



University of Galway Arts in Action programme 2024/25

September 2024	Genre	Ticket cost	Open to the public?
'Au Naturel'	Theatre/Dance	Free	Yes
'Au Naturel' – repeat performance	Theatre/Dance	Free	Yes
Custodians of the Nomadic Musical Tradition	Music	Free	Yes
Shane de Blácam Lecture	Architecture	Free	Yes
October 2024	Genre	Ticket cost	Open to the public?
Afrodance – a celebration with Lapree Ncube	Dance	Free	Yes
Mountain River – A Rehearsed Reading and Panel Discussion	Theatre	Free	Yes
Dalija Acin Thelander: Creating Radical Sensory Experiences Through Dance	Dance	Free	Yes
Roundtable Discussion: The Immersive Tech Sector on the Island of Ireland	Dance	Free	Yes
Adam Buttimer	Music	Free	Yes
November 2024	Genre	Ticket cost	Open to the public?
Exploring Arvo Pärt's Music	Music	Free	Yes
Aimee Banks and Dearbhla Collins	Music	Free	Yes
Niamh Ní Charra in Concert	Music	Free	Yes
Reylta Live in Concert	Music	Free	Yes
Film Screening – A Pile of Ghosts (2021)	Film	Free	Yes
Declan O'Rourke: A Gathering of Song	Music	Free	Yes
Sander Saarments: Workshop	Music	Free	Yes
December 2024	Genre	Ticket cost	Open to the public?
Launch of 'Plays 2012–2024' by JP McMahon	Theatre	Free	Yes
Regional_Express VR Experience	Music/Film	Free	Yes
January 2025	Genre	Ticket cost	Open to the public?
John Conneely & Friends Live in Concert	Music	Free	Yes
Anna Falkenau and Steph Geremia in Concert	Music	Free	Yes
Two Truths of Thomas The Rhymer	Storytelling	Free	Yes
February 2025	Genre	Ticket cost	Open to the public?
Máiréad Ní Fhlatharta, Úna Ní Fhlannagáin & Máire Ní Churraoin	Music	Free	Yes
Laoise McMullin Live in Concert	Music	Free	Yes
Laoise McMullin Live in Concert 2	Music	Free	Yes
Candlelit Tales	Storytelling	Free	Yes
March 2025	Genre	Ticket cost	Open to the public?
Séamus and Caoimhe Uí Fhlatharta	Music	Free	Yes

Accessibility & Multi-Sensory Installations	Visual Art/Music	Free	Yes
The Beaux Strategem	Theatre	Free	Yes
Bád Shiobhán	Dance	Free	Yes
Siobhán McKenna Lecture featuring keynote Caitríona McLaughlin	Theatre	Free	Yes
April 2025	Genre	Ticket cost	Open to the public?
Poetry Reading with Áine Ní Ghlinn & Moya Roddy	Poetry	Free	Yes
On Translation, with Keith Payne and the University Translator in Residence	Literature	Free	Yes
Film Screening: The Forest Midwife Documentary followed by Q & A	Film	Free	Yes

Event listing, booking links, venues and details



[Arts in Action presents 'Au Naturel' \(Theatre\) – performance 1](#)

Thu 19 Sept 2024, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

[Au Naturel – performance 2](#)

Fri 20 Sept 2024, 19:00

Orbsen Building, University of Galway

Free

Au Naturel is a creative contemplation of the relationships we have with our bodies and with the earth & is back in Galway for Culture Night

Au Naturel is a creative contemplation of the relationships we have with our bodies and with the earth. Through a one-woman show of dance, theatrical storytelling, and immersive performance exploring those connections, it journeys through historical and modern-day beliefs, rituals, and

cultural constructions around menstruation and aging. In a celebration of all natural rhythmic cycles - in women, in men, in the environment - this performance challenges taboos and stigmas, and promotes caring attention and sacred connection to our bodyscapes and landscapes.

The performance space is in a lightly wooded section of grass in between the Corrib Walk and the Orbsen Building Car Park. The area is wheelchair accessible with two gravel paths from the car park. Audience members are welcome to bring camping chairs for seating in this storytelling-around-the-campfire vibe. Come prepared with weather-appropriate clothing and footwear, an umbrella, and a device for taking photos for an exploration in nature as a part of the performance.

Developed with the support of Galway Dance, the O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre, and Performance, Galway City Council, Culture Night, and of course - Mother Earth

This performance has been developed as a part of Michelle Palmer's practice-as-research PhD project at University of Galway's O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre, and Performance. If you are interested in learning more about this study, please read the plain language statement [here](#). Then, if you are comfortable in filling out a brief anonymous survey after the performance, please confirm your consent in the last section of the form. Your participation will supplement analysis of this performance research with deeper insights and embodied experiences of connecting to the body and environment. You can reach the survey either through a QR code at the event, or through the link on this Eventbrite page [here](#). You do not have to take part in this study. Choosing not to take part will not have any consequences and you can of course still attend the "Au Naturel" performance. You are more than welcome to be present without participation.



Custodians of the Nomadic Musical Tradition

Thu 26 Sept 2024, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

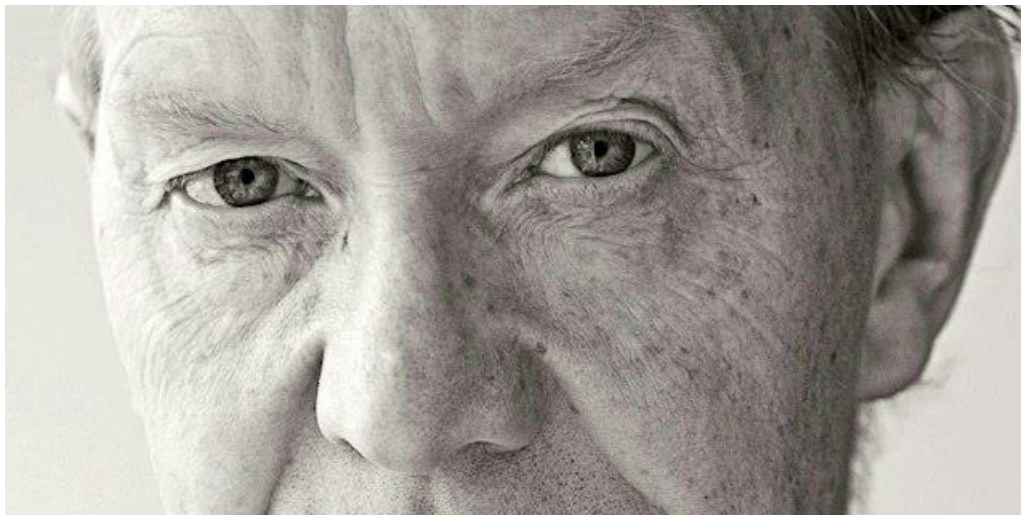
Misleor and Arts in Action presents

With the power to travel across borders, carrying stories, knowledge and traditions to new generations, music has always played a fundamental role in nomadic cultures around the world. Misleór is proud to present a dynamic and diverse circle of musical custodians, carrying the songs and sounds from their nomadic roots.

Kathleen Keenan Coming from a family of musicians, Kathleen Keenan's music draws from the rich song tradition within Traveller culture. She is an accomplished singer-songwriter who has been performing from an early age, and recently released her first album 'Beautiful Angels'. Budgarav Bayasgalan + Altangerel Batzorig (Khuur Mongolian Ethnic Band)

Blending morin khuur (horse-head fiddle) and traditional throat singing, Budgarav Bayasgalan and Altangerel Batzorig create music embodying the nomadic way of life that is deeply rooted in Mongolian culture. Janos Lang + Marius Otves (Ando Glaso Collective) Experience the vibrant spirit of Roma music with fiddle players Janos Lang and Marius Otves. Together, they offer a dynamic showcase of the rich fiddle styles from Hungary, Romania, and Transylvania, taking you on a captivating journey into the heart of Roma culture.

Misleór Festival of Nomadic Cultures (26-29 September, 2024) Misleór, which means 'wanderer' in the Irish Traveller language Cant (aka Gammon), is a festival that celebrates and connects nomadic peoples from around the world. Organised and presented by Galway Traveller Movement, this year's festival explores the theme 'Custodianship: Keepers of Culture' - please join us! For more information visit: misleor.ie



Shane de Blácam Lecture

Fri 27 Sept 2024, 17:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

in partnership with AATE presents a lecture with slides, originally delivered by de Blácam at the Royal Academy London in Oct. 23

Shane De Blacam formed the architectural practice de Blacam and Meagher with John Meagher in 1976. De Blacam's buildings are characterised by their simplicity and their celebration of local

materials. Throughout his career, he has been concerned with creating spaces for people to come together, including the sensitively restored Abbeylax Library in Laois and the elegant Samuel Beckett Theatre at Trinity College, Dublin. Before forming his practice with Meagher, de Blacam worked in London with the architects of the Barbican Centre, Chamberlain, Powell and Bon. He then travelled to America where he worked with Louis I. Khan for two years on the Mellon Centre for British Art and British Studies, Yale University, New Haven Connecticut.

Shane de Blacam was awarded the 2023 RA Architecture Prize. He will deliver a lecture with slides originally delivered at the Royal Academy London October 2023

To complete the line-up of the evening, architects Cian Deegan and Alice Casey from Taka Architects will be in Galway to present their work and join with our moderator Marko Milovanovic, for discussion.

Full line up for the evening;

4:00pm Public reception, presentation.

4:30pm Introduction, Marko Milovanovic

5:00 p.m Lecture Shane de Blacam.

Break

7:00 p.m Lecture by Cian Deegan and Alice Casey, TAKA Architects

7:30 pm - Round table discussion will follow with moderator Marko Milovanovic.

In partnership Arts in Action at the University of Galway

Biographies

Shane De Blacam was born Dublin 14th October 1945. B.Arch. (NUI) 1968, M. Arch. (PENN) 1970, MRIAI 1972, RIBA 1976, FRIAI 1986, HLFRSAI 1994. Grade 1 Conservation Architect 2003. Undergraduate School of Architecture University College Dublin 1963-68 Post graduate School of Architecture University of Pennsylvania USA 1969-70. Worked in London with Chamberlain, Powell and Bon, and Philadelphia with Louis I. Khan where Shane worked for two years on the Mellon Centre for British Art and British Studies Yale University New Haven Connecticut. 1972 returned to Ireland as first year master at the School of Architecture, University College Dublin. Commenced practice de Blacam and Meagher 1976. Shane worked in architectural partnership with John Meagher in Dublin for 45 years until John died, early 2021. They shared a friendship and close exchange of criticism and drawings and shared design responsibility for the work of de Blacam and Meagher, sometimes with others in the practice. Gold Medal and five silver medals for architecture and conservation including the Gandon Medal of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, Europa Nostra Silver medal, member of AOSDANA an institution to honour achievement in art of the Government of Ireland, and the Royal Academy London Architecture Prize 2023.

