



UNIVERSITY OF  
**LIMERICK**  
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

Centre for  
**Irish-German Studies**  
Zentrum für  
deutsch-irische Studien

# Annotated Bibliography

## of publications in Irish-German Studies

Selected works from the past 40 years



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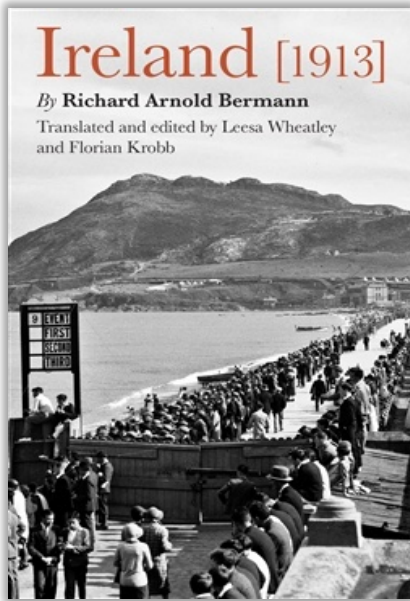
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**Bermann, Richard Arnold, *Ireland (1913)*. Translated and edited by Wheatley, Leesa & Krobb, Florian. Cork: Cork University Press, 2021.**

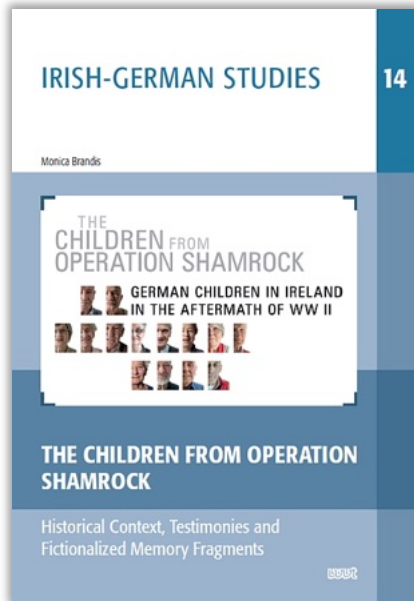


This volume (published by Cork University Press in April 2021) contains the first English translation of Richard Bermann's *Irland* (Berlin, 1914), produced by Leesa Wheatley and Florian Krobb. Richard Bermann was born in Vienna, 1883, and worked as a journalist and writer. During the First World War, he was a war correspondent to Germany. In the 1930's, Bermann had to leave Germany and went into exile in the USA, where he passed away in 1939 in Saratoga Springs. Because of his prolific writing and idiosyncratic style, Bermann became one of the most well-known feuilleton and travel journalists of the interwar years with more than 16 books and 2.000 feuilletons published, some of which under his pseudonym 'Arnold Höllriegel'. His work as a journalist allowed Bermann to travel extensively and he consequently reported from five of the world's continents. Particularly his travels into Northern Africa left deep impressions on

him, and his meeting with a seemingly archaic culture reaffirmed his skepticism of an enlightened but 'soulless' Europe.

In the summer of 1913, Bermann visited Ireland and subsequently published his impressions of the country. Contextualized historically and politically, the book portrays Ireland in truly unconventional ways and possesses, at the same time, a humorous and empathetic style of writing that resonated with people such as Hermann Hesse. The volume constitutes a unique source on Ireland immediately before World War I; it places Irish conflicts in international Imperialist scenarios, displays the sensitivities of an Austrian Jew working from Berlin on nationhood, federalism, diversity of (religious and political) cultures; it affords an insight into Irish culture and society that is astute, entertaining, diverse, informed and independent. Many of the author's impressions on political movements, cultural displays and national characters resonate still today, in a truly astounding way. The translation by Wheatley and Krobb is complemented by comprehensive notes and explanations, an introduction and a list of further reading.

**Brandis, Monica, *The Children from Operation Shamrock: Historical Context, Testimonies and Fictionalized Memory Fragments*. Irish-German Studies 14, Trier: WVT, 2020.**



Volume 14 of Irish-German Studies, published by the Center for German-Irish Studies, deals with the stories of the children who came to Ireland via the so-called Operation Shamrock after the end of World War II. Author of the book, Monica Brandis, conducted interviews with 18 participants of Operation Shamrock, in Germany and in Ireland, from 2014 to 2016.

In an introductory chapter, Monica Brandis illustrates the context of Operation Shamrock. On October 16, 1945, pediatrician Dr. Kathleen Farrell organized a meeting at Shelbourne Hall in Dublin, where the Save the German Children Society was founded. The aim of the operation was to bring 500 orphaned children to Ireland after the war and save them from starvation. The children were to be between the ages of 4-10 and stay in Ireland for up to 3 years.

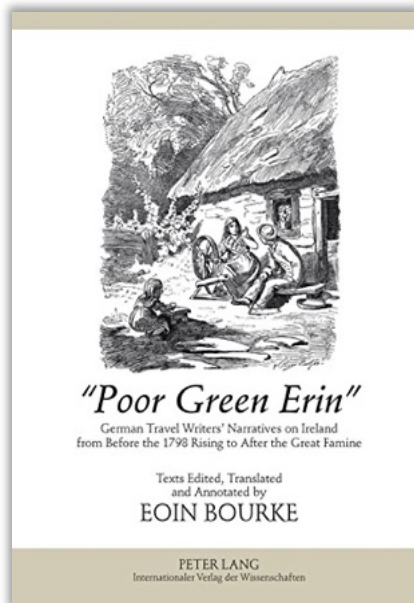
There were many reasons for the interest in helping German children. For one, there were close ties between the IRA and Nazi Germany. Also, Farrell himself came from a family of IRA supporters, which would explain a general sympathy toward Germany. However, relations between Germany and Ire-

land cannot be viewed without connection to Britain. United by a common enemy, Ireland sees Germany as a possible ally regarding its own autonomy. Germany, in turn, has a geopolitical interest in Ireland. Anti-Semitism and general Nazi sympathies may also have played a role. Founding member of the Save the German Children Society, Maude Gonne, was openly anti-Semitic and pro-German. Dan Breen, IRA leadership member, Fianna Fáil politician, and Society treasurer, admired Adolf Hitler. Additionally, the effort's attention to German children is interesting. Admission of Jewish children was initially refused on anti-Semitic grounds, but later a small number were admitted. However, general generosity is also cited as one of the reasons. The trauma of the great famine was imprinted on generations, so the desire to help was great.

On July 27, 1946, 88 children arrived under Operation Shamrock. Over the next few years, 421 children were brought to Ireland, 403 of them under the auspices of the Red Cross, the rest privately. The focus was on displaced persons, mostly from the Rhine-Ruhr area and of Catholic background. Twenty percent were to come from Protestant homes. Atheists were not envisaged. The placement of the children was not subject to any regulations or strict controls. For this reason, the experiences of the participants are mixed. Many reported that the separation from the family was traumatic; often the children had no say in the matter. Lack of language skills made them feel isolated and they had no way to report abuse or turn to anyone for help. In some cases, there was little or no contact with parents and family. This was also difficult: some children had no schooling, could not write properly or read Fraktur script.

The majority, however, reported positive memories, the gratitude to escape hunger and misery in post-war Germany outweighed the initial difficulties. The question of identity is particularly intriguing: although some participants remained in Ireland throughout their lives, traveling there extensively and maintaining close relationships, the majority identify as at least Irish-German, if not completely German. Only a few said they saw themselves as completely Irish.

**Bourke, Eoin, *“Poor Green Erin”*: German Travel Writers’ Narratives on Ireland from Before the 1798 Rising to After the Great Famine. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, Second Revised Edition, 2013.**



Eoin Bourke’s work appears as a hefty book (weighing almost 1.25kilos!) containing 773 pages. As he mentions in his introduction, the publication sets out to bridge the gap between academe and the general reading public by presenting a selection of primary German travel writings in English translation. The text is a true reader rather than a theoretical treatise. He has excerpted what he considers to be “pungent, amusing or disturbing” passages from the works of thirty German traveller authors and hopes that the texts will also provide a source material for historians, “in keeping with C.J. Woods’ cogent argument that travel writing can function as such.” His contents list occupies thirteen pages and for each author he has provided anything up to thirty sub-headings. These immediately raise questions in the readers mind and one is soon diving into the accounts to find the answers. The text reads extremely well and Bourke has made an excellent job of translation, managing to capture the individual character of each traveller.

We expect the travellers’ tales will not be entirely happy ones but the country they describe is in a far worse state than we, and more importantly they could have imagined. Their accounts describe legions of ragged, ill-housed beggars, a conspicuously absent middle-class, and a largely absentee landowning class and include countless first-hand reports of tithe gatherings, evictions, punitive measures, executions and transportations. The surprise of the travellers was that the Irish remain cheerful in the face of dire poverty, a source of great puzzlement to them. The German term would equate poverty with misery, and they can find no term to equate this. Some of the travellers were on the run or in exile and the struggle of the Irish against the English was of great interest to the Germans and could be seen as a metaphor for similar struggles against German political conditions of the time. A recurring theme in the writings is the contrast between social and political conditions in Great Britain and the situation in Ireland. How could there have been such a gulf and scandalous neglect by the greater half of the Kingdom?

Heinrich Heine was in favour of Daniel O’Connell and supplied the title of the book “Poor Green Erin”, but the struggle for emancipation attracted mixed opinions reflecting the varied background of the travellers who could demonstrate distinct bias, even outright racism. Bourke’s interesting commentaries throughout the texts relate important external influences and events and are equally as interesting as the accounts themselves. One closes the book with a feeling of sadness, looking at the charming sketch by Julius Rodenberg. A recurring theme with several writers are encounters with young Irish women who seem to be able to best describe the full horror of their situation.



**Paul Carmichael, Gisela Holfter (eds.), *Unions, Break-Ups and Special Relationships. Aspects of Irish-German-UK Relations. Irish-German Studies 15, Trier: WVT, 2022.***



The focus of this volume is the triangular relationship between Germany, Ireland and the UK in the aftermath of Brexit. The collection offers an interdisciplinary approach to considering various cultural and political facets of relations between the three countries, covering different perspectives, issues and the opportunities which arise. The book contains fifteen chapters, organised into two main sections.

The first part of the volume is entitled ‘Academia and Languages: British-German Relations and British Studies in Germany/German Studies in the UK as well as Irish-German Relations and German Studies in Ireland and Irish Studies in Germany’. It maps the respective areas of German, Irish and British Studies in the different constituencies and increased focus on respective bilateral relations. The second part is entitled ‘Reflecting Europe and the European Union in Ireland North and South after Brexit, (Re-)Unification in the Past and in the Future and the Situation in Northern Ireland’. This section includes reflections regarding Europe and its relationship to Ireland, North and South, German unification as well as past and future relationships between Ireland and Northern Ireland, and within Northern Ireland itself.

Contributors: Matthias Barner, Paul Carmichael, John Coakley, Oran Doyle, Joachim Fischer, Paul Gillespie, Marius Guderjan, Katy Hayward, Gisela Holfter, Marieke Krajenbrink, James W. McAuley, Nicola McLelland, Edward Moxon-Browne, Pól Ó Dochartaigh, Jürgen Pelzer, Katharina Rennhak, Gesa Stedman.

**Egger, Sabine (ed.), *Cultural/Literary Translators – Selected Irish-German Biographies*.  
Irish-German Studies 9, Trier: WVT, 2014.**

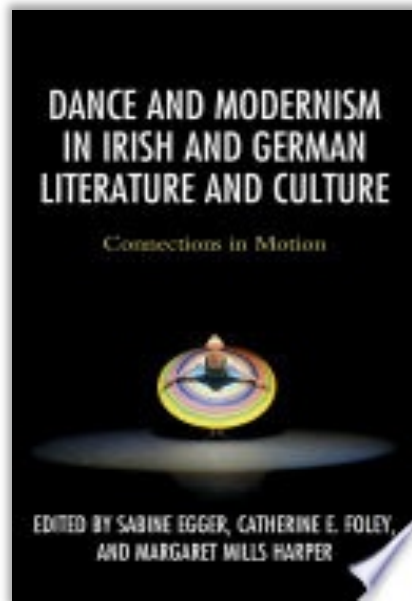


The volume contains biographical sketches of twelve 20th century authors, journalists and translators, whose work and lives have been of significance to Irish-German cultural relations. The collection is of particular value as a work of reference both for researchers in the area and a broader readership, since it brings together biographies of individuals who had a significant role in creating cultural links between Ireland and the German-speaking countries. Some of them would not be widely known in this context. On the one hand, the collection focuses on the lives and work of professional translators, with regard to the impact of their work as a form of cultural mediation and to their own understanding of it. On the other, these biographies are complemented by those of individuals from other professions who could be seen as “cultural translators” in a broader sense. The collection, which will be published in December 2014, thus also opens different perspectives on the idea of translating cultures.

Contents: Sabine Egger: Introduction; Part I: Cultural Translators: Deirdre Mulrooney: Erina Brady (1891-1961): Irish/German Harbinger of Modern Dance to 1940s Ireland; Joachim Fischer: Denis Johnston (1901-1984); Claire O'Reilly: Author, Activist and Anglo-Irish Émigré: The Life and Work of Christabel Bielenberg (1909-2003); Sabine Egger: Elizabeth Shaw (1920-1992): The Irish Caricaturist Who Left Her Mark on East German Children's Literature; Mervyn O'Driscoll: The 'Half-Irish' Herbert Rimmel (\*1937); Susan Tebbutt: German-Irish and Other Encounters in Children's Literature: Emer O'Sullivan (\*1957); Part II: Literary Translators: Hermann Rasche: Elisabeth Schnack (1899-1992): 'Translators: They are five to a penny' – 'But there's no one like me'; Gisela Holfter: Annemarie Böll (1910-2004): Out of the Limelight; Sabine Strümper-Krobb: Translator, Performer and Artist – Harry Rowohlt (\*1945) as Mediator of Irish Literature; John F. Deane: Eva Bourke (\*1946): A Transnational Poet and Translator; Lesa Ni Mhunchaile: Gabriel Rosenstock (\*1949): 'The Rejection of the Early Morning Dew'; Marion Winters: Hans-Christian Oeser (\*1950): Translation Strategies of a Literary Translator; Rachel McNicholl: Gabriele Haefs (\*1953).

This collection of ten articles edited by Claire O'Reilly and Veronica O'Regan gives a contemporary view of Irish-German relations. This volume focuses on the German view of Ireland and the Irish. With this in mind, the editors collected contributions from authors with differing points of views. Some articles, like Mark M. Hull's, work with historical aspects and describe the life of the Irish during the Second World War in Germany. Another contribution, from Daniel Mulhall, deals with the political aspects of current Irish-German relations. Some articles present literary themes, like the article by Emer O'Sullivan which discusses the publications of Irish Children literature in Germany. Fergal Lenehan opens with his contribution *Irish-German Interconnections in Popular Culture: Rock and Popular Music and Michael Fassbender's German-Irish Celebrity*, a new perspective on music as a connection in Irish-German relations. However, this volume reflects not only current aspects of these relations but also the Irish-German relations in a global context and seizes up new topics and perspectives for following studies.

