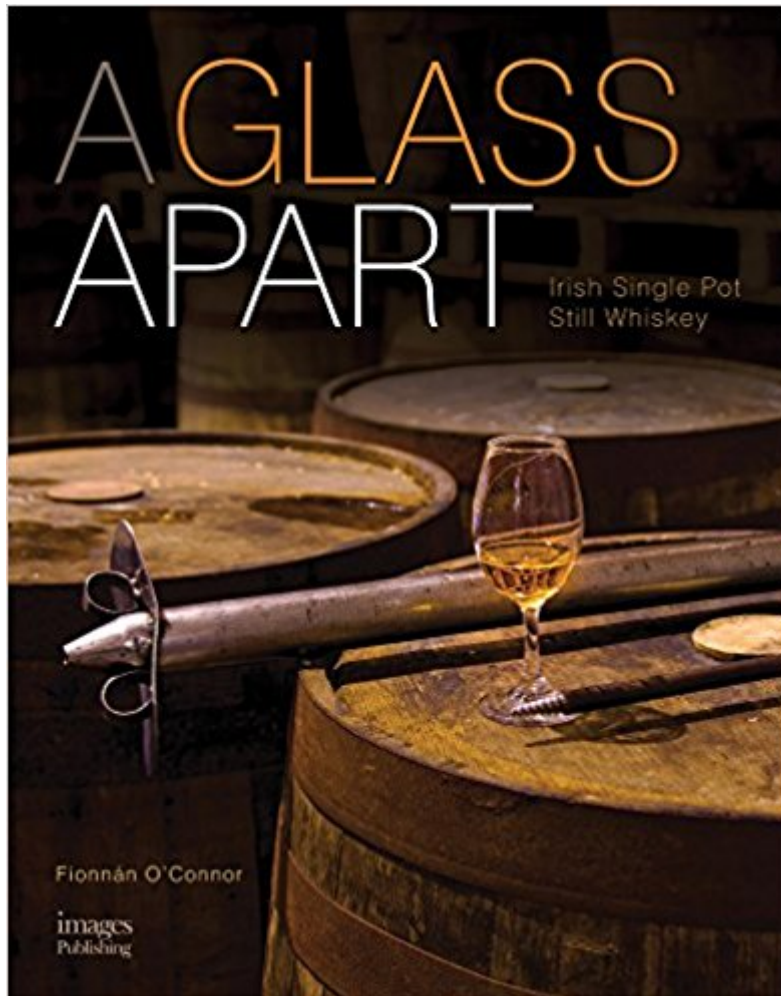




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# A Glass Apart: Irish Single Pot Still Whiskey



## Synopsis

—A full history of the production and appreciation of Irish pot still whiskey—Revised to include listings of a number of new and mentionable distillers "Quickly being recognised as the most comprehensive guide to Irish whiskey." - Gary Quinn, The Irish Times "A must read book for any fan of Irish whiskey. At a time when the category is making the mightiest of comebacks Fionn O'Connor has written a gem of a book, digging deep in to the heart of his country's whiskey history and telling its story with style and authority. Excellent." Dominic Roskrow, Founding Director, The Craft Distillers Alliance Irish single pot still whiskey has a romantic mystique for many whiskey critics because of its tragic history as the lost sister of single malt scotch. Ireland's history and politics resulted in the near-annihilation of the national drink and there's an almost eerie beauty to the silent distilleries that still dot the Irish countryside. These distilleries inform the aesthetic of the title and, indeed, there is visual poetry in the barrels, pot stills and photogenic amber spirits that convey the Irish whiskey world. Although Irish whiskey is currently the fastest-growing global spirits category and Irish pure pot still has long been a favorite drink among whiskey critics and connoisseurs, the existing literature is still surprisingly sparse. This book illustrates the production, history, and appreciation of Irish pot still whiskey and will introduce casual drinkers to the richness of these whiskeys as well as being a collector's item for established whiskey connoisseurs. Contents: Appreciation; Production; The Pot Still Profiles; History: The Story of a Spirit; A Guide to the Revival.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Fionn Ó Connor tasted his first glass of Green Spot in a pub in Galway 10 years ago and has spent an excessive number of subsequent evenings trying to uncover what exactly made that tippie so bewilderingly delicious. He has travelled extensively across the distilleries of Ireland and Scotland and has a particular affection for Islay scotch, American rye, and, of course, Irish single pot still. As an English major, he taught classes on The History and Appreciation of Whisky through UC Berkeley's Celtic Studies department while working as a brand ambassador for the Bushmills single malts and running seminars on whiskey appreciation through the legendary San Francisco cocktail bar Bourbon & Branch. He has since served as an historical consultant and whiskey lecturer for distilleries across Ireland, worked as an independent bar staff educator, and currently volunteers on the committee of the Irish Whiskey Society. He has represented Irish whiskey before the European Union as an independent critic and written articles on Irish distilling for magazines across the industry. He lives in Dublin, where he divides his time between his postgraduate studies and the welcome wonders of a certain ginger alternative.

