**Reaching a landmark 100 volumes**

On the 8th of April a special launch was held via Zoom to mark the publication of the 100th book in the *Reimagining Ireland* book series, of which Eamon Maher is General Editor. Entitled *Reimagining Irish Studies for the Twenty-First Century*, it contains chapters by Amopaliens Michael Cronin, Brian Murphy, Grace Neville and the aforementioned Maher. In addition, Professors Catherine Maignant (Université de Lille) and Sylvie Mikowski (Université de Reims-Champagne-Ardenne) also feature in the collection, a sign of the vibrancy of Irish Studies in France. His Excellency M. Vincent Guérend, French Ambassador to Ireland, in a pre-recorded address, commended this milestone achievement and said he looked forward to reading the book. He added that he would probably begin with Grace Neville’s chapter dealing with French travellers’ accounts of poverty in Ireland over the centuries. M. Guérend also commented favourably on Dr Maher’s other series, *Studies in Franco-Irish Relations*, which has published the Actes of a number of AFIS (Association of Franco-Irish Studies) conferences.

It is not without significance that 5 books in *Reimagining Ireland* offer comparative studies of France and Ireland and a number of the monographs and edited collections are overseen by French academics, a logical occurrence given the editor’s role as Director of the National Centre for Franco-Irish Studies. The series sent out the initial call for proposals in 2008 and published its first book soon after, Eugene O’Brien’s *‘Kicking Bishop up the Arse’: Negotiating texts and Contexts in Contemporary Irish Studies*. O’Brien’s stated ambition in this study was to reconsider Irish Studies “through the medium of literary and cultural theory”, a task which leaned heavily on French critical theory, most notably the ideas of Derrida and Lacan.

For the gastronomes among you, attention should be drawn to volume 57 in the series, *‘Tickling the Palate’: Gastronomy in Irish Literature and Culture* (2014), co-edited by Maher and his TU Dublin colleague, Máirtín Mac Con Iomaire. This marked the first ever academic study of Irish gastronomy and it received a very positive response from the Irish public whose engouement with all things culinary has turned us into a nation of ‘foodies’. The inclusion of subjects like food and beverage studies, the Irish language and socio-economic development, advertising, folklore, global legacies of the Great Famine, the life and work of the liturgical artist Richard King and memorialising the Magdalene Laundries, shows the openness of Irish Studies, and this series in particular, to a multidisciplinary approach.

As a special concession to Amopalien(ne)s, the 100th volume can be ordered online for €20 and any other book in the series for €25 using this [form](https://share.hsforms.com/19s7GwkuFTRqdMqqTkUDD7g37cew) The offer is valid until the end of April 2021.

Bonne lecture!