Egger, Sabine, Foley, Catherine and Harper, Margaret Hills (eds), *Dance and Modernism in Irish and German Literature and Culture: Connections in Motion*. Irish-German Studies 16, Lanham: Lexington Books, 2020.



Inspired by the interdisciplinary conference “Connections in Motion: Dance in Irish and German Literature, Film and Culture” at the University of Limerick, held in November 2016, this volume explores Irish-German cultural connections through the viewing glass of dance, particularly modern dance. Conceptualizing modern dance not only as a form of movement but also as a mode of transgression; not only as a specific form of spatial movement but also as a motif, the concept, then, frees itself of medial, disciplinary, social, and cultural boundaries, as well as those pertaining to gender.

Focusing on the ‘modern’ as performative practices that are inherently transgressive and, alternatively, as motions of deferment – the postponing of meaning and the focus on the unlimited traces of the detail –, the volume entangles parts of the amalgam of interconnection and reciprocities that is Art. As such, Part I of this volume explores the direct influences and meetings between the German-speaking countries and Ireland and their legacy; from Gisela Holfter’s take on the role of German-speaking countries in the development of modern dance and physics and the effects of these on Ireland through intermediaries such as Austrian physicist Erwin Schrödinger and modern dancer Erina Brady; to Catherine Foley’s self-reflection on the influences that Irish-German connections and intellectual legacies had on her own education, training and professional career.

Part II investigates the impacts of modernism on dance within Irish and German literature, drama, photography, film, and architecture, beginning from the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Although the Irish and German contexts are dealt with separately, the interconnection and reciprocity of modernism in both countries delineated in Part I fill this gap. Additionally, Part II shows a myriad of ways in which seemingly antagonistic art forms meet and influence each other. The chapters in Part II, then, take a meta-approach to dance and show how difference art forms incorporate dance as another medial form of expression. To name a few, Margaret Mills Harper offers an argument for a different reading of W. B. Yeats, drawing on experimental writings from Yeats and his wife. Through such a perspective, Harper argues, the figures of dancers in several of Yeats’ works allude to tumultuous and fluid states of being. On another note, Sabine Eggers explores through the autobiographical texts of Johannes Bobrowski and Katja Petrowskaja the idea that a ‘poetry’ of memory through dance can alter perceptions of ethics and identity.

Following thematic focal points, the volume offers insights into the effects of modern dance on German and Irish art, but also – and perhaps more important from a perspective of Irish-German relations – insights into the contact points and interconnections between German and Irish mediators of modern dance and modernism. With its focus on modern dance this volume is a valuable addition to any collection and bibliography on Irish-German relations and serves to show that dance in particular and its effects know no borders.

Egger, Sabine and Studer, Patrick (eds), *From the Margins to the Centre: Irish Perspectives of Swiss Culture and Literature*. Bern: Peter Lang, 2007.



In 2004, a small German studies workshop entitled ‘Swiss Presence in Ireland’ took place at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick. Three years later, along with new contributions from academics in Ireland, Germany and Switzerland, the papers presented at the event were published in the form of this book. Its aim is: “[...] not so much to develop a theory of Swiss culture as to introduce the reader to the diverse perceptions of Swiss culture in an Irish academic context.” (9)

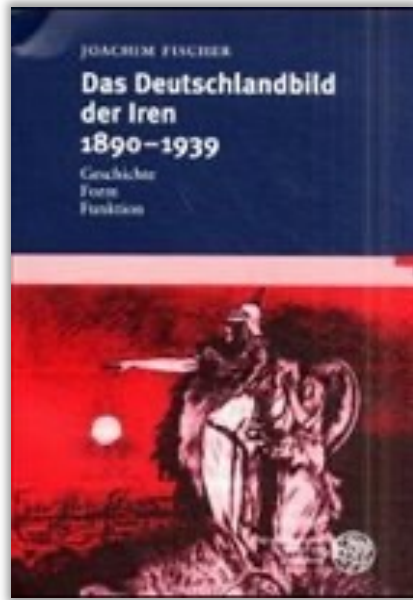
The book serves as a very good interdisciplinary (contributions primarily centred on cultural studies and discourse analysis) go-to for anyone wishing to learn about Swiss-Irish relations, in particular Gisela Holfter and Patrick Studer’s introductory article “Aspects of Swiss-Irish relations – past and present”. The book highlights the very many and “quite unexpected” parallels between Ireland and Switzerland. “What emerges from this collection of papers is that Switzerland shares with Ireland the advantages and disadvantages of being

a small country in a European context.” (10) Part Two of the book deals with “perceptions of Switzerland and Ireland as a result of cultural contact” (11), for example “the subjective experience of Swiss and Irish culture” (ibid) by two Swiss authors, Hansjörg Schertenleib and Gabrielle Alioth both of whom live in Ireland. Beate Dreike and Manfred Schewe discuss the challenges facing the teaching of Swiss literature in an Irish classroom setting. For those interested in travel literature, Joachim Fischer documents the “historical dimension of Swiss-Irish encounters as he follows in the footsteps of Irish traveller Blayney Townley Balfour in 18th century Switzerland.” (11)

In Part Three the contributors examine “Switzerland as a multi-lingual and multi-ethnic country” (11) and Veronica O’Regan/Patrick Studer describe “the power of the media in the construction of images of foreign nationals in Switzerland.” (12) Finally Part Four deals with questions of identity, *Heimat* and dealing with the past, in this case Switzerland’s Nazi past which is investigated by Valerie Heffernan in her article “Walter M Diggelman’s *Die Hinterlassenschaft* and the landscape of Swiss ‘Vergangenheitsbewältigung’”.

The preface of this book gives a good overview on the many different topics covered in the collected essays.

Fischer, Joachim, *Das Deutschlandbild der Iren 1890-1939: Geschichte, Form, Funktion*. Heidelberg: Winter, 2000.



As indicated in the title, this book describes the Irish perception of Germany during the years 1890-1939. In the introduction, Fischer explains that this work breaks new grounds as never before a larger study has examined the Irish perception of Germany. The contacts between Ireland and Germany have generally been good and unproblematic, but this book aims to critically analyse if they are really so uncomplicated as they are widely believed to be. It is acknowledged that the spectrum of material is far too complex to explore every single aspect in depth. Therefore, this book also aims to give hints on what could be further explored in the future. Fischer introduces the reader in the established research on this topic and names some authors who have explored the topic before.

In the next part of the book, a brief history of the Irish perception of Germany before 1890 is given. Then the continuity and changes of it are described. In order to do so, Fischer consults and discusses amongst others several Irish newspapers, literature and the media of the time. The next chapter fo-

focuses on the perception of Germany in the propaganda of World War I. The subchapters explore for example pro-German and anti-German positions. The following two chapters both examine the perception of Germany in the Irish Free State; the first one includes for example subchapters on the Irish-German political and economic relations, the perception of Germany in the media, film and photography, the translation and reception of German literature, and German plays on Irish stages. The second chapter focuses on Ireland and the National Socialism (1933-1939), for example the presentation of Nazi Germany in the Irish media. The following chapter examines the perception of Germany through the Irish educational system, beginning with the teaching of German in secondary schools in the course of time, then focusing on Irish Universities. The final subchapter shows the influences of the German educational system on the Irish one. The next chapter explores the Irish stereotypes of the Germans. The subchapters examine for example the German culture, the German 'national character', the Germans and religion and the functions of the perception of Germany among the Irish. The last chapter consists of some final remarks on parallels and differences to the British perception of Germany, the continuity of the Irish perception of Germany after 1939 and the desiderata of future research on it. This chapter is followed by a bibliography and some attached documents.

Fischer, Joachim and Holfter, Gisela (eds), *Creative Influences - Selected Irish-German Biographies*. Irish-German Studies 4, Trier: WVT, 2009.



This edited book is a collection of fifteen biographical essays, each one on a different person that has a strong connection with both Germany and Ireland. The premise of the collection is that connections between countries are forged first and foremost by people and their personal links to each side, rather than governments or companies. The people that are mentioned in each essay are relatively lesser-known in the scope of Irish-German studies, and there is a focus on people from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The emphasis in almost every essay is on Ireland, and on how German experiences have enriched Irish cultural and political life. It is also interesting to note in terms of this collection that many of the contributors also have Irish-German biographies, an aspect which adds another dimension to the essays.

The individuals that are covered in this volume include musical figures such as Fritz Brase, Hans Waldemar Rosen and Aloys Georg Fleischmann, and entrepreneurs, academics and politicians such as William Thomas Mulvany, Thomas

McLaughlin and John Maurice Kelly. In particular, the essays on literary figures such as Francis Stuart, Hugo Hamilton and John Banville, and artists like Imogen Stuart and Margaret Leischner provide the reader with a strong sense of German influences on Irish cultural life. Naturally, the essay on the life and works of John Hennig is of the utmost interest to anybody interested in the field of Irish-German studies. A translator, John Anster, and a priest and academic, Canon Patrick Augustine Sheehan provide the subjects for the remaining two essays. As is evident from the list of people whose biographies can be found in this collection, the project is intended as an interdisciplinary study, as the mutiplicity of fields where German-Irish connections can be found underlines the complexity of the relationship between Germany and Ireland.

Fischer, Joachim, Holfter, Gisela and Bourke, Eoin (eds), *Deutsch-Irische Verbindungen: Geschichte - Literatur - Übersetzung. Irish-German Connections: History – Literature- Translation*. Trier: WVT, 1998.



This book is formed by a collection of papers that were presented at the 1st Limerick Conference for Irish-German Studies in 1997. This conference also marked the foundation of the Centre for Irish-German Studies at the University of Limerick. This volume captures the bilateral perspective of the conference and that of the Centre for Irish German Studies and its main objective - the equal exploration of the Irish in Germany and the Germans in Ireland. The core focus of the conference was the life and work of Heinrich Böll, and his importance in relation to Irish German cultural relations is reflected upon by John F. Deane in the first article of this book.

Part A includes two contributions. Heinz Kosok, professor of English in Germany describes the positive status of Irish literature and culture taught at German universities and the general reception of Irish literature in Germany. Hugh Ridley, in contrast, critically documents the status of the teaching of German in Ireland and lists the “severe problems” (42) facing the discipline. These papers are well situated at the begin-

ning of the book, highlighting the importance of academia in order to cultivate and preserve Irish-German relations. As Ridley comments: “German-Irish links are not in any useful sense natural, they are a construct, they rely on the meditation provided by our academic disciplines.” (37)

Part B deals with various aspects of historical Irish-German links such as the Palatine emigrant communities who settled in Limerick in the 18th century or the significance of the Hanseatic City of Hamburg to the United Irishmen. Eoin Bourke writes about the importance of Ireland for German literati in the 19th century and Cathy Molohan in her article, “*Two Nations’ Friendship. German-Irish Relation 1945-1955*” discusses the often forgotten immediate post-war relations between Ireland and Germany. Other contributors to this part are Jürgen Elvert and Enno Stephan.

Part C ‘Literature, Translation, Music’ turns to cultural connections, featuring an article about German influence on twentieth-century Irish art-music and two contributions on Heinrich Böll. The final section addresses Irish translations of Grimm fairytales, a version of a story by Lessing and Rachel McNicholl’s overview of German translations of Irish children’s literature brings to light the disparity in literary exchange in this field. Gareth Cox describes the impact of German musicians on Irish music in the 20th century. Doris Dohmen writes about “*Deutsche Irlandbilder im 20. Jahrhundert.*” The following two contributions by Steve Brewer and Robert K. Weninger focus on the theme of the conference, “Heinrich Böll and Ireland”. The three contributions on translation are written by Andrea McTigue, who examines Grimm fairy tales translated into Irish, Roisin Ni Néill, who focuses on one aspect of a work by Lessing translated into Irish.

Fischer, Joachim and Stehle, Rolf (eds), *Contemporary German-Irish Cultural Relations in a European Perspective: Exploring Issues in Cultural Policy and Practice*. Irish-German Studies 6, Trier: WVT, 2012.



The publication of this bi-lingual volume marked fifty years since the establishment of the Goethe-Institut in Ireland, and this book is based on papers which were presented at an international conference (of the same title), co-organised by the Centre for Irish-German Studies at the University of Limerick in conjunction with the Goethe-Institut, Dublin. One of the chief aims of this conference was to “explore the role national cultural institutes can play in the process of European integration” (16). Divided into five parts, this book consists of twenty three articles, seventeen in English and six in German and takes a European perspective on German-Irish cultural relations. Ruairí Quinn, then Minister for Education and Skills synthesizes the volume in his foreword:

Cultural policy makers, cultural practitioners and academics have come together to discuss, among other themes, cultural relations to the EU, the diversity of cultures within the EU versus a common European culture”. Topics covered include “societies in transition; challenges and opportunities for cultural policy in times of economic crisis; Irish perceptions of Germany; and changes and continuities in the German image of Ireland. (9)

The introduction by both editors includes a succinct synopsis of the book and its diverse range of content. It also reflects upon the notion of culture and the difficulties facing the arts and cultural heritage of Europe particularly during this period of financial austerity and also the function of culture in a modern society. The first contribution in the section ‘Europe in Literature’ is by Paul Michael Lützel. The essay entitled “US Authors on the ‘Old World’: Competition between the American and the European Dream”, “presents Europe as a complex but coherent alter ego from the perspective of American visitors since the late eighteenth century” (17). Part Two called “Cultural Policy in the European Union, Ireland and Germany”, contains articles by seven authors and examines perspectives on European cultural policy with a very interesting first article from the MEP Doris Pack who writes, “Twenty-two years at the European Parliament have convinced me that culture does not simply lie at the heart of Europe; culture *is* the very soul of Europe” (45).

After a lively series of photographs which portray the Goethe-Institut over a span of fifty years, Part Three deals with Irish-German cultural relations specifically, in relation to the Goethe Institut’s role within these relations. All of the German contributions in Part Four are concerned with German Studies and the teaching of German in Ireland, written by *Germanisten*<sup>1</sup> at third level institutions in Ireland who work closely with the Goethe-Institut to help shape the future of Irish-German relations. The book concludes with three examples of projects from the fields of literature, visual arts and music which represent the “multi-faceted nature” (21) of the work supported by the Goethe-Institut.

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<sup>1</sup> Germanisten- Germanists, An expert in or student of the language, literature, and civilization of Germany, or of Germanic languages. (source: Oxford English Dictionary [online])



**Fischer, Joachim and Tebbutt, Susan (eds), *Intercultural Connections within German and Irish Children's Literature*. Irish-German Studies 3, Trier: WVT, 2008.**



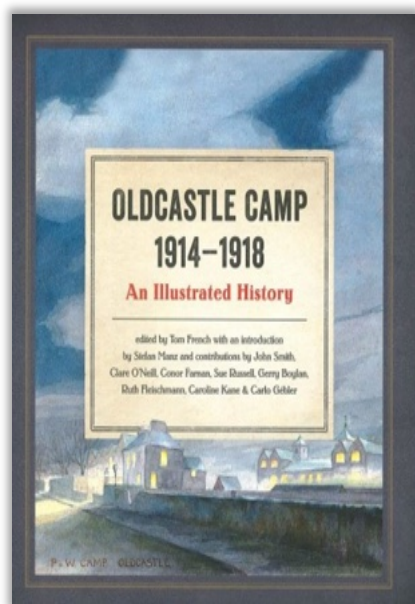
This volume, the third publication of the Irish-German Studies Centre at the University of Limerick, is the consequence of a conference on intercultural connections within Irish and German children's literature, which took place in April 2004 at the University of Limerick in Ireland. Tebbutt and Fischer begin this book with an introduction outlining how children's literature influences the development of young people's perceptions of other countries and peoples, and why therefore it is a critical aspect of Irish-German literary studies. The remainder of the work is comprised of a series of six essays, five written by various other authors and the last contribution is supplied by one of the editors themselves, Susan Tebbutt. These essays approach in different ways various elements of children's literature.

