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Giuseppe Cafiero (<g.cafiero23@gmail.com>), born in Naples, spent his childhood in various Italian cities since his father was a banker. In Bologna he began to attend intellectual circles at Roberto Roversi's “Palma verde” bookstore. He later worked for various radio producers, especially Radio Capodistria and the Italian Swiss Radio. His plays have also been broadcast by the Italian National Broadcasting Corporation, Sveriges Radio and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. He has written free adaptations for the radio, as well as translations from French. But his strongest point is ‘biofiction’, over the years he has published *James Joyce, Roma & altre storie* (2006),

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Vito Carrassi (<vito.carrassi@uniba.it>) holds a PhD in Literary Sciences (Modern Comparative Literatures). He holds university courses on Folkloristics and collaborates with the chair of Cultural Anthropology at the University of Bari. His doctoral thesis has been published as *Il fairy tale nella tradizione narrativa irlandese*, 2008 (translated into English as *The Irish Fairy Tale: A Narrative Tradition from the Middle Ages to Yeats and Stephens*, 2012). In this dissertation, a new concept of 'fairy tale' is developed in the context of Irish history, folk narrative tradition, and revivalist literature. His main research fields are: literary anthropology, narrative theory, orality-literacy studies, Irish and Italian folklore.

Richard Allen Cave (<r.cave@rhul.ac.uk>), Emeritus Professor of Drama and Theatre Arts at Royal Holloway in the University of London, has published extensively in the fields of renaissance drama (Jonson, Webster, Brome), modern English and Irish theatre (Wilde, Yeats, Pinter, Beckett, Friel, McGuinness), dance (Ninette de Valois) and stage design (Charles Ricketts, Robert Gregory, Terence Gray). His most recent projects have included an AHRC-funded programme to create an online edition of the *Collected Plays of Richard Brome* (2010), for which he was General Editor and the monograph, *Collaborations: Ninette de Valois and William Butler Yeats*, which was published in 2011. He has also edited the plays of Wilde, Yeats and T.C.Murray. Professor Cave is a trained Feldenkrais practitioner who works on vocal techniques with professional actors and on extending movement skills with performers in physical theatre.

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Elena Cotta Ramusino (<elena.cottaramusino@unipv.it>) is lecturer at the University of Pavia, where she teaches English literature. She has worked mainly on Irish literature, the 20th century, and Modernism. In 1997 she published a volume on Yeats's early poetry, *La produzione giovanile di W.B. Yeats: percorsi di un'identità poetica e culturale*, and Yeats has been at the centre of her research since. Two years later she published a volume on Seamus Heaney: *Dal buio alla luce - Poesia e poetica in Seamus Heaney* (1999). She has also written articles on Virginia Woolf, Seamus Heaney's *The Burial at Thebes*, and the Irish poet's translation of Sophocles' *Antigone*. More recently, she has worked on autobiography and published an essay on Elizabeth Bowen's *Bowen's Court* and Hugo Hamilton's *The Speckled People*.

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Fiorenzo Fantaccini (<fiorenzo.fantaccini@unifi.it>) is a lecturer in English and Anglo-Irish Literature at the University of Florence. He is the author of essays on translation as well as on American, English and especially Irish literature (with published work on Hawthorne, Yeats, Lady Gregory, Wilde, Lowry, Sean O'Faolain, Kate O' Brien, Brien Friel, Roddy Doyle, Emma Donoghue, Tom Murphy). He has published *W.B. Yeats e la cultura Italiana* (2009). He has co-edited *The Cracked Lookingglass: Contributions to the Study of Irish Literature* (with Carla De Petris and Jean Ellis D'Alessandro, 1999). He is also the co-editor, with Ornella De Zordo, of *Le riscritture del Postmoderno: Percorsi angloamericani* (2002) and *altri canonici/canoni altri pluralismo e studi letterari* (2011). He has translated works by E.A. Poe, Hawthorne,

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Michael Huggins (<m.huggins@chester.ac.uk>) is senior lecturer in modern history at the University of Chester in the UK. His doctoral thesis on agrarian conflict in pre-famine Ireland won the Beckett Prize in Irish History (2000). He is the author of *Social conflict in pre-famine Ireland* (2007) and a number of articles on pre-famine social and political radicalism in Ireland. He is currently interested in the life of the Irish nationalist John Mitchel (1815-75). His recent publications include articles on Young Ireland and the Italian Risorgimento, on the influence of Mitchel's Unitarian background on his later politics and on the biographic constructions of Mitchel. His future research plans include comparative study of agrarian unrest and nationalism in Ireland and Italy.

Klaus Peter Jochum (<klaus.peter.jochum@uni-bamberg.de>) is Professor Emeritus of English Literature at the University of Bamberg, Germany. He has also held teaching positions at the universities of Frankfurt and Freiburg and was visiting professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana and at University College Galway. He has published widely on W.B. Yeats and Irish literature; he is the author of *Die dramatische Struktur der Spiele von W. B. Yeats* (1971). He has also written on English Renaissance drama (*Discrepant Awareness. Studies in English Renaissance Drama*, 1979), Daniel Defoe, Charles Dickens, George Eliot, and Henry James. He has edited *The Reception of W.B. Yeats in Europe* (2006). At present he is working on the third (electronic) edition of his classified bibliography of Yeats criticism.

Fabio Luppi (<fabio.luppi@uniroma3.it>) earned a PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Roma 3 with a dissertation on W.B. Yeats and Giorgio Manganelli. He teaches English language at the Faculty of Scienze dell'educazione, University Roma 3, and English Literature at the Guglielmo Marconi Telematic University. His research is mainly in the field of Irish studies and post colonial studies. He has published a book on the theatre of W.B. Yeats, *Cerimonie e artifici nel teatro di W.B. Yeats* (2011) and essays on James Joyce, John Banville, John Keats, William Shakespeare and Giorgio Manganelli. Together with Giorgio Melchiori he has collected and edited the theatrical reviews by Agostino Lombardo (*Cronache e critiche teatrali*, 2007).

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Giuseppe Serpillo (<gserpillo@hotmail.com>) is Professor of English Literature at the University of Sassari (Sardinia). His main interest is poetry. He has translated poems by W.B. Yeats, Patrick Kavanagh, Desmond Egan, Desmond O'Grady and John Montague into Italian, and published essays on contemporary Irish poetry. Desmond Egan's *Poesie scelte*, which he edited with Francesco Marroni, was awarded the Bologna Prize in 1998. He has also published articles on playwrights (J.M. Synge, Sean O'Casey and Brendan Behan), and prose writers (Frank O'Connor, James Joyce and Sean O'Faolain). In 1994 he was the convenor, with Donatella Badin, of an international conference of Irish Studies at Sassari and Alghero. In 2002 he was awarded the O'Connor Cup by the Gerard Manley Hopkins Society for his contribution to the International Summer School in Monasterevin and his critical contribution to Irish Studies.