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An Anthology of Irish Literature

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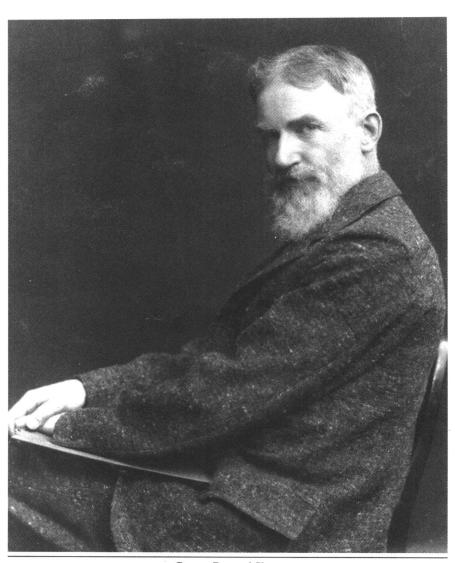
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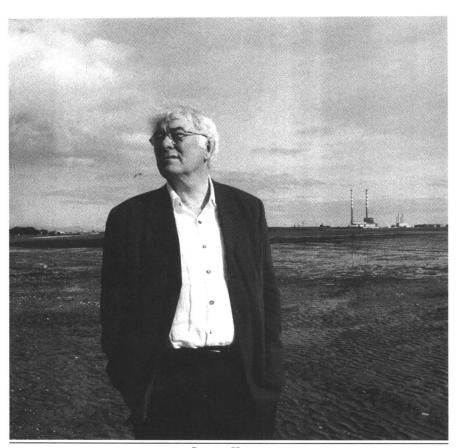


George Bernard Shaw

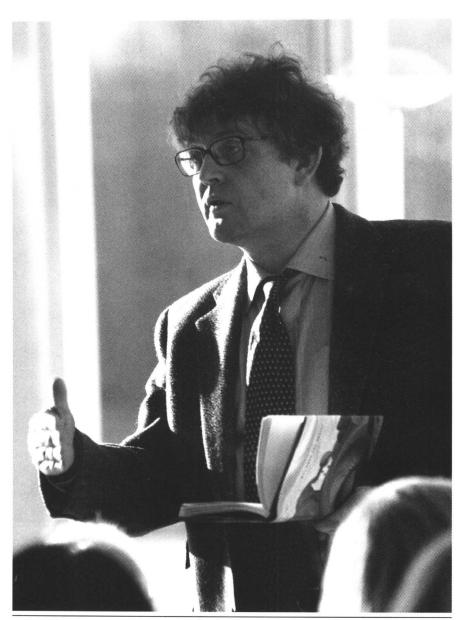


W. B. Yeats

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Seamus Heaney



Paul Muldoon



Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill



Barry McGovern as Vladimir and Johnny Murphy as Estragon in the Gate Theatre, Dublin production of Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*.

Photo by Tom Lawlor, copyright Gate Theatre.



Sean Rocks and Derbhle Crotty in the Abbey Theatre's 1996 production of Marina Carr's *Portia Coughlan*.

Photo by Amelia Stein.

前

FOREWORD

爱尔兰文学有悠久的传统,它包含着迥然不同的两种语言文学:凯尔特语文学和英爱文学。凯尔特传统可以追溯到公元7世纪,甚至更早。17世纪开始逐渐形成的英爱文学,即爱尔兰作家用英语写的文学作品,也有三百余年的历史。凯尔特传统的英雄传奇、民间传说、歌谣和诗歌很早就引起了爱尔兰国内外学术界的重视,而英爱文学到了19世纪末的爱尔兰文艺复兴时期,其作品就更令人瞩目。

爱尔兰是西欧最边沿的一个岛国,和威尔士隔海相望。她的人口不及英国的十分之一,但却产生了许多像斯威夫特、法夸尔、戈德史密斯、王尔德、叶芝、辛格、奥凯西、乔伊斯、贝克特这样负有盛名的作家,这就不能

不令人敬佩和惊讶。如果没有斯威夫特、谢里登、王尔德、穆尔这些爱尔兰的文学巨匠,英国文学也会失去其代表性。

当然,这些爱尔兰作家的作品究竟应属于英国文学还是爱尔兰文学,往往不是一两句话可以阐明的,但是它们毕竟属于两种不同的文化,又兼有两个传统。现在,特别是爱尔兰独立以后,有了自己独立的政治地位,要把英爱文学和英国文学截然分开就不显得那么重要了。但是,爱尔兰文学作为一种独特的文学,寻根溯源,了解它的整体发展,对我们来说显然是有益而又必要的。

