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Online Booking: www.westcorkmusic.ie

Masters of Tradition

Celebrating Traditional Music in its Purest Form

Wednesday 14 – Sunday 18 August 2013

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 52788/9

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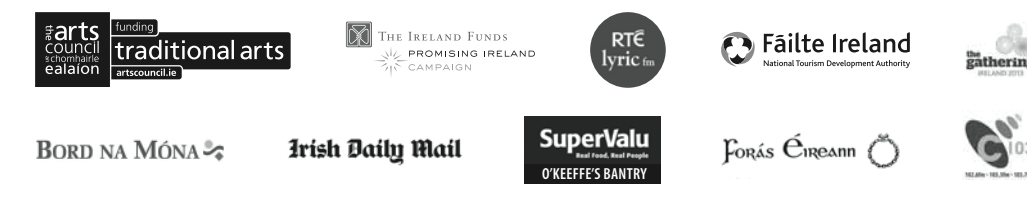
'We are dealing with the cream of the crop here, and it is a privilege to be asked to play in Bantry.' Paul Keating, *Irish Central*

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The festival acknowledges the support of



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design: edit+ www.stuartcoughlan.com

Masters of Tradition 2013

Celebrating Traditional Music in its Purest Form

Welcome to this year's Masters of Tradition festival. Each year we bring new performers to the festival, some you may already know and others you may not. It's good to remember that every year we have a number of events that people rave about and others lament not having attended. Even as Artistic Director I have no more ability to predict these highlights than you. I don't intend to miss any of those moments and I hope you don't either.

I've lived my whole life with this music and I continue to discover and learn new things all the time. The more I play it the more I love it. One of the great things about this music is the position it occupies in the musical spectrum between simplicity and complexity. It's simple enough to allow the musician to create heartfelt expression without having to overcome too many technical obstacles. This allows performers lots of opportunity to fully immerse themselves in the tune or the song. For me these compositions are gems of wisdom whose structures and melodies have been refined to the point of containing only

what is necessary. Yet they contain ample opportunity for spontaneity, for making of variations and for the gradual building of complexity as needed.

In live performance musicians perform to their highest level when they fully trust the audience. The more actively the listener engages with the performance the more deeply they will experience the music. There really isn't a passive place to occupy in this music. This is a music of participation whether you perform or listen. The listener is a key participant in this whole process.

Over the years performers have repeatedly told me they feel a very special connection to the audiences here in Bantry. I've seen and experienced this for myself so I know it's true. May this be another year of elevated musical experience for audience and performer alike.

Martin Hayes

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The players

Méabh Begley [singer]

Méabh comes from the Gaeltacht area west of Dingle in Co. Kerry. She appeared on the TG4 programme *Lorg Lunny*. She can be heard singing on many tracks on her father Séamus' albums and has sung in concert with Micheál Ó Súilleabháin at Féile na Bealtaine. She has recorded seven songs for the Children's Christmas album *Amhrán is Fiche Don Nollaig*.

Séamus Begley [accordion, singer, storyteller]

Séamus comes from one of the most musically acclaimed families in Ireland. An eager storyteller known for his sharp wit, he plays with an energy that is alarming. His style is unique and he is one of the finest players of the dance music of West Kerry. He has toured extensively with Altan, Steve Cooney, Mary Black and many more.

Paul Brock [accordion]

Paul's collaborations with Frankie Gavin culminated in their 1986 Gael-Linn classic recording *A Tribute to Joe Cooley*, one of the outstanding traditional albums of the modern era. In 1989 he co-founded Moving Cloud with Manus McGuire and has appeared with The Chieftains. His lecture *Irish Traditional Music in America - The Golden Era* has been widely acclaimed.

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.

Angelina Carberry [banjo]

Angelina was born in Manchester. She started on the tin whistle before taking up the banjo, following in the footsteps of her father and grandfather. She moved to Ireland with her father Peter and they recorded *Memories from the Holla*, an album that received critical acclaim and was described as 'a landmark recording in traditional music'.

Peter Carberry [accordion, banjo]

Peter Carberry is a highly accomplished accordion and banjo player. He emigrated to Manchester in the late 1960's and later became an integral part of the traditional music scene there where he played with the likes of Felix Doran, Michael Gorman and Des Donnelly Senior. He moved back to Ireland and has recorded *Memories from the Holla* with his daughter Angelina.

Denis Carey [piano]

A native of Co. Tipperary, Denis is a musician/composer/arranger with a diverse musical background from traditional to classical, jazz and pop. His compositions have been performed by orchestras including Symphony Nova Scotia and the Scottish National Orchestra. He runs his own Academy of Music in Limerick and his album of his own compositions *Moving On* features some of Ireland's leading musicians.

Stephanie Coleman [fiddle]

From Chicago, Stephanie has played fiddle with the all-female string band Uncle Earl. She began playing with Cleek Schrey after both moved to Brooklyn, New York. Their music eschews fusion and embraces repertoire, seeking to probe the corners, hollows and curvatures of traditional American music in search of new possibilities of interpretation.