Gabriel Rosenstock writes an illuminating piece as a translator of foreign language texts for children. He espouses the idea that multiculturalism is not about accepting the differences, rather the sameness – we are inherently all the same. He ends his contribution with a charming poem called "Street Dancer". Emer O'Sullivan poses questions on how images of Ireland present in German literature influence the range of texts which are translated as well as the part they play in how Irish literature is received and disseminated within Germany. She also examines whether these images have developed in line with modernity or whether the traditional images of Irish-ness, magic and the little people- endure. Stefan Neuhaus explores the politics and power of fairy tales; in particular the fairy tales of Oscar Wilde and how they correspond to the German tradition of fairy tales. Stefanie Weber underlines the connections to be found between the writers Erich Kästner and Jonathan Swift. Weber draws comparisons between both men as authors closely connected to children's literature but who did not write exclusively for children. Weber provides valuable insight into Swift's famed novel *Gulliver's Travels*. She discusses Zohar Shavit's analysis of translations and adaptations of Swift's work for a children's audience before analysing Kästner's adaptation, published in 1961. Elisabeth Wåghäll Nivre examines three German children's mystery books in terms of their use as a medium to express cultural diversity and otherness and how this genre of *Kinderkrimi*<sup>2</sup> seemingly adjusts well to socio-cultural context (94). The final contribution of the book is supplied by one of the editors, Susan Tebbutt. She promotes the use of bilingual children's literature as a way in which Irish children learning German and their German counterparts can integrate language learning. She explains that it may "bridge the gap between entertainment and education", while introducing a cultural dimension in an almost benign manner.

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<sup>2</sup> Wåghäll Nivre uses this description to connote the German mystery novel for a children's audience. p.94.

**French, Tom (ed.), *Oldcastle Camp 1914-1918 – An Illustrated History*. County Meath: Meath County Council, 2018.**



Oldcastle Camp 1914-1918 – An Illustrated History provides fundamental information about the comparatively small internment camp for male German and Austrian “enemy aliens” in Oldcastle during the World War I. The book is worth reading for anyone, be it with an academic purpose and a more profound research interest or with a purely personal motivation. While the contributions are embedded into a general historical background of contemporary British prison camps, the book aims to display individual inmates’ biographies and the consequences of imprisonment for them and their families. The pieces range from very thoroughly researched and referenced accounts to less academic, at times speculative portraits. Occasionally referencing each other, the contributions nicely link together and thus remind the reader of the inmates’ shared experiences, who were being imprisoned only due to their (supposed) nationality. The book is illustrated with pictures of original documents such as newspaper articles, personal letters, paintings made by inmates and photos.

Reading the whole book, one receives an insight into differing evaluations and portrayals of the living conditions in Oldcastle Camp, the contrasting public and media perceptions of the imprisonment (anti-German propaganda and “Germanophobia” (194) as opposed to sympathizing Sinn Féiners), the impact on individuals and (long-term) family dynamics, the literary links found in James Joyce’s *Ulysses*, and more. Initially, Stefan Manz presents an overview of the historical context of the imprisonment of mostly “German, Austrian and Turkish men” (2) who were present in Britain at the start of and during World War I. John Smith is responsible for focusing in on the general history of Oldcastle Camp, of which several additional accounts are also provided by some other authors, therefore offering a good range of primary sources and perspectives for their findings. As editor Tom French of the Meath County Council mentions in his introduction to the volume, “[t]he purpose of this book is to put names and faces on the individuals who endured internment.” Thus, a list of names of internees is made available in the middle of the book, this however remains incomplete. Tracing the fates of specific individuals is the focus of most contributions. Internees such as Aloys Fleischmann and Adolf Gébler, whose lives have been researched, are presented here by their descendants Ruth Fleischmann and Carlo Gébler.

In examining a part of local Irish history and contributing to internment studies by analysing and referencing the sources so far available, the book successfully attempts to lay the groundwork for further research in this area.

Gallagher, Gerhardt, Holfter, Gisela and Ó hAodha, Mícheál, *Connections- Verbindungen: Irish-German Perspectives through Etching*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011.



This unique publication is the result of an exhibition which took place at the Glucksman Library at the University of Limerick in 2008. It brings together the artwork of Irish artist Gerhardt Gallagher and the etchings of the North German landscape created by his German grandmother Margarethe Gerhardt, which he inherited from his mother following her death in 1995. A piece of family history or, as Dr Holfter describes it, a “living form of Irish-German studies” (viii), the book features over eighty of their combined etchings while also giving an insight to the lives and works of both artists.

Ó hAodha’s preface offers some insight into the author’s own initiation into the work of Margarethe Gerhardt and that of her grandson Gerhardt Gallagher. This is followed by a short chapter which chronicles the connections and influences between Ireland and Germany on an artistic level. The next chapter begins with a biographical tribute to Margarethe Gerhardt by her grandson and is followed thereafter with a short biography of him. Also included is ‘Gerhardt Gallagher and

Gisela Holfter in Conversation’ where the artist reflects upon his life, giving an insight into his mixed German-Irish heritage including a fascinating discussion of the parallels between Gerhardt’s life and that of Johannes Ó hUrmoltaigh, both children of German mothers growing up in post-war Ireland as depicted in Hamilton’s *The Speckled People*.

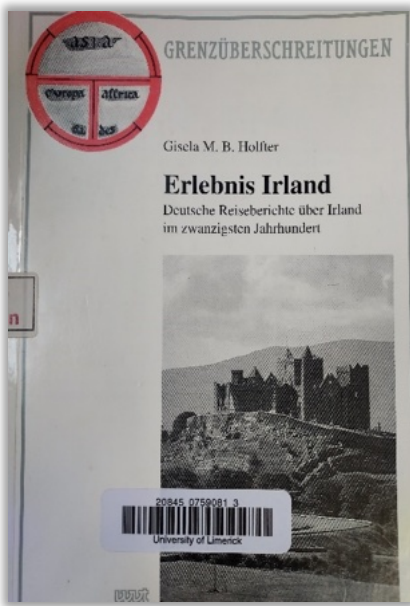
The remainder of the book is devoted to the exquisite etchings, firstly of Margarethe and then by Gerhardt.

“I suppose artists are, by their very nature, a little bit above things like nationality.”<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Quote by Imogen Stuart, p.1

**Holfter, Gisela, *Erlebnis Irland: Deutsche Reiseberichte über Irland im zwanzigsten Jahrhundert*. Trier, WVT, 1996.**



This book is an examination of the image of Ireland and Irish people, found in German language travel literature in the 1900s. However it is not just an academic book; rather, it is written for anybody that may be interested in Ireland and travel literature.

The main body of work in this book is split into six parts. The first part explores the image of Ireland from a German point of view; chronologically ordered from the beginnings of relations until the end of the 1900s. It is split into subchapters to distinguish the travel reports temporally, as for example before and after the Great Famine. The similarities between all the travel reports are shown, as well as the main characteristics and tendencies in travel accounts of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Other topics that are discussed in the subchapters are for example the Anglo-Irish relationship, the Irish language, Daniel O'Connell and Catholic Emancipation, and the transport options that were available while travelling to Ireland at the time.

The second part covers travel reports up to and during the First World War, during the Weimar Republic, and during the Second World War. Included here is a short summary of other relevant German literature written about Ireland between 1933 and 1945, which helps to put the travel literature in context.

1957 represented a pivotal turning point for German language travel literature about Ireland, as it was the year that Heinrich Böll published his classic *Irishes Tagebuch*, or *Irish Journal* in English. As such, the third part of this book presents an examination of this text, the impressions of Ireland that are present, and the themes contained in the *Irish Journal* in the context of other travel literature of the time, especially A.E. Johann's and Enno Stephan's writing about Ireland.

The fourth part of the book explores this further, as it offers the reader a good insight into the effects that Böll's work had on travel literature published after this time, and indeed on how travelling to Ireland itself was changed. This chapter explores some other kinds of travel reports, as for example some more esoteric ones, ironic ones and reports from people who have already been to Ireland for a longer period of time.

Travel reports about Ireland from the GDR are presented in the fifth part of the book, and the final chapter contains an interesting impression of Irish travel reports in German newspapers in 1993. It reflects on how Ireland is described in the newspaper travel reports and which characteristics of descriptions are most common. The book ends with a summing up chapter that reflects on how German travel reports changed in the course of time and how new technologies might influence the future travel reports.

Holfter, Gisela (ed.), *German-speaking Exiles in Ireland, 1933-1945*. German Monitor Series. Amsterdam/Atlanta: Rodopi, 2006.



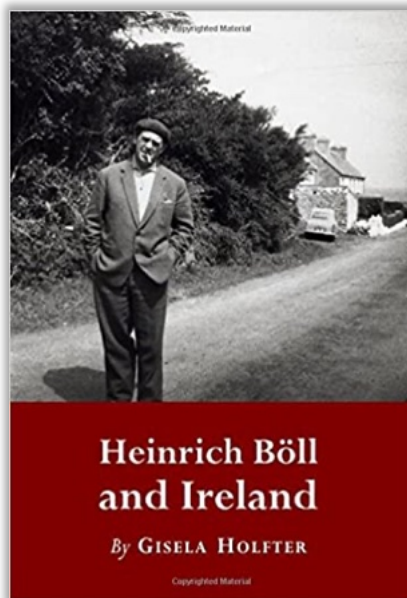
This collection of academic articles, biographical portraits and personal reflections is based on the Seventh Limerick Conference in Irish-German Studies on German-speaking exiles, held at the University of Limerick in 2002. This book is unique as it is the only work to extensively document the experience of German-speaking exiles who came as the first group of immigrants to the new Free State of Ireland between 1933 and 1945.

In her introduction, the editor of the volume Gisela Holfter gives a well-rounded overview of the existing research in this area. Part One provides the background to, development of, and the current relevant social and political questions in the field of exile studies as well as an historical account of the Irish situation in relation to migration: in particular Irish official policy towards refugees of Jewish and Austrian origin, organizations and key players involved in the helping and restriction of their migration and the difficulties faced by refugees. The last part of this section explores the psychological and physical journeys of refugees who fled the Nazi regime and made their

homes in Ireland.

Many of these were academic exiles, to whom this book gives its focus. Ireland benefited greatly from their contributions to science and the humanities and Part Two describes the life and work of four refugee scholars: Robert Weil, a Jewish teacher of modern languages in Belfast, who wrote essays about his attitude to his homeland and Ireland when at Newtown school in Waterford. Ernst Scheyer, a successful lawyer in Silesia, forced to flee to Ireland having been stripped of German citizenship (and later became Weil's father-in-law). He worked as a German teacher in St Andrew's and then had a considerable influence as a lecturer in Trinity College Dublin where he was well known for his enthusiasm for German language and literature. Ludwig Bieler, a scholar of Paleography and Late Latin, was a member of the Royal Irish Academy and based in UCD. Hans Sachs was a serologist, expelled from Germany who then fled to Ireland. In her introduction Holfter comments: "The real experience of the exiles is the sum of all the individual experiences. General background studies normally cannot capture that experience." (7) For this reason, Part Three features personal accounts from three family members of refugees and one refugee, an element which adds great depth to the book and reveals the true nature of the multi-faceted experience of these refugees.

Holfter, Gisela, *Heinrich Böll and Ireland*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011.



Hugo Hamilton's thought-provoking foreword raises the question of importance of Böll's works about Ireland and the author's perspective on this country and it's well situated at the beginning of this sui generis work by Holfter in which she examines Heinrich Böll's multifaceted relationship with Ireland. She explores his two main works about Ireland; his renowned *Irishes Tagebuch (Irish Journal)*, published in German in 1957 and in English ten years later, and his film *Irland und seine Kinder (Children of Eire)* which caused significant controversy when it was broadcast in Ireland in 1965. Most of all, this book brings to life the legacy of a man who's work "still has a lot to tell us today." (182)

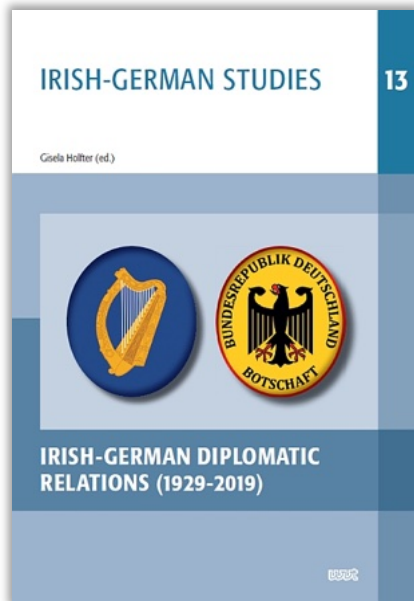
Divided into five parts, the book begins with a short overview of Irish-German literary relations and a biographical sketch. Part Two explores the Böll's relations to Ireland before his first visit and the beginning of Böll's fascination with this country and its literature that significant influenced his later work. Holfter explores further this growing affinity, which in-

tensified after his subsequent visit to Ireland in 1954 and his arrival on Achill Island a year later where he and his family found their second home, and documents it with photographs of the Böll family. Part Three includes a detailed analysis of his *Irish Journal*, its structure, motifs and themes, such as religion, poverty, emigration, and portrait of the Irish and the role of Germany in Böll's works. The following chapters outline the differences in reception of *The Irish Journal* in Germany, Ireland and internationally.

Part Four deals with the translation work of Annemarie and Heinrich Böll and the articles that Böll wrote about Ireland-related topics. Then it examines the film *Irland und seine Kinder* and its reception in both Germany and Ireland. This leads into an interesting discussion about the possible reasons for the highly negative response it received in Ireland. This chapter in particular will be of interest to anyone looking at Ireland's history through a social lens. Finally Part five covers the topic of the Böll's legacy and the question of its meaning for Irish culture, it also touches on the interesting matter of Böll's cottage on Achill Island, a famous artist's residence since 1992.

This book gives an exact overview of the cultural and literary influences of Heinrich Böll's works and reaction on them in Germany, Ireland and internationally. This book provides also a bibliography that can help the reader to explore further the subject.

Holfter, Gisela (ed.), *Irish-German Diplomatic Relations (1929-2019)*. Irish-German Studies 13, Trier: WVT, 2020.



