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Postcards. From the Argentine *pampas* to the Irish Shores Eight Photos by Carmen Casey

Introduction

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Carmen Casey is an Irish Argentine photographer and artist currently living in Buenos Aires. She was born in Cañuelas, province of Buenos Aires. Over the past twenty years she has lived in Dublin, London, Vienna, Strasbourg, Moscow and Madrid, cities where she has exhibited her art.

For this 11th issue of the *Studi irlandesi. A Journal of Irish Studies* she has selected two groups of photographs in which the Argentine *pampas*, with their immense extensions of land and sky, enter in a dialogue with the Irish wild western shores. The artist reflects on the powerful attraction that the *pampas* have always exerted on her from early life, recollecting her childhood summers spent on the paternal family farm in Moll, near Chivilcoy, 50 km away from the nearest paved road, and she remembers: “those summers left their traces on me”. The family farm today is located between the cities of Cañuelas and Monte, in the province of Buenos Aires, an area which along the nineteenth century was the chosen destination for many of the Irish immigrants arriving in Argentina. Also present in the postcards and in the artist’s memories are the West of Ireland landscapes of County Mayo, magnificent places where as a family they spent their European summers. The artist also notes that those horizons made her remember the *pampas*, especially the dramatic and sudden *chiaroscuros*, part of an already dramatic landscape in itself.

At present, Carmen Casey is trying to upgrade the profile of the “Guardia del Juncal” Natural Reserve with her art, where by the end of winter thousands of birds go for the mating season, a rather unknown and yet superb area whose history can be better understood visiting the artist’s Instagram portal @guardiadeljuncal.c.casey.

1. *Argentine pampas*





2. Irish shores









