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Robert Cassidy

# The Neutral Corner

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Marcus Henry

## The Irish Arts Center to screen boxing documentary

The Irish Arts Center is featuring a one-night showing called Fighting Irishmen: A Celebration in film featuring a documentary called "A Bloody Canvas" and also the BBC special that was filmed at the Irish Arts Center in the fall of 2006 and features the Fighting Irishmen exhibit with interviews of Liam Neeson, Barry McGuigan, Jay Tunney and curator Jim Houlihan.

The screening is on May 19th at 8 p.m. at the Irish Arts Center.

"A Bloody Canvas," is Andrew Gallimore's 2007 account of the 1923 world championship fight in Dublin, in which a Senegalese heavyweight champion and a journeyman boxer from Clare met in the ring. Set against the backdrop of the Irish Civil War, the fight was a sensation attracting the attention of the world's sporting press. But the story behind it, and its impact on the newly formed Irish Free State, is fascinating.

The exhibit -- Fighting Irishmen: A Celebration of the Celtic Warrior -- had two successful runs in New York City, then moved to Boston College and is now displayed at the Ulster American Folk Park (Omagh) in Ireland.

Mike Rose

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