University  
“The Mystery of the Chains:  
Telling Tales and Making It Up  
in the Irish Countryside”**

**Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 4:30 p.m.  
Moose Room, 3619 Locust Walk (Fiji House)**

Focusing on the intriguing case of an apocryphal legend relating to the Great Irish Rebellion of 1798 and the failed French invasion of the West of Ireland, this lecture offers a critical exploration of the grassroots construction of social memory and ethnohistory in rural Ireland. Guy Beiner examines variations of this legend as told orally throughout the Irish north midlands and as documented in numerous versions over the past two centuries. Decoding and interpreting the various meanings of these oral traditions reveals the multilayered functions of vernacular folk history.

***Dr. Guy Beiner** is a lecturer of modern history at Ben-Gurion University in Beer-Sheva, Israel. He was a Government of Ireland Scholar and Research Fellow at University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin. He has written widely on remembering and forgetting, most recently Remembering the Year of the French: Irish Folk History and Social Memory (2006).*

***Reception to follow.***