This volume sets out to investigate the history and trajectories of Irish-German diplomatic relations over the last 90 years. The first part of the volume makes it clear that the history of diplomatic relations between Ireland and Germany were in no way linear. Instead, they were shaped not only by events but in large part by the actions and personalities of diplomats – of individual people. In this vein, Róisín Healy introduces portraits of a number of figures who personify the difficulties and challenges of diplomatic relations long before Irish independence; in a time where Irish diplomatic relations were overshadowed by those of the UK. Eda Sagarra’s contribution takes the reader on a similar trajectory, highlighting the personal circumstances and the interconnected nature of personal relationships in the early years of Irish diplomacy. Michael Kennedy then broadens the scope and takes on the historical and political realities from 1919-1929 that affected – and complicated – the bilateral relations between Ireland and Germany. Despite early difficulties, Kennedy shows the reciprocal willingness to further and pro-

mote diplomatic relations on both sides. The chapters by Mervyn O’Driscoll and Joachim Fischer broadens the scope even further and both investigate Ireland in a European context, albeit along different tangents. O’Driscoll makes clear, how Ireland was allowed to grow within the European context even before becoming a member state in 1973, whereas Germany saw its opportunity to realign its foreign ambitions to fit into a wholly European constellation, where shared spaces and ideas were the prevailing political principles. Focusing on developments in the European Union, Fischer looks at the changing power dynamics, specifically the ones unleashed by England’s referendum to leave the Union, and the Irish-German relationship within this shifting landscape.

The second part of the volume is made up of a collection of reflections by former Irish and German diplomats. An overarching theme, here, is the diplomats’ desire to maintain a pre-existing goodwill and “traditional sympathy”<sup>4</sup>, while at the same time the reflections give insight into the importance of actions by the individual. Following this collection is a personal register of diplomats who served in both countries since the establishing of official diplomatic exchange.

In general, the volume presents not only valuable research in the diplomatic history between Ireland and Germany. Following a narrative that emphasizes not only the importance of individual diplomats and their actions but also that of historical events and the interlapping of both these aspects, the chapters highlight the ups and downs, the insecurities, intuition, and responsiveness that ultimately led to the diplomatic status of Ireland and Germany that prevails today. At the same time, the second part also presents the reader with valuable sources for further inquiry and research. As such, the volume is a valuable addition to any collection of the study on diplomatic relations between Ireland and Germany.

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<sup>4</sup> Gisela, Holfter (ed.), *Irish-German Diplomatic Relations (1929-2019)*. Irish-German Studies 13, Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2020, p. 14.

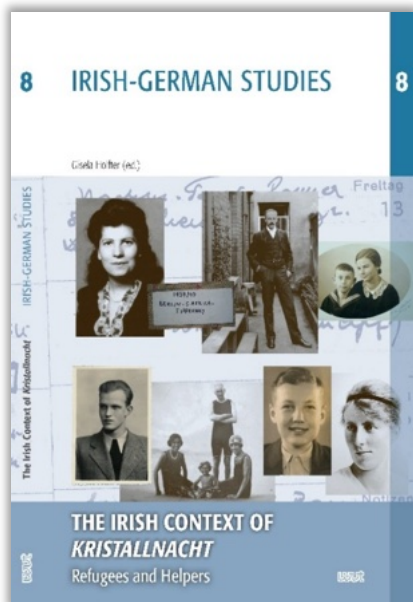
**Gisela Holfter (ed.), *Rückblicke und Reflexionen. A History of German Studies in Ireland.* Trier: WVT 2023.**



This volume includes contributions on German Studies at third-level institutions in Ireland, covering, for the most part, developments and experiences during the last decades, with some contributions focusing on a longer time span. Over thirty academics from nineteen Irish universities and Institutes of Technology (now Technological Universities) look back and reflect on aspects of German Studies at their respective institutions and their personal experiences, presenting a portrayal of a subject that was introduced at third level in Ireland in 1776, a world first.



Holfter, Gisela (ed.), *The Irish Context of Kristallnacht – Refugees and Helpers*. Irish-German Studies 8, Trier: WVT, 2014.

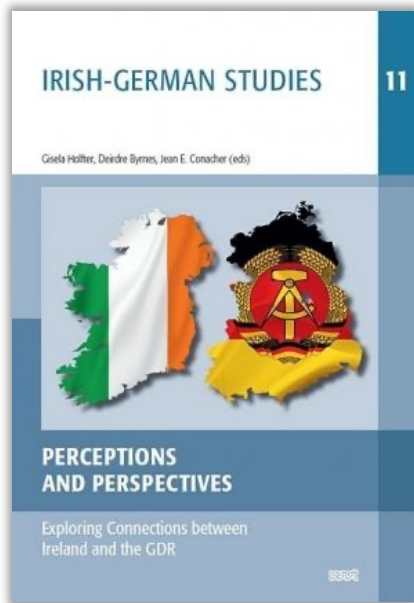


This collection is based on the papers given at the 14<sup>th</sup> Limerick Conference in Irish-German Studies, “Context of *Kristallnacht*: Ireland and the German-speaking refugees 1933–45 – A colloquium on German-speaking exiles, Irish helpers and the national and international context seventy-five years ago”. The event, organised by the editor of the volume, took place at the University of Limerick on 7/8 November 2013. Several aspects were at the core of the conference – to remind us again of what happened on these days three quarters of a century earlier, in November 1938, the violence and barbarity, the incarceration of tens of thousands of mostly Jewish men. The conference also focused on the impact these events had on Ireland, looking at the people who came here as refugees on the one hand but also identifying some of the Irish groups and individuals who reached out and helped. The voices of the refugees and helpers, often remembered only by their family members, were combined with the voices of academics who presented current re-

search on Nazi Germany, refugees in Ireland and Great Britain, and Irish policy towards them. Several contributors did not speak at the conference but kindly agreed to add to this volume. There are not many witnesses left to the events of 1938. We were fortunate to hear and see some of them at the conference. The urgency of this collection was emphasised at the conference, as the children of the refugees and the children of the Irish helpers, who have personal memories of refugees, are no longer teenagers. Some of the grandchildren are close to retiring. The speedy appearance of this volume less than a year after the conference, and including a number of new contributions, was made possible thanks to a grant from the Irish Research Council under their New Foundations scheme.

While providing historical, academic and cultural contextualisations, at the heart of both the conference and this volume are personal experiences and reflections. The forewords were written by Thomas Nader, Austrian Ambassador to Ireland and Harald Seibel from the German Embassy followed by *Gerald Dawe’s* poem ‘Kristallnacht, 1938’ and an introduction by Gisela Holfter. This is followed by Part I: Personal Reflections from Refugees to Ireland and their Families: Stephen Weil: “Children of Goethe”: The Scheyer-Weil Family; Klaus Unger: On Herbert Unger; Hans Reiss: My Coming to Ireland; Herbert Karrach: The Karrach Family; Sophia Kingshill: Willi und Trudi Königsberger in Tipperary; Paul Dubsy: The Dubsy Family; Denis Henderson: On Ruth Henderson and her Parents, Peter and Else Brandenburg. Part II looks at the Irish Helpers: Philip Jacob: The Religious Society of Friends and the “Helpers” Side; Kevin McCarthy: An Introduction to Robert Briscoe’s Extraordinary Immigration Initiative, 1933-1938; Glynn Douglas: Norah Douglas and the Belfast Committee for German Refugees; Michael Kennedy: Werner Cahn-Garnier’s Story; Mary Rose Doorly: Sabina Wizniak Shorts; Hugo Hamilton: ‘Blind Eye’ – Film Script. In Part III the contexts of Kristallnacht are discussed: Eoin Burke: In Memory of George Clare; Yanky Fachler: The Context of *Kristallnacht* in my Family; Siobhán O’Connor: Public and Policy Response towards the Exiles; David O’Donoghue: The Nazis in 1930s Ireland; Ian Wallace: The Impact of *Kristallnacht* in the UK.

Holfter, Gisela; Byrnes, Deirdre; Conacher, Jean E. (eds), *Perception and Perspectives – Exploring Connections between Ireland and the GDR*. Irish-German Studies 11, Trier: WVT, 2019.



This edited volume is dedicated to one central question, which has been to a certain extent neglected in research for a long time: “Were there any meaningful connections between Ireland and the GDR?” By searching for the similarities, intersections and differences of these two countries of the 21st century in an interdisciplinary approach, this book establishes the latest and most manifold collection of both analytical and anecdotic articles.

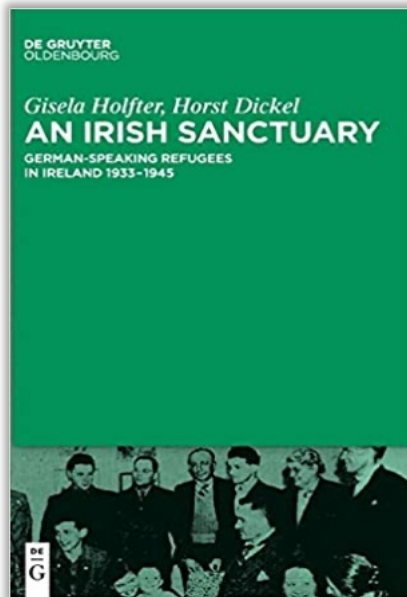
The initial article therefore opens the bright horizon this volume navigates to. Gisela Holfter displays the small and big events, the well-known and less described protagonists building the bridge between the Irish island and the German Democratic Republic on the European continent. With this overview of people, relations and cultural artefacts in mind, the reader is released to discover a variety of voices and angles on developing relations, parallel developments and path breaking crossings.

Next to analysis on Irish roots in GDR’s Folkmusik (by Felix Morgenstern) and a closer look on the complex metaphors Nylon and Dederon (by Derek Scally), which both leads to common grounds of history of these two very different republic states, literature seems to offer essential insights on their connections. For example, Michaela Schrage-Früh diagnosis the „Ireland fever“ in Hugo Hamilton’s Berlin trilogy and suggests that „[...] in all three novels Ireland serves as an important projection screen for the German characters longings, wishes and unfulfilled desires [...]“. In turn for Ireland, Joachim Fischer identifies in author Kevin Brophy’s work the „critique of western capitalism gone global and of its German and Irish manifestations [...]“ and the socialistic dominated GDR as an alternative.

While in the first part of Perception and Perspectives academic articles deal with identity and nationality, experiences of separated states, the loss of “Heimat” and migration topics, in the second part of this comprehensive volume all these impressions are described by biographical stories taking place in-between Ireland and the GDR. Contemporary witnesses make interactions of individuals and societies tangible when they talk about their prejudices and surprises. From holiday and business trips, inspiration for an theatre play to child memories: all contributions show fascinating and ambivalent interactions.

These impressions allow conclusions on the images, languages, thoughts and motives the encounter of these two countries brought up on a daily life basis and contribute to the picture of Ireland and the GDR being superficially far away from each other, but under the surface they were very close.

Holfter, Gisela and Dickel, Horst, *An Irish Sanctuary. German-speaking Refugees in Ireland 1933–1945*. Berlin/Boston: de Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2017.



The book is the product of careful, extensive research by the authors on the subject of German-speaking refugees in Ireland from the years 1933 to 1945. It is the first attempt to portray the lives of exiles, beginning with their origins via their ways into exile towards life in Ireland during and after the war. In order to provide this comprehensive picture, extensive research and interviews were conducted. Moreover, access to closed files was granted. The aim was to capture a broad picture of refugees from all social groups, whether they were coming to Ireland legally or illegally, for a short or long term, for fear or prevention.

The book consists of three parts, which are chronologically structured. The history of the exiles is introduced by their ways from Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia to Ireland. In the following, the life of the exiles in Ireland is examined in more detail, followed by a brief discussion of the time and circumstances after the war. As the first part deals with the origin of the exiles, it illuminates the background of the refugees and

the circumstances of their flight. The first three chapters of the book deal with the history of the refugees between 1933 and 1938. Already at this time many people from Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia began to flee in order to escape the changing political circumstances under Hitler in the Third Reich (chapters 1 to 3). The following two chapters illustrate the situation after the Pogrom Night in November 1938. Further emigrants from Germany and neighbouring Italy, where they initially sought refuge, reached Ireland (chapters 4 and 5). The second part opens with the reactions of the Irish Government, Irish society and other helpers who addressed the exiles on arrival in Ireland (chapter 6). Subsequently, the lives of those refugees who lived and worked in rural areas (chapter 7) and those who found a new home in Dublin (chapter 8) are presented in more detail. The book also examines the lives of academics who were brought to Ireland (chapter 9) and those who merely used Ireland as a transit gateway (chapter 10). The third part finally provides an insight into the influence that period had on people's lives in Irish exile. Both influences on the former and later lives of the exiles, as well as the exile's effect on the effect on Irish society is presented (chapter 11). A paperback edition of the book appeared in 2018.

Holfter, Gisela, Krajenbrink, Marieke and Moxon-Browne, Edward (eds), *Beziehungen und Identitäten: Österreich, Irland und die Schweiz: Connections and Identities: Austria, Ireland and Switzerland*. Bern: Peter Lang, 2004.



This book offers a refreshingly inclusive perspective on relations between Ireland and the German-speaking countries. Setting aside the much researched links between Ireland and Germany, this collection of articles explores the often neglected relationship between Ireland, Austria and German-speaking Switzerland. It includes twenty-two articles, eight in German and fourteen in English, many of which were presented at the third Limerick Conference in Irish-German Studies in 2002. Core themes are examined from a range of interdisciplinary perspectives and revolve, for the most part, around questions of identity in Austria and Switzerland as well as connections between both countries and Ireland.

In ‘Irish Alpine Encounters - Tours and Travels in 1877’ Nicola Drücker documents one Stephan Grehan’s ‘Grand Tour d’Europe’. His narrative accounts of Switzerland, in particular, express “perceptions of one’s own culture and the other” (75). In a more modern day context, Veronica O’Regan examines the Swiss reception of Ireland’s ‘No’ vote in the controversial 2001 referendum in her article ‘„Mündige Bürger’: German-Swiss Media Representation of Ireland’s Rejection of the Nice Treaty’. An important Austrian influence in Ireland is revealed by Annika Stephan and Paul Gosling, who bring to light Adolf Mahr’s, who was the Director of the National Museum of Ireland and leader of the Nazi Party’s Foreign Organisation branch in Dublin until 1939, contribution to archaeological research in Austria and Ireland. The theme of language comes up in Victoria Martin’s article ‘The Standard Language and National Identity in Austria and Ireland’ in which she compares the historical development of Irish English and Austrian German, highlighting the similar sociolinguistic context that exists in both countries today. Three articles focus on James Joyce: Hermann Rasche’s ‘Joyce unterwegs: Austria und Helvetia’, Michael Eggers ‘“Sprachen, die sich nie ganz begegnen...”: Ingeborg Bachmanns *Simultan* und James Joyces *Dubliners*’ and Rebecca Beard’s ‘Speaking the Language of Culture: Elfriede Jelinek and James Joyce Writing the Homeland’. This volume gives through historical, literary, political, cultural and linguistic perspectives a varied overview of the Austro-Irish and the Swiss-Irish relations.

**Holfter, Gisela and Lerchenmueller, Joachim (eds), *Yearbook of the Centre for Irish-German Studies 1998/99*. Trier: WVT, 1999.**



This collection of articles was the first yearbook published by the Centre for Irish-German Studies. This volume is divided in three parts and each of it combines academic, literary and feuilleton style articles covering many aspects of Irish-German relations.