像斯威夫特这样的一些英爱作家多数生活在英国,在一定程度上继承了两种文化传统,也正是由于他们兼有两种文化传统,才使他们和英国作家有所区别,使他们具有敏锐的洞察力,发现一般英国作家所看不到的社会问题。因此,在这本选注中,我们选入了一部分最需要介绍的英爱作家。

我们也注意到对英爱文学有深远影响的凯尔特文学,特别是凯尔特的民谣诗歌。它们是由懂得爱尔兰语(凯尔特语)的作家如奥康纳等人翻译的,所以保持了凯尔特诗歌的特色。这对我们了解爱尔兰早期诗歌的发展是有帮助的。但这本选读的重点仍放在英爱文学,特别是19世纪末文艺复兴时期以来的作品,如叶芝的诗歌,格雷戈里夫人、辛格和奥凯西的戏剧,奥弗莱厄蒂、奥康纳和奥费朗的小说,以及现代爱尔兰作家的作品。

《选注》的作品基本上按作者的出生年代的顺序来编排,前面的"爱尔兰文学概要"--文对了解爱尔兰文学的历史背景可能会有帮助,谨供读者参考。

在本书编写过程中,我们得到了一些中外学者的支持和鼓励:爱尔兰都柏林大学圣三一学院英语系教授布朗(Prof. Terence Brown)对作者名单提出宝贵建议,德国鲁尔大学英语系教授博瑟劳埃德(Prof. Paul Botheroyd)、奥地利格拉兹大学英语系教授萨克(Prof. Wolfgang Zach)为本书提供了部分作品。我们还得到爱尔兰驻华使馆和北京白堆子师范学院爱尔兰籍讲师库珀(Rosemary Cooper),以及北京外国语大学的麦科马克教授(Prof. Jerusha McCormack)和布莱尔教授(Prof. John G. Blair)的热情帮助。北京外国语大学英语系教授刘承沛为这本选读进行了审校。在此谨对他们表示衷心的感谢。由于编者水平有限、《选注》的缺点、错误在所难免,希望文学同行不吝赐教。

参加本书评注的同志有李品伟、袁鹤年、夏祖煃、丁往道、张中载、王

家湘、梅仁毅、刘国云、李宪生、宋宪琳、曾雪梅、张耘、张剑等,对他们的大力帮助也深表感谢。

陈恕 周珏良



The Chinese and the Irish share a great respect and love of the written and spoken word. This is just one reason why I wanted to publish an anthology of Irish literature in China. It is published to coincide with a major cultural exchange programme between Ireland and China taking place in 2004. This anthology is in fact a revised edition of a volume published in 1989 by Professor Chen Shu of Beijing Foreign Studies University. It includes several new entries including for example contemporary writers such as Paul Muldoon, Frank McGuinness, Marina Carr, Roddy Doyle and Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill. We have also included writers that in the past were thought of as more British than Irish but which are now widely acknowledged and "reclaimed" as truly Irish such as Oscar Wilde and George Bernard Shaw. Indeed the inclusion of George Bernard Shaw illustrates another connection between Ireland and China. In 1933, George Bernard Shaw travelled to Shanghai to see Lu Xun who is of course widely regarded as the father of modern Chinese writing.

An anthology such as this can however only touch the surface of what is a large and hugely significant artistic community. Nevertheless, I hope that this anthology will serve as an informative introduction to the broad spectrum of Irish literature whether by dramatists, novelists or poets. Ireland of course has a great reputation as a crucible of world literature and has produced four Nobel Prize winners in literature including William Butler Yeats, George Bernard Shaw, Samuel Beckett and Seamus Heaney. Ireland's writers continue to be honoured and recognised including most recently, the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Paul Muldoon. Our writers have always exercised great influence on the psy-

che of the Irish people. Their words help to inspire Ireland's journey to independence in the 1920's. The wretched and often mistakenly romanticised history of our country is as much a focus for our writers as the beauty of our landscape and the emergence of a more urban and complex society. Through the works contained in this anthology, I hope you also come to discover the wit, recklessness, charm and loquacity of the Irish people, which alongside our obsessions and interests help to characterise our national identity.

I am indebted to Professor Declan Kiberd and Judy Friel who acted as editorial advisors to me with respect to the new entries and Caroline Williams who provided assistance in obtaining copyright clearances where appropriate. I am grateful to the Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press for agreeing to become our publishing partner for this book. My thanks also to all the writers, their agents and representatives who gave permission to be included in this anthology. Finally and perhaps most importantly, our deepest thanks to Professor Chen Shu and his colleagues for their enthusiastic support and sensitive notes to the various works contained in this anthology.

