



Ilja S. Meijer

## Cases from Ireland to Finland

### Introduction

The five articles in this section cover a range of different approaches. The article on English architect Mary Crowley applies a straightforward biographical approach and elaborates the formative years of her professional career. The article in which the wall hangings of textile designer and Bauhaus-student Anni Albers are related to the architectural concepts of Gottfried Semper, offers a more analytical approach. Aligning her textile wall hangings with architectural theory, Anni Albers tried to undermine 'gendered distinctions between architectural and textile practices'.

Textile design was strongly integrated into the Bauhaus curriculum. Another article concerned with this field is also related to the Bauhaus. Its main character is Corona Krause, a lesser-known designer whose biographical content presented in this article is based on archival and oral research.

The difficulties women architects experienced in a predominantly male environment is a recurring theme in the articles. One example is the essay about the relatively unknown (and Ireland's first female) architect Florence Fulton Hobson. She anonymously published an article in 1911 where she not only shared her own experiences, but also encouraged future women architects. Another example is the article on Aino Aalto, which reflects on the regularly encountered situation in which the professional careers of women are totally overshadowed in history by their professional and personal male partners.