



ANDREA CAMILLERI A DUBLINO

Lunedì 5 dicembre 2011 a University College Dublin (UCD) verrà conferita la **laurea honoris causa allo scrittore Andrea Camilleri**, famoso ‘padre’ dell’altrettanto famoso Commissario Montalbano e autore di numerosissime altre opere, tra romanzi storici, saggi politici e commedie, alcune delle quali tradotte in oltre 30 lingue (tra cui – prima traduzione in assoluto – l’irlandese).

Martedì 6 dicembre 2011 alle ore 17.30, sempre a UCD (Belfield), Camilleri presenzierà ad un **Incontro col Pubblico**. L’Incontro si svolgerà in italiano, con traduzione in inglese, e sono invitati a parteciparvi tutti i ‘fans’ di Camilleri e gli amanti della cultura italiana. L’ingresso sarà gratuito, ma sarà necessario **essere muniti di biglietto**.

Per richiedere il biglietto, siete pregati di mandare un’e-mail (intestata CAMILLERI) a eric.haywood@ucd.ie, **entro venerdì 11 novembre**, indicando il nome, cognome, indirizzo e-mail e recapito telefonico (preferibilmente cellulare) di chiunque desideri partecipare all’Incontro. Visto che il numero di biglietti sarà limitato, vi preghiamo di prenotare **solo** se siete **sicurissimi** di poter essere presenti.

ANDREA CAMILLERI COMES TO DUBLIN

On Monday 5 December 2011 **University College Dublin (UCD) will confer an honorary doctorate on Andrea Camilleri**, Italy’s most successful and famous living author. Altogether Camilleri has published 80 books, including 18 about the much beloved Inspector Montalbano, and he has been translated into over 30 languages, including Irish.

On **Tuesday 6 December 2011, at 5.30 pm**, at UCD’s Belfield campus, Camilleri will take part in a **public Question and Answer session**. The session will be conducted through Italian, with English translation, and it is open to all Camilleri fans and other Italophiles. Admission is free, but will be by **ticket only**.

In order **to apply for a ticket** please send an e-mail (headed CAMILLERI) to eric.haywood@ucd.ie, by **Friday 11 November at the latest**, giving your name, surname, e-mail address and telephone (mobile) number. Since the number of tickets is limited, you are kindly asked to book **only** if you are **very sure** of being able to attend.



ANDREA CAMILLERI (b. 1925).

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR. Camilleri is the most successful and widely read living Italian author. He has published 80 works (some of them re-edited over 40 times) and has been translated into 33 languages. He is particularly famous for his Inspector Montalbano series of detective novels, of which he has so far published 18 and which have been turned into a very successful TV series (now showing on BBC4). His other works include historical novels, comedies, political essays, editions of works by other authors (Pirandello, Sciascia), and academic and newspaper articles.

OTHER CAREER. Camilleri published his first novel at the age of 58 (having failed for 10 years to find a publisher). Before that he had had a very successful career as a stage director, TV and radio director and producer, author of screen plays, and professor of drama and stage direction. He taught for many years at the famous *Accademia di Arte Drammatica* (National Academy for Performing Arts) in Rome (from which he had been expelled for ‘misconduct’ as a student!) and at the *Rome Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia* (Centre for Experimental Cinematography). Simultaneously, and while also staging plays all over Italy, he worked as director and producer at Italy’s state radio and television company (RAI), where he had originally been refused a job for being ‘politically suspect’.

LIFE. Camilleri’s personal life, spent between his native Sicily and Rome, has been as colourful as his novels. He talks about it with candour in the fascinating *Linea della palma*. At 86, and smoking 60 cigarettes a day, he is still active and productive.

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT. Ever since he was helped by the Allies who invaded Sicily in 1943 and by his local bishop to set up a branch of the Communist party and publish a Communist newspaper, and even though he was born into a family with Fascist sympathies, Camilleri has been a life-long and active sympathiser of the Italian Communist and post-Communist parties. He is an outspoken and unforgiving critic of corruption in public life.

HONOURS. Camilleri has won many literary prizes and has been awarded a number of honorary doctorates in Italy. But this is the first time he will be honoured by a university outside Italy.

LINKS WITH IRELAND. Although he has now been translated into 33 languages, the very first translation of a work of his (the novel *Il filo di fumo*) was into Irish. He was the first to bring the works of Beckett to the stage in Italy, and he has directed/produced a number of Beckett plays over the years, for the stage, TV and radio. Beckett and Joyce are among his favourite writers. Recently one of his Montalbano books (*The potter’s field; Il campo del vasaio*) was among the top 25 best-sellers at Dublin’s Hodges & Figgis bookshop.

VISIT TO IRELAND. Camilleri is not a keen traveller and has not been outside Italy in the past ten years, but he has accepted UCD’s offer of an honorary doctorate with enthusiasm. On his trip to Dublin he will be accompanied by many family members and friends.