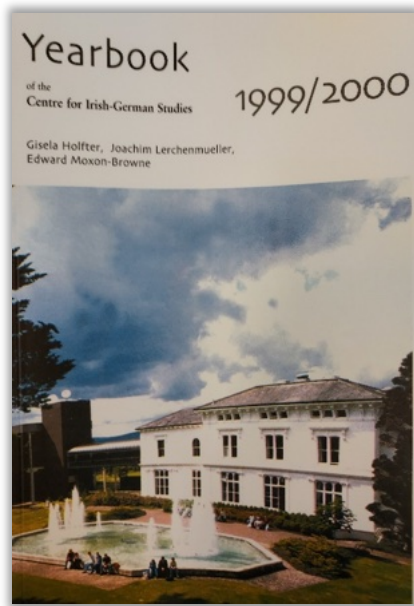
The first part is subdivided in four sections: Connections, Politics and Business, Literature and Art and History. Several of the contributions in the section 'Connections' were presented at the first Limerick Conference for Irish-German Studies held in 1997, such as the twinning of Limerick and Sligo with German towns Hohenlohe and Kempten. Jürgen Gottschalk, chairperson of the Würzburg German-Irish Society describes Würzburg, the Irish town on the Continent and it is over 1,300 year old relationship with Ireland. Other sections in this part offer also an interesting overview of the many interconnections between Ireland and Germany. Birte Schulz writes about the controversial Spiegel-Examiner-Affair and questions whether it had a negative effect on Irish-German relations,

while Richard Heinen investigates the first depiction of Ireland in Heinrich Böll's work *Haus ohne Hüter*.

The second part of the yearbook, headed 'Personal Encounters', contains more personal experiences and literal texts. It includes an article originally published in *Die Zeit* about German-speaking artists and their experiences living in Ireland, an article on John Hume by Ralf Sotscheck, a journalist who lives in Dublin, and impressions while travelling around Ireland written by Fritz-Gert Mayer, Pastor from the Lutheran Church in Dublin. Hans-Guido Klinker also contributes two German-Irish poems thematising Ireland in this Yearbook.

Part three of this collection consists of descriptions of the work done by the Centre for Irish-German Studies and various other organisations over the course of a year, including the German Embassy, the Goethe Institut, Bord Fáilte, German-Irish societies and the Heinrich-Böll-Akademie, Achill, to name but a few. The last section of this part includes a research bibliography dating from 1995 to 1999, compiled by Joachim Fischer.

**Holfter, Gisela, Lerchenmueller, Joachim and Moxon-Browne, Edward (eds), *Yearbook of the Centre for Irish-German Studies 1999/2000*. Trier: WVT, 2000.**



This collection of articles features many of the papers presented at the second Limerick Conference in Irish-German Studies in 1999, entitled “Ireland and Germany 50 Years On”. This volume is divided in four parts. Part one documents the event in the form of a conference report, followed by the welcome addresses given by the Secretary-General of the German Academic Exchange Service, and the President and Chancellor of the University of Limerick. Topics include historical, economic, political, social and cultural developments and the comparative approach adopted reveals much about the Irish-German relationship as well as each country individually. A broad range of papers address matters such as multiculturalism, The Celtic Tiger, developments in third-level education, and the future of Irish-German cultural relations.

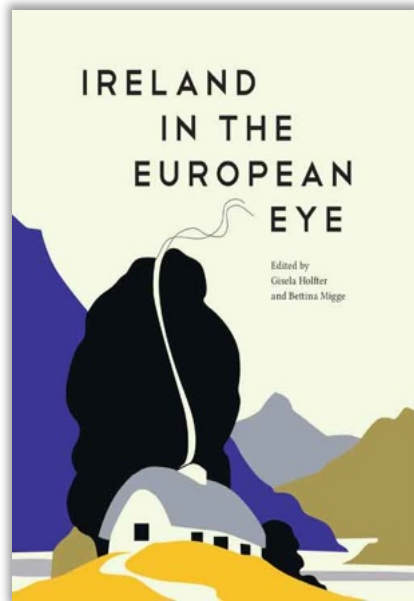
The second Part provides Personal Encounters, with a very interesting first contribution by Jürgen Schneider who after spending a time living in Ireland, invited Irish artists to Berlin to display their artworks in his gallery. Beyond that, the

Journalist Ralf Sotscheck, who lives in Dublin, documents a dark chapter in IRA history and the Irish-German Society in Düsseldorf recounts twenty years cultivating Irish-German relations. This section proves the diversity of this yearbook, with further papers on St. Patrick, the Frankfurter book fair and an interesting article on an Irish-German masterclass in harp, wood and brass instruments, founded in 1998 and held at the University of Limerick.

Part three consists of a special feature on Austria. The Irish-Austrian Society and the Austrian Embassy strive to promote closer ties and understanding between the people of two countries, which have a surprisingly great deal in common.

The fourth and final section of the this volume presents the year’s work of the centre for Irish-German Studies and includes the progress and activities of fifteen Irish-German organisations, among them the Goethe-Institute, Irish-German societies in Würzburg and Munich, the Heinrich Böll Academy of Ireland and the Association of Third-Level Teachers of German in Ireland.

Holfter, Gisela and Migge, Bettina (eds), *Ireland in the European Eye*. Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2019.



This book, edited by Gisela Holfter and Bettina Migge, which includes contributions by twenty-two “internationally renowned experts”, offers an overview of the Irish images of continental Europe from the perspective of history, politics, economics, literature, visual and audible arts, European Studies and media. Its multifaceted nature is mirrored in the division of the publication into four parts.

The first part, titled *Ireland in Europe: Historical Background and Contextualisation*, looks back at the historical development of the relations between Ireland and the countries of continental Europe and examines the latest political developments in these relations. This part is concluded with an article by Brigid Laffan, who discusses the youngest history of Ireland and its engagement in Europe, beginning with its entry to the EEC and ending with the latest debates on the Brexit-matter.

The second part of the book is subdivided into two smaller sections; *Representation of Ireland in European Literature* and

*Irish Literature in Europe and Literary Representations in Comparative Perspectives*. This leads the reader away from political discourses and to the historical and contemporary images of Ireland in foreign literature and Irish literature outside of Ireland. David Clark, whose contribution is included in this part of the publication and studies the representation of Ireland in Spanish literature. He notes a fascinating tendency within Spanish literature to perceive the history of Ireland as an inspiration for solving inner political issues.

The third part *Irish Art, Architecture, Film and Music in European Discourses* discovers the impact of visual and audible images of Ireland on its general perception in continental Europe. In her article, Finola O’Kane points out an interesting fact that only certain pieces of Irish architecture are picked for the illustrated tourist literature, which support an already shaped image of Ireland as an agrarian country, while the images of modern architecture are ignored.

The last part combines the contributions on “*European Studies, Tourism and Journalism*”. This part also analyses the marketing of Ireland to other countries. Furthermore, Paul Gillespie’s chapter acknowledges another perspective, examining debates on Europe in Irish media.

Thus, the four parts of the publication cover the most relevant aspects of the perception of Ireland by other parts of Europe.

Holfter, Gisela and Rasche, Hermann (eds), *Exil in Irland: John Hennigs Schriften zu deutsch-irischen Beziehungen*. Trier: WVT, 2002.



This bi-lingual book comprises a comprehensive collection of articles in both English and German from writings by John Hennig. Paul Gottfried Johannes Hennig (1911-1986) was a Leipzig-born German academic who fled from Germany to Ireland in 1939 where he settled with his family. Hennig was a prolific writer contributing many articles, primarily on Irish German relations, to over thirty periodicals and journals in his life-time and is widely considered to be the founding father of Irish-German studies. This collection comprises many essays and journalistic works, as well as excerpts from his autobiography, *Die Bleibende Statt* which have until now, for the main part, remained in the private sphere.

This compendium of Hennig's work is split into sections. Section I comprises an introduction to the book, written in German, which is a collaborative effort by both Holfter and Rasche. This is followed by the second section which addresses the authors' rationale for writing the book as well as a biographical overview of Hennig's personal life and

academic career and also includes some family photographs. Section III contains excerpts from his autobiography, *Die bleibende Statt*, written in German. Section IV contains personal writings and descriptions of German and Irish cities with which he had links. These writings are comprised of personal experiences and are anecdotal in nature. His strong connections to both countries are revealed here making these texts especially valuable to the area of Irish-German studies. Section V is a compilation of various academic essays written by Hennig on the subject of literary relations between Ireland and Germany, and is further sub-divided into five subsets, each relating to different literary themes and topics. There are a number of detail-rich overviews provided within this section which are invaluable as a source on the history of Irish-German literary relations.

As John Hennig has been lauded as the "founder of Irish-German literary relations", the importance of this compilation of his work cannot be understated, and could be used as a vital reference point for anybody wishing to study Irish-German relations, literary or otherwise.



**Kluge, Hans-Dieter, *Irland in deutscher Geschichtswissenschaft, Politik und Propaganda vor 1914 und im Ersten Weltkrieg*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 1985.**



This book provides a comprehensive exploration, analysis and interpretation of the German interest in Ireland, both historically and politically, before 1914 and during World War I.

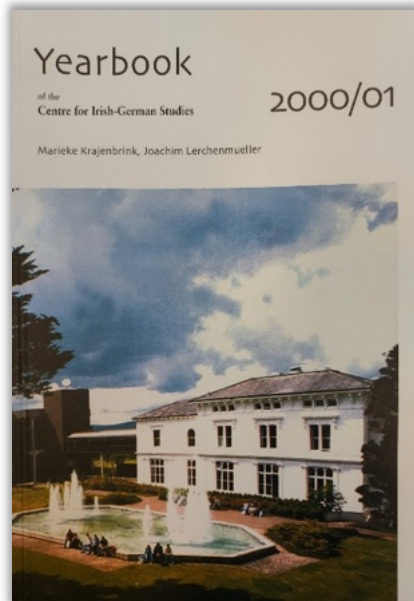
In the introduction Kluge argues that although Germany had a strong interest in Irish literature, language, and Celtic studies, there were no political and economic links between Germany and Ireland before the beginning of the nineteenth century. In his opinion, German-Irish relations developed and intensified for the first time in a meaningful way in the period leading up to and during World War I. The research compiled in this book examines the development of Irish-German relations in context of Irish-English links from a historical point of view.

The book is split into four subsequent chapters. The first outlines the state of research on Ireland and the development of the 'Ireland' image before 1914, in the context of religion (Protestantism and Catholicism), agriculture and economy. In the second chapter there is an exploration of the image of Ire-

land in the reports of the German Embassy in London and journalistic publications before World War I. The third chapter gives the reader an overview of the importance of Ireland in German politics during the First World War and German reaction on Easter Uprising in 1916. The fourth chapter outlines the image of Ireland in German propaganda and literature during World War I.

This book provides the reader with a good overview of the studies completed till 1985 in this field; however, one must take into account that Kluge's work does not cover more recent research that has been undertaken. Kluge provides the reader with a comprehensive appendix, including direct quotes from sources which are particularly useful to give a broader context.

**Krajenbrink, Marieke and Lerchenmueller, Joachim (eds), *Yearbook of the Centre for Irish-German Studies 2000/01*. Trier: WVT, 2001.**



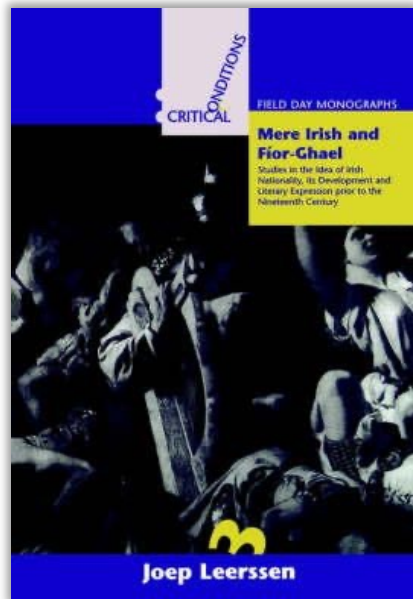
This collection of papers forms the third yearbook and provides new perspectives and historical developments in Irish-German relations. With contributors from a range of different professional backgrounds, both academic and non-academic, the book includes a broad spectrum of viewpoints and perspectives on Ireland and all three German-speaking countries. For those interested in Irish-Swiss relations and Switzerland in general, a large part of the book is devoted to Switzerland. Therefore, this volume is divided in four parts. As noted by the editors: “Irish-Swiss relations have not received much scholarly attention in the past, despite the fact that the two countries have more in common than many might first think [...]” (5)

Part One features three articles. Wolf Wagner adopts a visual, statistical approach in his comprehensive essay which deals with the negative effects of reunification on political culture in East Germany. Anton Pelinka tackles the changes undergone by Austrian identity after its entry into the European Union, and Anthony Leddin in an economic analysis discusses the Irish experience in the Economic Monetary Union. As mentioned, Part two of the book deals explicitly with Switzerland. Many diverse topics are covered, such as Swiss and Irish neutrality in the Second World War (written by Christian Leitz). Veronica O’Regan writes about Swiss media representation of Northern Ireland, and coming from a literary perspective, Helen Hauser writes about Ireland in the novels of German-speaking Swiss authors. The final article in this section lists the activities carried out by the Swiss embassy in the year 2000.

Part three delves into the personal and includes, among others, articles on Austrian physicist Erwin Schrödinger written by his daughter Ruth Braunizer. Beyond that, articles about the German anti-nuclear activist Petra Kelly and James Joyce in Austria take also a part of this chapter.

Part four, ‘The Year’s Work in Irish-German Relations’ reviews the activities of the Centre for Irish-German Studies as well as other organisations such as the Austrian and German embassies in Ireland, the Goethe Institute and the German-Irish societies in Bavaria and Düsseldorf. The last section of this part is a bibliography of material related to Ireland published in Austria, Germany and Switzerland in the period from 1990 to 2000 compiled by Andreas Hüther. This collection, and indeed every yearbook published by the Centre for Irish-German Studies stands as testimony to Ireland’s culturally rich relationship with all three German-speaking countries.

Leerssen, Joep. *Mere Irish and Fíor-Ghael, Studies in the Idea of Irish Nationality, its Development and Literary Expression Prior to the Nineteenth Century*, 2nd Ed. Cork: Cork University Press, 1996.



In this book, Leerssen uses historical and literary sources from Gaelic, Latin and English to explore the development of an idea of Irish nationality prior to the nineteenth century. The main methodology used in this research is that of “imagology”, or “image studies”, and Leerssen places particular emphasis on how the development of an Irish national identity was affected by the close “cultural confrontation” that Irish culture had with English culture during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Leerssen notes in the preface that he does not attempt to uncover knowledge that was previously unknown; rather, he tries to make sense of the knowledge that is already there in the field of Irish studies and focus it to convey a “historical model” of Irish nationality.