TAKA

Alice Casey studied architecture in TU Dublin (DIT) graduating in 2003. after spending time gaining professional experience in London and Dublin, Alice co-founded TAKA in Dublin in 2007. Alice has taught architecture in UCD, Queen's University Belfast, and TU Dublin – where she currently teaches in the masters in architecture and professional diploma in architectural

practice courses. Alice holds a PhD by practice from RMIT, is an RIAI architect accredited in conservation at grade 3, and is registered with the architect's registration board in the UK. Alice examines candidates for membership of the RIAI and has been a member of the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland since 2007. Cian Deegan studied architecture in TU Dublin (DIT) graduating in 2003. after spending time gaining professional experience in London (with Niall McLaughlin architects) and Dublin (with O'Donnell & Tuomey), Cian co-founded TAKA in Dublin in 2007. Cian has taught architecture in UCD, Queen's University Belfast, and TU Dublin, where he is currently a lecturer. Cian holds a PhD by practice from RMIT and has been a member of the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland since 2007.

Marko Milovanovic has been selected as our Shane de Blacam Resident.

Marko is an architect, artist, journalist and founder of @freeschoolof and @mylomark. The educational platform Free School Of celebrates dialogue as a fundamental form of knowledge. Marko has interviewed artists, architects, curators, and scholars and written extensively on culture, politics and urban regeneration. He teaches at the Architectural Association School of Architecture, Royal College of Art, and Oxford Brookes University.

The Shane de Blacam Residency has been created in collaboration with the Royal Academy of Arts, London. The project that will be showcased is "Temptation of Influence" by British architect, artist, and journalist Marko Milovanovic. It consists of a selection of video and audio recorded interviews, photographs, video documentation, and a visual and written essay on Influence within the Field of Architecture. This multimedia project is a collection of video and audio artefacts documenting the architectural legacy and philosophy of architect Shane de Blacam. This conversational piece examines influence across generations and cultures, focusing on de Blacam's work and his connections to his predecessors, such as Andrea Palladio and his mentor Louis Kahn, as well as his students, who are now prominent Irish and British architects.



Afrodance - a celebration with Lapree Ncube

Thu 3 Oct 2024, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Join Lapree Ncube, Zimbabwean performer and choreographer based in Galway, as she takes us on an embodied journey of Afrodance

Lapree Ncube is a Zimbabwean performer and choreographer based in Galway.

Lapree, a recent recipient of Dance Ireland's HATCH award and also a prestigious artist residency offers distinctive cultural fusion through the blending of modern choreography with traditional Afrodance using her own distinct style. She is an Afrodance artist and choreographer who shares her passion with other through her dance school SouthSide Moves in Galway and Dublin.

She has been creating choreographies for local artists and performed for popular artists such as Naira Marley and Burna Boy, while also celebrating black history by performing and teaching at Google & Twitter.

She is a member of the Irish Refugee Council and has collaborated a dance based project called ' Move Your Mood' in the summer of 2021. She has also worked with local communities while teaching children about preservation of culture and integration. We can't wait to welcome her to the Arts in Action stage!

Mountain River- A Rehearsed Reading and Panel Discussion

Thu 10 Oct, 16:00

Bank of Ireland Theatre, University of Galway

Free

Arts in Action and The Climate Bar Association on the role of law & arts in making our rivers and lakes pristine for future generations

This extended Arts in Action event will commence with the rehearsed reading of Mountain River - an hour long play exploring issues on rivers in Ireland by Gearoid Mac Unfraidh SC, to be followed by a chaired panel discussion on the issues raised. The discussion will be aimed at exploring whether innovative dispute resolution fora would be of benefit to the environmental protection of rivers and lakes, and whether there are models of arbitration or mediation which might be incorporated into Irelands existing fora to help to enforce laws against water pollution.

The panel discussion will be chaired by Judge Elizabeth Maguire, Circuit Court.

Panel members to include:

- Comhshaol – Clíona Kimber SC*
- University of Galway - Dr Rónan Kennedy*
- Michael O'Connor SC*
- Peadar O'Maolain BL*
- Chris Huxley*

This event is the final event of the Climate Bar Association (a specialist Bar association of the Bar of Ireland) programme for 2024, which has contributed to the Bar of Ireland's year of natural justice by holding four events, one in each of the North, South, East and West of Ireland. Its aim is to contribute to public debate on environment and climate protection law in Ireland and to support to the education and ongoing professional development of Barristers in the area of climate and environmental law.

Gearóid Humphreys (playwright) Biography

Iar cheimí de chuid Coláiste na hOllscoile, Gaillimh. Is Abhcóid Sinsearach (Senior Council) anois é ag cleachtadh i mBaile Átha Cliath. Tháinig Gearóid faoi anáil Tomás MacAnna nuair thosaigh sé amach sa drámaíocht ar Coláiste Mhuire ar Chearnóg Pharnell. Lean sé leis an spéis sa drámaíocht le Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe.

Gerard Humphreys was greatly influenced by the playwright Tomás Mac Anna. Humphrey's first play, Éiric, was produced by An Taibhdhearc in Galway. Séanadh, his play about war and remembrance, received a BBC Stewart Parker award. In the critically acclaimed Ledwidge, Humphreys explored the poet Francis Ledwidge's personal conflict during World War I and his early life as a trade union organiser, bringing to life the adventurous spirit of Ireland's greatest war poet. His play The Boys about young travellers falling foul of the criminal justice system premiered in 2015. When the Government closed the theatres in the middle of the pandemic in 2020 the New Theatre staged Humphrey's play about Jacqueline Kennedy, Jackie, at the W.B. Yeats Memorial amphitheatre in St. Stephen's Green. Humphreys is the author Clocha Ceangailte, (Baile Átha Cliath: An Clóchomhar Teo, 1994) an account of his time serving with Irish peacekeepers in Lebanon.

His Play One Para about the killing of the civil rights marchers in Derry premiered on the anniversary of Bloody Sunday in 2022



Dalija Acin Thelander: Creating Radical Sensory Experiences Through Dance

Thu 17 Oct 2024, 13:00

Bank of Ireland Theatre, University of Galway

Free

A talk and walk through Fields Of Tender, a durational immersive dance performance for neurodiverse audience and integrated audience

In Partnership with Baboró International Arts Festival for Children, Arts in Action are delighted to present a talk and walk-through the delightful setting of Fields of Tender.

Fields of Tender is an enchanting, playful, dance performance, which immerses you in an imaginary world of tenderness, affection and love. Within this awe-inspiring, sensual world, the extravagant and peculiar events interlace with ethereal and gentle ones. The performance flow welcomes the audience's curiosity as well as provides them with a calm and intimate space for relaxation. The abundance of dance, music, sounds, extraordinary objects and interactive video projections fosters the audience togetherness, easefulness and empowerment. Fields of Tender caters to all senses and embraces every individual, inviting you to savor the performance on your own terms. It provides a variety of experiences for all types of perceptions and it welcomes all kinds of behaviors.

Across its extended duration, spectators are welcome to enter and exit at their leisure, fostering a fluid and personalized journey through this mesmerizing landscape of emotion and exploration.

The performance is being created within my three-year academic research project Towards sensuous ecologies, Rethinking ableism in choreographic and movement practices, supported by the Swedish Research Council and in affiliation with Stockholm University of arts / Dance department.

The performance/research is concerned with:

new transdisciplinary artistic methods that are attuned to neurodivergent perception, enabling the experience of communality, inclusiveness and empowerment through immersion, choreography and body practices

challenging the body politics of a dominant, normative culture and its blindness towards neurodiverse experience and embodied knowing

sensual relationships between all the bodies and the space, placing at its core kinaesthetic response and empathy, and affect

exploration of new ways of performance structuring which draws on the notion of liminality and on 'open work' as an artistic method for devising contingent, inherently unpredictable and unrepeatable performance structures and frames

the notion of encounter and sphere of inter-human relations that take place within immersive environment

the conception of space as a dynamic, relational concept, which underlines that performance space is a transient spatiotemporal network of forces, vectors and tensions, processual rather than stable and, crucially, experiential. Such approach favors decentred, nonhierarchical interplay in a shared space and assigns an emancipatory role to audience activation, underlining that there is no right way of looking at the world, nor any privileged place

an approach which reflects a redistribution of agency in performance, decenters the human agent and declines the central position of the performer

'howness of time' in relation to durational format and immersive environments

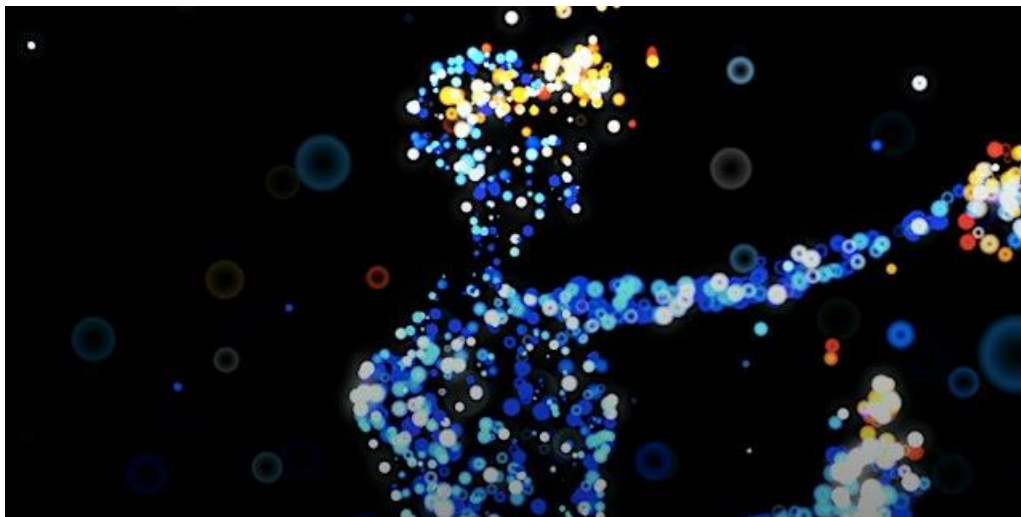
importance of integrated audience events, seen as the possibility of being destabilized by the 'radical alterity of the other', in perceiving the difference not as a threat but as a resource to question our own position in the world

immersion and interaction, as negotiated processes, can lead towards sensuous, ever-changing ecologies of an event comprised of 'fluid aesthetic structures'.

