

# Contemporary Irish Drama Research Strategy for Drama 319

## Get Connected

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[proxy.queensu.ca](http://proxy.queensu.ca)

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## Consider Resources

Check out the following subject guides which will direct you to key information sources in the subject.

[Research Tools](#) → [Resources by Subject](#) → [Drama](#)  
[History](#)  
[English Language and Literature](#)

## Find Background Information

The materials listed below are a selection of reference resources for finding information on playwrights, plays, genre and much more.

Oxford Reference Online

Includes literature, history and performing arts subject dictionaries

[Research Tools](#) → [Research Databases](#) → [Oxford Reference Online](#)

Oxford Encyclopedia of Theatre and Performance (via O.R.O.)

Dictionary of Celtic Mythology (via O. R.O.)

Dictionary of Irish Literature REF PR8796.D5 1996

Dictionary of Irish Mythology REF BL980.I7 E44 1987†

Modern Irish Writers : a Bio-Critical Sourcebook. PR8727 .G66 1997

North American Theatre Online (via Research Databases)

Oxford Companion to Irish History REF DA912.O94 2002 (via O.R.O.)

Oxford Companion to Irish Literature REF PR8706.O98 1966 (via O.R.O.)

## Find Books

Search the library catalogue (QCAT) to find books, videos, journals (both scholarly and popular but not the articles within them) and more ...

## Search by Keyword

Use a keyword search to find books on a topic when you do not have an author or title.

Think of keywords that best describe your topic and connect terms with **and**, **or**, **not**. For a selection of books on class in Dublin in 1904, try this:

class **and** dublin

Select useful title(s) and look at the complete record. Use the subject headings to provide more keyword ideas or as individual searches themselves.

("social classes" **or** "middle class" **or** "working class") **and** (dublin **or** ireland) **and** "20th century"

## Search by Subject Heading

Subject search allows you to search for items about a specific subject. To successfully search by subject, you need to use LC Subject Headings. Useful subject headings when searching for information about a specific author and/or his works include:

Name of Author (last name, first name)  
Name of Author--Criticism and interpretation  
Name of Author. Title of a specific work.

For example: Syngé, J.M. (John Millington), 1871-1909.  
Syngé, J.M. (John Millington), 1871-1909--Criticism and interpretation  
Syngé, J.M. (John Millington), 1871-1909. Playboy of the western world.

In addition to searching personal names of playwrights and titles of plays, the following subject terms will retrieve library sources related to 20<sup>th</sup> century Irish drama.

Abbey Theatre--History	Ireland--Intellectual life--20 <sup>th</sup> century
Dublin Ireland--Intellectual life	Irish drama
English drama--Irish authors	Literature and society--Ireland--20 <sup>th</sup> century
Feminism--Ireland	Theater--Ireland
Ireland--Drama	Theater--Ireland--Dublin--History
Ireland--In literature	Women--Ireland

Other useful subject headings for an overview of the historical period include:

Dublin Ireland--History  
Dublin Ireland--Politics and government  
Dublin Ireland--Social conditions  
Dublin Ireland--Social life and customs  
Ireland--Economic conditions--20<sup>th</sup> century

Note further subdivisions by time
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Ireland--Foreign relations--England  
 Ireland--Foreign relations--Great Britain  
 Ireland--History--20<sup>th</sup> century  
 Ireland--Politics and government--1901-1910  
 Ireland--Politics and government--20<sup>th</sup> century  
 Ireland--Social conditions--20<sup>th</sup> century  
 Ireland--Social life and customs--20<sup>th</sup> century

Try searching the following subject headings when researching scene design:

Clothing and dress	Theater architecture
Costume	Theater and society
Fashion	Theater--History
Furniture--History	Theater--Production and direction
Set designers	Theatrical makeup
Stage lighting	Theatrical companies
Stage props	Theatrical producers and directors

**TASK:** Find books on the nationalist movements in Ireland.

### Search Journal Indexes to find Articles

- International Bibliography of Theatre and Dance, 1984 - present
- MLA Bibliography, 1926 - present (for critical analyses of plays)
- Literature Online (for critical analyses of plays)
- Historical Abstracts, 1954 - present (for Irish history, politics, economics...)
- Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals, 1934 - (for theatre architecture and design)

To search journal indexes, click: **Articles** under **Research Tools**  
 Click on the letter and browse the list or type the desired title in the search box.

#### International Bibliography of Theatre and Dance

Find: (irish **or** ireland) **and** national theatre  
 Narrow by: Academic Journals

#### MLA

Search: commedia dell'arte (as subject)  
 Modify Search to add: masks  
 Limit by English language

#### LION

Quick Search: Ulster cycle

## Historical Abstracts

Search for: (nationalism or independence movements) and ireland

Modify search:

(nationalism or republicanism or independence movements) and ireland in subject terms

Limit by time period: 1895-1904

Another bibliographical resource to consider is:

## Bibliography of British and Irish History Online

[www.rhs.ac.uk/bibwel.asp](http://www.rhs.ac.uk/bibwel.asp)

The Royal Historical Society bibliography is a guide to writing on British and Irish history from the Roman period to the present day.

