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Masters of Tradition

Celebrating Traditional Music in its Purest Form

Wednesday 15 – Sunday 19 August 2012

Bantry, Co Cork, Ireland

Box Office Opening Hours:

Monday – Friday 10.00 – 17.00

Booking:

Online: www.westcorkmusic.ie

Lo Call: 1850 788 789 [Ireland Only]

Telephone: + 353 (0)27 52788

Post: West Cork Music,
13 Glengarriff Road, Bantry, Co Cork, Ireland

Payment Options:

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Conditions of Sale:

Once purchased, tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded.

Refund will be given in the case of a cancelled concert.

Concerts begin sharply at advertised time.

Late comers may not be allowed into the venue until a suitable break in the performance.

Customers with limited mobility should contact West Cork Music prior to attending a performance, for assistance with access to Bantry House

For full Terms & Conditions go to www.westcorkmusic.ie

Traditional Masterclasses

Thursday 16 - Sunday 19 August
Mizen Beara Room, Maritime Hotel

Tutored by

Toner Quinn [fiddle]

Kevin Crawford [flute]

Séamus Connolly [fiddle]

Moya Brennan [singer]

€5.00 per masterclass

Our masterclasses are not instrument specific but are created as an opportunity for advanced students to interact with musicians performing at the festival. We expect each class to offer different perspectives on the music and to give students an opportunity to interact with high calibre musicians with specialised knowledge. This interaction is intended more as a dialogue where the artist giving the workshop shares thoughts on what music means to them, what they consider to be important, as well as sharing information on their backgrounds and careers. Students will have access to knowledge and information from performing musicians who very often don't teach and will be encouraged to ask many questions and engage in dialogue. These classes should also be informative and entertaining for members of the public who wish to attend as observers.



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Masters of Tradition

Celebrating 10 years of Traditional Music
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The festival acknowledges the support of



Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme will proceed as advertised. However, West Cork Music accepts no responsibility for any changes made due to circumstances beyond its control.

design: edit+ www.stuartcoughlan.com

Masters of Tradition 2012

Celebrating 10 years of Traditional Music in its Purest Form

Welcome to the tenth year of Masters of Tradition. The festival is ambiguously called Masters of Tradition and not for example Masters of Irish Traditional music because of our plan to eventually include music from other traditions. Last year we started with music from Italy and this year we will have music from Sweden and Spain. To celebrate our tenth year we are bringing back the great uilleann piper Liam O'Flynn who performed at the festival the year we started. The festival has expanded this year to also include three coffee concerts and a series of masterclasses. 2012 also saw the first tour of Masters of Tradition as a touring concert with performances throughout the US.

As has been the case each year we are awaiting great moments of spontaneous and soul-filled music making. Each year we try to include a broad spectrum of performers that represent various strands of the tradition. This year will be no exception as we once again explore the music from its very Sean-Nós roots all the way through to its collaboration with music of other traditions. As always the focus will be on the solo musician, the small ensemble and of course the music itself.

Irish music is a melodic-based music with only the necessary amount of complexity to convey its musical message. The aesthetic quality of the music suggests naturalness and unselfconsciousness and a desire for feeling that supercedes the need for technical polish. The Japanese aesthetic of wabi-sabi values the timeworn over the new, personal over the impersonal and natural imperfection over mechanical perfection. These thoughts can be applied as easily to Irish traditional music and might serve as a listening guidepost to this year's concerts.

In one of the earliest accounts of Irish music, Gerald of Wales who visited Ireland in 1146 AD made some unfriendly observations about the Irish people. In the case of Irish musicians however, his comments were more favourable and could as easily be made today:

'It is only in the case of musical instruments that I find any commendable diligence in the people. They seem to be incomparably more skilled in these than other people I have seen.. They glide so subtly from one mode to another and the grace notes so freely sport with such abandon and bewitching charm

around the steady tone of the heavier sound, that the perfection of their art seems to lie in their concealing it as if it were the better for being hidden ... An art revealed brings shame.'

Although the music of this period would likely have sounded different than its present day counterpart, the virtue of art concealed has remained a constant. It is not unreasonable to assume that what we will hear in this year's festival carries some common strands from that first observation.

But perhaps we should give the final word to the classical composer Bela Bartók who recognised the beauty in folk melody with the following remarks:

'Folk melodies are the embodiment of an artistic perfection of the highest order; in fact, they are models of the way in which a musical idea can be expressed with utmost perfection in terms of brevity of form and simplicity of means.'

