

## C. Desmond Greaves (1913-1988)

C.Desmond Greaves, whose work and writings inspired the foundation of this Weekend School, was one of Ireland's leading labour historians. He was author of *The Life and Times of James Connolly*; *Liam Mellows and the Irish Revolution*; *Sean O'Casey: Politics and Art*; *Wolfe Tone and the Irish Nation*; *History of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union: The Formative Years*; *The Irish Crisis*, and two books of verse, *Four Letter Verses* and *the Mountbatten Award* and *Elephants Against Rome*.

Desmond Greaves believed that the peaceful way to end the partition of Ireland was to secure maximum equality between Nationalists and Unionists in the Six Counties, thereby removing any rational basis for Unionism as an ideology that justified domination over Nationalists and opening the way for Northern Unionists to rediscover in time the political implications of the common Irishness they share with their Nationalist fellow countrymen and women.

As an activist in the Connolly Association, London, and editor from 1948 to 1988 of its monthly newspaper *The Irish Democrat*, he pioneered the idea of a campaign for civil rights as the way to shatter Unionist political domination, which was taken up by the 1960s Northern Civil Rights Movement. He held that it was essential for Ireland to win allies internationally for any moves to end Partition and that organised British public opinion, especially as represented in the British Labour and trade union movement, which the Irish community in Britain could significantly influence, was the most important such potential ally.

He believed that in the era of the European Union and the near-global domination of Transnational Capital, the most important political task for democrats and the Labour Movement was to join in an international campaign in defence of the Nation State as the fundamental locus of political democracy and the only mechanism which history has evolved for imposing social control on private capital.

### BOOKINGS AND ADMISSION

Full school 25 Euros  
Individual sessions 6 Euros  
Students/unwaged half-price



### ENQUIRIES

Frank Keoghan, School Director,  
25 Shanowen Crescent, Dublin 9;  
Telephone 01-8423076  
Mobile 087-2308330 for further information  
Website: [www.greavesschool.com](http://www.greavesschool.com)  
Email: [post@greavesschool.com](mailto:post@greavesschool.com)



