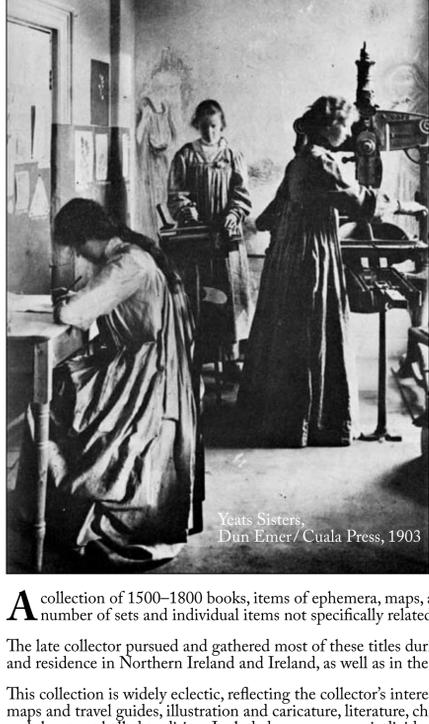
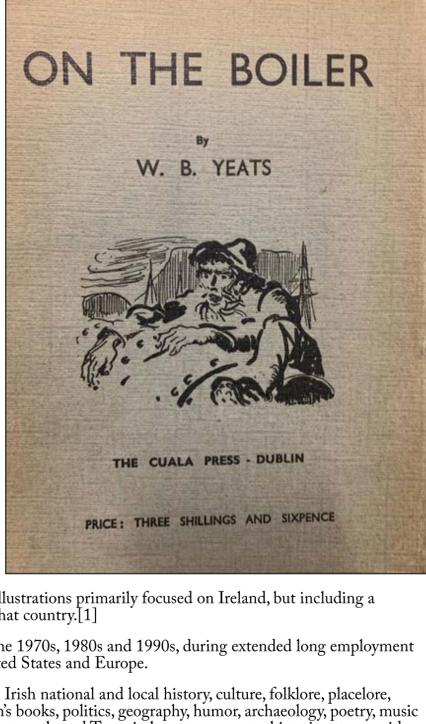


A Major Irish Collection

Fall/Winter 2021



Yeats Sisters, Dun Emer/Cuala Press, 1903



A collection of 1500-1800 books, items of ephemera, maps, and illustrations primarily focused on Ireland, but including a number of sets and individual items not specifically related to that country.[1]

The late collector pursued and gathered most of these titles during the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, during extended long employment and residence in Northern Ireland and Ireland, as well as in the United States and Europe.

This collection is widely eclectic, reflecting the collector's interests in Irish national and local history, culture, folklore, placelore, maps and travel guides, illustration and caricature, literature, children's books, politics, geography, humor, archaeology, poetry, music and the street ballad tradition. Included are numerous individual Nineteenth- and Twentieth-century county histories, town guides, trade registers, etc. with a pronounced emphasis upon the province of Ulster, its nine counties, and in particular, the city of Belfast.

In addition to many antiquarian titles, the collection also includes a sizeable number of small press printings and several other examples of fine bindings.