Martin Hayes

The players

Malachy Bourke [fiddle]

Malachy was raised in Galway and taught fiddle by Frankie Gavin. He has released two CDs, *Draw the Bow* and *Bourke and Dwyer*, a duet with Dublin uilleann piper Donnacha Dwyer. In 2010 he completed a Masters Degree in Irish traditional music performance at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance.

Moya Brennan [singer]

Moya Brennan rose to prominence with Clannad. They adopted a pioneering approach to traditional music which has garnered them 15 million record sales worldwide and a Grammy in 1998. Moya has eight solo albums to her credit. Gently, yet persistently, her songs and her music are redefining Irish music.

Dennis Cahill [guitar]

Dennis Cahill is a native of Chicago, born to parents from the Dingle Peninsula. Cahill's spare, essential accompaniment to Martin Hayes' fiddle is acknowledged as a major breakthrough for guitar in the Irish tradition. Dennis has also performed with such renowned fiddlers as Liz Carroll, Eileen Ivers and Kevin Burke.

Séamus Connolly [fiddle]

Séamus is one of the world's most respected Irish traditional musicians and teachers. A native of County Clare and former member of the Kiltenera Céilí Band, he now resides in Maine. In 2002 he was named Traditional Musician of the Year by The Irish Echo. His CDs *Notes from my Mind* and *Here and There* were released by Green Linnet Records.

Steve Cooney [guitar]

Steve was born in Melbourne, Australia and in 1981 he bought a one-way ticket to Ireland where he joined Stockton's Wing as bassist. Since then he has popped up all over the place, with a major contribution to Sharon Shannon's first album, and performances and recordings with Dermot Byrne, Altan, Martin Hayes and others.

The players

Geraldine Cotter [piano]

Geraldine is a teacher and performer on the tin whistle and piano. She has recorded on over 20 CDs including her solo album *Piano+*. She is a researcher and teacher at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick. Like her brother Eamonn, she is a member of Shaskeen.

Kevin Crawford [flute, tin whistle, bodhrán]

Kevin Crawford is a flute, tin whistle and bodhrán player. Born in England to Irish parents who emigrated from Miltown Malbay, Kevin later moved to West Clare in his 20s. He joined Moving Cloud in 1993 and Lunasa in 1998. He is part of a new super-trio, The Teetotallers alongside John Doyle and Martin Hayes.

Cormac De Barra [harper]

Cormac De Barra is the third generation of harper in the family. He has performed with such musicians and bands as Dervish, Brian Kennedy and Clannad. He also hosts TG4's flagship weekly arts show IMEALL, now in its third season. Cormac's latest CD *Tarraing Téad* with Máire Breatnach was released in autumn 2010.

John Doyle [singer, bouzouki, guitar, mandola]

Now living in North Carolina, Dubliner John Doyle grew up in a musical family. With *Double Play* (2009), John and Chicago fiddler Liz Carroll achieved their first Grammy nomination. That year John was also *Irish Echo* Artist of the Year in traditional music. In 2001, he released *Evening Comes Early* and then *Wayward Son* (2005).

John Flanagan [singer]

John Flanagan learned to sing in the unaccompanied sean-nós style from his aunts, Sarah and Rita Keane, world-renowned exponents of the tradition. Reflecting John's grasp of the Irish traditional idiom, his vocal compositions have ultimately entered the traditional repertoire which inspired them. John's profound respect for his tradition give his singing a remarkable depth and sincerity.

Len Graham [singer]

Len Graham has been a professional traditional singer since 1982. He was a founder member of the group Skylark. Len has collaborated with numerous musicians and storytellers. His association with the late John Campbell brought storytelling and song to a world audience. His latest solo albums are *In Full Flight* (2008) and *Over The Hills And Far Away* (2001).

Martin Hayes [fiddle]

Martin plays in the distinctive lyrical style of his native East County Clare. He grew up playing traditional music with his father P. J. Hayes, leader of the famed Tulla Céilí Band. He is deeply rooted in the music he plays. Martin and American guitarist Dennis Cahill possess a rare musical kinship. Together they have garnered international renown for taking traditional music to the very edge of the genre. Martin is the Artistic Director of the Masters of Tradition.

