



Postgraduate Contemporary Women's Writing Network  
WOMEN ON WOMEN  
NATIONWIDE SYMPOSIUM SERIES 2012

# Queer Sisterhoods in Contemporary Women's Writing

Postgraduate Symposium – Call for Papers  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012

Arts and Humanities Postgraduate Centre,  
Queen's University Belfast



## Keynote Speaker: Dr Tina O'Toole

Emma Donoghue's recent work *Inseparable: Desire between Women in Literature* seeks to trace the portrayal of female desire from medieval times. Passion has been marked by 'excess, infraction, deviance. From the very beginnings of literature, women who desire other women tend to rampage across the boundaries of the acceptable'. This half-day symposium seeks to investigate how women interact with other women in contemporary literature. To what extent do friendships between women remain transgressive? How have depictions of female passion changed? How is identity mediated by sexuality?

### Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Literary relationships between women
- Popular culture and queer theory
- Constructions of femininity
- Friendship and desire
- Censorship and publication
- Local and national aspects of sexuality
- Transgender and identity politics



Please submit abstracts of 250 words for 20 minute papers via email to  
[cmcgurren01@qub.ac.uk](mailto:cmcgurren01@qub.ac.uk)

**The deadline for proposals is 10 February 2012.**

This symposium is one of a nationwide series. For other locations and more information, please visit our website, [www.pgcwwn.org](http://www.pgcwwn.org)