If you're interested in the complex history, distillation, and tasting of Irish Whiskey, look no further. This book covers all of that and more in a well written, easy to read format. Beautifully illustrated with photos of Copper Pot Stills, old and modern distilleries, and of course, whiskey bottles and tipples. There is so much information packed in these pages you'll find yourself reading it cover to cover. All concisely laid out in the table of contents (and index) for easy reference. There is one problem though... every I read this book I end up either drinking from my current collection or adding to it. So be careful. This book will make you thirsty.

(Review written by Nathan Keeney) Author Fionn Ó Connor has assembled a beautiful coffee table style hardcover book entirely about the magic of Irish single pot still (previously called Pure Pot Still) whiskey. Long-time readers will be familiar with my high regard for such whiskies, especially Redbreast 12 and Green Spot. The book is lavishly photographed, runs 256 pages, and is of sturdy, professional construction. Fionn (aka Finn), a native of Ireland, served as brand ambassador for Bushmills under Diageo, and has taught and consulted widely on whiskey. In fact, Finn is indirectly responsible for my own discovery of the joy of whiskey. My brother-in-law took Finn's The History and Appreciation of Whiskey elective at Berkeley, and then shared his newfound love of whiskey with me. Man, where was that class when I was in school? The book covers the appreciation of whiskey (in general) with a nod towards the

particulars of Irish single pot still. It then goes into deep detail about the production and maturation of whiskey as it pertains to the unique process of Irish single pot still. Following this is a spotlight of each single pot still whiskey produced for the retail market (including independent bottlings and one-offs). These are divided by distillery and included lengthy tasting notes (no ratings) and information about the provenance and availability of each. In the author's words, "It's worth repeating that there aren't really that many of them. What's left from the past can be difficult to find and, although the future looks brighter than it has in a century, what's bottled at present is still relatively slim. | that's also why this book seemed worth writing in the first place and I can only hope that that same narrowness of scope might offer me a little more room to give each of these tipples the attention they deserve." The majority of the book is a scholarly analysis of the history of the spirit and the steps that led to its revival and promising future as a category unto itself, with a nod to new distilleries in the planning or construction stages. Despite only having 18 reviews on (17 five-star and 1 four-star), the book has sold out its first run. US and local retailers may still have some copies available. The second print run in 2017 will be paperback, so if you love or are interested in Irish single pot still whiskey and want the definitive work on the subject in hardcover, now's your last chance. *Sláinte!*

I would adopt FD's prior analysis due to the very small print, but the overall quality of the text prevents me from giving a 4. Seriously though, find a good lighting source and dust off your magnifying glass for this one.

Mr. O'Connor's grand whiskey opus is an unrivaled tribute to the the most legendary sector of the world's dram spectrum. Each page pours single pot still's unique history, science, and art with a few drops of the writer's own wit. This is a must-buy for the serious connoisseur and the light-hearted sampler alike!

Fionnan's use of vivid imagery and words encompasses the entire whiskey experience without even the need for a bottle in hand. This book is a must have for any beverage connoisseur or collector of vintage beverages. I will have to give it my full 5 stars.

Great book...well researched and very well written. Want to learn every aspect of Irish whiskey, read

this book!

Well written and well designed. A nice addition to my library. You'll also learn a thing or two about Whiskey ;]

Bought as a gift, hope he is enjoying it.

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