



Brennos – Verein für Keltologie

lädt zu einem
Vortrag von

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**The 'Heroine' and the 'Heroic'
Biography Pattern in Medieval
Irish Literature**

Donnerstag, 18. Jänner 2018, 18:30 Uhr, Seminarraum 3
Wien 9, Sensengasse 3a

Abstract

The internationally known “heroic biography pattern” is a well-recognized narrative type in medieval Irish literature and has been discussed primarily in the context of stories about the lives of warriors and kings. The variety of ways in which elements of this pattern are transformed to suit stories about the lives of women has received little attention. In this talk, I will discuss narratives about the lives of four women – Deirdre, Étaín, Mess Búachalla, and Saint Brigit. From extraordinary births to exiles and eventual homecomings, each of these lives follows a course parallel to, yet distinct from the standard formulation of the heroic biography pattern, and I will consider the ways in which the biography pattern is shaped in each case not only by gender, but also by the specific roles of these women as wife, mother, consort, and saint.