|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The Wild Irish Girl  (1806)  By  Sydney Owenson, Lady Morgan  (1776? – 1859) | Book Discussion  Irish Cultural Center / McClelland Library  Norton Room  December 3, 2022  10:30 AM – 12:30 PM  Unless otherwise announced, this meeting will be live. |  |

**Study Guide:**

Prologue: The Wild Irish Girl takes us into the heart of Anglo-Irish literature. It also gives us a new reading experience, the epistolary novel; that is, a novel written in letters. This has been an extremely popular strategy from the 18th century to the present. What other novels have you read that use this device?

Why would a novelist decide to use letters to tell the story? What is gained? What is lost?

What do you make of the subtitle: “A National Tale”?

Can you relate the basic narrative of the novel? Is it a new story? Would it appeal to readers? Why do you think Lady Morgan wrote it?

What different reactions would you expect from the English? The Irish?

Did you like the novel? Is Lady Morgan a good storyteller?

**Looking Ahead**In January (January 28), we will be discussing one of the outstanding works of Irish literature, a fantasy by James Stephens, “The Crock of Gold” (1912). It’s a great way to begin 2023! Happy Holidays!