Baboró International Arts Festival for Children is Ireland's flagship arts festival dedicated to children and families.

Baboró is a registered charity which works year- round to bring meaningful arts experiences to children in our community and to support artists making work for young audiences.

Our annual international festival dedicated to children is the beating heart of what we do – it's what we work towards all year. To complement the festival, we support and nurture artists and creatives in Ireland to make excellent and innovative work for our young audiences. And we continue to reach out into our community in an effort to break down barriers to participation, so that everyone can feel that they belong at Baboró – that they are both seen and heard.



Roundtable Discussion: The Immersive Tech Sector on the Island of Ireland

Tue 22 Oct 2024, 12:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

As part of the Masterclass Series, join us for this Roundtable Discussion focused on the evolving immersive technology sector across Ireland

As part of The Centre for Creative Technologies Masterclass Series, join us for this collaborative roundtable discussion, focusing on the evolving immersive technology sector emerging across the Island of Ireland. This event brings together creative practitioners, researchers, and industry specialists from various fields within the creative industries to explore the opportunities and challenges presented by interactive and immersive digital experiences.

Speakers will share their experiences and perspectives on topics such as trends, opportunities for collaboration and funding, and the role of immersive technologies in reshaping storytelling, art, entertainment, and more. Whether you're already working with immersive technologies or are keen to explore their potential, this event offers a platform to connect, share insights, and shape the future of creative industries on the Island of Ireland.



Adam Buttimer

Thu 31 Oct, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Arts in Action in Partnership with Music for Galway are delighted to present this concert as part of their 'Irish Connections' series.

In Association with Music for Galway.

Adam Buttimer, tuba

Arts in Action and MfG are delighted to present young tuba player Adam Buttimer, winner of the RDS Music Bursary winner 2024.

This is the third time that MfG presents the RDS Music Bursary winner as part of its AiA lunchtime season and a rare opportunity to hear this instrument in a solo performance. Expect a suitably spooky performance for the day that's in it!

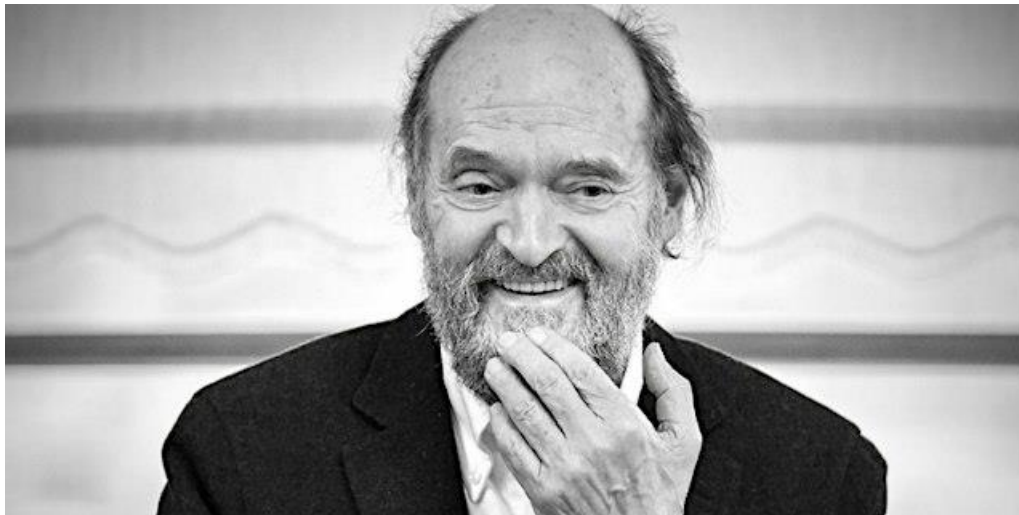
The RDS Music Bursary is one of the largest annual classical music awards in Ireland and Europe, and includes a performance opportunity with the National Symphony Orchestra, and a recital at the Centre Culturel Irlandais and is worth €15,000. Adam qualified for the bursary by winning the Senior Brass Recital in this year's Feis Ceoil.

Buttimer is in his fourth year of the BMus performance degree at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, studying with Francis Magee and Steve Irvine. He studied with Petri Keskitalo at the Sibelius Academy, where performances included a Janacek sinfonietta and project with Austrian new music ensemble Klangforum Wien. In 2022, Adam performed Vaughan William's Concerto

for Bass Tuba with Trinity College Orchestra. He was a finalist in the Dublin Brass Week Yamaha Concerto competition in 2023. Adam won the Audrey Chisolm award in 2023. He is a previous winner of the ChamberFest Dblin prize and recently performed at West Wicklow Chamber Music Festival.

In 2023 Adam was a co-founder of Banshee Brass, a multi-cultural brass quintet based in Dublin that debuted at the Royal Irish Academy of Music and recently recorded in Windmill Lane and performed in the Whyte Recital Hall. Members include Erick Castillo (Trumpet 1) Aoife Garry (Trumpet 2) Anastasia Despotis (Horn) Casey Trowel (Trombone) and Adam Buttimer (Tuba).

David Collins, Head of Wind, Brass & Percussion at RIAM said "I was delighted to see Adam win the 2024 RDS Bursary along with the €15,000 prize. Adam is both a superb musician and a great personality! He is involved in so many aspects across RIAM from his solo performances and work with Banshee Brass (RIAM Brass Quintet), to leading neurodivergent-friendly workshops for young people. I am excited to see what the next few years will hold for Adam at the outset of his career and for the tuba to take centre stage for change!"



Exploring Arvo Pärt's Music

Tue 5 Nov 2024, 19:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Delve into the life and music of Arvo Pärt through an engaging talk by Riin Eensalu and Kristina Körver of the Arvo Pärt Centre in Estonia.

Arts in Action in partnership with Galway Music Residency are proud to present this talk exploring Arvo Pärt's music.

Explore one of composer's best known and most loved works – Fratres – which will be performed earlier that day by ConTempo Quartet as part of Galway Music Residency's Lunchtimes with ConTempo series (1:10pm at St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, FREE). Written in 1977 in his new musical language called tintinnabuli, Fratres embraces not only Pärt's original compositional technique but also his spiritual roots and creative ethos in a broader sense. We

can listen to many versions of Fratres – for ensemble or orchestra, with or without a soloist – but in all these different forms and colours it represents something unique and essential to Pärt's musical thinking. The talk will explore the birth story of Fratres illustrated by the sketches and manuscripts held in the Arvo Pärt Centre's archive.

Hear why the Pärt family decided to establish a private archive in Estonia, and how it has grown into a public cultural centre that represents not only Pärt's music, but integrates the topics of creativity, religion, art and education in a broader sense. Find out about the mission of the Centre and the team's dreams for future and hear about why you should visit the Arvo Pärt Centre in Laulasmaa, on a peninsula in the middle of the forest.

Galway Music Residency in partnership with University of Galway's Arts in Action is delighted to present this talk as part of the new outreach initiative Lochránn. This event is supported by the Arts Council of Ireland's International Residency Initiatives Scheme.

Kristina Kõrver is researcher and archive specialist at the Arvo Pärt Centre since 2012. Riin Eensalu is the programme manager of the Arvo Pärt Centre and has been involved with the Centre since 2013.



Aimee Banks and Dearbhla Collins

Thu 14 Nov, 13:00

Emily Anderson Concert Hall (Upper Aula Maxima)

Free

Arts in Action and Music for Galway presents Aimee Banks and Dearbhla Collins live in concert.

Aimee Banks soprano | Dearbhla Collins, piano

Arts in Action and Music for Galway are delighted to welcome award-winning Soprano Aimee Banks and internationally renowned pianist Dearbhla Collins to the campus of the University of Galway to perform a lunchtime programme of popular operatic arias.

These concerts are relaxed performances, intended specifically to be sensitive to and accepting of audience members who may benefit from a more relaxed environment.

Biographies

Aimee Banks is a 22 year old Soprano from Galway, Ireland. She graduated with honours first class in her Bachelor of Music Performance under the tutelage of Kathleen Tynan, Head of Opera and Vocal Studies and répétiteur Dearbhla Collins at RIAM, Dublin. She is the winner of the Junior Class of the Charles Wood International Song competition 2023, The Irene Sandford Award and Bursary 2022, The Birr Lions Club Bursary at Birr Festival of Music 2022. Aimee was also a finalist in the Veronica Dunne Bursary for Young Irish Singers 2023. Aimee has performed in prestigious venues from Carnegie Hall New York to the National Concert Hall and was invited to perform at Ann Murray's Lifetime Achievement Award Gala Concert, as well as a recital for Blackwater Valley Opera Festival 'Classics at Christmas '23'. Aimee debuted as the young Giordano Bruno in Roger Doyle's Opera, 'Heresy', where she received commendation from Opera World, The Irish Times and Opera Today. She played the roles of Amore and Damigella in L'incoronazione di Poppea, Damigella in RIAM Opera's production of La liberazione di Ruggiero dall'isola d'Alcina. She was a member of the Blackwater Valley Opera Festival Chorus 2023 in Macbeth. In 2024 she played the titular role of Cendrillon by Viardot and is also one of the UCH Limerick Rising Stars for 2024.

Dearbhla Collins is one of Ireland's finest musicians. She enjoys collaborating with singers who have a real passion for song, among whom are Sir Thomas Allen, Sir Simon Keenlyside, Tara Erraught and Nicky Spence. Her performances have brought her to the US, China, Japan, and many European countries. Venues she has performed in include the Wigmore Hall, London, the Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, Michigan, the Lincoln Center, New York and Festivals including Blackwater Valley Opera Festival and Dublin International Chamber Music festival. Dearbhla is Artistic Director of the Veronica Dunne International Singing Competition. She is passionate about mentoring young vocal talent and is Artistic Consultant at the National Opera Studio, London. She has for many years been a vocal coach at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin and is also visiting coach to Mascarade Opera Studio, Florence and the YAP Opera Academy of the Polish National Opera, Warsaw. She has given masterclasses and workshops to singers in Beijing, Shanghai and Wuhan, China, in the Royal College of Music, London, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London, Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester and Opera North, Leeds. Dearbhla founded Dublin Song Series in 2013 and continues to curate it in partnership with the National Concert Hall and the Hugh Lane Gallery. The concerts in 2024/25 at the NCH feature mezzo soprano, Paula Murrihy, and the Irish debut performances of American baritone, Sean Michael Plumb and the tenor, Anthony Leon, winner of Operalia Competition 2022. In October 2017 she was awarded an honorary doctorate for her services to music in Ireland from the National University of Ireland.



