**Dublin Stage**

Reasons for the expansion of Irish literature:

* Island
* Control – Britain
* Language
* Catholic Church/monk
* Words will never die “There is no jail for thought” (non c’è prigione per il pensiero)

**Seamus Heaney** was born in 1939, the year when the II world war began. He had 8 sisters and brothers. He grew up in Derry (north of Ireland). He was a writer of prose, a poet, a translator. He was a professor of Poetry at Oxford (UK). He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1995. “When all the other were away at Mass” was voted the best Irish poem in 100 years. Heaney died in 2013.

**Oscar Wilde** was a writer, he was born in 1854, he was gay and at that time this was illegal. From 2015 in Ireland gay’s marriage became legal, it’s the first country. He had a very sad story.

**James Joice** was very angry against Ireland. Joice’s brother died for poverty, so he was very angry with Ireland. His book is very difficult. His wife was a real supporter.

On 16th June 1904 he met Nora Barnacle and his opera “Ulysses” began at 16th June, with this opera he wanted to celebrate his wife.

Dubliners is a collection of short stories. “The dead” is the last story. In 1922 there is the Irish Independence. Inside to tell the truth he loves Dublin: “The word Dublin will be engraved on my hearth”.

**William Butler Yeats**’ was an artist. He had two sisters and a brother (Lili, Susan and Jack), they became artists, too. He was born in 1865 and he died in 1939. His father was not responsible with money. Mande Gonne was considered the prettiest woman of Europe. She married John Mc Bride before he became a rebel. He was executed in 1916. Yeats wrote a lot of poems. In 1923 he won the Nobel Prize for Literature. He founded the theatre and he contributed to build the Hugh Art and Lane gallery. He was very interested in spiritualism occult.