

at Yeats' Tower

JULIA BRADBURY'S IRISH JOURNEY

Tall tale... Julia

Saturday, 8.30pm, C4 Factual

ulia Bradbury pulls on her walking boots for a breathtaking visit to the west of Ireland this week, exploring the hidden gems of the Wild Atlantic Way.

Her journey kicks off in County Clare in the unique natural limestone landscape of the Burren. And, despite appearances, there's nothing barren about the Burren! This rocky plain - the largest of its kind in the world – is a hub for plantlife, foraging and farming; something Julia discovers first-hand...

'I met with Cathal and Bronagh O'Rourke. Their family has farmed that

Uncovering the truth...

Philip and Fiona. Inset: A Gorky self-portrait

land for generations. Their cattle shelter underneath trees in an overgrown forest in the foundations of an old chapel. They are happy cattle!' says Julia, who enjoys a delicious outdoor gourmet meal after an afternoon's foraging during her visit. 'It was incredible to spend time on the Burren's magnificent limestone pavement.'

Knitwear connection

Next up is a visit to Yeats' Tower, once a favourite haunt of famous poet W.B. Yeats, followed by a trip into Galway City. Here, Julia unpicks the history of the region's famous knitwear - the Aran jumper - and learns about a special

connection to the cast of 1952 Hollywood film The Quiet Man, starring John Wayne.

'I'm now the proud owner of an Aran jersey!' smiles Julia, who was born in Dublin and lived there until the age of two. 'Yeats was one of mine and my dad's favourite poets. That's one of the special things about Ireland - generations of residents care about the culture. It holds a special place in my heart.'



Missing masterpiece? Could an overpainted canvas hide an artwork worth millions?



investigation of this Fake or Fortune? Liza Dunluce owns a mysterious artwork

that she believes could be by abstract expressionist Arshile Gorky, whose works fetch a fortune at auction. But there's a

problem - the canvas is covered in white paint!

'Not many people have come across Gorky in Britain but he's a legend in America and his paintings have made millions,' says art expert Philip.

'The owner's husband, who was a renowned art conservator, was given the

FAKE OR FORTUNE?

Tuesday, 8pm, BBC1 Factual

painting 58 years ago by Gorky's widow, who said, "I can't get this off!" It may have been whitewashed over by Gorky himself.'

Dates on the back of the canvas suggest it was painted between 1928 and 1931 and the mission to reveal the potential masterpiece underneath takes Philip all over America!

Fiona's research also reveals a lost Gorky from the 1930s, which could be Liza's hidden artwork. However, when the Gorky family examine the painting, they raise a challenging question - should the white paint layer be removed at all?

'All the time in the background there are all the issues involved with authentication,' says Philip. 'It's quite a complex programme!'