Niamh Ní Charra in Concert

Thu 14 Nov 2024, 17:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Join us in Arts in Action with Galway TradFest with Niamh Ní Charra (Fiddle, Concertina and Voice) and Kevin Corbett (Guitar) in concert.

Niamh Ní Charra

Come join the festivities of Galway TradFest with Arts in Action as we present a fantastic afternoon concert of traditional Irish music and song with the world renowned fiddle, concertina player and singer Niamh Ní Charra and guitarist Kevin Corbett!

Niamh Ní Charra (Irish & English) hails from Killarney, County Kerry in the south west of Ireland. Strongly influenced by a wealth of local Sliabh Luachra musicians, she started playing music at the early age of 4. A multi award-winner on both fiddle and concertina, she toured from 1998 to 2006 as a soloist with Riverdance, before returning to Ireland where she is now based.

Her recently released 5th album "Donnelly's Arm", recorded under challenging circumstances during the Covid_19 pandemic and several lockdowns, has none-the-less received much critical and public acclaim. It was crowned Number 1 Trad Album of 2021 by Alex Monaghan, reviewer for several publications including Irish Music Magazine, Living Tradition and FolkWorld. She is the recipient of several other awards including "Instrumental Album of the Year" in 2014 in the Chicago Irish American News' TIR awards for her previous album "Cuz", "Female Musician of the Year" in 2012 and 2014, in the Live Ireland Music Awards, "Best Trad Music Act 2008" from UK publication The Irish World, and "Best Fiddle/Violin 2008" from the American based Irish Music Association. Her music featured on the programme "Ireland in Song" which aired on Aer Lingus transatlantic flights, and on America's PBS and a selection of her compositions were showcased in the Irish Traditional Music Archive (ITMA)'s Saothar series in July 2022. Along with touring extensively as a solo artist and with her own band, Niamh has also performed and recorded with The Chieftains, with Galician piper and Sony artist Carlos Núñez and with Basque musicians Ibon Koteron and Xabi Aburrizaga. She regularly gives workshops and masterclasses, has performed for several presidents and members of royalty and has

additionally coordinated concerts hosted by Irish embassies abroad, on behalf of the Irish government.

Niamh is also a professional archivist and her work in both the music and archive professions was recently recognised when she was elected onto the ITMA's board of Directors. We are proud that she is also a researcher here in the University of Galway.

Kevin Corbett - Guitar:

Kevin Corbett is a much sought after guitarist from Newport, Co. Mayo. He took up the guitar at 16 citing the classic rock players of the 70's and early blues players as major influences before a chance encounter led him down the road of traditional Irish acoustic accompaniment. Shortly after making this transition, Kevin toured extensively, working as a freelance session musician for many productions such as world renowned dance show Ragús, as well as musicals and theatrical performances. He has shared the stage with some of the top musicians in the country, including Michael McGoldrick, Matt Molloy and Seamus Begley among others. He began performing with Niamh in 2015 and is a core member of the group. He is also a member of the immensely popular Irish Trad band for children Speks and is somewhat of a rock-star among five-year-olds! In addition, he has taught at various festivals both home and abroad, and performs regularly on Irish television and radio.

Apart from his Guitar work, Kevin is also hugely in demand as a professional Graphic Designer, and has designed numerous album covers and websites for Irish Traditional musicians including David Doocey, Caroline Keane, Daithí Gormley and others. His cover design for Doocey's 2013 album "Changing Time" was listed in the top ten Trad Connect album des



Reylta Live in Concert

Thu 21 Nov 2024, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Arts in Action are proud to present Reylta Live in Concert this lunchtime. Step into a sweet and lamenting folk dream with us.

Arts in Action proudly presents Reylta Live in Concert.

Reylta is a folk singer-songwriter from Galway, Ireland currently based in Dublin. Her music combines sweet & lamenting sounds coupled with a complex alternative view providing the ultimate juxtaposition. She is deeply connected with Irish traditions and heritage - the poetry, the music, the landscape and the storytelling. These influences have nurtured a unique and haunting perspective, illuminated through poetic lyrics, luscious string arrangements and rich choral harmonies. The BIMM music graduate (songwriting) has been performing with an 6 piece band since 2017. Reylta began writing when she was eleven, with her musical influences including Florence and the Machine, Damien Rice, and Hozier. Reylta's band is an essential component of her work. The artist composes pieces, and each player brings their unique style, creating unmatched synergy. The band size varies, with each member influencing the tone and emulating trad performers with a classic, melancholic folk-pop vibe. Reylta released her debut album *Everything Unsaved Will Be Lost* in October 23 to incredible reviews, and marked the occasion with a very special gig in Dublin's Unitarian Church, Stephen's Green. Her Previous releases include 'Fools Games' in 2019, the music video to 'Semi Detached to The Flats' in Feb 2021.

In 2023 Reylta embarked on a theatre tour with Sinead Ann with two SOLD OUT shows in Smock Alley and An Taidhbhearc. She has enjoyed sold-out shows across Ireland, The UK and The Netherlands. Reylta won the Eimear Noonan Bursary prize in 2021 and became a recipient of the Artist Basic Income from the Department of Culture and Arts last year. In 2022 Reylta produced 3 highly successful shows and featured at Bloom Festival, the historic Ballyglunin train station, and The Irish Museum of Modern Art. Currently, Reylta is working with 3 Ireland and Sony Music #CityStages, was a finalist for Radio Novas Irish Music Month and is planning for a second album. You can find Reylta on all social media and streaming platforms @reylta



Film Screening - A Pile of Ghosts (2021)

Tue 26 Nov 2024, 18:30

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Delve into film composition and sound design through an exclusive film experience. The screening will be preceded by a talk.

A ghost story of urbanization. The last hotel, which has been condemned for demolition like the rest of the town, is still standing. The owner Charles imagines himself with a female visitor in the scenes of a Hollywood classic. The vexing interplay of documentary and fiction, in which construction workers, investors and real estate agents appear, takes place in contemporary China, where cities are built entirely on speculation, dictated by the fictions of capitalism. Directed by Ella Raidel.

Sander Saarmets, an Estonian composer and electronic musician, has ventured across international electronic scenes since the 2000s, studying composition and performance in Tallinn (EAMT), Stockholm (KMH), Lyon (CNSMD) and Hamburg (HfMT).

*He's known for creating music and soundscapes for various art forms, including film (e.g. *Everyday Mysticism & A Pile of Ghosts*), contemporary dance (e.g. *Ainukordus & Artefactourism*), and galleries (e.g. *We Will Always Have Paris & Ghost Hits Wall*). In the fall of 2020, his music was featured at New York Fashion Week. In 2023, his composition and the sky turned yellow (2022) was selected as one of the recommended works at the 69th International Rostrum of Composers in Hague. *Regional_Express* (a project by Ella Raidel, Petra Ardai and Marlene Rutzendorfer), an audiovisual experience on the regional train and in VR, is featured at the European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut 2024. Sander's Sound Performance for *Regional_Express* was part of the Opening Program of Salzkammergut 2024.*

Sound in all of its beauty, power and fragility is Sander's main field of interest, next to creating semi-open systems for both the players and the audience to get lost in.

He has released albums under the monikers of Muschraum & V4R1.

sandersaarmets.com

In Partnership with Galway Music Residency and the Houston School of Film and Digital Media, University of Galway.

This event is part of Galway Music Residency International Guest Artist Residency Programme 2024. This programme is supported by The Arts Council of Ireland's International Residency Schemes Initiatives. Galway Music Residency is delighted to partner with the Arvo Pärt Centre and the Estonian Centre of Contemporary Music. Thank you also to the Estonian Embassy in Dublin.



Declan O' Rourke: A Gathering of Song

Thu 28 Nov 2024, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Declan O'Rourke, one of Ireland's best-loved singer-songwriters joins Marianne Kennedy for a musical conversation about his life in art

The Final Arts in Action event of the lunchtime series before Christmas will be a special one. Declan O'Rourke, one of Ireland's best-loved singer-songwriters join Marianne Kennedy for a musical conversation about his life in song and literature. We will hear acoustic versions some of his most seminal songs, in the intimate setting of the O'Donoghue Theatre as well as what has inspired and moved him on his musical and literary journey. O' Rourke has been described by The New York Times as a writer of songs full of 'compassion, romance, a sense of mortality and a sense of history'. His award-winning album Chronicles of the Great Irish Famine illuminated an extraordinary series of eye-witness accounts, including the story of Pádraig and Cáit ua Buachalla in the song 'Poor Boy's Shoes'. His hit song 'Galileo' has been described by Paul Weller as the song from the past thirty years he most wished he'd written. Other notable fans of O'Rourke include the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Paul Muldoon, Imelda May, Pete Townshend and Eddi Reader, who described O'Rourke as 'one of the finest songwriters on the planet'.

Biography

O'Rourke has been crafting songs since his mid-teens, his attention snagged from the age of 13 when he was given a guitar by a priest whilst living in Australia. By 24, long returned to Ireland, he found himself at the centre of the fiercely creative Dublin music scene that proved a fertile breeding ground for the young artist and his contemporaries.

Performing extensively since across the USA, Europe and Australia, Declan O'Rourke's growing status is one of a significant global artist. He has released seven studio records to date, five of which have enjoyed top five status in the national charts of his native Ireland.

Arrivals (April 2021), reached Number 2 in Ireland and was nominated for International Album of the Year by the Americana Music Association, UK.

*Upon publication of his literary debut, *The Pawnbroker's Reward* (Nov 2021), reached number 2 in the Hardback Fiction bestseller's chart and stayed in the top five for 7 weeks.*



Sander Saarmets: Workshop

Sat 30 Nov 2024, 14:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Arts in Action and Galway Music Residency present Sander Saarmets in an open workshop. Join us for a relaxed talk with demonstrations.

Arts in Action and Galway Music Residency present Sander Saarmets in an open workshop. The Estonian electronic musician and composer is in residence with Galway Music Residency until the end of the year. If you have seen Sander in action over the last few weeks, you may have been intrigued by how he creates and shapes sounds with his array of colourful equipment.

