

esc
understanding
through film:

Dr Kirsten Kearney

Chief Executive, ESC

www.esc-film.com

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through film:

We Make the Path by Walking

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We Make the Path by Walking

Antonio Machado / Paulo Freire

Walker, your footsteps are the road, and nothing more.

Walker, there is no road, the road is made by walking.

*Walking you make the road, and turning to look behind
you see the path you never again will step upon.*

Walker, there is no road, only foam trails on the sea.

Walker, there is no road, the road is made by walking.

the path– Stages 1. 2. 3.

1. Undergraduate (with 1 year out) – BA Hons in English Studies and German (1st Class Honours, with distinction in spoken German).
2. Masters - MPhil in Modern Poetry in English completed dissertation and viva on the Six Senses of Seamus Heaney
3. PhD scholarship to research ballads in Scotland and Germany

Being part time

- Should you be part-time?
- Are you full-time twice over?
- Are you making yourself part-time?!

the Phd path - 1999 – 2007

- **Years 1,2** – Stirling. (plus teaching assistant in both English Studies and German).
- **Years 3,4** – Cultural Studies Lektorin at the Johannes Gutenberg Universität, Germany (plus PhD research)
- **Years 5,6** – Stirling, including a sabbatical lectureship for Glasgow University at Dumfries
- **Years 6,7** – back in Belfast - Break of 1½ years
- **Year 8** - Worked part-time and finished thesis
- Viva late spring, graduated in summer 2007

challenges

- Work-life balance
- Focusing
- Juggling
- Money
- Prioritizing – especially if other things have closer deadlines
- To keep body and soul (mind and spirit, relationships) together
- To remember you are one whole...

advantages

- Keeping options open
- Space for reflection
- Variety
- Energy??!

mistakes

- Starting teaching too early
- Taking on too much teaching
- Playing the academic game
- Thinking I needed to know everything (about everything)
- Thinking I could combine a full time lecturing job with research

successes

- Doing a completely different job part-time while 'writing up'
- Narrowing down focus
- Stopping taking on everything else
- Realising it had to end!

READ THINK PONDER WRITE

- FOCUS
- CONCENTRATE
- CREATE MORE TIME
- TURN OFF THE INTERNET!!!
- HIT THE GROUND RUNNING
- STOP CHECKING EMAILS
- HIDE!

A Million Miles in a Thousand Years

It's like this with every crossing, and with nearly every story too. You paddle until you no longer believe you can go any farther. And then suddenly, well after you thought it would happen, the other shore starts to grow, and it grows fast. The trees get taller and you can make out the crags in the cliffs, and then the shore reaches out to you, to welcome you home, almost pulling your boat onto the sand.

Don Miller

PhD in German Studies at the University of Stirling:

*Constructing the Nation: The Role of the Ballad
in 20th Century German National Identity with Special
Reference to Scotland*



June 2007, Stirling, Scotland

**So where does the path lead
from here?**



FESTIVAL
of FOOLS

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<http://www.channel4.com/ideasfactory>

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northernireland.org 

Watershed

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8-3-08



EMAIL TO
A FRIEND



Mickey B Shot at Maghaberry

The Educational Shakespeare Company are taking the Bard behind bars

An impenetrable grey knot in the surrounding green of the Co Antrim countryside, HMP Maghaberry is as unlikely a location to shoot a film as the 25 inmates that make up the cast.

The prison's steely milieu is precisely the place chosen by the Educational Shakespeare Company for their most recent project, an adaptation of William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*.

In recontextualising the Bard's text from 17th century Scotland to the modern-day confines of the NI prison service, certain stylistic concessions have been made.

What's on Search

- Any Category -

Keyword

- Any Area -

Time Period:

- Any Time -

[Select specific dates](#)

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Mickybo & Me

Film director Terry Loane's first feature

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Creating Change Application Form

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Grants

Lloyds TSB Foundation – 6 year funding stream **£100,000**

Through strategic partnering with grass-roots organizations with an annual income of less than £250,000, the Foundation will achieve positive and sustainable change, making a lasting difference in specific areas of clearly evidenced social need for the benefit of disadvantaged people and communities in Northern Ireland.



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Kirsten Kearney



Kirsten has recently been appointed the Chief Executive of ESC.



Showreel: A snapshot of ESC's films



Showreel: A snapshot of ESC's films



Showreel 2: ESC films by young people

Volunteer → Chief Executive

- **Our Vision:**
To create a global initiative using drama and film to tackle grassroots issues within local communities.
- **Our Mission:**
To use drama and film to: challenge perceptions, change lives, tackle social exclusion and encourage civic engagement through providing accredited training.
- **Our Values:**
Courage
Commitment
Acceptance

Student → Postgrad → Doctor → Chief Executive

Discipline

Determination

Focus

Motivation

Hard work

Research skills

Attention to detail

Writing skills

Ability to work alone

Problem solving skills

Creating something

from nothing

In for the long haul

Incredible grammar!

**This makes you pretty
unique and very employable.**

**Or capable of creating your
own employment.**

Where could your path lead you?

What are you good at?

What motivates you?

What is your passion?

“Power comes from risking
ourselves in creation”

Paulo Freire

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Thank you

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