

VISUAL CULTURE AND ARCTIC VOYAGES

In the mid-nineteenth century, thirty-six expeditions set out for the Northwest Passage in search of Sir John Franklin's missing expedition. The array of visual and textual material produced on these voyages was to have a profound impact on the idea of the Arctic in the Victorian imaginary. Eavan O'Dochartaigh closely examines neglected archival sources to show how pictures created in the Arctic fed into a metropolitan view transmitted through engravings, lithographs, and panoramas. Although the metropolitan Arctic revolved around a fulcrum of heroism, terror, and the sublime, the visual culture of the ship reveals a more complicated narrative that included cross-dressing, theatricals, dressmaking, and dances with local communities. O'Dochartaigh's investigation into the nature of the on-board visual culture of the nineteenth-century Arctic presents a compelling challenge to the 'man-versus-nature' trope that still reverberates in polar imaginaries today. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

EAVAN O'DOCHARTAIGH is a postdoctoral researcher funded by an SFI-IRC Pathway Programme Award at National University of Ireland Galway. Prior to this she was a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellow at Umeå University in northern Sweden and a Government of Ireland Doctoral Scholar at National University of Ireland Galway. She has also worked as an archaeologist and archaeological illustrator in Ireland, Iceland, and the UK.

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VISUAL CULTURE AND
ARCTIC VOYAGES

*Personal and Public Art and Literature of the Franklin
Search Expeditions*

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National University of Ireland Galway



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Abbreviations and Nomenclature

BL	British Library, London
LAC	Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa
NLA	National Library of Australia, Canberra
NLI	National Library of Ireland, Dublin
NMM	National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London
NRO	Norfolk Record Office, Norwich
RGS	Royal Geographical Society, London
RL	Rubenstein Library, North Carolina
SPRI	Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge
TNA	The National Archives, London
TPL	Toronto Public Library

The place names of the Arctic Regions that appear in historical records are generally different from those that are used today. In order to retain historical accuracy, when quoting from primary sources, I have retained peculiarities of spelling and used the historical place names given to the inlets, islands, and settlements of the Arctic by European explorers. Where possible, I have given the Indigenous or official name to settlements in parentheses. The word *Esquimaux* was commonly used in the nineteenth century to describe the Indigenous people of Greenland, Arctic Canada, and coastal Alaska. *Tuski* was used to refer to the Chukchi on the west side of the Bering Strait. Throughout this book, barring quotations, the Indigenous peoples of the Arctic are referred to as *Chukchi* (north-eastern Russia), *Yup'ik* and *Deg Hit'an* (western Alaska), *Iñupiat* (northern and western Alaska), *Gwich'in* (north-eastern Alaska and Gwich'in Settlement Area, Canada), *Inuvialuit* (Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Canada), *Inughuit* (north-western Greenland), and *Inuit* (Nunavut, Canada and Greenland). The term *Inuit* is also sometimes used to refer to *Iñupiat* and *Inuvialuit*, in accordance with the charter

List of Abbreviations and Nomenclature

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of the Inuit Circumpolar Council. As the term *Inuit* means ‘the people’, it is never prefaced with ‘the’. In keeping with the linguistic recommendation from Government of Canada’s Translation Bureau, *Inuk* is used as the singular noun, and *Inuit* is the plural noun and the adjective.