And so we are delighted to offer the public the opportunity to take a closer look! On Saturday 30th November, you can join Sander for a relaxed talk with demonstrations followed by the chance to try out some of his synths and modulators for anyone who wants to give it a go. This workshop is open to the general public as well as curious musicians and students. See the schedule below.

2pm - talk with demonstrations

3pm - break with refreshments

3:30pm - your turn! (not obligatory)

Sander Saarmets, an Estonian composer and electronic musician, has ventured across international electronic scenes since the 2000s, studying composition and performance in Tallinn (EAMT), Stockholm (KMH), Lyon (CNSMD) and Hamburg (HfMT).

*He's known for creating music and soundscapes for various art forms, including film (e.g. *Everyday Mysticism* & *A Pile of Ghosts*), contemporary dance (e.g. *Ainukordus* & *Artefactourism*), and galleries (e.g. *We Will Always Have Paris* & *Ghost Hits Wall*). In the fall of*

2020, his music was featured at New York Fashion Week. In 2023, his composition and the sky turned yellow (2022) was selected as one of the recommended works at the 69th International Rostrum of Composers in Hague. Regional_Express (a project by Ella Raidel, Petra Ardai and Marlene Rutzendorfer), an audiovisual experience on the regional train and in VR, is featured at the European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut 2024. Sander's Sound Performance for Regional_Express was part of the Opening Program of Salzkammergut 2024.

Sound in all of its beauty, power and fragility is Sander's main field of interest, next to creating semi-open systems for both the players and the audience to get lost in.

He has released albums under the monikers of Muschraum & V4R1.

sandersaarmets.com



Arts in Action presents the Launch of 'Plays 2012-2024' by JP McMahon

Thu 12 Dec 2024, 17:30

Studio 1, O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Galway's Michelin starred chef and Drama and Theatre Studies alumnus Jp McMahon launches his latest book 'Plays 2012-2024'.

Arts in Action is proud to welcome Drama and Theatre Studies alumnus, Galway chef Jp McMahon to Studio 1 in the O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance for the launch of his latest book 'Plays 2012 - 2024', just in time to get the taste buds going for Christmas!

Along with the launch of his latest book, his first collection of plays, entitled Plays 2012 - 2024', Jp will celebrate the recent announcement that he is a winner of the 2024 PJ O'Connor Radio Drama Awards with his play 'The Last Room'.

Dr. Charlotte McIvor, along with Galway-based playwright Christian O'Reilly, will join the chef, restaurateur, and author to launch his first collection of plays.

*Jp McMahon has produced a wide selection of cookbooks over the years, including his most recent publication, *An Irish Food Story: 100 Foods That Made Us*. Meanwhile, the chef and food educator has also been honing his craft as a playwright. Between 2017 and 2021, Jp completed a PhD in Drama at University of Galway. His PhD focused on playwrighting and how food makes meaning in the theatre, restaurant and the gallery.*

*Titled *PLAYS, 2012-2024*, the collection is published by Godot Press and includes an introduction by Galway-based playwright Christian O'Reilly.*

Three plays in the collection ('Irish Food. A Play', 'Dante.Beckett.Lobster'. and 'Killing Lobsters') were all written as part of his PhD. The others were written over a lengthy period of time from 2012-2024, including 'The Last Room', which was recently announced as one of the winners in the 2024 PJ O'Connor Radio Drama Awards. The play focuses on two men who meet after travelling through a series of interconnecting rooms, unsure of where they are and what they are supposed to do next. In a dynamic back and forth, new pieces of information are gradually revealed as the tension between them increases.

*Speaking about the upcoming publication of his collection of plays and his recent win, Jp McMahon says, "I'm delighted to come third place in the PJ O'Connor Radio Awards. Radio has always appealed to me as a medium, even as a chef, to communicate, and it has been a significant boost as I launch my first collection of plays. The plays in this collection highlight another side of me. For a long time, I have lived a parallel life as a playwright. While working as a chef from my late teenage years, I started to write plays in 1998 after reading Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*. It is a wonderful realisation to finally see them in print. If I hadn't joined Christian O'Reilly's playwrighting group during Covid I may never have tried to assemble a collection. The group gave me the confidence to put my plays into the public realm. As much as I enjoy being a chef, I have always wanted to be a playwright, and I hope that in the future, I can pursue the latter as much as the former."*

PLAYS, 2012-2024 will be available to buy at the launch and from www.aniarrestaurant.ie/Books for €25 plus postage and packaging.

Keep up to date with the latest news by following JP McMahon on social at [@mistereatgalway](https://www.instagram.com/mistereatgalway)

About Jp McMahon

Jp McMahon is a chef, restaurateur, author, painter and playwright based in Galway, Ireland. He is the culinary director of the JPM Culinary Consultancy, which runs Michelin-starred Aniar Restaurant (@aniargalway) and the Aniar Boutique Cookery School. Aniar has been awarded a Michelin star every year since 2013. Jp works nationally and internationally on a range of projects developing food. He is also co-owner and chef patron of Cava Bodega (@cavaglaway).

Jp is one of Ireland's foremost food leaders and a prominent advocate for local food, food sustainability, food education and food ethics. He is committed to buying and supporting the best of local, sustainable produce and engaging directly with small farmers. Promoting and changing the face of Irish food is a topic high on his agenda. The Restaurant Association of Ireland awarded him All-Ireland Local Food Hero 2016. Jp is also a member of Euro-Toques Ireland.

Jp is the founder and symposium director of Food on The Edge, the internationally renowned food convention that sees visionary, change-promoting chefs and food leaders coming together to listen, talk, and debate about the future of food in the industry and on the planet.

Jp's other accomplishments include an Ambassadorship for Irish Food and an Ambassador for Spanish Food in Ireland. Jp is the director and founder of the Blas na Gaillimhe Food Festival, which takes place in Galway in May and November. He also co-founded the Galway Food Festival, which ran from 2012 to 2018.

An established author, Jp's works include the best-selling The Irish Cookbook, published by Phaidon in February 2020 (which has sold over 50,000 copies worldwide); Tapas: A Taste of Spain in Ireland, now in its fifth edition; An Alphabet of Aniar: Notes for a New Irish Cuisine, published by Godot Press in 2023; and An Irish Food Story: 100 Foods That Made Us, published by Nine Bean Rows, October 2024.



Regional_Express VR Experience

Fri 13 Dec 2024, 12:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Delve into Sander's film and soundscape through two exclusive film experiences with live demonstrations and talks by the composer.

Sander Saarmets, Galway Music Residency's International Guest Artist in Residence for 2024, is an Estonian Electronic Artist and Composer. During his residency this November and December, audiences can delve into Sander's film composition and sound design through two exclusive film experiences. In addition to a screening of A Pile of Ghosts - a film by Ella Raidel - on 26 November accompanied by a composer talk and demonstration, film and music lovers can enjoy an immersive visual and sound experience through a VR screening of Sander's latest project with Riadel - Regional_Express. This film will be shown every 15 minutes followed by a Q&A with the composer. Patrons will be accommodated on a first come-first serve basis.

In Partnership with Galway Music Residency, the Houston School of Film and Digital Media and

the Centre for Creative Technologies, University of Galway

This event is part of Galway Music Residency International Guest Artist Residency Programme 2024. This programme is supported by The Arts Council of Ireland's International Residency Schemes Initiatives. Galway Music Residency is delighted to partner with the Arvo Pärt Centre and the Estonian Centre of Contemporary Music. Thank you also to the Estonian Embassy in Dublin.

In Partnership with Galway Music Residency, the Houston School of Film and Digital Media and the Centre for Creative Technologies, University of Galway

Sander Saarmets is an interdisciplinary composer, sound designer & electronic musician hailing from Estonia.

Starting from the 2000's electronic scene of Tallinn, Saarmets has been on a constant sonic expedition that has led him to places like Taiwan, Sweden, France & Germany. He has studied electronic music at the [Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre](#) and is a proud member of the [CoPeCo](#) alumni.

During his journey, he has created solo and ensemble works, music and soundscapes for film (e.g. [Everyday Mysticism](#) & [A Pile of Ghosts](#)), contemporary dance (e.g. [Ainukordus](#) & [Artefactourism](#)), galleries (e.g. [We Will Always Have Paris](#) & [Ghost Hits Wall](#)) & runways (e.g. [YUFASH SS20](#) at [New York Fashion Week](#)).

In 2023, his composition [and the sky turned yellow](#) (2022) was selected as one of the recommended works at the [69th International Rostrum of Composers](#) in Hague.

His music and sound design is part of [Regional Express](#) (a project by Ella Raidel, Petra Ardai and Marlene Rutzendorfer), an audiovisual experience featured at the European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut 2024.

He has released albums under the monikers of [Muschraum](#) (Ulmeplaadid, 2005) & [V4R1](#) (Grainy Records, 2017).

Sander Saarmets is a member of [Estonian Composers Union](#) and [Estonian Electronic Music Society](#).



[John Conneely & Friends Live in Concert](#)

Thu 16 Jan 2025, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Join us on Thursday 16 January for a live concert from a Galway music legend & friends

Arts in Action is delighted to present John Conneely & Friends live in concert.

Join us for a special gig with Galway based singer/songwriter John Conneely, whose Midnight Mass gig in the Róisín is the stuff of legend.

Together we will go on a musical journey with Conneely as he takes us through his unique style and process. Having performed in many bands, playing a variety of styles he has developed a voice that is unique. Comparisons have been drawn with John Martyn, Jeff Buckley, Antony & The Johnsons to name but a few. More recently John has been immersed in the swing music of the 30's and 40's singing his own interpretations of some classic Jazz songs. He has released five albums, Murmurations being his most recent.

John Conneely will be joined by two musicians Maciek Zaworonek and Mark Sullivan for this special lunchtime concert.

Maciek Zaworonek, a talented musician from Poland, has been living in Galway for 18 years. A skilled player of harmonica, clarinet, and saxophone, Maciek's music is rooted in Jazz, Blues, and Pop, inspired by his grandfather, a professional accordionist. As a recording artist, Maciek has worked as a session musician on many albums for a wide range of artists in both Poland and Ireland, including Sharon Shannon's Sacred Earth, and released an R&B record, Puste Biuro, in 2019.

