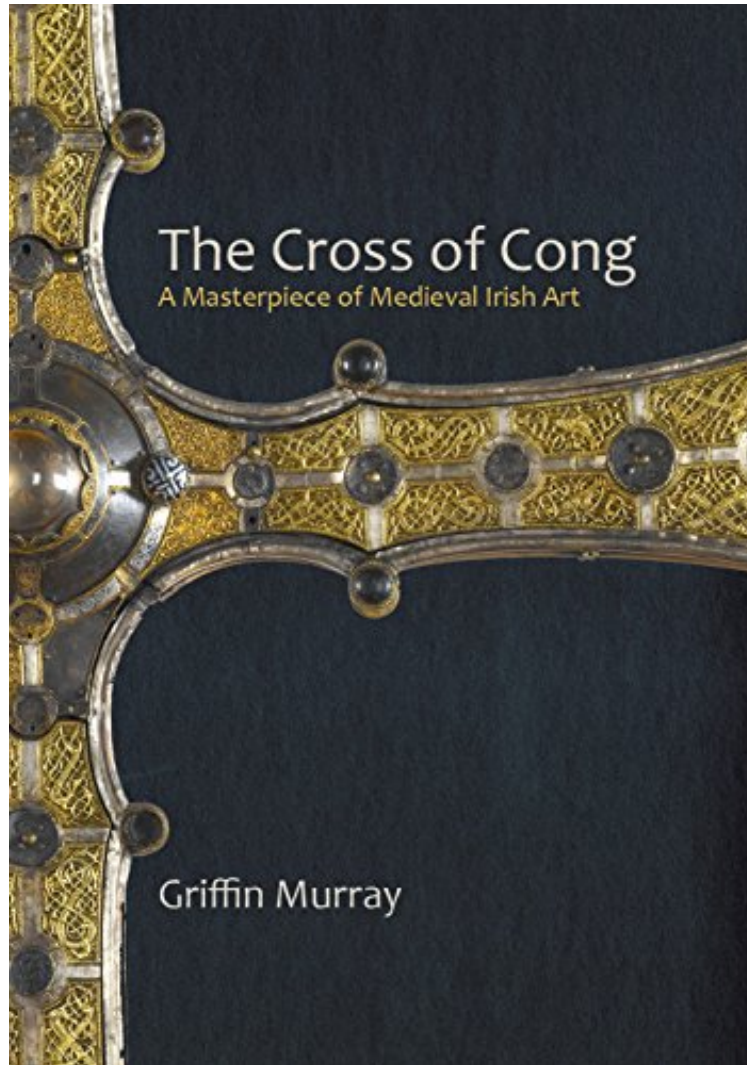


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The Cross of Cong: A Masterpiece of Medieval Irish Art

Griffin Murray

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This book is the first detailed study of the Cross of Cong, one of Ireland's great national treasures. Made to enshrine a relic of Christ's 'True Cross' in the early 12th century under the patronage of the High King Turlough O'Connor, it was one of the most important reliquaries in medieval Ireland. The book explores the cultural and artistic background of the Cross of Cong's creation, arguing that its production was motivated as much by politics, both secular and

ecclesiastical, as it was by religious devotion. In a unique exploration, the book also examines the modern history of the Cross, from the 17th century to today, describing its important position in the history of Irish national collections and its impact on the Gaelic Revival. With surprising and noteworthy revelations on the hidden secrets of recent X-ray examinations and new research on the origins of the Cross, *The Cross of Cong: A Masterpiece of Medieval Irish Art* is an indispensable study of this national treasure. With stunningly detailed photography, it will appeal to specialists and non-specialists alike. [Subject: Art History, Medieval Studies, Irish Studies, Religious Studies]