

Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	<i>page</i> vi
<i>List of figures</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
<i>Chronology</i>	xii
Introduction: Ireland and the world	
1	1
CHAPTER 1: 'Stumpeworne letters': 1551–1660	5
MEDIA EVENT 1: 'Bloudy newes from Ireland', October 23, 1641	24
CHAPTER 2: Public spirits: 1660–1800	30
MEDIA EVENT 2: Postroads to liberty: January 22, 1793	55
CHAPTER 3: Acts of Union: 1800–1890	60
MEDIA EVENT 3: Parnellism and crime: April 18, 1887	91
CHAPTER 4: Casual miracles: 1890–1920	97
MEDIA EVENT 4: Broadcasting the Rising: April 24, 1916	125
CHAPTER 5: Listening in: 1921–1960	131
MEDIA EVENT 5: Helpless before the camera's eye: October 5, 1968	160
CHAPTER 6: Windows on the world: 1961–1990	166
MEDIA EVENT 6: With satellite television you can go anywhere: July 13, 1985	197
CHAPTER 7: Since 1990: digitised	201
<i>Conclusion: imagining a mediated Ireland</i>	
	226
<i>Bibliographic essay</i>	
	231
<i>Index</i>	
	236

Illustrations

1. *Aibidil Gaoidheilge agus Caiticiosma*, the first book printed in Irish in Ireland, was produced with specially cut type in 1571. It would be the first of many attempts to provide an Irish-language readership with a reformed catechism. Courtesy of the Library, Trinity College Dublin. page 7
2. John Temple's account of the massacres of 1641, *The Irish Rebellion*, originally published in 1646, would be republished at moments of sectarian tensions for the next three centuries. This edition, produced by the Dublin printer Aaron Rhames in 1724, contains some impressively grisly woodcuts. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland. 27
3. *The Young Gentleman Volunteer's Universal Spelling Book*, printed in Dublin by Patrick Wogan in the 1780s, contained instructions for the two essential skills needed by a 'Young Gentleman Volunteer': literacy, and the ability to handle a gun. Courtesy of the British Library. 53
4. "To create and foster public opinion in Ireland and to make it racy of the soil." The slogan adopted by *The Nation* found an iconic image in Henry McManus's painting, *Reading 'The Nation'*. Courtesy of the National Gallery of Ireland. 81
5. The first successful trans-Atlantic telegraph lines, laid in 1866, ran from the west coast of Ireland to Newfoundland, in the process drawing a new informational map, with Ireland at its centre. 85
6. On April 18, 1887, *The Times* published a facsimile of a letter in which Charles Stewart Parnell appeared to condone the Phoenix Park murders five years earlier.

- Apart from the political storm that it provoked, the visual nature of the facsimile caused consternation in media circles in an age when news circulated by telegraph. Courtesy of the Library, Trinity College Dublin. 93
7. One of the earliest practical processes for producing colour photographs was developed in Dublin in 1892 by Professor John Joly of Trinity College. Interestingly, he chose an image that was iconic of tradition – an Irish peasant girl – to demonstrate the process in the pages of the *Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy*. Courtesy of the Royal Irish Academy. 105
 8. In September 1897 the Lumière cameraman Jean Alexandre Louis Promio, shot the first moving images of Ireland including this footage of a very empty Sackville Street taken from O'Connell Bridge in Dublin. Courtesy of Association Frères Lumière and Irish Film Institute. 110
 9. O'Connell Street, immediately after the 1916 Rising. The Irish School of Wireless Telegraphy, from which the world's first radio broadcast was attempted, is the pile of rubble in the foreground on the right. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland. 126
 10. 'Worst of all was the gloating hatred in some of the faces of these policemen.' Television footage of the civil-rights march in Derry on October 5, 1968, shot by RTE's Gay O'Brien, which brought the reality of police violence into homes outside of Ulster, is seen by many as a turning point in the Northern Ireland conflict. Courtesy of RTE Archives. 163
 11. In the mid-1920s, Ireland had a number of magazines dedicated to the new medium of radio. However, radio had barely become a reality when new media technologies beckoned. This 1926 edition of the *Irish Radio and Musical Review* reports on John Logie Baird's latest invention, the 'televisor'. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland. 167
 12. 'I must admit that sometimes when I think of television and radio, and their immense power, I feel somewhat afraid.' President of Ireland, Éamon de Valera, on the opening broadcast of Telefís Éireann, December 31, 1961. Courtesy of RTE Archives. 172

13. This internet visualisation suggests a way of picturing the results when searching for the word 'Ireland' using the internet search engine Google. The programme that produced it allows the viewer to visualise the links from one page to the next; the balls on the horizon break down into individual pages as the viewer moves towards them. Courtesy of Diarmuid O'Donoghue, Department of Computer Science, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

Figures

1.	Irish imprints by decade, 1700–1800	<i>page</i> 48
2.	Irish imprints by decade, 1800–1900	62
3.	The number of books and periodicals banned in the first fifteen years of censorship ranged from 47 to 171 per annum	142
4.	Television and radio licences in the Irish Republic, 1963–71	182