Dr Radvan Markus Published a Monograph in Irish on the Most Prominent Irish-Language Work of Modernism

The publication *Carnabhal na Marbh* was written by an academic from the Centre for Irish Studies, the Department of Anglophone Literatures and Cultures CU FA, which discusses the novel *Cré na Cille* (Graveyard Clay) by Máirtín Ó Cadhain in the context of the period when translations of the novel started to circulate outside of Ireland. The monograph assesses its place in the canon of world literature.

The Design: Jan Augusta
c) which can be translated into English as "Carnival of the Dead" draws from va
In addition to its two basic storylines, it attempts toencyclopedia
picture life in the author’s home region and throughout Ireland and—within overlaps—
the wider world – during the Second World War, " describes Dr Markus the book in
question.

“At the same time, it contains a large number of references to Irish fo
lk lore and literary tradition, the knowledge of which is not necessary to understand...
Among other things, the monograph also examines the form of the novel: “The entire text consists of unmarked direct speech of about ninety characters buried in a Connemara cemetery. From the alternating speeches, the reader pieces together – as if from fragments – a multitude of stories that are by no means all concerned with the book’s main character. The speeches are arranged so that they in various ways resemble musical structures, whether it is the repetition and variation familiar in Irish traditional music or the polyphony and orchestration inherent in European music,” says Dr Markus.
The book also explores the connections between Ó Cadhain and other Irish Modernists such as James Joyce, Flann O’Brien, and Samuel Beckett. However, Ó Cadhain’s work is also idiosyncratic. It differs in many ways from the general idea of modernism, be it the rural setting or the fact that it is written in a minority language: Irish.

An essential aspect of the book is the carnivalesque: “In the book
the dead have as if they were some contingent—their-clas—people.
are not afraid to scold the higher - class ones from the bottom of their hearts.
In direct speech, they mix “high” and “low” linguistic devices; they make fun of ev
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ped by Russian theorist Mikhail Bakhtin, which is one of the basic theoretical
Dr Markus’s translation of Máirtín Ó Cadhain’s *Cré na Cille* into Czech (*Hřbitovní hlína*) received the prestigious Czech award Magnesia Litera in 2018. In addition, he translated the novella *An Eochair* (*Klíč*) by the same author in 2021.