Richard Wakely

Irish Commissioner for the Ireland/China Cultural Exchange Programme

在中国出版一本爱尔兰文学选集是我的愿望,原因之一便是中国人民和爱尔兰人民都始终怀有一份对语言文字的重视与热爱。更具意义的是,本书的出版恰逢 2004 年爱尔兰文化节在中国举行之际。这本选集际上是在北京外国语大学的陈恕教授 1989 年主编的《爱尔兰文学作品 法决划之基础上重新修订增补而成。此次增补的作家既有爱尔兰当代著名作家保罗·马尔杜恩、弗兰克·麦吉尼斯、玛丽娜·卡尔、罗迪·多伊尔和努拉·妮·冈诺尔等,也有文坛巨擎奥斯卡·王尔德和萧伯纳。后两位当初觉得更应归于英国文学的范畴而未收录,现在却已被普遍认为应恢复"其真正的爱尔兰作家的身份。将萧伯纳收入文集还显示出爱中两国的又一亲密联系。1933 年,萧伯纳曾到访上海并与中国现代伟大的文

学家鲁迅会面。

尽管一本文集所能触及的仅仅是多姿多彩的文学天地的冰山一角,我还是希望借此书打开一个展现广阔视野的窗口,让大家更多地认识和了解爱尔兰剧作家、小说家和诗人。爱尔兰在世界文坛素有盛名,诞生过叶芝、萧伯纳、塞缪尔·贝克特和谢默斯·希尼等多位诺贝尔文学奖获得者。近年来爱尔兰作家也是屡获殊荣,备受瞩目,如保罗·马尔杜恩便获尔兰人的心路历程,正是他们的文字激励着爱尔兰在上个世纪二十年代走上了独立之路。我们的国家那常被错误地浪漫化的苦难历史、她美丽动人的自然景观和业已出现的一个更为都市化和更加复杂的社会都是这些作家关注的焦点。通过这本选集中的作品,我希望读者们也能发现爱尔兰人民的机智风趣、大胆无畏、妩媚多姿和多言善谈。这些特点和我们的执着与偏好一起,勾勒出我们的"民族身份"。

我要感谢德克兰·凯伯德教授和朱迪·弗里尔女士在增补作家的选择上给我提出宝贵的建议,感谢卡罗琳·威廉斯女士为取得作品版权所做的努力。我由衷感谢外语教学与研究出版社成为我们出版此书的合作伙伴,也不会忘记所有收录于此选集中的作者和他们的代理人对我们的支持。最重要的是,我要向陈恕教授和他的同事们为本书所尽的心力致以最深的谢意。

理查德·韦克利 爱尔兰文化节总协调人

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The representatives for certain works contained herein are as follows:

"The Steward of Christendom" by Sebastian Barry: ICM, London Office, 4-6 Soho Square, London W1D 3PZ, United Kingdom

"Waiting for Godot" by Samuel Beckett: Curtis Brown, Haymarket House, 28-29 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4SP, United Kingdom

"Portia Coughlan" by Marina Carr: The Agency, 24 Pottery Lane, Holland Park, London W11 4LZ, United Kingdom

"Translations" by Brian Friel: The Agency, 24 Pottery Lane, Holland Park, London W11 4LZ, United Kingdom

"Digging" by Seamus Heaney: Faber and Faber, 3 Queen's Square, London WC1N 3AU, United Kingdom

"Talbot's Box" by Thomas Kilroy: Peter Fallon, The Gallery Press, Loughcrew, Oldcastle, Co. Meath, Ireland

"Da" by Hugh Leonard: Rogers, Coleridge and White Ltd, 20 Powis Mews, London W11 1JN, United Kingdom

"The Factory Girls" by Frank McGuinness: Casarotto Ramsay & Associates Ltd, National House, 60-66 Wardour Street, London W1V 4ND, United Kingdom

"The Weir" by Conor McPherson: Curtis Brown, Haymarket House, 28-29 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4SP, United Kingdom

"Anseo" and "Quoof" by Paul Muldoon: Faber and Faber, 3 Queen's Square, London WC1N 3AU

"The Gigli Concert" by Tom Murphy: Alexandra Cann Representation, 12 Abingdon Road, London W8 6AF, United Kingdom

"An Chinniúint, Mar Chat Dorcha" by Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill: Peter Fallon, The Gallery Press, Loughcrew, Oldcastle, Co. Meath, Ireland

"Foley" by Michael West: Judy Daish Associates, 2 St. Charles Place, London W10 6EG, United Kingdom

Useful Websites: www.artscouncil.ie

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