This thesis, as its title implies, has been an attempt at studying the interaction of non-verbal predication with the process of X° movement. Let us take a few pages to review and summarize the varied conclusions of this work.

First, in chapter 3, I presented a new architecture for clausal structure, in order to account for certain facts of Irish word order. This structure is presented in (1)
The position of arguments and the verb is also represented in (1). The important conclusion from this chapter is that Irish is a language that uses head-movement of verbal predicates to initial position in order to derive its basic word order.

In part II of the thesis, I looked closely at the behavior of non-verbal predicates in Irish. I presented the following four claims

i) In many languages, copular non-verbal predication can appear without an verb of any kind, overt or otherwise.

ii) There is more than one kind of copular construction, i.e. there are both predicative and equative structures and these differ in their argument structure.

iii) In some languages non-verbal predicates may behave exactly like verbal ones with respect to the syntax of head movement.

iv) Under certain specific conditions complex, apparently phrasal, nominal predicates may undergo head-movement.

In particular, I claimed that under certain conditions, non-verbal predicates could interact with the operation of head-movement to behave exactly like tensed verbs and raise to initial position in their clause:

2)

I claimed that even phrasal non-verbal predicates can undergo head movement. This, of course, required a serious revision of our notion of what an X° or an XP is. I made the highly surprising claim that there is no primitive phrase/head distinction. I claimed, instead,
that rather than the phrasal or head status of a phrase marker determining its behaviour, the
behaviour of the p-marker determines its head or phrase status. Since X-bar status is a
derivative notion, I showed that complex nominal predicates can behave like words with
respect to head-movement. Evidence from the responsive system and extraction
phenomena supported this conclusion.

Finally, I also took issue with several recent proposals that there is a single "be"
construction throughout languages. Many authors (Partee 1986, Heggie 1988, Heycock
tradition, assume that there is no structural difference between equative and predicative
constructions. I presented extensive distributional evidence that we must have both the
argument structure in (3a) (for predicatives) and the one in (3b) (for equatives) available in
the grammar:

3)  a) NP2 (NP1)
    b) COP(NP1, NP2)

On a related note, I claimed that the inverse/canonical alternation of Moro (1991) is not the
same as the Irish predicative/equative alternation. Similarly, I showed that ECP-based
accounts of non-verbal predication like that proposed in Heggie (1988) and DeGraff
(1992), simply cannot account for the facts of Irish.

As a final round-up of the facts, the following chart summarizes the relevant
analysis and distribution of the various Irish "be" constructions:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Non-verbal (Is)</th>
<th>Verbal (Tá)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Is platapas (é) Seán C platypus agr John &quot;John is a platypus&quot;</td>
<td>Tá Seán tuirseach Be John tired &quot;John is tired&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Predicate Movement</td>
<td>-Predicative X(P) undergoes head movement</td>
<td>-Verbal Tá undergoes raising, non-verbal predicate stays <em>in situ</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement for case (not shown above)</td>
<td>Subject NP moves to spec AgrP where it gets NOM case. Pronouns surface in é/í/iad form since they are not next to a tensed verb</td>
<td>Subject NP moves to spec AgrP for NOM case. Pronouns take sé/sí/síad form since they are next to a verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation</td>
<td>Individual level only. There is no light verb to introduce an event argument</td>
<td>Stage or individual level. Event arguments, delimiting stage level predicates, can be introduced by Tá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other notes</td>
<td>-Is is a complementizer. -An alternative of this order: Is é an platapas é C agr the platypus him &quot;He is the platypus&quot; is the result of weak pronoun post-posing</td>
<td>-some non-verbal predicates may also require the presence of an aspectual head.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The conclusions of this thesis have been far reaching, with radical changes proposed for the theories of phrase structure, movement and case, as well as for our understanding of the nature of copular relations. It is my hope that future research will extend these conclusions to related phenomena in other languages and other constructions within the grammar of Irish.