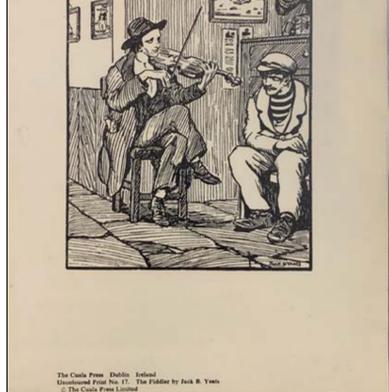
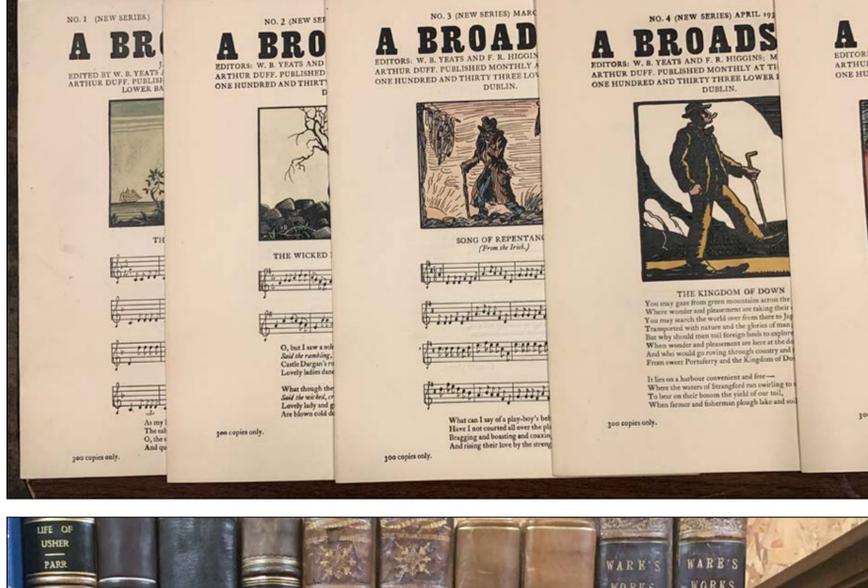
At the heart of the collection is a nearly complete run of the Dun Emer and (later the) Cuala Press, both books and hand-colored broadsides. A manuscript letter and a note from one of the founders, Elizabeth Corbet Yeats is also included. Only 7 titles among these (original 81) are reprints. Also the collection of Cuala Press imprints includes some scattered examples published during its "Revival" period, after its principals had passed on. These were not hand-printed.



Some Highlights:

- Original broadsides from the Cuala Press, including some by Jack Yeats.
- A sizeable number of books from the Dolmen Press, a small press started by Liam and Josephine Miller in 1951, whose mission was to publish the works of Irish poets, but which later grew to encompass Irish literature, literary criticism and Irish epic.
- Limited Edition (1/375) *Collected Poems of William Butler Yeats*, Signed twice.
- Two early copies of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, each finely rebound.
- Three-volume *Moby Dick* illustrated by Rockwell Kent, aluminum slipcase, The Lakeside Press, 1930. Limited to 1,000 copies.
- Fine, early, 30-volume set of the *Works of Charles Dickens* published between 1874 and 1876 by Chapman and Hall, in contemporary half leather (green morocco).
- Original (in book) sketches by Jack Yeats and George Russell ("A.E.").
- Illustrated edition of James Stephens's *Irish Fairy Tales*, Signed by Arthur Rackham.
- A substantial run of the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology* (First & Second Series).
- Scarce Large Paper issue on handmade paper (1/275 copies) of Jane Austen's *Pride And Prejudice*, Illustrated by Hugh Thomson, George Allen, London, 1894.

Other artists and authors represented in numerous books include: Hugh Thomson, Phil May, Lord Dunsany, Lady Gregory, E.C. Summerville, Lynne Doyle, Padraic Colum (Signed), Richard Rowley, Rosamond Praeger, and Richard Hayward



THE FIDDLER OF DOONEY

WHEN I PLAY ON MY FIDDLE IN DOONEY,
Folk dance like a wave of the sea;
My cousin is priest in Kilwarnet,
My brother in Moharabusee.