The players



Clockwise from top left: Leo MacNamara; Ciarán Somers of Pipers Union; Singer Máire Ní Chéileachair; Mikie Smyth.

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.

Online booking: www.westcorkmusic.ie

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 gives his singing a remarkable depth and sincerity.

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*.

Leo MacNamara [flute]
Leo Mac Namara hails from Scariff, Co. Clare and for the last fifteen years has lived in Seattle, Washington. He began tin whistle aged five and flute at eight, greatly encouraged by his father Martin. His playing blends the East Clare style with Sligo/Roscommon flute techniques. He has performed across the U.S. including in Las Vegas at the National Flute Association of America's annual convention.

Manus McGuire [fiddle]
Born in County Offaly and now living in East Clare, Manus is a fiddler who blends dazzling technique with faultlessly far-ranging taste. He has recorded ten albums and was voted Male Musician of the Year in 2006 by the Irish American News and received the Bravo Award from Trad Magazine in 2007.

Triona Marshall [harp]
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 launched a duo album called *Red & Gold*.

Brian Mooney [bouzouki]
Brian Mooney is from Brosna Co. Kerry, which is the heart of Sliabh Luachra and on the doorstep of the vibrant West-Limerick musical heritage. In his late teens he bought a bouzouki and is now well known as a bouzouki and banjo player. Brian has appeared on TG4 and has taught many young banjo players.

Jim Murray [guitar]
Jim Murray is an internationally acclaimed Irish musician. In 2011 he brought his unique style of accompaniment to a world-wide audience through an on-line guitar tutorial. He has toured Japan and Australia with Séamus Begley and has recorded and toured with Sharon Shannon over five continents. He has released two critically acclaimed albums with Séamus Begley and performed with Sinead O'Connor, Altan and Mary Black.

Máire Ní Chéileachair [singer]
Máire inherited her love of singing from her family roots in Kilmamartyra, Co. Cork. She was singer in residence in the Muskerry Gaeltacht in 2001 and has been teaching sean-nós singing there since. She has won many prizes at Oireachtas na Gaeilge competitions and is a regular visitor at festivals at home and abroad.

Online booking: www.westcorkmusic.ie

Clockwise from top: Triona Marshall; Uilleann piper David Power; Guitarist Jim Murray with Séamus Begley; Denis Carey.



Nell Ní Chróinín [sean-nós singer]
From the Múscraí Gaeltacht of north Cork, Nell became the youngest ever recipient of the TG4 Singer of the Year award in 2012. Her recordings include performances on the 2010 compilation *Rogha Scoil Samhraidh* Willie Clancy and on Raw Bar Collective's 2011 album. Nell gives singing masterclasses at the University of Limerick.

Danny O'Mahony [accordion]
Danny O'Mahony is an accordion player from North Kerry. Imaginative and fearless in his interpretation, he is instantly recognised for his very distinctive style of playing. A presenter and producer of traditional music programmes for Radio Kerry, Danny has released a solo recording *In Retrospect* and, with concertina musician Mícheál Ó Raghallaigh, released *As It Happened*.

Pipers Union
● **Dónal Clancy** [uilleann pipes, guitar, singer]
Dónal grew up in a household steeped in music and began touring professionally with his father, Liam Clancy in 1996. He re-located to New York where he performed with Solas, The Chieftains and Danú. He returned to Ireland in 2009 and continues to perform solo and with the groups Danú, The Tin Sandwich Band and others.

● **David Power** [uilleann pipes]
David was a member of Liam Clancy's Fairweather Band and toured Europe and Asia with the band Gorumna. He directed and performed all music for the Broadway production of *A Touch of the Poet*. His debut solo recording *My Love is in America* was followed by *Cuachin Ghleann Neifin* in 2007. David was part of the *Masters of Tradition* tour in 2012 and 2013.

Online booking: www.westcorkmusic.ie

● **Ciarán Somers** [uilleann pipes, flute]
Rhythm and power are always to the fore in Ciarán's playing which has been described as full of energy and drive. He is on the teaching staff of the Willie Clancy Summer School and has been a member of a number of performing groups including Bearu and the Geantrai Players.

Mikie Smyth [uilleann pipes]
Mikie Smyth began playing the pipes over 21 years ago and has performed both as a soloist and with shows Riverdance and Ragus in over 25 countries across 5 continents. Mikie has recorded a solo album *The Wild Keys* and has also recorded with Donal Lunny, Maurice Lennon and Sean Keane.

Cleek Schrey [fiddle]
From Virginia, Cleek fiddles in the string band Bigfoot and has recently collaborated with the Irish singer, Iarla Ó Lionáird. He was a featured musician on *The Raw Bar* on RTÉ 1 and *Féilte* on TG4. He also fiddles and flatfoots in the percussive dance ensemble Footworks, a group that specializes in southern music and dance forms.

The Voice Squad [traditional acapella close harmony singers]
The Voice Squad is one of the most distinctive unaccompanied singing groups of recent times. Their unique sound comes from the mix of the two tenor voices of **Fran McPhail** and **Phil Callery** with the underlying bass of **Gerry Cullen**. They have toured throughout Europe, USA and Canada and performed at the opening of the Special Olympics in 2003.

