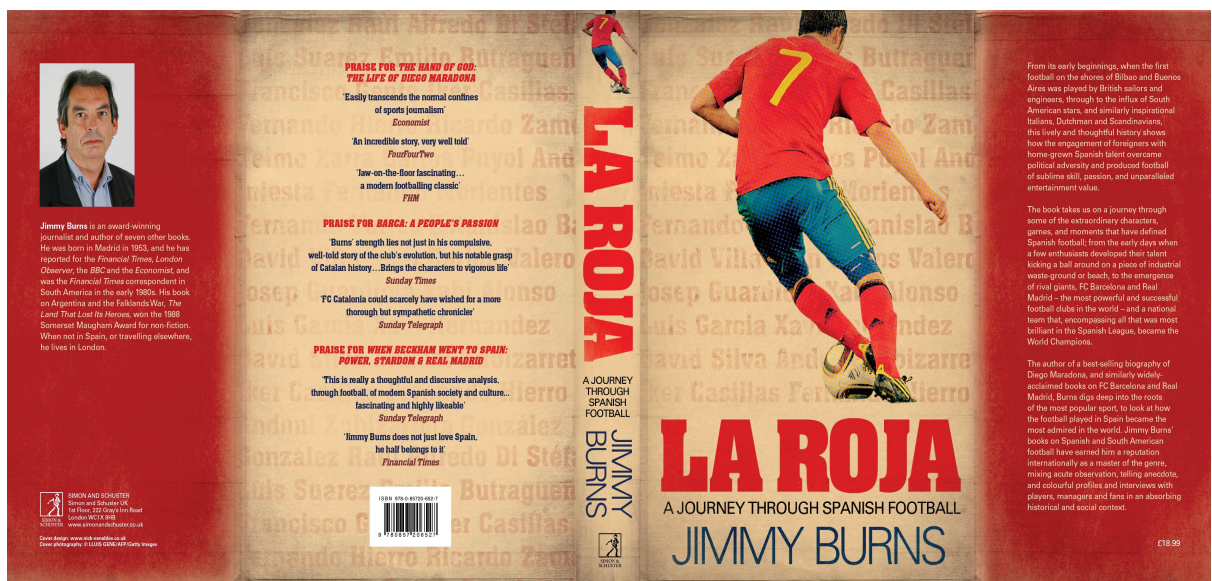


Monday 28 May 2012

**The Department of Hispanic Studies, Trinity College
Dublin, in association with the Instituto Cervantes, Dublin.**

**An evening with the award-winning author Jimmy Burns,
discussing his latest book, *La Roja*, with the European
Football Correspondent Miguel Delany.**



From early beginnings, when football was first played on the shores of Bilbao and Buenos Aires by British sailors and engineers, through to the influx of South American stars, and similarly inspirational Italians, Dutchmen and Scandinavians, the author shows how the engagement of foreigners with home-grown Spanish talent overcame political adversity and produced football of sublime skill, passion, and unparalleled entertainment value. *La Roja. A Journey through Spanish Football* digs deep into the roots of the most popular international sport to look at how the Spanish game became the most admired football in the

world. Jimmy Burns goes beyond a mere historical narrative by painting a controversial picture of Spain's social, political, and cultural transformation in the last hundred years. With a provocative and incisive but highly objective approach the author invites readers to accompany him on a journey that will bring them from north to south and from south to north unveiling along the way such discoveries as an obscure and violent episode of British colonialism and the unmarked grave of a footballer and a village butcher, both victims of the repression of the Franco regime after the Civil War. Burns also uncovers hidden facts about some of the most famous icons of Spanish football, from Zarra and Samitier to Di Stefano, Kubala, Cruyff, Raúl, Guardiola, and Mourinho.



The Spanish Team at the 1920 Olympic Games in Antwerp

INSTITUTO CERVANTES

Lincoln Place, Dublin 2

Event starts at 6 o'clock