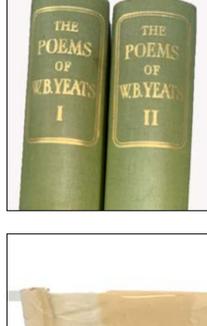
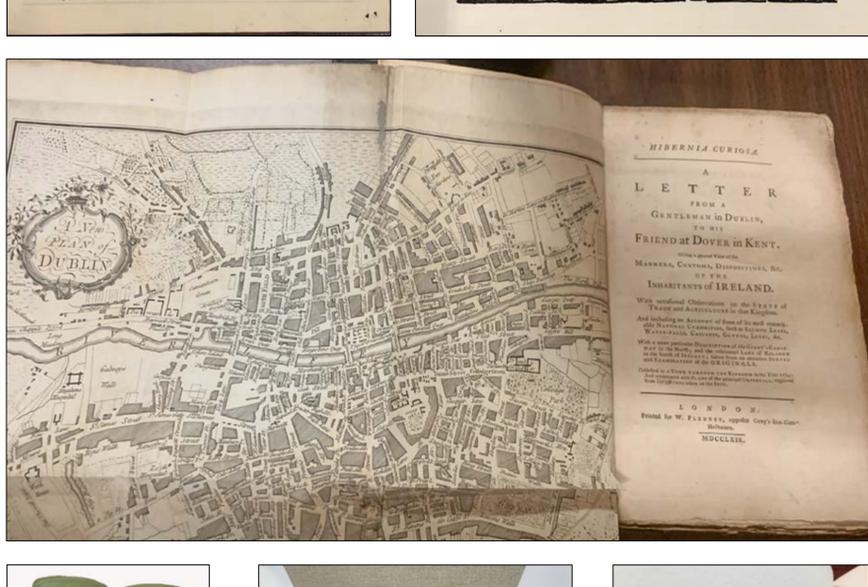
I passed my brother
and cousin:
They read in their books
of prayer;
I read in my book of songs
I bought at the Sligo fair.

When we come at the end of time,
To Peter sitting in state,
He will smile on the three
old spirits.
But call me first through
the gate!

For the good are always
the merry,
Save by an evil chance,
And the merry love
the fiddle
And the merry
love to dance!

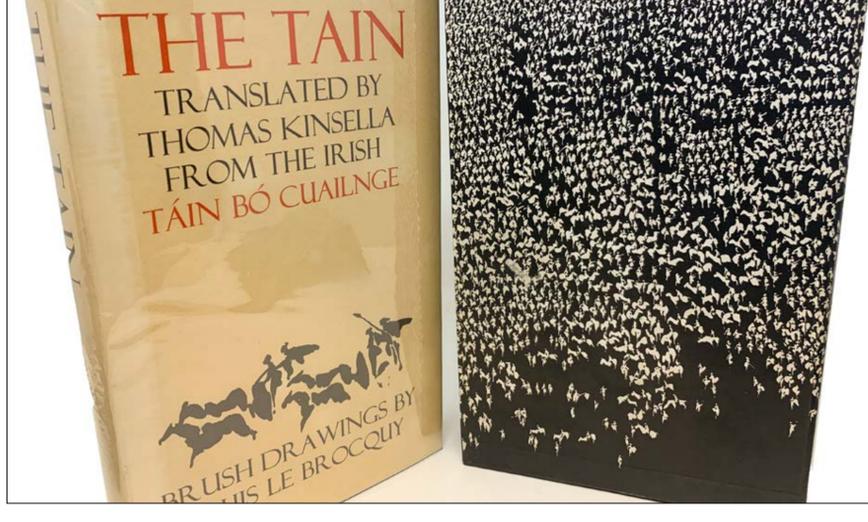
And when the folk there
spy me,
They will all come up
to me,
With 'Here is the fiddler
of Dooney!'
And dance like a wave
of the sea.

By W. B. YEATS



This is No. 9 of an Edition limited to 375 copies, signed by the Author, of which 350 are for sale.

W.B.Y.



THE TAIN TRANSLATED BY THOMAS KINSELLA FROM THE IRISH WITH BRUSH DRAWINGS BY LOUIS LE BROCCQUY
DOLMEN EDITIONS IX



This is just a small sampling of a much larger collection. An inventory of highlights is available [here](#).

A pdf of photographs showing many books in the collection is available [here](#).

A pdf of Dun Emer / Cuala Press offerings can be seen [here](#).

A pdf of Dolmen Press offerings can be seen [here](#).

Aardvark Books, ABAA

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