Online booking: www.westcorkmusic.ie

Wednesday 14 August
CEOLCHOIRM 19.30
St. Brendan's Church, Bantry

Martin Hayes [fiddle]
Dennis Cahill [guitar]
Nell Ní Chróinín [sean-nós singer]

Danny O Mahony [accordion]
Steve Cooney [guitar]

'The rapport between acclaimed fiddler **Martin Hayes** and American guitarist **Dennis Cahill** was like two painters coating the same canvas: Hayes creating intense foregrounds and Cahill setting and shading them in perfect harmony.' *Sydney Morning Herald*



From left: Donal Clancy of Pipers Union; Angelina & Peter Carberry; The Voice Squad.

Thursday 15 August
CEOLCHOIRM 19.30
St. Brendan's Church, Bantry

John Flanagan [singer]
Mikie Smyth [uilleann pipes]

The Voice Squad
[traditional acapella close harmony singers]

Gerry Cullen, Phill Callery & Fran McPhail

'The **Voice Squad** represent the melding of two related but separate traditions — a British harmony-singing tradition (as exemplified by the Copper Family and the Watsonsons) and the unaccompanied solo singing tradition of Northern Ireland (as exemplified by such legendary artists as Paddy Tunney and Joe Heaney). By taking the traditional Irish repertoire and harmonizing it in a generally British style, the Voice Squad have created something new and absolutely wonderful. All three singers have excellent voices, but tenor Fran McPhail is the one who brings something totally unique to the ensemble; his voice has an eerie, almost horn-like quality that blends beautifully with the harder-edged voices of tenor Phill Callery and baritone Gerry Cullen.' - Rick Anderson, *Allmusic*



Friday 16 August
CEOLCHOIRM 19.30
Bantry House

Maire Ní Chéileachair [singer]
Triona Marshall [harp]

Angelina Carberry [banjo]
Peter Carberry [accordion & banjo]
Brian Mooney [bouzouki]

'This spellbinding album of four-string banjo music by Carberry ...shows how versatile the instrument can be, Galway's **Angelina Carberry** also demonstrates that ease isn't the same as easy. Joy flows through everything she plays.' Earl Hitchner, *The Irish Echo*

NÍOS DEANAÍ 22.30
Bantry House

Pipers Union
David Power, Donal Clancy & Ciarán Somers

'Some of the most interesting items of the evening will be our multi-part harmonies,' says David, 'as we all play the fiddle and the pipes and should generate a sound both pleasing and not a little unique.' That is to understate the effect they can create as each of the masters brings his own style to the group. The audience will be treated to a rare and pleasing harmony as they tease from their various instruments the best in traditional sound. Truly a gem of an opportunity to be part of a unique event, a union, not only of pipers, but talent, flair and style.

Online booking: www.westcorkmusic.ie

Saturday 17 August
CEOLCHOIRM 19.30
Bantry House

Steve Cooney [guitar]
Séamus Begley [singer, accordion & storyteller]

Jim Murray [guitar]
Méabh Begley [singer]

Paul Brock [accordion]
Denis Carey [fiddle]
Manus McGuire [piano]

'Master **Cooney** restores the ancient link between lyre and lyric, between poetry and performance, the rhapsody and rascality.' Seamus Heaney

'**Begley's** voice is buoyant, wrapping itself luxuriantly around the rich vowels of *Bháin Óig*.' Siobhan Long, *The Irish Times*

NÍOS DEANAÍ 22.30
Bantry House

American Duo
Cleek Schrey & Stephanie Coleman
[appalachian double-fiddling]
Cleek Schrey's unique style of fiddle playing fuses Irish stylings with the Old-time music of Virginia.

Top: Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill
Left to right: American duo Cleek Schrey & Stephanie Coleman; Sean-nós singer Nell Ní Chróinín; Steve Cooney; Brian Mooney

Online booking: www.westcorkmusic.ie

Sunday 18 August
CEOLCHOIRM 19.30
Bantry House



Martin Hayes [fiddle]
Dennis Cahill [guitar]
Leo MacNamara [flute]
& friends
'Martin Hayes combines an exceptional gift of personal expression with a prodigious musical ear... Great playing and remarkable creativity.' *The Irish Times*



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DISCOUNTED ALL FESTIVAL PASS includes all concerts [excludes masterclasses]						
	188	140	100			
Wednesday 14 August						
Ceolchorim 19.30	32.00	22.00	15.00			
Thursday 15 August						
Ceolchorim 19.30	32.00	22.00	15.00			
Friday 16 August						
Ceolchorim 19.30	33.00	23.00	15.00			
Níos Deanaí 22.30	16.00	16.00	16.00			
Both Friday Concerts	45.00	35.00	27.00			
Saturday 17 August						
Ceolchorim 19.30	33.00	23.00	15.00			
Níos Deanaí 22.30	16.00	16.00	16.00			
Both Saturday Concerts	45.00	35.00	27.00			
Sunday 18 August						
Ceolchorim 19.30	38.00	27.00	17.00			
Donation to Masters of Tradition [optional] Registered charity number 12097						
						Booking Fee €3.00
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