Mark Sullivan, originally from Banagher in County Offaly, has been a dedicated guitarist for many years. His musical journey has seen him delve into a variety of genres, including intricate melodies of Gypsy Jazz, and the soulful rhythms of Delta Blues. Recently, Mark has been showcasing his talents with JC Inc at the renowned Róisín Dubh in Galway. In addition to his live performances, he is also a sought-after session musician and a passionate guitar teacher, sharing his expertise and love for music with aspiring guitarists.

Hailing from the rugged west coast of Ireland, John Conneely has long been a vibrant fixture in the Irish music scene. With a rich history of writing and performing, he has contributed two original albums to the discography of the band Charis. He has performed on television, where most recently, he graced TG4's CUMASC: Seisiúin sa Black Gate, captivating audiences with a duet alongside the incredible Siomha. He performs a late-night residency every Sunday with his band, John Conneely Inc, at the esteemed Róisín Dubh.



Anna Falkenau (fiddle) and Steph Geremia (flute; vocals) in Concert

Thu 23 Jan 2025, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Enjoy a lunchtime traditional music described as “gloriously sublime” (Boston Reporter) and “free-spirited, unadorned glory” (Irish Times)

We have two exceptional Artists and scholars joining us this Thursday lunchtime. Dr. Anna Falkenau, renowned musician and Music lecturer here in the University of Galway will be joined by the wonderful flutist and singer Steph Geremia.

Bios

Fiddle player Anna Falkenau has been described as an “excellent exponent of traditional Irish fiddle playing,” and as “an ambassador for what is best in Irish traditional music.” She has released two critically acclaimed CDs, both albums receiving four-star reviews in The Irish Times. Her solo album – with the help of a cast of superb musicians, including Mary Shannon, Johnny ‘Ringo’ McDonagh, Holly Geraghty and Kevin Hough – was positively reviewed by the traditional music press around the globe: “virtuosic fiddle playing” – “Imagine Denis Murphy meets Martin Hayes and both win...!” (fRoots); “a deliciously stripped-down style” (Irish Times); “Her tone and control are glorious (SingOut!); “a gorgeous, intense rendition...gloriously sublime...” (Boston Reporter); and last but not least, Folkworld reviewed 'I Can Hear You Calling' as raising “the hairs on my neck at times, that primal edge on the fiddle particularly.” Anna has performed nationally and internationally, with artists such as Dolores Keane, John Faulkner, the late Tony Small, Nuala Kennedy, Grant Dermody, Holly Geraghty, Mary Shannon, and others and has contributed to John Faulkner’s latest album 'Storm in my Heart'. Earlier this year, she played at Celtic Connections in Glasgow with Liz Doherty & Fiddlesticks, and back in Galway, sessions with Steph Geremia, Kevin Hough, Holly Geraghty, Pádraic Keane and other wonderful musicians. Anna also lectures in music – with a focus on Irish traditional music – at the University of Galway.

Steph Geremia is an Irish multi-instrumentalist and singer highly regarded as one of the finest traditional musicians of her generation. Perhaps best known for her vibrant and versatile Irish

flute playing and as a mainstay of the critically acclaimed Irish group, Alan Kelly Gang, she has also impressed as a singer, presenting her own identity of a breathy Celtic vocal style mixed with a hint of her American roots. 2023 welcomed the release of her first solo album fully dedicated to song. The album is produced by renowned multi-instrumentalist, John McCusker (Mark Knopfler Band) and includes a star-studded cast of musical friends and cohorts. As a founding member of the Alan Kelly Gang, with whom she has worked for the past 14 years, Steph has toured extensively around the globe and performed at top world and folk music festivals. Steph has also toured with the Grammy award winning, The Chieftains, on their 2007 tour of America in partnership with all female group, Lúadan. She toured as a member of Scottish songstress, Eddi Reader's band from 2018-2020 where she was featured on flutes, whistles, sax and vocals and also in collaboration with the Alan Kelly Gang & Eddi Reader from 2010 to present. Steph has also toured, performed and recorded with critically acclaimed artists including Kris Drever (Lau), Johnny 'Ringo' McDonagh (De Dannan), Alan Kelly, Steve Wall (The Stunning), Ian Carr, Jim Murray (Sharon Shannon Band), John McCusker and Heidi Talbot, Manus Lunny (Capercaillie), Seamie O'Dowd, Donogh Hennessey (Lúnasa), Martin Brunsden (Hot House Flowers), Sea Road Sessions, Aaron Jones (Old Blind Dogs), John Joe Kelly (Flook), Sean Smyth (Lúnasa), Donal O'Connor, Michael Rooney, Ryan Molloy, Connla and West of Eden.

Other albums include, The Open Road (2009) and Up She Flew (2018) in addition to collaborative albums with the Alan Kelly Gang: Small Towns and Famous Nights (2011), The Last Bell (2014) and an EP with the Irish, Scottish, Swedish collaboration, Sea Road Sessions (2015).



[Two Truths of Thomas The Rhymer](#)

Thu 30 Jan 2025, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Arts in Action and Moth & Butterfly proudly present Two Truths of Thomas The Rhymer

Arts in Action are delighted to partner with Moth & Butterfly Festival to bring you The Two Truths of Thomas the Rhymer is inspired by a piece of masters research conducted by Daniel Serridge in August 2015.

Having followed the Scottish independence referendum and 2015 General election Daniel was interested in the current political relationship between England and Scotland, in particular for the people living close to each other, close to the border. For a piece of field research he decided to try and walk along the exact line of the border between England and Scotland, from Gretna in the west to Berwick-Upon-Tweed in the east. Each evening, he would attempt to tell the old border folktale Thomas the Rhymer to instigate conversations about nationalism and unionism.

During this walk he discovered a significant moment from his own life that was entwined with the narrative of Thomas, this became a solo performance. What appeared was a piece that dealt with notions of loss, grief and childish perceptions on the adult world.



Máiréad Ní Fhlatharta, Úna Ní Fhlannagáin & Máire Ní Churraoin

Thu 6 Feb 2025, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Join us for a very special lunchtime concert with three of trad music's finest! We will be enjoying all things Gaeilge & ceoil.

Arts in Action are delighted to present Mairéad Ní Fhlatharta, Úna Ní Fhlannagáin & Máire Ní Churraoin in concert. Performing a selection of traditional Irish music and song in their own unique styles.

Mairéad Ní Fhlatharta is the University of Galway Singer in Residence, based in Irish Studies and proudly supported by Ealaín na Gaeltachta. She is an artist who has a love of her roots, heritage, culture and the the tradition. Bean is ea Mairéad Ní Fhlatharta a bhfuil 'grá don dúchas, don oidhreacht, don chultúr agus don traidisiún as ar fáisceadh í thrí lasadh inti' adúirt Caitlín Ní Chualáin leis an slua breá a tháinig chun a gradam a thréaslú le Mairéad nuair a ceapadh í mar Amhránaí Cónaitheach Ollscoil na Gaillimhe.

She is delighted to be sharing the stage with two other wonderful female traditional artists. Máire Ní Churraing from Rath Chairn and Úna Ní Fhlannagáin from Inis Meáin via Galway. Tá ríméad

uirthi a bheith ag casadh lena cairde ceolmhara Máire Ní Churraoin as Ráth Chairn agus Úna Ní Fhlannagáin de bhunú na Gaillimhe.

Roinn Mairéad roinnt mhaith dá cuid amhráin le Máire agus í ina cailín óg. Tá siad ag súil go mór an stáitse a roinnt lena chéile. Beidh Úna Ní Fhlannagáin á dtionlacan ar an gcláirseach.

Beathaisnéis/ Biography - Máiréad Ní Fhlatharta

“Tá glór binn, sainiúil Mhairéad Ní Fhlatharta ar cheann de sheoda an dlúthdhiosca. Tá a cumas iontach mar fhonnadóir lena mbaineann sí casadh nua as filíocht ársa, cheolmhar na n-amhrán mar bhua eile aici. Tá an aois agus an ársacht a bhaineann le seanamhráin, tá an chroíúlacht agus an óige a bhaineann leis na hamhráin nua le brath ar rogha amhrán Mhairéad.” B’shin an cur síos cruinn a rinne Éamon Ó Donnchadha ar amhránaíocht Mhairéad Ní Fhlatharta sna nótaí a bhí ag gabháil leis an dlúthdhiosca, Ó Chaon Taobh, a d’eisigh sí in 2010.

Thug na hamhráin neart deiseanna do Mhairéad go dtí seo. Chuir sí aithne ar na hamhránaithe móra sean-nóis agus ar an bpobal sean-nóis fré chéile ag Oireachtais, Féile Joe Éinniú, Féile na Mí agus ag neart féilte ceoil eile ar fud na tíre.

Tá duaiseanna go leor bainte amach aici. Ba mhór an onóir di Corn Dharach Uí Chatháin d’amhránaithe, Corn Sheosamh Uí Éanaí, Cearnaire Shéain Óig Uí Thuama, Corn Chóil Neaine Pháidín, Sean-Nós na Fearsaíde, Béal Feirste agus Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann,

Bhuaigh sí Corn na mBan agus tá an dara háit bainte amach aici i gCorn Uí Riada.

Bhí sí mar aoi agus mhúin sí ceardlanna amhránaíochta ag féilte ar fud na tíre: Féile Joe Éinniú, Sean-nós Cois Life, Blas i Luimneach, Féile Chois Cuain i gCluain Cearbán, Scoil Samhraidh Shligigh Theas i dTobar an Choire agus ag Féile na Mí i Ráth Chairn. Cúis mhór bróid di amhráin ar an sean-nós a chasadh ag féile cheoil Milwaukee, i Lorient na Fraince, ag Celtic Connections i nGlaschú na hAlban agus sa gColáiste Éireannach i Lobháin na Beilge. Chas sí ag neart ócáidí níos gaire do bhaile, ina measc: Traidphicnic sa Spidéal, Féile Raiftearaí, Féile Tonnta i nGaillimh.

Beathaisnéis/ Biography - Máire Ní Churraoin

Máire Ní Churraoin is a proud native speaker from Ráth Chairn Gaeltacht in Meath. She is a well known sean nós singer and grand niece of the reknowned singer Darach Ó Catháin. Is amhránaí ar an Sean-nós í sa mbanna ceoil 'AnChéadGhlúinEile'. Ní Churraoin has a strong following and is part of a thriving community on TikTok posting content as Gaeilge.. 'helping to foster a love and appreciation for the language amongst Ireland's youth.

