



What we said

Comments from the chat stream

Cùis Ghàire | Humour of a Place and People

February 9, 2024

Host: Margie Beaton

Guests: Kate Beaton and Peter MacInnis

After listening to the guest, discussing what we'd heard in the breakout rooms, and then returning to the main room, we shared our reflections in the chat stream.

What images are you leaving with after tonight's visit?

- People getting dressed up like old ladies, with wigs, flowery dresses, head scarves, and lipstick on their teeth and being funny!
- Bha e cho math cluindinn mu na "wakes" - tha an aon rud a dol ann an Alba
- I strongly connected to the duplicate experience of wakes being trying and exhausting yet a celebration of both the person we lost and those we reconnect with and the joy and humour that we find there
- Mi'kmaw salite's so much like Gaidhlig wakes!!
- Thought about the pajama party at Celtic Colours 2020
- Leaving with the image of the kitchen, filled with lots of love, family, friends, tons of teasing...
- Iomhaigh de shneachd.... Kitchen parties and tea, storytelling. People that can tell stories for hours and see humor in just about anything. Trying to see that more myself. There's no shame in laughing when things are bad.

What wonderings arose for you?

- Humour is such a wonderful way to share bonds and build new ones 😊
- Lively story-telling is part of where I've come from...the gifts of humour and mimicking is a part of being a good story-teller!
- Close knit community with humor that is creative and healing...may be difficult to find in the

urban context!!

- Humour and laughter come out when people feel safe and at ease, I think it's a good sign
- Funny things are all around us - keep watch for them
- Local humor is easy to take for granted but such a big part of belonging
- I lived for some years close to Indigenous communities in Ontario's near north. I have found parallels between Indigenous humour and Gaelic humour. Often there's the theme of cutting down proud people from their pedestals.
- Love it - I work for the Mi'kmaq. I see soooooo many parallels.
- I am thinking about Bette MacDonald - what a career she has had
- I can relate to the stories and humor of the memories discussed. It brought back to me many stories that I had forgotten.
- Miss the older people being so funny, that you would laugh until your sides were sore
- Oh, I can relate so well to everything Peter and Kate spoke about, being from up the road in Creignish. And Peter, your mother's 'people' I know well and yes, their wittiness is like a competition...and we are all welcomed to participate and join in. It's so creative, to be humorous! You have it too, Margie ! I love getting home to enjoy a good laugh or two!
- We must never lose the pillars of our culture - music/dance, language, storytelling and humour

What action might you be inspired to take?

- Thinking about working on the craft of comedic story tellings
- I will record my mother and my aunt telling stories!
- I will be looking for Ducks and watching Peter on YouTube
- I'm going to be more foolish!
- I want to laugh more!!
- I am going to reread the Broons, the Glasgow family cartoon!! And Ducks!!

Gratitude

- A great way to go into the weekend! Thanks for the laughs!
- Mórán taing airson seo

Links:

- 'Harvest' music was [John Allan Cameron - Butterfingers Medley](#)
- Links to [Peter MacInnis's](#) work
- [Peter's 'Cape Breton Chats' on YouTube](#)
- [Kate Beaton's 'Hark, a Vagrant!' site](#)

The above are direct quotes from participants, edited only to correct typos. Thank you to all who shared their thoughts and gifts! Tapadh leibh uile!