Shane McCorristine is a cultural historian with research interests in spiritualism and psychical research in British culture, the literature of the supernatural, surrealism, and Arctic exploration during the Victorian period. He is currently a Visiting Research Fellow with the Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London. He received his PhD in History from University College Dublin in 2008 and since then has worked on research projects in Paris (Irish participation in Bourbon naval forces) and at UCD (history of Irish Victorian science). In October 2010, he became a Government of Ireland CARA Postdoctoral Mobility Fellow at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth and the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge. Shane McCorristine joined the Rachel Carson Center in June 2010 for a period of four months. Here, he developed a new research project entitled “Dreamscapes of the Arctic in Nineteenth-Century Narratives of Exploration” which looks at the role of disembodied and supernatural categories in how Victorians thought about Arctic place. His project asks how ideas of the Arctic as a dream-world, where one could become disembodied, articulated through explorative accounts, media, and literature, function.

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