Ní Churraoin's content is a mix of chatty videos, Irish sean-nós singing and solo sun travel vlogs – all as Gaeilge. “I post only in Irish to promote Gaeilge as a vibrant modern language,” she says. “It’s important for people to experience Irish on a daily basis in a natural and convenient way.” Her advice: “Never apologise for your level of Irish. EVER. Your Irish is ALWAYS better than you think. Three phrases a day keeps the despair away” Veure menys

Biography Úna Ní Fhlannagáin

Is cláirseoir agus amhránaí oilte Éireannach í Úna Ní Fhlannagáin a rugadh agus a tógadh i gCreachmhaoil na Gaillimhe. Tá duaiseanna bainte amach aici ag Fleadh na Gaillimhe, ag Fleadh Chonnachta agus ag Féile Chláirsí Ghránard. Tá stíl shainiúil Úna fréamhaithe in iliomad gort ceoil ar nós thraidisiún cheol rince Oirthear an Chláir, amhránaíocht shean-nóis Chonamara agus, ar ndóigh, ceol na nua-chláirseoirí. Tá taithí fhairsing aici i dtaibhléiriú agus tá

sí tar éis ceol a sheinnt os comhair an Uachtaráin, an Taoisigh agus ealaíontóirí a bhfuil cáil dhomhanda orthu. Is minic di a bheith ag taibhléiriú in éineacht lena hathair John Flanagan, atá ina cheoltóir agus ina amhránaí aithnidiúil. Tá sí tar éis ceol a sheinnt le ceoltóirí cáiliúla eile ar nós Paddy Fahy, Michelle Mulcahy, Oisín Mac Diarmada and Eileen Gannon. Bhronn Central Missouri Celtic Arts Association cónaitheacht ealaíonta ghradamúil ráithiúil uirthi i 2004, áit ar chaith sí an samhradh úd ag taibhléiriú agus ag teagasc. Tá ceolchoirmeacha aonair curtha i láthair aici timpeall na tíre, sna Stáit Aontaithe agus i gCeanada; an Fhéile Éireannach is mó ar domhan, Milwaukee Irish Fest, ina measc. Chomh maith le sin bronnadh scoláireacht ghradamúil uirthi chun freastal ar Ollscoil Wesleyan, Connecticut, áit a ndearna sí staidéar ar chumadóireacht faoi stiúir Anthony Braxton, an ceoltóir finscéalach saor-snagcheoil. Bhuaigh sí Comórtas Sinsir na Cláirsí i bhFleadh na Gaillimhe 2005. Tháinig sí sa dara háit i bhFéile Chláirsí Ghránard agus ghnóthaigh sí céad onóracha ina B.A. Dána-Ceol i gColáiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh. Mar sméar mhullaigh ar a gcuid éachtaí ealaíne, thaibhléirigh sí a ceol úr-chumtha féin ag an 9ú World Harp Congress agus ag Féile Chomórtha Milwaukee Irish Fest 2005. B'í an chéad chéim eile a ghabh Úna ná tabhairt faoi iarchéim in oideachas ceoil in Acadamh Domhanda Cheol agus Dhamhsa na hÉireann, Ollscoil Luimnigh. Is in Inis Meáin atá Úna ag cur fúithi ar na saolta seo, áit a bhfuil sí ag fáil ionspráide ó thírdhreach creagach an oileáin.



Laoise McMullin Live in Concert

Thu 13 Feb 2025, 13:00

Siobhan McKenna Theatre

Free

Arts in Action & Music for Galway are delighted to present Laoise McMullin. She will perform works by Bach, Chopin and Albeniz on piano.

Arts in Action are delighted to present in association with Music for Galway Laoise McMullin, piano in concert. Performing works by Chopin, Bach, & Albeniz Laoise will take us on a musical journey, and we cannot wait to join her!



Copy of Laoise McMullin Live in Concert 2 (due to popular demand)

Thu 13 Feb 2025, 14:10

Siobhan McKenna Theatre

Free

Arts in Action & Music for Galway are delighted to present Laoise McMullin. She will perform works by Bach, Chopin and Albeniz on piano.

Due to the popularity of this artist we have added a second lunchtime slot at 2pm where, Arts in Action and Music for Galway will present the pianist Laoise McMullin, in concert. Performing works by Chopin, Bach, & Albeniz Laoise will take us on a musical journey, and we cannot wait to join her!



Candlelit Tales

Thu 27 Feb 2025, 13:00

Bank of Ireland Theatre, University of Galway

Free

Candlelit Tales brings the art of storytelling to life in a truly unforgettable experience. Join us for a lunch of ancient Irish myths

Arts in Action are delighted to present Candlelit Tales.

Join us for an afternoon of myth and magic this February 27th, as Candlelit Tales brings the art of storytelling to life in a truly unforgettable experience. Embark on a journey where ancient Irish myths and legends are brought to life through captivating live storytelling, set against the unique, atmospheric backdrop of the university. Don't miss this chance to experience this for yourself.

Candlelit Tales are a Dublin-based storytelling group that specialises in telling live Irish myths and tales set to an original live musical backing.

Driven by a passion for Irish mythology and melody they have refined their uniquely expressive, naturalistic and modern style of storytelling since 2014. A live original score drives the rhythm of the stories, weaving through the tales and sweeping the listener away.

These tales will make you laugh, make you cry, and maybe even make you roar.



Séamus and Caoimhe Uí Fhlatharta

Thu 6 Mar 2025, 13:00

Bank of Ireland Theatre, University of Galway

Free

Join us for an afternoon of sean-nós and Gaeilge as we kick off seachtain na Gaeilge with the fabulous Séamus & Caoimhe Uí Fhlatharta.

Born into a musical family, siblings Séamus & Caoimhe hail from the village of An Áird Mhóir in the Gaeltacht region of Connemara, County Galway. They are noted for their sean nós singing and their unique arrangements of both Irish and English language songs.

Séamus and Caoimhe are both accomplished multi instrumentalists, Irish dancers and All Ireland winning performers who keep the Irish language and their heritage at the heart of all their musical endeavors.

In 2023 they released their debut EP simply titled Séamus & Caoimhe. Siblings Séamus and Caoimhe Uí Fhlatharta hail from the Gaeltacht region of Connemara. They are noted for their sean nós singing and unique arrangements of both Irish and English language songs. Their performances benefit from the vocal tones that only families share.

Their Late Late Show performance in 2022 of the soulful lament Anach Cuain went viral around the world. They are also accomplished multi instrumentalists who keep the Irish language and their heritage at the heart of all their musical endeavors. In 2023 they released their debut EP Séamus & Caoimhe which was produced by Brian Whelan and Riverdance composer Bill Whelan.



Accessibility & Multi-Sensory Installations

Tue 11 Mar 2025, 12:00

Bank of Ireland Theatre, University of Galway

Free

In partnership with the Centre for Creative Technologies we are delighted to present this masterclass with Jane Cassidy.

A workshop that explores audio-visual immersive installations, with a special emphasis on embodiment and multi-sensory engagement. Jane will share insights from her recent community-based projects that involve collaboration with adults who have intellectual disabilities. Additionally, artists from Arts Alive will be present to discuss their current collaborative project with Jane, which focuses on using microcontrollers to create tactile musical performance instruments.

Jane and Arts Alive are supported by The Galway International Arts Festival Elevate grant and the Create Artists in the Community Scheme

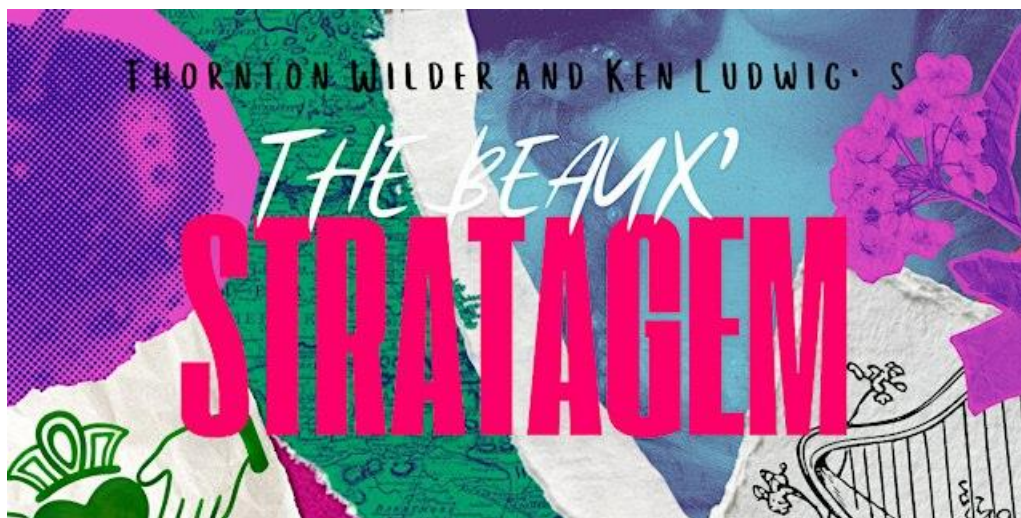
This session is run in collaboration with The Centre for Creative Technologies.

Biography

[Jane Cassidy](#) is a multi-disciplinary artist and educator from Galway. Trained in music and visual art, Cassidy earned a Masters in Music and Media Technologies from Trinity College Dublin and an MFA in Digital Art from Tulane University in New Orleans. Her work spans installation, video, music composition and electronics to create immersive audio-visual environments. Cassidy's main interest lies in multi-sensory work and creating a sense of synesthesia for the viewer, most often in response to the mysticism of nature.

Cassidy has had solo shows at the Knoxville Museum of Art, Tennessee; Pallas Projects Dublin; the Mobile Museum of Art, Alabama; the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Alabama; the University of New Orleans, Louisiana; and the Ann Arbor Film Festival, Michigan. She most recently collaborated with Bru Theatre on *Somnium* as part of the Galway International Arts Festival and with *That's Life* on their *Sound Nest* project at Nuns Island Theatre. www.janecassidy.net

[Arts Alive](#) is a community-based arts programme in Galway City. They provide an innovative programme of arts training where young adults with an intellectual disability can focus on both personal and artistic development. Arts Alive recently toured their multimedia exhibition *Identity* to Nuns Island Theatre, Baboro Festival and Mart Gallery in Dublin.



[The Beaux Strategem](#)

Thu 13 Mar 2025, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Arts in Action in association with University of Galway Drama and Theatre Studies is proud to present "The Beaux Strategem"



Bád Shiobhán

Thu 20 Mar 2025, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

Dancer Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín and her father, boat-builder Pádraig Ó Duinnín come to Galway to share excerpts of this dance performance.

