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THE GREEN BOOK is aimed at a general readership and published twice-yearly. It features commentaries, articles, and reviews on Irish Gothic, Supernatural and Fantastic literature.

Certainly favourites such as Bram Stoker, Dorothy Macardle, and John Connolly will come to mind, but hopefully *The Green Book* also will serve as a pathway to Ireland's other notable fantasists, such as Fitz-James O'Brien, Lafcadio Hearn, William Allingham, Cheiro, Lord Dunsany, Elizabeth Bowen, C. S. Lewis, Mervyn Wall, Conor McPherson . . . and this list is by no means exhaustive.

It should be noted that the word "Irish" in the journal's title should be understood as inclusive rather than exclusive. *The Green Book* will also feature essays on Irish themes—even if by non-Irish authors. We hope that you will find something of interest here, for there is much to explore.

THE GREEN BOOK 13

BEALTAINE 2019

edited by **Brian J. Showers**

One perennial question about genre fiction centres around the notion of "tradition": the influence authors and their works have on the next generation, and so on down the line. In posing this question, we ask whether or not an unbroken literary pedigree can be established. For example, an excessive amount of energy has been expended exploring links, both legitimate and spurious, between Le Fanu's "Carmilla" (1871/2) and Stoker's *Dracula* (1897)—and believe me, this seems to be an all-consuming pastime for some. But to me, Irish genre fiction has always seemed more a web of thematic shadows, authorial echoes, even social links, rather than a series of linear connections.

Those who read the editor's note in *Issue 12* will recall our endeavour to serialise biographical/critical sketches of Irish writers, which commenced in *Issue 11*. These entries are the results of an on-going project tentatively called the *Guide to Irish Writers of Gothic, Supernatural and Fantastic Fiction*, edited by myself and Jim Rockhill.

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