



PRESS RELEASE



# THE COLOUR OF IRELAND

County by County 1850-1950

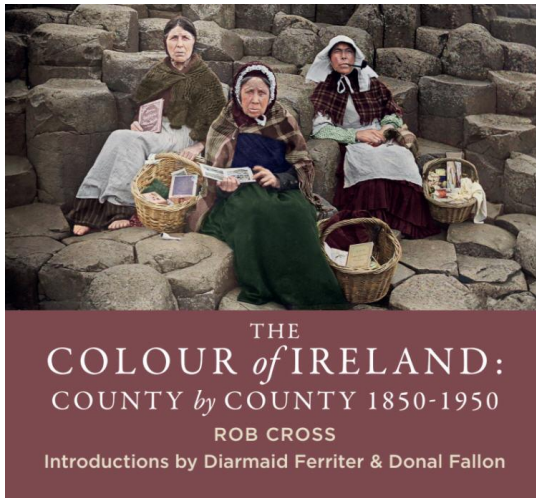
ROB CROSS

Introductions by Diarmaid Ferriter and Donal Fallon

Publication: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**Black & White Publishing acquires world rights to *The Colour of Ireland*,  
a stunning collection of fully restored and coloured photographs.**

Black & White will publish *The Colour of Ireland: County by County 1850-1950* in October 2021. World rights were acquired direct from the author by Campbell Brown, Managing Director at Black & White Publishing.



Covering all 32 counties, *The Colour of Ireland* includes over 150 beautiful photos, bringing the people and places of Ireland's history to life in incredible and vibrant detail. Painstakingly researched, this fascinating new book provides a unique social account of Ireland, bringing history to life in a level of detail never seen before, and includes many previously unpublished photographs, presenting the original, untouched black and white photographs beside the restored and coloured images.

Spanning over a hundred years, *The Colour of Ireland* uses contemporary photographs as the basis for full-colour digital renditions. Bringing out the minute detail in each image, architectural professional Rob Cross presents photographs of Irish life covering all 32 counties, the beauties of the Green Isle and capturing Ireland and its most picturesque villages, towns, and the fast-emerging cities of Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Limerick and Waterford.

Above all, it's the people of Ireland who star, from working people going about their business, to notable women like Muriel MacSwiney, Peig Sayers and Constance Markievicz, and minority groups including Irish Travellers and those from different ethnic and religious backgrounds. The book also captures images of Ireland's most turbulent times from the War of Independence and the Irish Civil War featuring some of the titans of Irish political life such as Michael Collins, Éamon de Valera, Arthur Griffith, and James Connolly.

In the introductions, historians Diarmaid Ferriter and Donal Fallon also present the case for and against colourising old photographs. Diarmaid Ferriter argues that although the images may be more accessible for a modern audience, at a basic level it is interfering with evidence and can alter our perception of history. Donal Fallon says that colourising adds to them in many other ways, in particular as a means of sparking historical discussion and increasing public interest. With both the black and white and the coloured images included in the book, this is sure to spark debate and, most importantly, gives readers the opportunity to make up their own minds.

Rob Cross said: "It's an incredibly rewarding journey to bring these photographs into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, sharing my passion for Irish history and using careful historical research to determine the colours of every object in each photo. I can't wait to share this book with the world and I'm delighted to bring it to readers with Black & White Publishing."

Campbell Brown said: "Rob breathes new life, immediacy and human connection back into these stunning black and white photographs. We're thrilled to be publishing *The Colour of Ireland*, which offers a unique insight into a bygone era with an amazing level of detail. For anyone who loves Ireland, this book will be a must-have."

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** @robcross247 #diarmaidferriter @fallon\_donal

For review copies and more information, please contact Declan Heeney at [declan@gillhess.ie](mailto:declan@gillhess.ie)

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## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

**Rob Cross** is originally from Limerick City in Ireland and has an extensive professional background in the field of Architecture. After graduating from Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, he moved to Dublin City where he currently works full-time for an award-winning architectural practice. Rob has a great passion for Irish history, especially the preservation of its architectural heritage and culture which has resulted in his 'Bringing Ireland's History to Life' project in which he faithfully restores and colourises historical photos for future generations to enjoy. The project began as a hobby but has now become a viral hit with a worldwide following on Twitter which attracts people from all walks of life, including politicians, academics, historians, actors, and film directors.