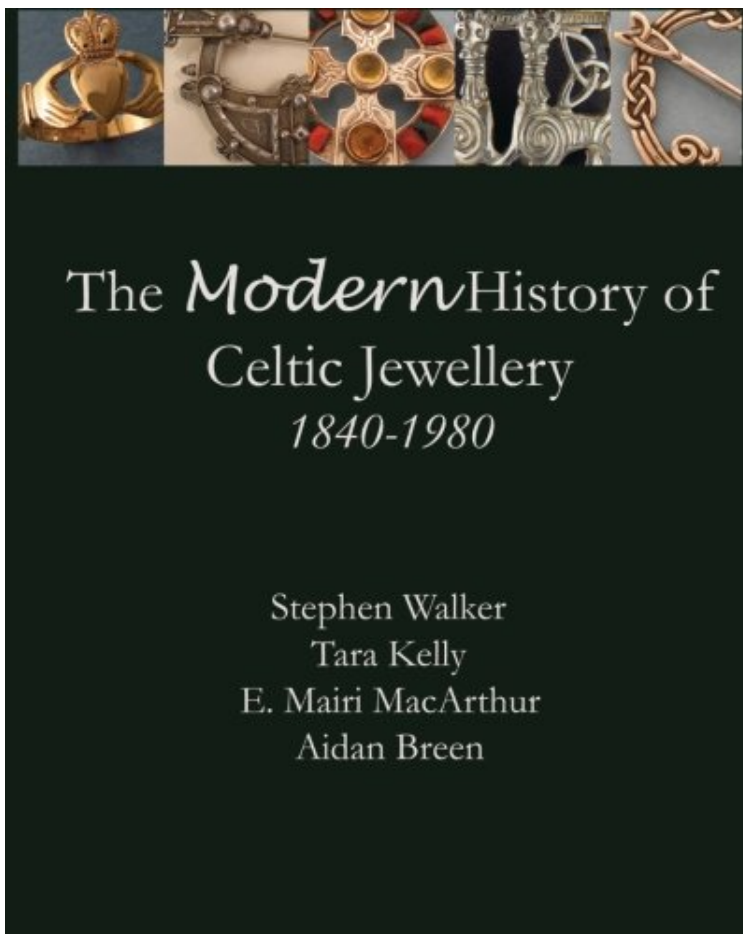


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The Modern History of Celtic Jewellery: 1840-1980

Stephen Walker, Aidan Breen, Tara Kelly, E. Mairi MacArthur : The Modern History of Celtic Jewellery: 1840-1980 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Modern History of Celtic Jewellery: 1840-1980:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. On The Modern History of Celtic Jewellery (book review)By Lynnette BrashThe book is available for purchase in both of the Walker Metalsmiths Celtic Jewelry locations in upstate NY as well as on , which is how I bought it prior to my visit to see the exhibit. Unfortunately, the exhibit is over now and can't be seen in person anymore, BUT you can read all about it and see the gorgeous pictures of individual items in the book! The book is paperback, but I am proud to add it to my personal library nonetheless. It is well worth ordering for anyone with a serious interest in Celtic art, Celtic history, Celtic jewelry, and/or Celtic craftsmanship. Specifically Irish sections include chapters on "The Claddagh Ring" and "Commercial Facsimiles of Irish Archeological Jewellery, 1840-1868". There's also an entire chapter devoted to Aidan Breen's memories of what the silver trade was like in Dublin in his early days in the business. The specifically Scottish sections include chapters

on "The Highland Dirk as Jewellery", "Scottish Pebble Jewellery", "Luckenbooth brooches", and "Post WWII Scottish Celtic Jewellery". Celtic Cross jewelry and maker's marks and hallmarks are covered as well. The Continuum, Glossary, and Bibliography sections will also be of great interest to anyone fascinated by Celtic culture. The book makes a great present, especially if you can visit one of Stephen Walker's shops; he will be happy to personally inscribe it to whomever you want for whatever occasion you wish. I bought several copies and had Stephen inscribe them for that exact purpose, and the various recipients were each delighted. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good for jewelry history, not so much for craftsmen

By Rick Cook This looks at the jewelry of the Celtic Revival from 1840 to 1980. As a history of the jewelry of the period it's pretty good. But craftsmen will find it short on how-to-material. Lots of color pictures, however. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Resource

By Jeanne T. This book offers several perspectives on modern Celtic art from the first hand account of Aidan Breen and to the more scholarly approach of Tara Kelly. There are wonderful pictures of the pieces that are referenced in the text which show the true beauty of modern Celtic art. The authors' references also give the reader a good place to start if they wish to research the subject further. Overall the book is a solid source for those wishing to know more about the recent history of Celtic art/jewelry. It is very well done and informative.

From the recovery after the Irish Potato Famine in the 1840s to the booming Celtic Tiger of the 1990s, a revival of the ancient traditions of Celtic jewelry have become a part of how the Irish, as well as the Scots, Welsh and other Celts have expressed their cultural identity. Usually the story of this tradition focuses on very old prototypes, the museum pieces turned up by archaeologists or the legend of the original Claddagh ring. In our imagination, we connect the popular Celtic jewelry of today with the distant past. But that link with the ancient style was very much influenced by what others had done in more recent history. The story of is told by four authors. Tara Kelly writes of the early Celtic Revival manufacture of facsimiles of medieval Irish metalwork in Victorian Dublin and how the success of that enterprise lead to historical Celtic jewellery to become iconic symbols of Irish identity. Mairi MacArthur tells the story of Alexander and Euphemia Ritchie who created the foundation for modern Scottish Celtic jewellery on the Isle of Iona in the early 20th century. Aidan Breen, himself a pioneer of the late 20th century Celtic Renaissance, recalls his career beginning with an apprenticeship with Dublin silversmiths which trained him in the traditions of the older Celtic Revival. Stephen Walker, craftsman and collector, brings the story together as it spans 150 years, from Scottish pebble jewellery to the innovative modern Celtic creations of the Arts and Crafts Movement. 69 color photographs and 29 black and white illustrations.

About the Author Aidan J. Breen. Is a Dublin native trained in his craft by a traditional seven year apprenticeship. As a young lad, I was always fascinated with the ancient and medieval treasures on display at the National Museum in Kildare Street. This was a place I frequently visited on weekends and still often go for inspiration. Since 1979 he has run his own business, Aidan Breen Gold and Silversmith in Swords, County Dublin. Dr. E. Mairi MacArthur is from an Iona family and has written extensively about the local history of the island and its people. Her book Iona Celtic Art. The Work of Alexander and Euphemia Ritchie, published by The New Iona Press, is a very thorough history of Iona jewellery. She is a graduate of St Andrews University and later undertook her doctoral research into Iona at the School of Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh. Dr. Tara Kelly is an independent art historian and curator. Her dissertation at Trinity College, Dublin focused on copies of Irish archaeological jewellery and metalwork made in Dublin between 1840 and 1940. Her research into the production methods, marketing strategies and distribution of copies of Irish antiquities represents a significant advancement in our knowledge of this industry. Stephen Walker is a goldsmith specializing in Celtic design. He is a graduate of Syracuse University earning his Masters of Fine Arts at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. With his wife Susan they run Walker Metalsmiths, established 1984 in Andover, New York and a second showroom in Fairport, New York