### DESMOND GREAVES SCHOOL WEBSITE

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



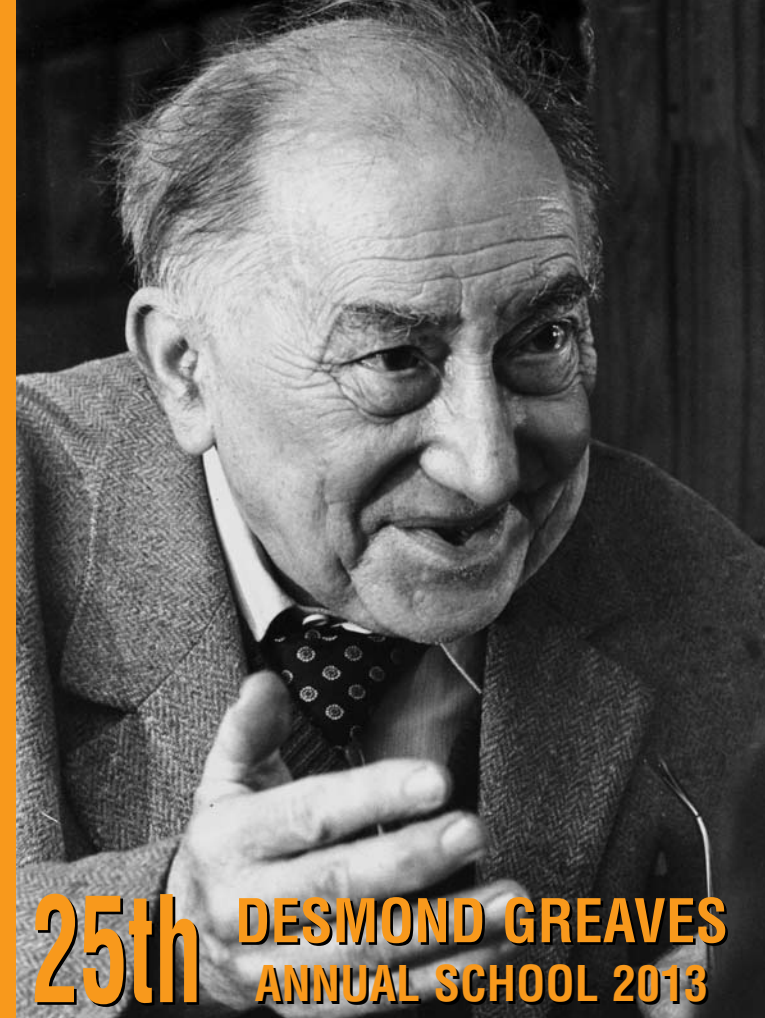
### BOOK STALL

Books and pamphlets on Irish history and politics will be on sale at the Weekend School, especially those offering alternatives to the current official and academic orthodoxy.



### HOW TO GET THERE

The Ireland Institute, 27 Pearse Street, is along the north side of Trinity College in the centre of Dublin. It is the former home and family business place of the 1916 leaders Patrick and Willie Pearse. The Weekend School will be held in the new hall at the back of the building.



*A weekend of political thought and discussion  
from Friday to Sunday, 13-15 September 2013, at  
the Ireland Institute, 27 Pearse Street, Dublin 2,  
beside Trinity College.*

#### TOPICS:

*Labour in Ireland – Past and Present*

*Desmond Greaves's life and work on the centenary of his birth*

*Labour, imperialism and the Irish Revolution*

*Irish trade unionism 100 years after the Great Dublin Lockout*

*Women and the Labour movement since 1913*

*The international weakness of the Left in face of  
the economic crisis*

# TWENTY-FIFTH DESMOND GREAVES ANNUAL SCHOOL 2013

Friday 13 September 7.30 pm

## 1. C.Desmond Greaves's life and work on the centenary of his birth

A political evaluation

Anthony Coughlan, Desmond Greaves's literary executor

Greaves's biography *The Life and Times of James Connolly*: its importance for Connolly research and the Labour movement

Priscilla Metscher, historian,

University of Oldenburg, Germany

**Chair:** Kevin McCorry, People's Movement; former organiser, Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association

Saturday 14 September 11.00 am

## 2. Labour and the national question since 1913

James Connolly's long-term legacy in America

Joseph Jamison, trade unionist, New York

Labour and the Irish Revolution

Professor Ruan O'Donnell, historian,

University of Limerick

**Chair:** John Douglas, General Secretary MANDATE, President ICTU

Saturday 14 September 2.30 pm

## 3. Challenges to Irish Trade Unionism 100 years after the Great Dublin Lockout

Strategies and solutions: trade unions in a time of crisis

Brian Campfield, General Secretary NIPSA and Executive Committee, ICTU

Social partnership, the Croke Park Agreements and their impact on trade union effectiveness

Michael Taft, Research Officer, UNITE

Trade unions and the EU: the demise of Social Europe

Esther Lynch, Legal & Social Affairs Officer, ICTU

**Chair:** Mick O'Reilly, President, Dublin Council of Trade Unions

Sunday 15 September 11.00 am

## 4. Women and the Labour Movement since 1913

The historical experience of women in the union movement

Therese Moriarty, Labour historian

The EU and working women

Louise O'Reilly, SIPTU Sector Organiser

Organising women in the new economic climate

Fionnuala Ní Bhrógáin, trade union organiser, Communication Workers Union

**Chair:** Catriona Crowe, Head of Special Projects, National Archives of Ireland

Sunday 15 September 2.30 pm

## 5. The international weakness of the left in face of the capitalist economic crisis

John Boyd,

Secretary, Campaign Against Euro-federalism, Britain

Horst Teubert,

German Foreign Policy analyst

Eoin O'Murchú,

former political editor, Radió na Gaeltachta

**Chair:** Professor Thomas Metscher, University of Bremen, Germany

Sunday 15 September

**Social evening after the School at local venue to be announced on the day**