

Introduction

The 2015 issue of the “ABEI Journal” celebrates the 150th anniversary of the birth of William Butler Yeats on 13 June 1865. Recognised as one of the greatest poets of the twentieth century, he also earned renown as a playwright, essayist and politician, and was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1923. Here in Brazil his name is enshrined in the Chair of Irish Studies named in his honour at the University of São Paulo. In our first piece, Marcello Amalfi writes about the process of composing music for the production of *At the Hawk’s Well* which was staged in São Paulo at the Cultura Inglesa Theatre as part of the “Reading with the Ears” programme organised by Munira Mutran and Antonieta Celani. It is followed by texts examining links between Yeats’s work and that of Gordon Craig, William Blake and Ezra Pound, written by Luiz Fernando Ramos, Munira H. Mutran and Andréa Martins Lameirão Mateus, respectively. The section concludes with Miguel Ángel Montezanti’s review of Kathleen Raine’s revisitation of Yeats’s work.

We are also delighted to be able to publish two important interviews in the current issue. In the first of them, Mariana Bolfarine interviews David Rudkin about his 1973 radio play, *Cries from Casement as his Bones are Brought to Dublin*, anticipating the centenary celebrations of the Easter Rising. Beckett specialists Fábio de Souza Andrade and Luiz Fernando Ramos also interviewed theatre director Patrick Sutton and painter and actor Brian Maguire at the University of São Paulo during the Brazilian tour of their production of *Waiting for Godot*.

Samuel Beckett is also the focus of Fernando Aparecido Poiana’s article on *Krapp’s Last Tape* in our **Drama** section, while, in **Fiction**, Ann Wan-lih Chang examines

contemporary Irish women’s short stories.

In **Voices from Brazil**, Sandra Margarida Nitrini introduces us to the short stories of Osman Lins (1924-78), born in Pernambuco, in the north-east of Brazil, who is perhaps best known as an innovative novelist.

Finally, our **Reviews** section includes criticism by



Teatro de Santa Isabel, in front of Praça da República, Recife (Pernambuco). It was inaugurated in 1850. In J.E. Gerodetti & C. Cornejo. *Lembranças do Brasil. As Capitais Brasileiras nos Cartões-Postais e Álbuns de Lembranças*. São Paulo, Solaris Edições Culturais, 2004.

Óscar Álvarez-Gila, David Barnwell, Carlos Daghlán, Peter James Harris, Solange Ribeiro de Oliveira, Maria Clara Bonetti Paro, and Patricia de Aquino Prudente.

The Editors