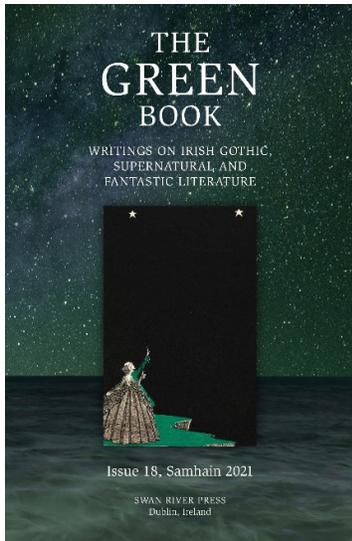


THE GREEN BOOK 18

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edited by Brian J. Showers



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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.

This issue is another selection of profiles from our tentatively named *Guide to Irish Writers of Gothic, Supernatural and Fantastic Literature*. The keen-eyed will spot one name that might seem out of place: Harry Clarke (1889-1931). Clarke, of course, was not a writer, but an artist who worked in watercolour, pen and ink, and stained glass. As an illustrator, Clarke put his indelible mark on literature of the macabre and fantastic. His best-known illustrations are those accompanying Edgar Allan Poe's *Tales of Mystery and Imagination* (1919/23), though his illustrations for Andersen, Perrault, and Swinburne also bear hallmarks of the strange. So too do goblins and grotesques leer from the corners of his stained glass work.

This issue also features profiles on George Croly—whose *Salathiel* may well have borne influence on Stoker's *Dracula* (see also "Who Marvels at the Mysteries of the Moon" in *The Green Book 14*)—and a much-anticipated entry on Fitz-James O'Brien, who is surely a pillar of Irish genre fiction; while Yeats and Lady Gregory invoke in their words the long shadow of the Celtic Twilight. As always, I hope you'll discover writers who might be lesser known, like the Banims and the Barlowes, or those whose contributions to genre might be unexpected, such as the Longfords and Iris Murdoch. Whatever the case, I hope you find new and exciting avenues to explore.

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