Bád Shiobhán is an honest, tender and authentic performance touching on themes of care, tradition, power and play in familial relationships. The work centres around the relationship between choreographer Siobhán, her father, traditional boat-builder Pádraig Ó Duinnín, and a 3-hand West Kerry Naomhóg, a light-weight, wooden-framed, canvas-covered canoe usually rowed at sea on the west coast of Ireland.

In the performance Siobhán and Pádraig work with some of the boat's materials including 22 foot, spruce laths and 10 yards of canvas. Set to an original score by composer Neil Quigley, with visuals by Dervla Baker, Bád Shiobhán weaves the traditional into a contemporary performance setting.

The performance will be followed by a Q&A.

Artist Biography:

Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín is a dance artist based in Cork, Ireland. Her primary focus is on place-based and site-specific work manifesting in film and live performance.

Trained in the UK and Ireland, Siobhán has performed with various choreographers to include: John Jasperse & Liz Roche, Mary Nunan, Joan Davis, Jessie Keenan, Junk Ensemble, Laura Murphy and Mary Wycherley.

Her work has been shown at Salt Festival of the Sea and Environment (UK), Ullapool Dance Festival (SCT), Dublin Dance Festival, Dance Limerick, Echo Echo Festival of Dance and Movement, What Next Festival, Tipperary Dance Platform and Firkin Crane amongst others.

Siobhán is a recipient of the Decade of Centenaries Markievicz Award (2022) from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.



Siobhán McKenna Lecture featuring keynote Caitríona McLaughlin

Mon 24 Mar 2025, 13:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

Free

We are delighted to announce Caitríona McLaughlin, Artistic Director and Co-Director of the Abbey as the Siobhán McKenna lecture keynote.

To celebrate the 100th year of Siobhán McKenna's birth on the 24th of May 1922 the family of Siobhán McKenna established the Siobhán McKenna Award and Lecture Series to support the next generation of creatives in Theatre at Ollscoil na Gaillimhe, the University of Galway.

This event ultimately celebrates the achievement and potential of several generations of women in honour of the legacy of Siobhán McKenna's life and career. This year's lecture will be delivered by award-winning theatre and opera director Caitríona McLaughlin, and current Artistic Director and Co-Director of the Abbey Theatre, Ireland's National Theatre.

This year's Siobhán McKenna scholarship award bequeathed by the family of Siobhán McKenna, will be presented by Caitríona McLaughlin to this year's scholarship winner, Rui Chen, following her address.

In the spirit of Siobhán McKenna, Caitríona will also launch Charlotte McIvor and Ian R. Walsh's Contemporary Irish Theatre: Histories and Theories. Following the path laid by McKenna, this book is a feminist materialist and intersectional survey, and the first contemporary Irish theatre history survey in twenty years covering both the Republic and Northern Ireland.

This 2023-2026 scholarship and lecture series honours Siobhán McKenna, the late world-renowned actress of stage and screen who was also a theatre director, translator, and activist. The scholarship is awarded annually based on previous practical experience and academic achievement to one individual whose application materials gives evidence of current and/or future potential in acting, directing, translation, politically engaged arts or/and use of indigenous/native language or languages in the arts.

This event is co-presented by Galway University Foundation, the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies, Drama and Theatre Studies, and Arts in Action.



KRAINA

Thu 27 Mar 2025, 13:00

Siobhan McKenna Theatre

Free

Cahal Masterson, Piano is an Award winning Armagh pianist.

Cahal Masterson has developed an impressive performing profile in Ireland and internationally, with recent performances at the Centre Culture Irlandais, the National Concert Hall Dublin, Belfast International Arts Festival, and Cork Orchestral Society. In addition to soloist, vocal repetiteur and chamber work that has taken him throughout Europe, North America, and Suzhou, China.

Cahal is dedicated to championing exciting new works by Irish composers. He has collaborated on the premiere of solo piano, chamber works, song cycles, and even a new ballet commission with composers Anselm McDonnell, Stephen Gardner, and Amelia Clarkson. In 2021 Cahal recorded to great critical acclaim, the piano suite 'Ceaselessly Into The Past' by current Séan Ó Ríoda competition winner Anselm McDonnell. Also that year he designed and delivered a comprehensive programme geared towards the upper-primary level with MusicforGalway. This culminated in a combined performance of iconic childhood themed music inter-twinned with kids' responses to music via art and poetry.

In April 2024 he gave the world premiere of The Brahmdel Variations for solo piano by CMC composer Stephen Gardner, and he collaborated on the release of album Kraina by McDonnell. Cahal regularly collaborates with soprano Rebecca Murphy and they recently recorded for the upcoming release of Rebecca's debut album Traverserla Blancheur. Upcoming performances include with Rebecca at Queen's University, recitals with violinist Rachael Masterson in the cities of Belfast and Armagh, as well as solo piano recitals and masterclasses at Music in Fermanagh. Cahal looks forward to returning to Galway for performance.

Northern Irish Soprano, Rebecca Murphy, hailed by Opera Journal for her 'stunning delivery', is making waves across the UK and Europe on both the concert and operatic platforms. She was a

member of the Internationales Opernstudio at Oper Köln from 2020-22, and previously was a member of the Northern Ireland Opera Studio (2018-19). She is also a regular guest with the Ulster Orchestra and the Belfast Ensemble. Rebecca's recent roles on the operatic stage include Zerbinetta Ariadne auf Naxos for Garsington Opera, Najade Ariadne auf Naxos for Nederlandse Reisopera, Blonde Die Entführung aus dem Serail for Oper Köln, Frasquita Carmen, Sandmännchen/Taumännchen Hänsel und Gretel, Pünktchen Pünktchen und Anton, Woglinde Das Rheingold für jung und alt, Dritte Norn/Woglinde Götterdämmerung für jung und alt, and Helmwig Die Walküre für jung und alt –all for Oper Köln. Also a lover of contemporary music, she works regularly with Irish composers including Anselm McDonnell, Conor Mitchell, and Ian Wilson. Her debut album –Traverser la blancheur (funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland), is influenced by this style, as well as a heavy focus around Polish repertoire –another area of interest. Working closely with duo-partner, pianist Cahal Masterson, she has also featured on Anselm McDonnell's album Kraina, and has premiered the material at the Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris, as well as performing it in various recitals across Ireland and the UK. Rebecca is the recipient of the Arts Council Northern Ireland Young Musicians Platform Award (2022).



Poetry Reading with Áine Ní Ghlinn & Moya Roddy

Thu 10 Apr 2025, 13:00

Bank of Ireland Theatre, University of Galway

Free

Join award-winning poet and author Áine Ní Ghlinn for a special reading from her collected poems, with English translations by Theo Dorgan.

Arts in Action are delighted to partner with Cúirt International Festival of Literature to bring you this wonderful afternoon of poetry with Áine Ní Ghlinn and Moya Roddy.

Join award-winning poets Áine Ní Ghlinn and Moya Roddy for a special lunchtime reading. Poet and author Áine Ní Ghlinn will read from her collected poems, with English translations by Theo Dorgan. A recipient of multiple Oireachtas na Gaeilge literary prizes and the Patrick Kavanagh

Fellowship, she writes with lyrical intensity on themes of identity and resilience. A former Laureate na nÓg (2020–2023), she is a vital voice in contemporary Irish-language literature.

Buail isteach chuig léamh speisialta leis an bhfile agus scríbhneoir Áine Ní Ghlinn agus í ag léamh rogha dánta óna saothar filíochta le haistriúcháin Bhéarla le Theo Dorgan. Is iar-Laureate na nÓg í (2020–2023) í agus an chéad scríbhneoir sa ról a scríobhann i nGaeilge amháin. Is iomaí gradam atá gnóthaithe aici, ina measc Duaiseanna Liteartha Oireachtas na Gaeilge agus an Patrick Kavanagh Fellowship. Scríobhann sí le neart is le brí ar ábhair a bhaineann le féiniúlacht agus le teacht aniar. Is glór bríomhar í i litríocht chomhaimseartha na Gaeilge.

Moya Roddy has published poetry, novels and short stories and writes for film and television. Now with The Dark Art of Darning, her second poetry collection, she continues exploring themes of family life and the intricate layers of nostalgia and loss.



[On Translation, with Keith Payne and the University Translator in Residence](#)

Fri 11 Apr 2025, 13:00

Bank of Ireland Theatre, University of Galway

Free

Join us as we welcome Keith Payne and the University Translator in Residence, in conversation with Lorna Shaughnessy.

Arts in Action are delighted to partner with Cúirt International Festival of Literature to present *On Translation*, with Keith Payne and the University Translator in Residence.

As part of the Arts in Action series, we welcome Keith Payne and the University Translator in Residence, in conversation with Lorna Shaughnessy.

Literary translation allows us to experience an ever-increasing range of literary works from all around the world. Is it a tool, another art form, or something different altogether? Join Keith, the University Translator in Residence, and Lorna as they discuss the craft, the process and the business of translating.

In association with the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of Galway and Arts in Action



Film Screening: The Forest Midwife Documentary followed by Q & A

Tue 29 Apr 2025, 15:00

O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance

A 30 minute Documentary film about planting trees, hope and love

The Forest Midwife is an Irish documentary film about the wisdom of trees and the power of a human.

Three years ago, Irish Times contributor Catherine Cleary decided to buy the cheapest piece of land she could find in Ireland, with the dream of planting her own native forest. Catherine says “The vision was to plant for climate and biodiversity...you take one good step and nature takes ten”. This film follows Catherine's mission to create native woodland despite her family's scepticism and resistance from local farmers. In doing so she discovers her life's purpose, transforms her land, and inspires a community.

The story centres on Catherine's work on a farm in Roscommon. However, it's more than a documentary promoting the planting of trees. Ultimately, it is a story about a woman who listens to her inner calling, and about the relationship between humans and nature. It touches on the sensitive topics of farming and landownership in Ireland and honours the hardship of working the land. This film is a testament to the fact that art is a massive force driving environmental awareness.

Director Beta Bajgart has tied several different art forms into a concise piece that facilitates important conversations about biodiversity and climate awareness, as well as history and traditions. “As a documentary filmmaker, I want to create films that inspire and empower unheard voices. In this case, the voice is nature.”

Our conversation after the screening explores themes of biodiversity, community, and our relationship with the natural world. They spark interesting dialogues and ideas about environmental issues and how we can all play a part in protecting our planet.

