

The Clare Champion

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Short-list place for stained glass window

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STRANGEST Genius: the stained glass of Harry Clarke by Lucy Costigan and Michael Cullen, has been short-listed for the Irish Book Awards in the category, Best Irish-Published Book.

Harry Clarke was the man behind the stained glass window known as The Presentation of Our Lord, with the Annunciation and Flight into Egypt, which is in situ at the Catholic Church in Killaloe.

The book features the entire collection of stained glass windows and panels by the renowned artist and book illustrator and among them is the window at Killaloe. Clarke received a commission for the Killaloe window in February 1927. He depicted the annunciation in the top panels of the window, while the main panels show the Presentation of our Lord by Mary and Joseph in the temple. Three angels oversee the event from above. The lower panel depicts the holy family's flight into Egypt. According to the authors of the book, "the window is a fine example of the spectacular colours and exquisite decoration of drapery and robes that Clarke is so famous for creating".

Strangest Genius was published in May by The History Press Ireland and is part of a trilogy of projects based on the life and work of Harry Clarke. The authors also have a website, www.harryclarke.net, which features the entire collection of the artist's windows.

The Irish Book Awards will be decided by a combination of public voting and specialist-panel voting and those interested in voting for their favourite books can do so by logging onto www.irishbookawards.ie/PublicVote.aspx.