ON THE OPEN POLAR SEA

In Search Of Sir John Franklin

The Penn State Polar Center Presents

Colin Dickey

February 10, 2015, 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Foster Auditorium, Paterno Library

In 2013 Colin Dickey spent three weeks sailing around the Arctic archipelago of Svalbard as part of the Arctic Circle residency. He will discuss his experiences there in the context of both the history of arctic exploration (including Sir John Franklin’s disastrous attempt to find the Northwest Passage in 1845), and the various myths and mysteries (such as the rumors of an open polar sea, or a hole to the center of the Earth at the North Pole) that have surrounded the arctic—weaving together these strands in an attempt to inform our current debates on the use and preservation of the arctic regions.

Colin Dickey is the author of Crakioklepty: Grave Robbing and the Search for Genius and Afterlives of the Saints: Stories from the Ends of Faith. He is a regular contributor to Lapham’s Quarterly and the LA Review of Books. He was the managing director of the Morbid Anatomy Museum and is currently an associate professor in creative writing at National University.

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