**TASK:** Find articles on the birth of the Irish National Theatre (using Historical Abstracts).

## Find Reviews and Criticism

Theatre reviews appear in a variety of sources, including popular magazines, newspapers and theatre related journals as well as on websites.

To find a review of a particular play or production, first identify when the play was first performed or when a particular production opened. Most major productions are reviewed soon after they open and therefore you will need to select an index, database or other resource that covers the time period in which the play was staged.

Stauffer Library subscribes to a number of national and international newspapers. To find out what the library has, search QCAT by the title of the newspapers, or by subject heading, e.g.

london england newspapers

The library subscribes to a number of full text newspapers, which include:

### **The Globe and Mail**

Time coverage is from 1844 to within 3-4 years of current date.

### **Toronto Star - Pages of the Past**

Time coverage is from 1892 excluding current 2-3 years.

### **Times Digital Archive**

Time coverage is from 1785 to 1985.

### **New York Times**

Time coverage is from 1851 excluding current 3-4 years.

For more current news & reviews, check **Factiva** or **Lexis Nexis** for full text of theatre reviews from major national and international newspapers.

## Times Online - Review of Dublin by Lamplight

[entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts\\_and\\_entertainment/stage/theatre/article1689691.ece](http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/stage/theatre/article1689691.ece)

For more information about newspapers, check the News Resources guide at:

[library.queensu.ca/inforef/newspapers/newsindex.html](http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/newspapers/newsindex.html)

For more review resources, check the **Reviews** section of the Drama subject guide at:

[library.queensu.ca/inforef/drama/guidereviews.htm](http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/drama/guidereviews.htm)

Play analyses written by academics and drama scholars are published in scholarly journals.

Check the **Criticism** page of the Drama subject guide at:

[library.queensu.ca/inforef/drama/guidecrit.htm](http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/drama/guidecrit.htm)

The following is a selective list of respected journals. Some are available online and some only in print. Check QCAT for coverage and access.

*The Irish Times*

*New Hibernia Review*

*Irish University Review*

*Irish Journal of Sociology*

*Irish Studies Review*

*Eire-Ireland, a Journal of Irish Studies*



**TASK:** There is a good bibliography on modern Irish drama and theatre from 1997 to 2002 in *Eire-Ireland*. Can you find this overview article? The information you have is as follows: *Eire-Ireland: Journal of Irish Studies*, Fall-Winter, 2002 by Joyce Flynn.

## Search the Web

Check our **Search the Web** guide at: [library.queensu.ca/inforef/guides/www.htm](http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/guides/www.htm)

1. Check the following websites:

**Irish Theatre Online** [www.irishtheatreonline.com](http://www.irishtheatreonline.com)

**Irish Playography** [www.irishplayography.com](http://www.irishplayography.com)

**Theatre History Online** [www.theatrehistory.com](http://www.theatrehistory.com)

**Artslynx International Theatre Resources** [www.artslynx.org/theatre/](http://www.artslynx.org/theatre/)

**Victorian Web** [www.victorianweb.org/](http://www.victorianweb.org/)

**Irish Literature, Mythology, Folklore and Drama** [www.luminarium.org/mythology/ireland/](http://www.luminarium.org/mythology/ireland/)

**Irish Resources in the Humanities** [irith.org/index.jsp](http://irith.org/index.jsp)

**BBC Southern Counties Video and Interactive Features - Dublin by Lamplight**

[www.bbc.co.uk/southerncounties/content/articles/2007/05/12/bf07\\_dublin\\_video\\_feature.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/southerncounties/content/articles/2007/05/12/bf07_dublin_video_feature.shtml)

2. Check the websites listed on the Drama Subject Guide:  
**Research Tools → Resources by Subject → Drama → Websites**
3. Use the search engine, Google, for precise natural language searching or Google Scholar as a gateway for academic Web searching:



[www.google.ca/advanced\\_search?hl=en](http://www.google.ca/advanced_search?hl=en)

Google Advanced Search offers a variety of ways to structure a more precise search and to improve the efficiency of your search results. For academic sites, enter in the domain field, e.g.: .edu, .ac.uk, .mcgill.ca.



[scholar.google.ca/](http://scholar.google.ca/)

Find images of plays using

**Google Image Search**

[www.google.com/imghp?hl=en](http://www.google.com/imghp?hl=en)

**AlltheWeb's picture search**

[www.alltheweb.com/](http://www.alltheweb.com/)

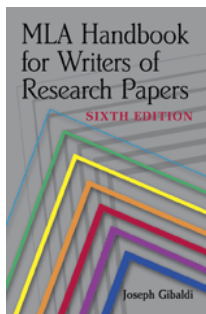
## Evaluate Websites

Anyone can create a web page so it is particularly important to analyze and assess information that you find on the Web before using it in a research paper. Go to our Evaluating Web Information at:

[library.queensu.ca/inforef/tutorials/qcat/evalint.htm](http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/tutorials/qcat/evalint.htm)

**Help → How-To & FAQ → Find Web Resources → Evaluate Web Information**

## Cite Sources



MLA format is the preferred style of documentation in Film and Media. A copy of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers is on Reserve (LB2369.G53 2003).

You can also access online by going to our Cite Sources page at:  
[library.queensu.ca/libguides/citationguides.htm](http://library.queensu.ca/libguides/citationguides.htm)

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