

A HISTORY OF IRISH WOMEN'S POETRY

A History of Irish Women's Poetry is a ground-breaking and comprehensive account of Irish women's poetry from earliest times to the present day. It reads Irish women's poetry through many prisms – mythology, gender, history, the nation – and most importantly, through close readings of the poetry itself. It covers major figures, such as Máire Mhac an tSaoi, Eavan Boland, and Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, as well as neglected figures from the past. Writing in both English and Irish is considered, and close attention paid to the many different contexts in which Irish women's poetry has been produced and received, from the anonymous work of the Early Modern period, through the bardic age, the coterie poets of Anglo-Ireland, the nationalist balladeers of Young Ireland, the Irish Literary Revival, and the advent of modernity. As capacious as it is diverse, this book is an essential contribution to scholarship in the field.

AILBHE DARCY is Senior Lecturer in creative writing at Cardiff University. A poet as well as a critic, she is the author of *Imaginary Menagerie* (2011) and *Subcritical Tests*, in collaboration with S. J. Fowler (2017). *Insistence* (2018) won Wales Book of the Year, the Roland Mathias Poetry Award, and the Pigott Poetry Prize. She writes critically on contemporary Irish poetry.

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