The book is divided into six chapters, each chapter deals with a specific aspect of the development of Irish national identity. In chapter one, Leerssen sets out a helpful guide to the terminology used in the book, along with a historical background and different definitions of the term nationality. The second chapter explores the image of Ireland in English representations, from both literary and political perspectives in different historical times (from early and medieval times, through the Tudor period to the seventeenth century). The third chapter is an exploration of fictional Irishmen that can be found in English literature in the seventeenth and eighteenth century; in particular, Leerssen looks at the presentation of the “Stage Irishman” in English dramas. In the fourth chapter, Leerssen examines Gaelic poetry for the presence of an Irish nationality, beginning with the tradition of Bardic poetry right up to the wane of Irish language poetry in the eighteenth century. The research takes a socio-political turn in the fifth chapter, as the political and social changes of the seventeenth century (such as persecution and exile of the learned classes, from the role of the Irish language to the religious propaganda, counter-reformation, and finally the interest in Celtic studies) are examined in respect to how they changed the concept of Irish nationality. The final chapter of the book develops this point further by exploring the concept of an Irish national self-image in the eighteenth century.

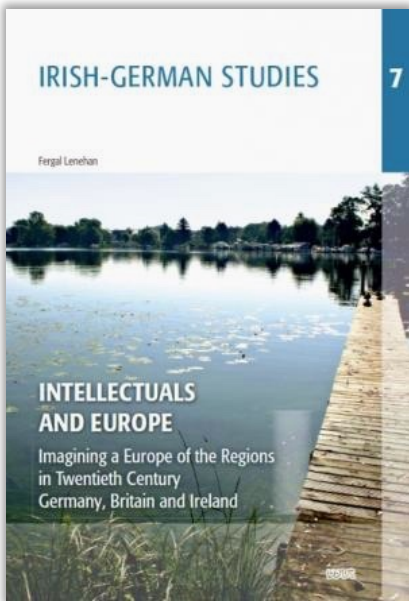
Leifer, Paul and Sagarra, Eda (eds), *Austro-Irish Links Through the Centuries*. Vienna: Favorita Papers, 2002.



This book is a compilation of academic essays, outlining a number of cultural, historical, literary and academic links between Ireland and Austria. It has been published by the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, with support from the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and the Austrian Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Though the forewords and introductions to the book contain strong political and diplomatic perspectives, the essays have been written by academic contributors for the most part, though one is written by an Irishman with a military background. The first chapter by Dagmar Ó Riain-Raedel outlines the history of relations between Austria and Ireland in the middle ages, with particular reference to the role of Irish monks in Austria. In a similar fashion, the second chapter has a strong historical perspective, with an interesting outline of geographical places in Vienna that emphasise an Austro-Irish connection that is hundreds of years old. The main focus of this chapter is a description of the

role that the Irish “Wild Geese” mercenaries that fought on behalf of the Austro-Hungarian empire, and the consequent integration of Irish and Austrian people. The third chapter by Otto Glaser gives a succinct and well-written analysis of the consular and diplomatic relations that have existed historically between Ireland and Austria, and gives an economic and cultural context for the reasons behind the developments on behalf of both. The fourth chapter of the book focuses on individuals that have historically maintained the link between Ireland and Austria or the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the fifth chapter, written by one of the editors of the book Eda Sagarra, gives a short, well-rounded summary of the presence of Austrian literature in Ireland. The final two chapters provide the reader with an overview of economic and military relations between Ireland and Austria, with particular relevance to how they have come to be in the present climate, with the relevance of Europe in mind. The chapters of the book are illuminating in terms of Austro-Irish relations and the historical and cultural backgrounds of these connections, and is a good place to find a brief overview of the subject.

Lenehan, Fergal, *Intellectuals and Europe: Imagining a Europe of the Regions in Twentieth Century Germany, Britain and Ireland*. Irish-German Studies 7, Trier: WVT, 2014.



Visions of Europe have, in many ways, dominated trans-European discourse in the past 6 years. This debate has often been framed in terms of ‘crisis’. The monograph *Intellectuals and Europe: Imagining a Europe of the Regions in Twentieth Century Germany, Britain and Ireland* is a timely discussion of two earlier ‘crisis’ periods; World War 2 and the fall of Communism at the end of the 1980s, and the remoulding of territory suggested then by some thinkers in Germany, Britain and Ireland. The connecting thread that unites these European visions, sometimes ideologically vastly diverse, is the need for a new decentralised European spatiality that should, the authors consistently argue, supersede the nation-state structure. Combining theories from cultural geography and methodologically informed by intellectual history and *Begriffsgeschichte*, this book discusses eight principle thinkers and situates them within their social, cultural and ideational context. Part 1 of the book deals with the World War 2 period. The British Catholic convert, historian and philosopher of history, Christopher Dawson, argued for the re-initiation of a spiritually based ‘Europeanness’, inspired by nostalgia for medieval Christendom. The German essayist and author, and sometime nationalist, Ernst Jünger proffered the idea of an outwardly authoritarian new European *Reich* that would, internally, be a space marked by a quasi-anarchistic tribal regionalism; a vision, ultimately, that embraces a type of Europeanist quasi-nationalism. Leopold Kohr, who fled to North America from the Nazis and is an early green thinker who has recently been rediscovered by the occupy movement, argued for a Europe of Districts, based upon pre-nation-state spaces reacquiring central political agency. The Belfast-born essayist and poet, John Hewitt, embraced an Ulster regionalism, within a European context, that was inspired by American regionalist thinking. Contemporaneously, Séan O’Faolain argued for the Irish state to embrace a new European institution that would empower smaller states.

Part 2 of the monograph deals with the late 1980s and early 1990s period marked, especially, by the fall of Communism. Drawing on eclectic inspirational sources – including post-modern theory, the anarchism of Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, the co-operative ideas of George Russell and EU rhetoric surrounding 1992 – the Irish philosopher and public intellectual Richard Kearney argued for a new Europe of the regions space that would transcend the nation-state and, he believed, potentially solve the Northern Irish ‘Troubles’. Contemporaneously in Germany the writer, academic and social democrat Peter Glotz argued in a similar manner. Fearing the reconstitution of a large German nation-state at the heart of Europe, he looked for a “European solution” that simultaneously centralised and decentralised power and was inspired by a benign view of the Habsburg Empire, as well as Austro-Marxist theory. Likewise Neal Ascherson’s writing and journalism at this time was inspired by a future Europe of the regions that would transcend nation-state sovereignty – while also allowing Scotland the pleasure of being a quasi-nation-state. Hans Magnus Enzensberger, on the contrary, argued for the retention of the present nation-states.

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**Lenehan, Fergal, *Stereotypes, Ideology and Foreign Correspondents. German Media Representations of Ireland, 1946-2010*. Oxford: Peter Lang, 2016.**



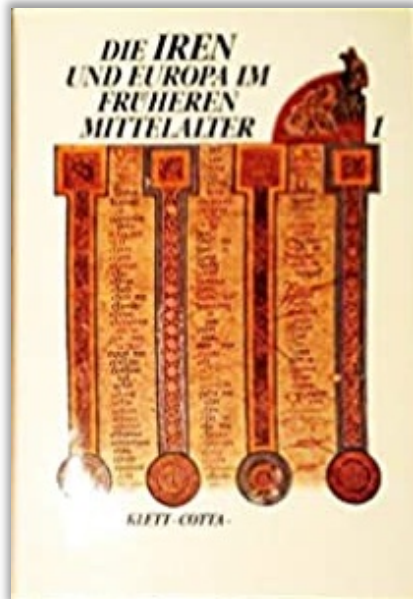
How do we relate to other peoples without having ever met these? In general, we rely on different media representations that have become increasingly accessible to larger groups of people due to technological advancements. This might intuitively seem rather harmless as these can be seen as rather straight-forward media transportations of peoples and their cultures. The problem, however, arises when such transportations are shrouded in stereotypes and preconceptions that are themselves informed by ideological predispositions.

As Fergal Lenehan shows in his book *Stereotypes, Ideology and Foreign Correspondents*, cultural stereotypes might be employed as stylistic instruments to engage and captivate readers' and viewers'. As such, they can be reshaped and reformed to fit newer cultural realities and generalizations. Examining the German media representation of Ireland in papers such as *Der Spiegel* and *Die Zeit* and also German cinema from 1946 to 2010, Lenehan makes the argument that German media representations and cultural ste-

reotypes of Ireland has traditionally been inherently ideological in their make-up. Ireland, the argument goes, has consistently and rhetorically been relegated to an outsider-status on the fringes of an imagined Europe and outside of a crystallizing European societal "normalcy". Although such topoi have been framed primarily in a positive light within German media, Lenehan argues that such preconceptions indirectly place Germany at the heart of Europe and are a type of excluding Europeanism, while at the same time leading to a problematic cultural essentialism.

Lenehan's findings are an important exposition of the inner contradictions of a Europe that is, ideally, based on equality and openness between the European nations, most explicitly envisioned in the project that is the European Union.

Löwe, Heinz (ed.), *Die Iren und Europa im früheren Mittelalter*, Band 1. Stuttgart: Klett-Cotta, 1982.



This book is published in German and represents the result of a colloquium held in Tübingen in 1979 on the topic of ‘The Irish and Europe in the early middle ages’ and includes reports from many different international experts from various disciplines on the Irish contribution to European culture around the time of the late 6<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> Century. It discusses how Irish monks impacted on missions, handwriting, philosophy, music and monastic culture in the Roman Empire or the geographical region of Europe at that time. There are many footnotes throughout the book which offer additional information and links to other sources. The book sets out to find the right balance between two extreme viewpoints popular in the past of over- and underestimating the Irish influence on Europe.

This work is divided into 6 parts over two volumes. The first two parts and one half of the third part can be found in volume 1, the rest is contained in volume 2.

The first part focusses on foundations and beginnings, the Irish and the Picts (Celts) and Anglo-Saxons with a chapter on St. Patrick including a German translation of his *sermo humilis*, a speech by Patricius, which gives the reader an insight into his background and personal faith. The second part examines the Irish contribution to Church reform and missions on the continent in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Century. Among other areas, it investigates the Irish missionary Columban and his influence, signs of Irish missions in different regions such as Hesse and Thuringia before Boniface’s time which may have made his mission to these parts a lot easier in later years and Irish traces in the old German language. The third part analyses education, theology, art and literature of the Irish. It contains a chapter on the knowledge of Latin literature among the Irish at home and on the continent and finishes with a chapter on Irish liturgy books and their prevalence on the continent. The second half of the third part starts in volume 2 with the chapter hiberno-latin theology. The fourth, fifth and sixth part can also be found in volume 2.

Löwe, Heinz (ed.), *Die Iren und Europa im früheren Mittelalter*, Band 2. Stuttgart: Ernst Klett, 1982.



This is the second volume devoted to research on Irish history in the Middle Ages and concentrates on culture, religion and Irish – European relations in 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries. This volume is published in both English and German, but also includes one article in French and one in Italian.

The first part deals with cultural and theological aspects and it begins with the matter of Hiberno-Latin theology, discussing the definition of the term, the historical background and the study of Hiberno-Latin Exegesis, including the topics, interpretation's, modes, sources and the geographical range of the Exegetical Literature. Afterwards the importance and the influence on Europe of the Irish treatise “De duodecim absivis saeculi” is explored, developing the issue of social morality. Then there is an outline of the architectonical question of the early Irish stone and wooden churches, followed by an essay on the Irish contribution to the development of music in the early Middle Ages, with a focal point on polyphony and instrumental music. Then the book discusses the Irish narratives in

context of European literature, followed by an overview of pictures of the continent in Irish literary works and the meaning of the tradition of Irish saints.

The next chapter concentrates on Irish participation in religious life in the Carolingian empire and begins with an article about relations between Irish people and the Carolingian princes, followed by an article on the Irish in Italy and the iconoclastic controversy, followed by an overview of the Irish people in the Western Carolingian Empire. The author analyses the Bern manuscript, an example of Irish activity in the 9<sup>th</sup> century. The following part of this section is related to the works of two important philosophers of medieval times: Eriugena and Sedulius Scottus. Firstly, aspects of Eriugena's philosophy are outlined, whose thoughts had a major impact on medieval theology and concepts of God, his cosmological ideas and also his contribution to disputes regarding predestination. Then the silhouette of Sedulius Scottus is presented, a ninth century commentator on scriptures of Irish origins. This section closes with an overview of the Irish handwriting tradition in Fulda, Mainz, Würzburg, Reichenau and St. Gallen.

The next section concerns the situation of Irish people in Europe in the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries, opening with a discussion on the Lotharingian monastery. After this questions regarding the Cluniac Reforms are posed, followed by the presentation of Marianus Scottus and his work as a universal histograph.

In general, the book gives an overview of the Irish contribution to European medieval culture and the links between the Ireland and the continent during this period. The authors of the articles verified the sources and have made the book accessible not only to experts but also to anyone with general or specific interests in the subject.



**Marx-Engels Jahrbuch 2011. Ed. by Internationale Marx-Engels-Stiftung Amsterdam; special focus edited by Jürgen Herres and Gisela Holfter. Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 2012.**



MARX-ENGELS  
JAHRBUCH  
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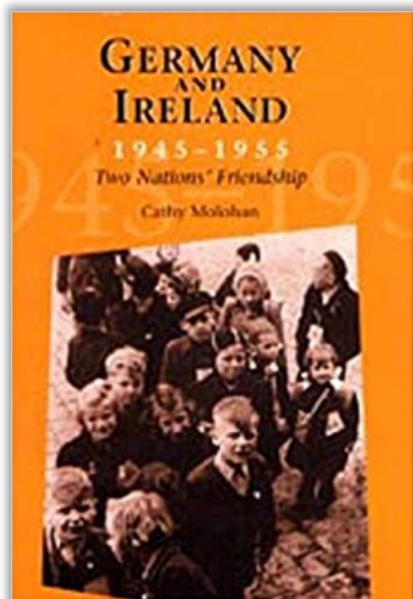
This volume primarily deals with Engels and his relationship with Ireland. It is divided into five parts. Along with articles dedicated to the principal topic there are four book reviews, a report of the conference “Re-Thinking Marx”, held in Berlin in 2011, and also two articles which discuss the publishing sites of works by both Marx and Engels. The majority of articles are occupied with Friedrich Engels and his view of Ireland. These contributions were presented at the conference „Friedrich Engels’ ‘Geschichte Irlands’ (1869/70) im Kontext der deutsch-irischen Beziehungen im 19. Jahrhundert”, in Berlin. This conference was at the same time the thirteenth conference of the Centre for Irish-German Studies. Except for the articles written by Daniel Mulhall and Seán McConville, all of the other contributions are written in German, but a summary of all ten contributions in both German and English is provided in the end. Jürgen Herres and Gisela Holfter, the organisers of the Berlin conference, are the editors of the thematic focus.

*The History of Ireland*, a manuscript by Friedrich Engels, written between 1869 and 1870, is the focus of the first two articles. Jürgen Herres situates this text within the chronology of Engels work and provides an overview of all the notes, articles and letters Engels had written about Ireland. Gisela Holfter places Engels manuscript within the context of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the German perception of Ireland at that time. The contributions by Eoin Bourke and James M. Brophy analyse different texts and their images of Ireland as well as German perceptions of Ireland. These articles are not directly connected to the work of Engels but were read during the same period.

In two other articles, the authors analyse the textile industry in Manchester, which is mentioned in Engels book *Conditions of the Working Class in England*. Eberhard Illner concentrates his attention on the Engels family and their business activities in the textile industry. Whereas, Regina Roth presents Engels descriptions of the working class along with his political points of view. Gisela Mettele documents the private aspects of Engels relationship to Ireland. In her article she describes the lives of Mary and Lydia (Lizzi) Burns, two life companions of Engels, who were close to the Irish freedom struggle and supported Engels’ interest in Ireland and its history.

