Trinity Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Trinity College, The University of Dublin
invites you to a talk by Murray Grigor and a screening of
his film

BEATUS, THE SPANISH APOCALYPSE:
THE APOCALYPTIC VISIONS OF HEAVEN AND HELL
WHICH SHAPED MEDIEVAL ART

Date: Tuesday 9 February 2016
Time: 7.30 p.m.
Venue: Neill Lecture Theatre (Trinity Long Room Hub)
An exploration of the series of medieval manuscripts, known as Los Beatos, which revel in the imagery and mysteries of the Apocalypse, as foretold in the Book of Revelation. Visiting many of the places where these illuminated manuscripts were made, the scholar John Williams, author of The Illustrated Beatus v 1-5, travels back over a thousand years across northern Spain to link the Beatus copies to their often remote scriptoria. The abbot Beatus compiled his illustrated commentary on the last book of the Bible around 775, to prepare his fellow monks for the end of the world in 800. Although his original is lost, the tradition flourished, leaving us a treasury of early Spanish art through the Romanesque to the early Gothic. Directed by Murray Grigor, with luminous cinematography by Hamid Shams, key folios are explored in close-up, complemented by Rory Boyle’s evocative score, which underpins the apocalyptic texts delivered by Neil Nunes.

Music composed and conducted by Rory Boyle and performed by musicians and singers of The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

**BIOGRAPHY**

**Murray Grigor**’s first film on Charles Rennie Mackintosh helped to rescue the architect’s work and reputation in the Sixties during Glasgow’s era of urban demolition. It led to a career of film-making in the arts and architecture, which includes films on Frank Lloyd Wright, Sir John Soane, Carlo Scarpa, John Lautner, the Vorticists and Eduardo Paolozzi. Following Grigor’s Book of Kells film, he was introduced to John Williams, the author of the five volume Illustrated Beatus. Their Beatus film would take 15 years to complete, surviving the cancellations of two Beatus exhibitions at the Morgan Library and the Biblioteca Nacional de España.

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