Carmen Ibañez Berbel [singer]

Carmen was born in Andalusia, Spain. Her intimate song, to her own guitar accompaniment, reveals popular themes of Spanish and Latin American folklore. In the mid-eighties she lived in Dublin where her concerts built a bridge between Celtic Ireland and the Andalusian and Sephardic traditions of Spain.

Stephanie Keane [sean-nós dancer]

Stephanie started step dancing at the age of four. Born in Limerick, she competed in the World Championships as a solo and team dancer. Five years ago, Stephanie moved to Co. Clare and fell in love with the sean-nós style of dancing and has developed a unique style of percussive dance.

June McCormack [flute]

From Co. Sligo, June was recipient of the TG4 Young Traditional Musician of the Year Award in 1998 and has published two Irish flute tutorials *Fliuit and Fliuit 2*. June and her husband Michael Rooney tour extensively as the duo Draíocht. In 2006 Draíocht released the highly acclaimed CD *Land's End*.

John Doyle



Stephanie Keane (left), Maire Ní Chéileachair (right)



Triona Marshall [harpist]

Triona was principal harpist with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra for five years. In 2003 she was invited to play as guest harpist for the Chieftains. Since then she has toured with the Chieftains throughout the States, Europe, Japan and Australia. Triona and Alyth McCormack have just launched their first duo album called *Red & Gold*.

Maire Ní Chéileachair [singer]

Maire Ní Chéileachair is an accomplished sean-nós singer. She was singer in residence in the Muskerry Gaeltacht in 2001 and has been teaching sean-nós singing there since. She won the Oireachtas na Gaeilge Sean-Nós na mBan trophy in 2001. She is a regular visitor at singing festivals at home and abroad.

Liam O'Flynn [uilleann pipes]

Liam formed Planxty with Donal Lunny, Christy Moore and Andy Irvine. He has made over fifty recordings, including *The Poet and the Piper*, a collaboration with Seamus Heaney. He appeared internationally in Shaun Davey's *The Brendan Voyage* and many others. He tours regularly with The Piper's Call Band. In 2007 he was TG4 Traditional Musician of the Year.



Toner Quinn [fiddle]

Toner Quinn learnt fiddle with Tom Glackin. He toured extensively in Japan, the United States, France, Germany and Spain. In 2000, he founded the highly-respected music magazine, *The Journal of Music in Ireland*, which he edited until 2010. He is currently working on a solo recording.

Michael Rooney [harper]

Originally from Co. Monaghan, Michael has composed seven major suites of music in the past decade. In 2011, his new suite *The Spanish Armada: De Cuellar Suite* was premiered. Michael is in much demand as an arranger, musician and accompanist and with his wife June McCormack, is part of the duo Draíocht which has toured extensively.

The Teetotallers

Three of the most popular virtuosos in Irish traditional music, Martin Hayes, Kevin Crawford and John Doyle performed together at the 2010 Sebastopol Celtic Festival in California. Out of that informal encounter has emerged a formidable new trio. The Teetotallers represent a breathtaking summit of talent, skill and imagination. A debut album and tour by the trio promise to be among the musical highlights of 2012.

The Teetotallers: John Doyle, Martin Hayes and Kevin Crawford



Tulla Céilí Band

The Tulla Céilí Band was formed in 1946 by Paddy Ganny and P.J. Hayes. Touring all over the world, in 1997 they received a presentation from Mayor Rudolf Giuliani in New York. Their two biggest céilís of the year are held during the Willie Clancy Summer School. Albums recorded include *The Claddagh Ring*, *Sweetheart in the Spring* and *A Celebration of 50 Years*.

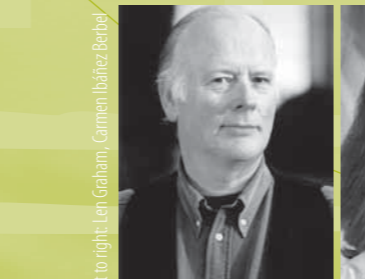
Väsen

Väsen's musical interplay is phenomenal; a combination of structure and improvisation that makes every performance unique. Established in 1989, Väsen consists of three Swedish musicians: Olov Johanson on the nyckelharpa (a keyed fiddle unique to Sweden), Mikael Marin on viola and Roger Tallroth on guitar. In 2009, the trio was back with a fresh studio album *Väsen Street*.