As well as a versatile and extensive overview of Engels relationship with Ireland, this yearbook gives provides an interesting impression of Ireland’s reception in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Overall though, the focus of the texts is still an economic and a political one.

Molohan, Cathy, *Germany and Ireland 1945-1955 – Two Nations' Friendship*. Dublin: Irish Academic Press, 1999.



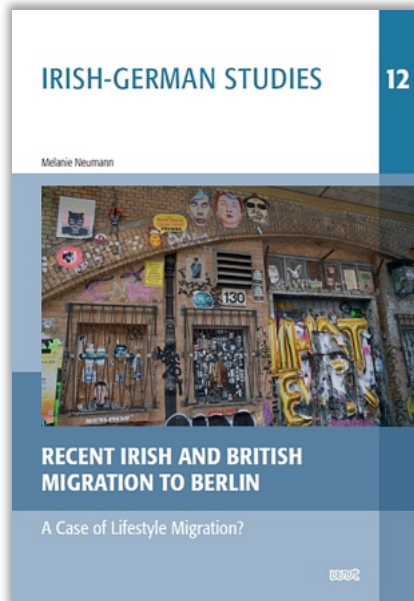
This book provides the reader with a concise overview of the effects of the Second World War on German-Irish relations. The study focuses on the importance of the political aspects for Irish - German relations, the position of Germany as an enemy of Britain and the importance of trade relations, particularly for the Irish side.

The book is divided into six chapters. The first chapter briefly contextualizes the period before the war focusing on trade, diplomacy and military links between these countries. The second chapter outlines the connections that existed between Germany and Ireland and the contacts between Irish government and the Allies at the end and after the war with particular reference to the situation of German internees or spies in Ireland and the activity of the diplomatic services. It also raises the important subject of Irish neutrality. In chapter three, Molohan provides the reader with a summary of the humanitarian efforts made by Ireland towards German victims of the war, which included medical staff, donations of money and

goods which was “per capita the highest donations from any country for post-war relief”. It also deals with the matter of German refugees in Ireland with particular reference to assistance given to German children by the Save the German Children Society, Irish Red Cross and the Operation Shamrock. The next chapters document the revival in the fields of economy, diplomacy and culture in the relations between Ireland and Germany. Chapter six gives the reader a sense of the development in political relations between both countries in the aftermath of World War II which examines the matter of propaganda, press, Irish perception of Germany and the German perception of Ireland. In the summary Molohan stresses that the Irish-German links should always be concerned in the wider context of the relations between Ireland and Britain. From a political viewpoint, Ireland saw its various connections with Germany as more important than Germany viewed the corresponding connections it had with Ireland.

Molohan makes use of a wide range of sources, mainly of primary sources from the national archives in Dublin, Bonn and London, and completes the picture with journal articles and interviews with people involved in The Save the German Children Society. The book also makes use of thus far unpublished sources as memoirs, diaries and manuscripts, thereby providing the reader with a useful overview of the developments in German-Irish relations during this decade, and a bibliography from which the reader can choose sources to explore the subject further.

**Neumann, Melanie, *Recent Irish and British Migration to Berlin: A Case of Lifestyle Migration?* Irish-German Studies 11, Trier: WVT, 2020.**



With the rise in Irish and British migration to Berlin since 2014, the questions beg themselves why exactly do people move abroad – particularly to Berlin –, how does migration experience manifest itself in people’s self-reflexivity, and how are these migrants affected by and how do they affect the new environments?

Falling back on methodologies that have so far remained unutilized within migration research, Neumann makes the case for ‘lifestyle migration’ as an essential factor in the migrants’ decision to move to Berlin, Germany. In reconceptualizing the term, Neumann argues that socially and culturally informed social imaginaries; senses of individuality and agency; and a kind of economic privilege endemic to particularly Western Europe, all create a ‘pull’ for people with certain life-experiences to look beyond the Irish and British borders for fulfilment of individual aspirations and dreams – to realize the self. Meta-structures, or the so-called ‘push’ effects, likewise spur migration – be it economic recession or political developments in the home country. However, in the case of Irish mi-

gration to Berlin these seem to have been less influential than might first be anticipated. As it turns out, a majority of the migrants included in Neumann’s study described their reasons for migrating in increasingly abstract and highly personal terms. On the other hand, the reasons stated for leaving Ireland or Britain were concrete and specific, referring to economic or political developments. This dichotomy, says Neumann, points to the fact that for migrants, the idea of individual self-realization caused many to look abroad for new places which might suit their ideas of self. These ideas, however, were the products of social imaginaries, that is, preconceived images of other places and their characteristics, informed by social and cultural contexts.

Neumann’s book offers a detailed insight into the Irish and British communities in Berlin and it examines the causes and effects of these migration flows. The presented research furthermore tests whether the recent increase in these two migration flows can be connected to lifestyle migration. At the same time, the lifestyle migration concept itself is subjected to critical scrutiny regarding its general value to migration research. Therefore, this monograph does not only contribute to the development of both lifestyle migration and migration research in general, but further gives a practical insight into a sample group of privileged migrants in a European capital.

**Oehlke, Andreas, *Irland und die Iren in deutschen Reisebeschreibungen des 18. und 19. Jahrhunderts*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 1992.**



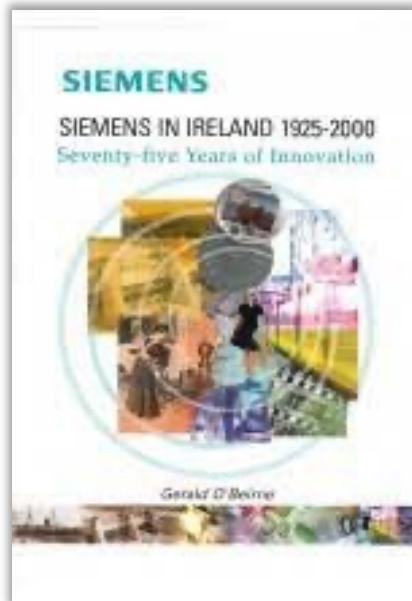
This book is the result of research undertaken by Oehlke on the image of Ireland and the Irish people. Main sources are German travel literature about Ireland from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century. Additional sources include more general descriptions of Ireland and some Anglo-Irish authors which influenced the German image of Ireland. It is written in German.

Oehlke divides the book into two main parts. The first part explores the German image of Ireland as a country, and the second part examines the German impression of Irish people. The author sets out his theoretical framework in the introduction and provides a summary of his findings as a conclusion. A brief chapter on how his findings compare to present day Ireland is also included. It is important to keep in mind that the year of publication is 1992 and that some changes have taken place since then in relation to both countries and its relationship.

The first part of the book is split into six sections: the development of a German interest in 'Ireland Studies' between the middle ages and the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, travel in Ireland in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries including specific places such as Limerick and Belfast, the treatment of the 'Ireland question' and Daniel O'Connell, the reception of Anglo-Irish literature in Germany and its effects on the German image of Ireland, and the portrayal of the Irish landscape. The second part of the book is divided into five sections: the image of Irish people in German travel literature, the 'physiognomy' of the Irish, the national stereotypes that exist of Irish people, how the Irish people fit into the 'race theory' of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and the portrayal of Irish people in comparison with other races, namely the French, the Italians and the Slavic peoples.

This book contains a multitude of examples from travel literature which was written by Germans who did not look at Ireland from an English perspective but saw it rather in comparison to Germany and its people.

O'Beirne, Gerald, *Siemens in Ireland 1925-2000: Seventy-Five Years of Innovation*. Dublin: A. & A. Farmar, 2000.



The German ‘Elektrotechnik’<sup>5</sup> company, Siemens AG, was founded in 1847 by Werner von Siemens. It was formally established within Ireland on 7 January 1925, during negotiations for the contract for the development of the Shannon Scheme at Ardnacrusha in county Limerick. This project would bring wide-scale electrification to Ireland, heralding her arrival into the twentieth century.

In January 2000, Siemens Limited celebrated its seventy fifth year of operation. To mark this event, O’Beirne chronicles the story of Siemens Ireland, from the foundation of its parent company, Siemens AG, to the transatlantic cable to America (1874) and the goliath Shannon Scheme, harnessing the power of the river Shannon at Ardnacrusha in 1929 right up to the beginning of the new millenium. The author documents the economic, social and political impact of the company in Ireland. “After hundreds of years of domination by a foreign power, the new Free State showed that it could, independently

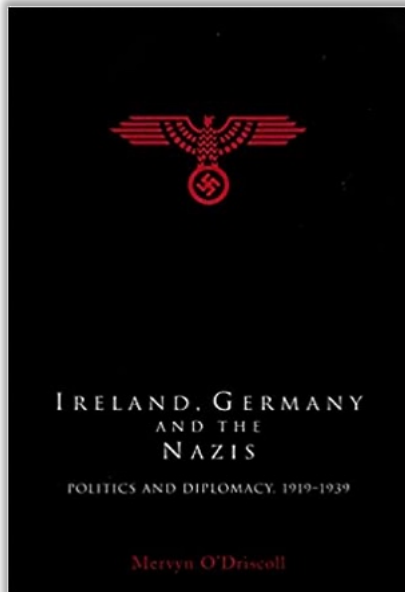
and successfully realise one of the major engineering undertakings of the day.”(66) Although it was initially met with opposition from various pillars of society, the Scheme eventually gained the support of all the country’s political parties, “help(ing) to restore reality to the economic life of the state after the (...) civil war”(66) and providing the impetus for active Irish-German trade. Germany became the main trading partner for Ireland on mainland Europe.

This work not only provides a thorough account of the company’s history in Ireland, but also for the ‘non-historian’ and ‘non-technical’ reader he includes interesting summaries of other aspects of Irish-German relationships. For example, in chapter two ‘Ireland, Germany and Siemens before 1925’, he provides a concise overview of the historical links between Ireland and Germany beginning with the Irish monks such as St. Kilian, (today commemorated as the partron saint of Würzburg), who formed part of a wave of Irish missionaries on religious and scholarly vocations abroad (25). Under the heading ‘Some Famous Irish Personalities in Germany’, he mentions notable figures, important scholarly connections in the field of Celtic Studies and other noteworthy events such as Germany’s efforts to support the Irish Volunteers in the 1916 Rising. The book also features a large selection of photographs, reproductions of paintings and drawings from the ESB archives. The ensuing chapters chronicle the highs and lows faced by Siemens’ Irish subsidiary from the post war years up to the start of the new millennium.

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<sup>5</sup> This was phrase coined by Werner von Siemens, meaning electrotechnology.

**O'Driscoll, Mervyn, *Ireland, Germany and the Nazis: Politics and Diplomacy, 1919-1939*.  
Dublin: Four Courts Press Ltd, 2004.**



“Contrary to popular perception, Irish-German relations occupied a central role in the making of the Irish state.” This detailed and finely-tuned study investigates a period of Irish-German history which has remained largely unexplored to date, documenting Irish-German relations from the foundation of the new Free State until the outbreak of World War Two. The relationship between Ireland and Germany during this time was complex and multifaceted. O’Driscoll probes what have proven to be uncomfortable issues regarding Irish history, such as Nazi infiltration of Irish society, the underestimation of Hitler by successive Irish representatives, and whether or not Irish envoy to Berlin, Charles Bewley was an anti-Semite and pro-Nazi. Ireland’s illiberal refugee policy and the Irish response to Nazi persecution of the Catholic Church and the Jews is also closely cross-examined.

The book provides the context of the Irish state’s quest to achieve a foreign policy separate from Britain and the author looks at the “ineffective efforts” made to encourage Irish-German trade in an attempt to reduce dependency on Britain. In the conclusion ‘Secret Histories’, the author investigates how Éire accomplished the difficult task of remaining neutral while playing “a dangerous double game” with Nazi Germany. This interdisciplinary study of Irish-German relations not only brings Ireland’s links with the Nazis under close scrutiny, but also examines international relations, trade, migration and cultural exchange policies between the two countries during the interwar years. It contains an extensive select bibliography for those interested in further research and its detailed index makes it a very accessible text despite its broad scope. However, research for this book includes mainly English speaking sources only. Thus, the book is lacking a more authentic viewpoint on the issue that certainly deserves both German and English language sources.

**O'Driscoll, Mervyn, Ireland, *West Germany and the New Europe 1949-73: Best friend and ally?*. Manchester, Manchester University Press, 2018.**



This book describes the 25 years of Irish- West German relations. The establishment of the FRG in 1949 up to the Irish entry into the European Economic Community in 1973 is considered as an important period as political, diplomatic and economic relationships were formed and strengthened. The events are noted chronologically from an Irish perspective.

The book is divided into nine chapters, each containing various subchapters which provide a detailed analysis of individual significant events that occurred during the time period. It begins with a political and social overview of each country prior to 1949 e.g. Irish Neutrality 1939-49, examines de Valera's firm grip on neutrality during WWII. The proceeding chapters discuss their respective participation in a united Europe. Particular attention is given to the Irish narrative as their economic freedom from the British crown proved challenging in the decades following political independence. The eventual economic shift occurring in the form of agricultural and industrial reform, making room for non-Anglo relations. The follow-

ing parts consider more human aspects of the relationship; concern for German landownership and a Nazi hideout haven in Ireland. The German schism is not acknowledged in isolation as the German response to *The Troubles* in Northern Ireland is examined. A concluding epilogue looks further than 1973 by exploring the modern-day multifaceted relationship and developments such as the World Economic Crisis of 2007.

This recent publication is extremely relevant considering the political climate in the United Kingdom and the United States. The importance of Anglocentric trade relations are contested and continental-European relationships are highlighted. Most significantly in relation to Germany, Ireland's fourth biggest trade partner.

**O'Mahony, Niamh and O'Reilly, Claire (eds), *Societies in Transition: Ireland, Germany and Irish-German Relations in Business and Society since 1989*. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 2009.**



This book is well-structured and provides a good general overview of economic and social relations between Ireland and Germany from 1989 to 2009. O'Mahony and O'Reilly divide the chapters of the book into three sections. The first two sections provide the reader with a context of the economic and societal changes that have taken place in Ireland and Germany since 1989, and how these respective changes have affected the sense of national identity in each country. The third section contains two chapters, the first dealing with business relationships between Germany and Ireland between 1989 and 2009, and the second providing an overview of how general relations between the two countries have developed, giving particular regard to media, literary and diplomatic aspects.

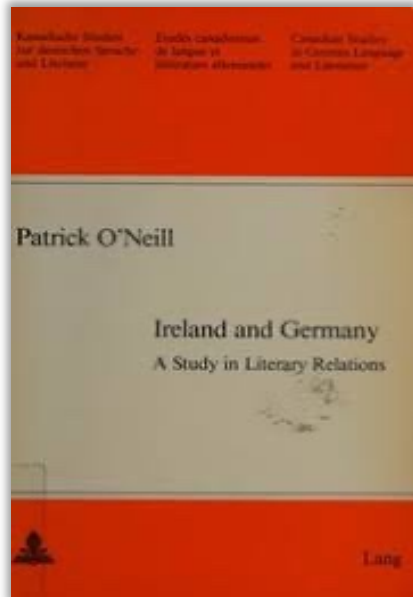
Each chapter is well researched, providing a wide range of statistics and data, and the fact that each country's background is analysed in a similar manner means that it is a good resource from a comparative point of view. Conclusions from the data at hand are drawn, as well as providing the reader

with an interesting projection of how relations will develop further in coming years. Due to the publication date of the book of 2009, the more recent changes in the economic climate in Germany and particularly in Ireland and its consequences for Irish-German relations could not be projected adequately but are important for further study in this area.

