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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.

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BEALTAINE 2022

edited by **Brian J. Showers**

Ireland of the late nineteenth century was awash in reawakened interest in Irish legends and folklore, craft and custom, language and art; the men and women whose works would come to define the ensuing Celtic Literary Revival often concerned themselves with a belief in the authoritative wisdom of ancient traditions and mythology, and with these fervent beliefs, they propelled Ireland toward nationhood. That a new spiritual movement could hold such sway over young minds in late nineteenth-century Ireland comes as no surprise.

Theosophy was formally established in New York in 1875. Its core tenets are based on the teachings of Russian émigrée Helena Blavatsky (1831-1891), who outlined her thoughts—as conveyed to her by spiritual adepts known as the Masters—in *Isis Unveiled* (1877) and *The Secret Doctrine* (1888). Theosophy is often not considered a religion, if only because of its broad acceptance and synthesis of myriad beliefs, lifestyles, and philosophies: Eastern religion and mysticism, Western occult tradition, yoga, vegetarianism, women's rights, pacifism, and all manner of natural and supernatural sciences.

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