



Author Lucy Costigan, and photographer, Michael Cullen.

Wexford author pens book about stain glass artist

by David Looby

A WEXFORD author, Lucy Costigan has written a new book on Ireland's renowned stained glass artist, Harry Clarke, whose Madonna and child with Saints Aidan and Adrian (1919) is in Bride Street Church, Wexford.

The book was launched in Bewley's Dublin this week.

'*Strangest Genius: the stained glass windows of Harry Clarke*' is the work of Wexford writer, Lucy Costigan, and photographer, Michael Cullen. The book has already received rave national and international reviews. Michael photographed many of the 160 stained glass windows that are featured in the book, including Wexford's Madonna and child with Saints Aidan and Adrian (1919) by Harry Clarke that is in Bride Street Church, Wexford.

'*Strangest Genius*' was launched by Harry Clarke's grand-daughter, Sunniva Clarke Sheridan, in Bewley's Café,

Grafton Street, Dublin. The book was published on May 1st by The History Press Ireland. It is part of a trilogy of projects based on the life and work of Harry Clarke. A website www.harryclarke.net featuring all of the artist's windows, in Ireland, England, the United States and Australia has been created by Michael Cullen and will be online later this month. Lucy and Michael also teamed up with film producers, Anthony Costigan and Theresa Cullen, and Research and Communications Manager, Raymond J. McGovern, to create a film documentary, also on Harry Clarke entitled '*A Revel in Blue*.' The documentary will have its premier this autumn in Harry Clarke House at the National College of Art and Design in Thomas Street, Dublin, the successor of the Dublin Metropolitan School of Art where Harry was a student from 1910 to 1913. RTE's Nationwide programme are featuring Lucy, Michael and all the project members in a special edition on Harry Clarke to be broadcast later in the year.