In the first two sections, the economic and social backgrounds of each country are explored in a similar methodological fashion, the question of Irish identity is explored using a method of literary analysis backed up by some statistical data, and the development of German identity is examined using data gleaned from newspapers and applied to cultural theory. This inconsistency in methodical application takes slightly away from the otherwise well constructed development of analysis throughout the book. Overall, though it is by no means comprehensive, this book provides the reader with a good general overview of the subject at hand, and represents a satisfactory springboard with which the reader can delve further into the area of Irish-German relations in the context of business and society.



**O'Neill, Patrick, *Ireland and Germany: A Study in Literary Relations*. New York; Berne; Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 1985.**



O'Neill's book "attempts to examine the literary relations of Ireland and Germany in their mutuality from the Middle Ages to the present day [e.g. 1985]." (9) In the preface, O'Neill explains his methods to approach the topic, the difficulties he encountered and defines the phrase "Irish-German Literary Relations."

The book is divided in four main parts, which each cover a certain amount of time, in chronological order. Part one gives an overview "on reciprocal literary and cultural relations before 1700." (7) Part two covers the eighteenth century and is divided into two subchapters: The impact of Germany on Ireland, and the impact of Ireland on Germany. He talks for example about the German Palatines in Limerick, translations of German literature and the impact of Irish literature. (e.g. Macpherson's *Ossian*) The third part of the book examines the nineteenth century and shows how Ireland and Germany influenced each other, the reception of Irish literature in Germany and of

German literature in Ireland and how both countries had an impact on each other's writing. Even though there was indeed an influence of German literature in Ireland, O'Neill acknowledges that during the nineteenth century "Irish eyes were turned inward rather than outward as far as the vast majority was concerned." (89) The nineteenth century was also the time in which Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels became interested in Ireland, especially in its political and economic situation. Part four explores the same topics as in part three but in the twentieth century. Main events of the twentieth century like World War II are taken into account. Authors to be found in this part of the book are for example James Joyce, Stefan Zweig, Rainer Maria Rilke, Heinrich Böll, George Bernard Shaw, William Butler Yeats, to name but few of them. There was at some times in Ireland "a lack of interest in the non-Irish world" (202) and "there is little evidence on the Irish novel or short story between 1920 and 1950." (236) O'Neill explains that although there had been "relatively little [interest] in 'Irish' literature", "the course of German literary history would certainly have been very different and German writing very much the poorer [had these individual Irishmen, e.g. Joyce and Beckett, not written.]" (249)

**O'Reilly, Claire and O'Regan, Veronica (eds), *Ireland and the Irish in Germany Reception and Perception*. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 2014.**



The collection begins with a contribution by Helmut Flachenecker who examines the impact of a small group of Irish Benedictines who arrived in Regensburg in the late 11th century. Irish monks were sent from here to other monasteries in the region which became part of a union of monasteries after 1215, later known as *Schottenklöster*. Flachenecker shows that the memory of the Irish monks continued to resonate through various local pilgrimages which lasted into the 17th century and devotional practices still exist in parts of southern Germany today. Mark Hull traces the activities and exploits of Irish citizens in Germany during the Second World War, drawing on archival sources to shed light on an area which has not been to the forefront of public consciousness. Irish humanitarian relief to Germany after World War II is appraised by Mervyn O'Driscoll, who underlines its crucial role in the lives of ordinary Germans in the immediate aftermath of the war, when Germany was isolated by much of the rest of the world. O'Driscoll shows that Ireland's post-war aid to Europe which included the defeated nations, although at times misinterpreted by the Allies, was motivated by a sense of duty and altruism on the part of the Irish people. He also discusses Operation Shamrock which saw around 500 German children cared for by Irish foster families. The subject of Irish-German literary relations is the focus of attention in Heinz Kosok's contribution, "Thomas Crofton Croker, the Brothers Grimm and the German Image of Ireland". Croker's publication of *The Fairy Legends and Traditions of the South of Ireland* (1825) and already a year later a translation was published by the Grimm Brothers in Leipzig. In her chapter, "From the Particular to the Universal (and back again?): Irish Children's Literature in Germany", Emer O'Sullivan examines developments in the reception of Irish children's literature in Germany: from interest in stories set in the idyllic Irish countryside to the emergence of modern Irish children's books in German translation in the 1990s. Current perceptions of Ireland and the Irish in Germany are discussed in Joachim Schwend's contribution "Diaspora and Nostalgia – Germany and Ireland". This chapter discusses the wave of labour emigration from Ireland following the financial crash of 2008 within this paradigm. In "German Media Perceptions of Ireland since the Bailout: From 'Problem Child' to 'Model Pupil'?", Veronica O'Regan investigates Ireland's image against the backdrop of the Eurozone crisis and the collapse of the Celtic Tiger by analysing some of the dominant constructions of Ireland in the mainstream media from the perspective of Critical Discourse Analysis. She traces the contested and evolving nature of the coverage in German print and broadcast media, noting the presence of diverse ideologies and economic metanarratives which shape reporting on Ireland. Fergal Lenehan analyses a number of examples of popular culture through the lens of Cultural Studies. In "Irish-German Interconnections in Popular Culture: Rock and Popular Music and Michael Fassbender's German-Irish Celebrity", Lenehan notes that the influences go both ways and are not limited to Anglophone trends flowing from Ireland to Germany. In his chapter, "German-Irish Relations as seen from the Embassy of Ireland in Berlin", Daniel Mulhall, Irish ambassador to Germany from 2009 to 2013, provides an appraisal of Irish-German relations prior to and during this critical period. Mulhall underlines the deepening of political ties between Ireland and Germany since 2009, which he views as unprecedented in the history of Irish-German relations.

Schulz, Thilo, *Das Deutschlandbild der Irish Times 1933-1945*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 1999.



In this book, Thilo Schulz explores the representation of Germany, the German people and German events and developments, as presented by the *Irish Times* between 1933 and 1945. Schulz outlines his research objectives very clearly at the beginning of the book, and refers back to them throughout the analysis that he makes of the content and context of the *Irish Times*. He assesses a number of aspects of the reportage, opinion pieces, interviews and editorials, including how singular events are portrayed, interpreted and evaluated, how the image of Germany develops throughout the time frame given, how the persona of Hitler himself is depicted, if the *Irish Times* makes a distinction between Hitler himself and Germany, and how the newspaper deals with ideologically-charged phrases such as “nordic race/master race” or “lebensraum”. The theoretical premises upon which he bases his analysis are grounded mainly in social psychology, a discipline which he makes reference to as the first discipline to address the “problematics of perception”. He places the *Irish*

*Times* in clear and concise context of where it was able to find information sources at the time, and of course in context of the journalistic landscape of Ireland between 1933 and 1945. The methodology employed by him throughout this book consists of a qualitative analysis of the newspaper’s content, with emphasis on positively and negatively connotated words, and how the narrative of Germany and the German people, as told by the *Irish Times*, progresses over the years in question. He draws strong conclusions from the evidence that he has collected; that Germany and Germans were neither wholly positively nor negatively portrayed, that the relevant themes and issues are explored with empathy, though stereotypes can be found, and that a view of Germany can be found in this book that corresponds with the “Zwei-Deutschland-Theorie”<sup>6</sup>.

Overall, this book is a fascinating read, both from the point of view of it’s content, but also how he deals with the subject matter methodologically, and how he writes in German using English language sources.

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<sup>6</sup> The idea that Germany was viewed as two separate countries, the “Germany of man like ourselves“ in contrast with the “Germany of men of the war party” (Peter Hoeres, 2004), during the First and Second World Wars, in particular by the Allied states such as France and Great Britain.

**Sterzenbach, Christopher, *Die deutsch-irischen Beziehungen während der Weimarer Republik, 1918-1933*. München: LIT, 2008.**



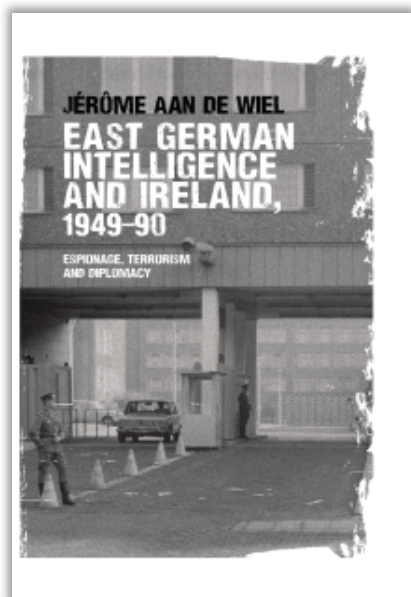
This book examines both state and non-state interactions and the economic, political and cultural relationship between the German Reich and the Irish Free State during the years 1918 to 1933. It investigates reasons for the development of this relationship that benefitted both and possible obstacles, taking into consideration the role of Great Britain in that context. It is written in German.

The book is based on research from lower state level sources such as diplomacy reports and higher state level sources including notes from foreign ministers and cabinet decisions. It also refers to a number of German speaking authors who covered similar themes in the past.

The book is divided into six parts. The first part discusses the alliance between Irish nationalists and the government of the Kaiser during the First World War. It contains a chapter on Sir Roger Casement and his influence on Irish German relations and a section on separatist nationalism and the rise of Sinn Fein. The second part analyses the turbulent times

for Irish-German relations from the end of the First World War in 1918 to Irish independence in 1922. It discusses the role Germany played for Irish nationalists in the conflict with Great Britain. The last chapter of this part deals with the problem of Irish separatists smuggling weapons from Germany to Ireland. The third part investigates Irish-German relations between 1922 and 1924. It examines the significance of the German Reich for the Irish Free State, the influence of Charles Bewley on the relationship of the two countries and the emergence of German consular relations in Ireland. The fourth part focusses on the time period of 1924-1929 which represents a start of closer economic relations as seen in the example of the Ardnacrusha hydro-electric power station built by Siemens during this time. The fifth part discusses the phase of normality for Irish-German relations between 1929-1932 with the start of diplomatic links, state visits and exchanges. The final chapter concludes with the changes in German and Irish governments and their effects on bilateral relations 1932/33.

aan de Wiel, Jérôme, *East German Intelligence and Ireland, 1949-90; Espionage, Terrorism & Diplomacy*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2014



Ireland's role during the Cold War in Europe has not been the object of many studies. Despite the fact that diplomatic relations between Ireland and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) were officially established only in 1980, research has unearthed quite a surprising amount of material. Research for this project was undertaken in numerous archives in Germany, Ireland and Belgium. This book analyses Irish-East German relations at political/diplomatic, intelligence, strategic, economic and cultural levels, including the following themes: The Stasi's interest in Ireland and Northern Ireland; Diplomatic recognition between Ireland and the GDR; Commercial relations between Ireland and the GDR; Cultural relations between Ireland and the GDR; Ireland's strategic situation and politico-military matters during the Cold War; Propaganda war and media; The triangular relations between the SED (East German Communist party), CPI and SF/WP; Religious contacts. The book chapters are as follows: PART I: Relations between Ireland and East Germany, 1) History of the relations

between Ireland/Northern Ireland and the GDR. PART II: Intelligence: 1) Stasi history and sources; 2) Keeping informed and spying on Ireland; 3) Northern Ireland in the *Zentralen Personendatenbank* (ZPDB), 4) Watching the PIRA, the INLA and BAOR, 1970s-1980s.

In the first part, the bilateral relations between Ireland and the GDR are explored, notably the unique history of diplomatic recognition involving the repatriation of the remains of Frank Ryan in which the Stasi played a key role, trade problems, propaganda duels between the media of the two countries, religious contacts, the lives of a handful of Irish idealists in the GDR, cultural issues, the embarrassment of comparisons between Ireland/Northern Ireland and West Germany/East Germany for Walter Ulbricht's regime and the uneasy *ménage à trois* between the Communist Party of Ireland (CPI), Sinn Féin/the Workers' Party (SF/WP) and the East German Communist party (SED). As is explained, the Stasi was never too far from all these activities.

In the second part, the Stasi's interest in Ireland and Northern Ireland is revealed. The Stasi's HVA (*Hauptverwaltung Aufklärung*, Foreign Intelligence Main Directorate) was in charge of intelligence gathering, essentially in West Germany. It did not specifically carry out operations in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Yet, it did collect information on Ireland and Northern Ireland mainly in Belgium (Belgian Foreign Ministry and the European institutions) and also in Vienna where it had moles. The Stasi's Department XXII (HA-XXII) in charge of terrorism watched and analysed the activities of the Provisional IRA (PIRA) and the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) not only in Ireland, Northern Ireland and Britain but also in West Germany as these two groups targeted British diplomatic personnel and the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR). The names of some agents and sources are revealed. Hopefully, the book will convince the reader that Ireland was not without interest for East German Intelligence.

aan de Wiel, Jérôme, *Ireland's Helping Hand to Europe, 1945-1950. Combatting Hunger from Normandy to Tirana*. Budapest: Central European University Press, 2021.



This volume focuses on Ireland's humanitarian efforts in post-war devastated Europe. This large-scale event in Irish and European history has remained unknown for over seven decades, largely overshadowed by the massive US aid and ignored by historiography for different reasons. Ireland's aid (food, clothes and medicines) representing a total value of £3 million in 1945, was divided into five equal parts: France, Netherlands, Italy, Belgium and the International Red Cross (IRC) in Geneva. It was the IRC that would look after Central and Eastern Europe, including all Allied-Occupation Zones of Germany and Austria. Éamon de Valera's cabinet had decided to make no distinction between victorious and defeated nations. In the memorable words of TD James Dillon, "a hungry German is as much deserving of pity as a hungry Pole". In this, Ireland was closer to the humanitarian philosophy of the IRC than that of the recently created United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) which did not look after Germany and the Allies

who did not place the feeding of the German population on top of their agendas. Ireland's relief efforts became like Switzerland's, a 'nationale Aufgabe' (national task) as state and nation participated. Irish supplies were the first non-Allied foreign supplies to be distributed in all four sectors in Berlin and in the Soviet-Occupied Zone, the future East Germany, where they were handled by the *Volkssolidarität* (people's solidarity). Ireland's aid was distributed from München-Gladbach (Mönchengladbach) to the Ore Mountains, from the Rügen to the Alps, and from Burgenland to Salzburg. In Berlin, IRC delegate Dr August Lindt, family of the famous Swiss chocolate-makers, negotiated the arrival of Irish supplies with the Soviets in 1946. In one asylum for elderly people, Lindt noted: 'It seemed incomprehensible to them that they suddenly were getting gifts ... A sick person sat up and said: "Please, promise me to let the Irish people know how grateful we are to them"'.

Ireland's aid to Germany went far further and farther than the statue of The Three Fates in St Stephen's Green in Dublin suggests.