## CLASSICS AND CELTIC LITERARY Modernism

Celtic modernism had a complex history with classical reception. In this book, Gregory Baker examines the work of W. B. Yeats, James Joyce, David Jones and Hugh MacDiarmid to show how new forms of modernist literary expression emerged as the evolution of classical education, the insurgent power of cultural nationalisms and the desire for transformative modes of artistic invention converged across Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Writers on the 'Celtic fringe' sometimes confronted, and sometimes consciously advanced, crudely ideological manipulations of the inherited past. Yet, even as they did so, their eccentric ways of using the classics and its residual cultural authority animated new decentered idioms of English – literary vernaculars so inflected by polyglot intrusion that they expanded the range of Anglophone literature and left in their wake compelling stories for a new age. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

GREGORY BAKER is Assistant Professor of English and Director of Irish Studies at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

### CLASSICS AFTER ANTIQUITY

Editors:

Alastair Blanshard University of Queensland

Shane Butler Johns Hopkins University

Emily Greenwood *Yale University* 

Classical Reception Studies. Each volume explores the methods and motives of those who, coming after and going after antiquity, have entered into a contest with and for the legacies of the ancient world. The series aims to unsettle, to provoke debate, and to stimulate a re-evaluation of assumptions about the relationship between Greek and Roman classical pasts and modern histories.

Other titles in the series

Brecht and Tragedy: Radicalism, Traditionalism, Eristics

MARTIN REVERMANN ISBN: 978-1-108-48968-3

The Nero-Antichrist: Founding and Fashioning a Paradigm

shushma malik ISBN: 978-1-108-49149-5

Dionysus after Nietzsche: The Birth of Tragedy in Twentieth-Century Literature and Thought

ADAM LECZNAR

ISBN: 978-1-108-48256-1

Feeling and Classical Philology: Knowing Antiquity in German Scholarship, 1770–1920

CONSTANZE GÜTHENKE ISBN: 978-1-107-10423-5

The Vernacular Aristotle: Translation as Reception in Medieval and Renaissance Italy

EUGENIO REFINI

ISBN: 978-1-108-48181-6

Afterlives of the Roman Poets: Biofiction and the Reception of Latin Poetry

NORA GOLDSCHMIDT ISBN: 978-1-107-18025-3

The Perpetual Immigrant and the Limits of Athenian Democracy

DEMETRA KASIMIS ISBN: 978-1-107-05243-7

Borges' Classics: Global Encounters with the Graeco-Roman Past

LAURA JANSEN

ISBN: 978-1-108-41840-9

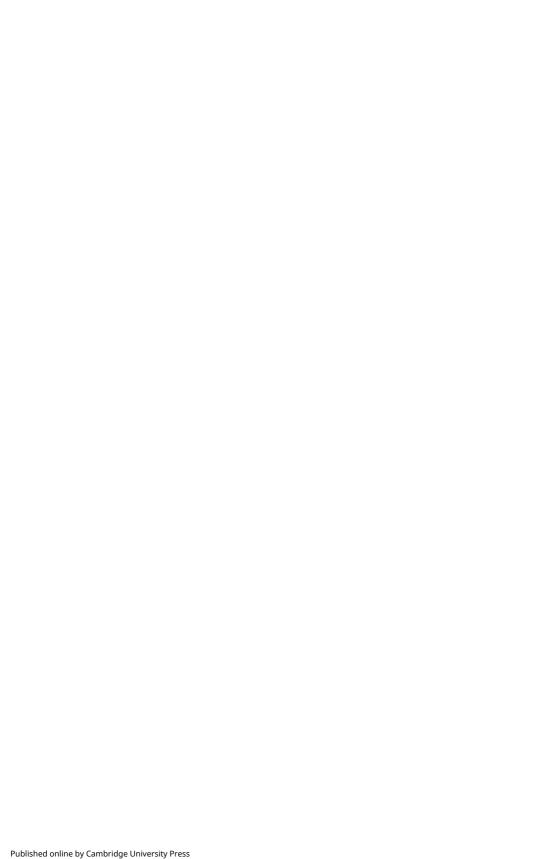
Modernism and Homer: The Odysseys of H. D., James Joyce, Osip Mandelstam, and

Ezra Pound

LEAH CULLIGAN FLACK ISBN: 978-1-107-10803-5

Classical Victorians: Scholars, Scoundrels and Generals in Pursuit of Antiquity

EDMUND RICHARDSON ISBN: 978-1-107-02677-3



# CLASSICS AND CELTIC LITERARY MODERNISM

Yeats, Joyce, MacDiarmid and Jones

GREGORY BAKER

The Catholic University of America



### CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108844864 DOI: 10.1017/9781108953825

© Gregory Baker 2022

This work is in copyright. It is subject to statutory exceptions and to the provisions of relevant licensing agreements; with the exception of the Creative Commons version the link for which is provided below, no reproduction of any part of this work may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

An online version of this work is published at doi.org/10.1017/9781108953825 under a Creative Commons Open Access license CC-BY-NC-ND 4.0 which permits re-use, distribution and reproduction in any medium for non-commercial purposes providing appropriate credit to the original work is given. You may not distribute derivative works without permission. To view a copy of this license, visit https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0

All versions of this work may contain content reproduced under license from third parties. Permission to reproduce this third-party content must be obtained from these third-parties directly.

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781108953825

#### First published 2022

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

NAMES: Baker, Gregory, 1980— author.

TITLE: Classics and Celtic literary modernism: Yeats, Joyce, MacDiarmid and Jones / Gregory Baker.

OTHER TITLES: Classics after antiquity.

DESCRIPTION: New York: Cambridge University Press, 2022. | Series:
Classics after antiquity | Includes bibliographical references and index.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2021035031 (print) | LCCN 2021035032 (ebook) | ISBN

DENTIFIERS: LCCN 2021035031 (print) | LCCN 2021035032 (ebook) | ISB1 9781108844864 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108953825 (ebook) SUBJECTS: LCSH: English literature – Classical influences. | Yeats, W. B.

(William Butler), 1865–1939 – Criticism and interpretation. | Joyce, James, 1882–1941 – Criticism and interpretation. | MacDiarmid, Hugh, 1892–1978 – Criticism and interpretation. | Jones, David,

1895–1974 – Criticism and interpretation.
CLASSIFICATION: LCC PR471 .B35 2022 (print) | LCC PR471 (ebook) | DDC
820.9/00912–dc23

LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2021035031 LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2021035032

> ISBN 978-1-108-84486-4 Hardback ISBN 978-1-009-36498-0 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.