Tulla Céilí Band, below, Väsen (photo: Maria Camillo)



Left to right: Len Cahill, Carmen Ibañez Berbel



June McCormack and Michael Rooney



Michael Rooney



Steve Cooney



Liam O'Flynn

Wednesday 15 August

19.30 CEOLCHOIRM

St. Brendan's Church, Bantry

Martin Hayes [fiddle]

Dennis Cahill [guitar]

Len Graham [singer]

Toner Quinn [fiddle]

& Malachy Bourke [fiddle]

Throughout the festival there will be a marquee in the grounds of St. Brendan's Church serving refreshments

Thursday 16 August

10.00 MASTERCLASS

Mizen Beara Room, Maritime Hotel

Tutored by Toner Quinn [fiddle]

11.30 COFFEE CONCERT

St. Brendan's Church, Bantry

Maire Ní Chéileachair [singer]

Carmen Ibáñez Berbel [singer],

John Flanagan [singer]

Len Graham [singer]

19.30 CEOLCHOIRM

St. Brendan's Church, Bantry

John Flanagan [singer]

Michael Rooney [harp]

June McCormack [flute]

Liam O'Flynn [uilleann pipes]

Steve Cooney [guitar]

Friday 17 August

10.00 MASTERCLASS

Mizen Beara Room, Maritime Hotel

Tutored by Kevin Crawford [flute]

11.30 COFFEE CONCERT

St. Brendan's Church, Bantry

John Doyle [guitar & singer]

19.30 CEOLCHOIRM

Bantry House

Maire Ní Chéileachair [singer]

Carmen Ibáñez Berbel [singer]

Séamus Connolly [fiddle]

Geraldine Cotter [piano]

The Teetotallers [Martin Hayes, Kevin Crawford & John Doyle]

Stephanie Keane [resident dancer]

22.30 NÍOS DEANAÍ

Bantry House

Tulla Céilí Band

Stephanie Keane [resident dancer]

Saturday 18 August

10.00 MASTERCLASS

Mizen Beara Room, Maritime Hotel

Tutored by Séamus Connolly [fiddle]

11.30 COFFEE CONCERT

St. Brendan's Church, Bantry

Kevin Crawford [flute]

19.30 CEOLCHOIRM

Bantry House

Carmen Ibáñez Berbel [singer]

Moya Brennan [singer]

Cormac DeBarra [harp]

Väsen [nyckelharpa, viola & guitar]

22.30 NÍOS DEANAÍ

Bantry House

Cormac DeBarra [harp]

Triona Marshall [harp]

& Michael Rooney [harp]

Sunday 19 August

10.00 MASTERCLASS

Mizen Beara Room, Maritime Hotel

Tutored by Moya Brennan [singer]

19.30 CEOLCHOIRM

Bantry House

Martin Hayes [fiddle]

Dennis Cahill [guitar] & friends



Images, right, from top: Moya Brennan and Cormac DeBarra, Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill

Booking Form

Category	1	Qty	2	Qty	3	Qty	Total
DISCOUNTED ALL FESTIVAL PASS includes all concerts (excludes masterclasses)							
	213		167		131		
DISCOUNTED CEOLCHOIRM & NÍOS DEANAÍ PASS							
[excludes masterclasses and Coffee Concerts]	165		125		89		
Wednesday 15 August							
Ceolchorim 19.30	29.00		20.00		13.00		
Thursday 16 August							
Masterclass 10.00	5.00		5.00		5.00		
Coffee Concert 11.30	15.00		15.00		15.00		
Ceolchorim 19.30	29.00		20.00		13.00		
Friday 17 August							
Masterclass 10.00	5.00		5.00		5.00		
Coffee Concert 11.30	15.00		15.00		15.00		
Ceolchorim 19.30	29.00		20.00		13.00		
Níos Deanaí 22.30	15.00		15.00		15.00		
Saturday 18 August							
Masterclass 10.00	5.00		5.00		5.00		
Coffee Concert 11.30	15.00		15.00		15.00		
Ceolchorim 19.30	29.00		20.00		13.00		
Níos Deanaí 22.30	15.00		15.00		15.00		
Sunday 19 August							
Masterclass 10.00	5.00		5.00		5.00		
Ceolchorim 19.30	32.00		22.00		14.00		
Donation to Masters of Tradition [optional] Registered charity number 12097							
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GRAND TOTAL							

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