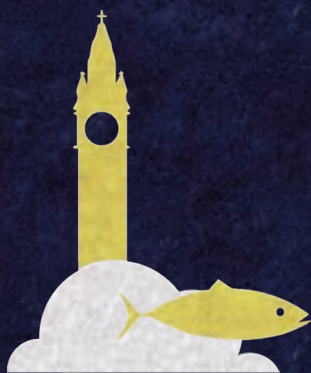
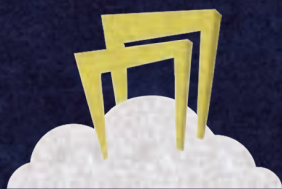



Belfast TradFest

23-29 JULY
2022



FULL PROGRAMME AT: BelfastTradFest.com

 @BelfastTradF

 #BelfastTradFest

 #BelfastTradFest

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Foreword



A message from the Artistic Director

Traditional music is a way of life for many of us.

The traditional arts enable us to celebrate who we are, where we're from and most importantly they afford us the opportunity to express ourselves. 'The Tradition' brings us together and helps us feel part of something, a community, a tribe, a multigenerational collective who share common interests and values, and who ultimately, derive great joy and pleasure from our native arts.

When we set about establishing the Belfast Summer School of Traditional Music & Belfast TradFest in 2015, it was our hope that we could annually attract the very best traditional musicians, singers and dancers from these islands and beyond, to teach, perform, engage with and inspire, the young and not so young musicians of Belfast and beyond. We are blessed with a unique soundscape here on the north east corner of this island, and we want to cherish, embrace and support it, share it with visitors, and promote it the world over.

I would like to thank all of our musicians, singers and dancers, our producer Patricia Murray, funders, partners, sponsors, venues, board, production team, volunteers and crew, without whom none of this would be possible.

We hope that you will come to Belfast City and it's many quarters! play a tune, sing a song, dance a step and cast an ear on the incredible talent we have amongst us here this week.

Dónal O'Connor

May 2022

Fiddle Monologues

Fiddle Monologues is a high energy one woman play mapping the journey of a violin through time and the female characters who possessed it. The play focuses on four women from 1679, 1789, 1889 and 1959 and their relationship with the violin and explores how music shapes their lives. The piece is entertaining with moments of poignancy, vulnerability, humour and reflection. All the music pieces performed in the play are original compositions by Sorcha Meehan.



Date | Sun 24 July

Venue | The Black Box

Time | 15:00

Age | 12+

Tickets | £10

Niamh Parsons & Graham Dunne | Sinéad McKenna

Niamh Parsons has come to be known as one of the most distinctive voices in Irish music. Her voice has drawn comparisons with such venerated singers as Dolores Keane, June Tabor and Sandy Denny. Described in the Boston Herald as both 'emotionally haunting' and 'tonally as clear as crystal', Niamh's albums have been 'must-have' collectors' items for any lover of songs and singing. She has recorded seven solo studio albums and two live albums to date, and has been a guest on numerous other albums. Niamh duets with her partner, fellow Dubliner, Graham Dunne—there is a spiritual bond between the two when they perform, which draws out the essence of the songs. We are delighted to welcome one time Belfast resident Niamh back to the city for this very special performance.

Sinead McKenna is a fiddler from County Tyrone and a recent recipient of the TG4/Belfast City Council Bursary Award. To recognise five successful years of Belfast hosting TG4's prestigious Gradam Ceoil awards, Belfast City Council along with TG4 have created a bursary scheme (2022 -2027) for young emerging traditional musicians in the city. Each year, three new recipients will receive support from the scheme. The objectives of the scheme are to enhance traditional music in Belfast, support creativity and cultural expression, professional development and to help promote Belfast as a UNESCO city of music. In partnership with Red Shoe Media, The Duncairn Arts Centre will provide support, media training and mentorship as well as producing a broadcast-quality music video for each recipient. We at Belfast TradFest are delighted to programme the current recipients; Sinéad McKenna, Sorcha Stockman & Brendan Kerr in our festival programme. Keep an eye out for these exciting young musicians over the course of our festival and in the years to come.



Date | Sun 24 July

Venue | The John Hewitt

Time | 17:00

Tickets | £15

Cathy Jordan Trio

Brendan Loughran, Stephen Loughran & Claire Loughran

Cathy Jordan is one of Ireland's most loved performers and has led Dervish as front woman through thousands of concerts, in hundreds of cities, in over 40 countries. She has 16 albums under her belt. Her love for traditional singing was instilled at an early age, especially by her father. Cathy began singing publicly at Feiseanna and concerts as a child. In later years she took to performing a wide range of material as a solo performer. In the summer of 1990 she met informally with Dervish and shortly afterwards, she was asked to join the band. She has toured the world many times over, bringing her brand of lyrical, charismatic and charming singing to delighted audiences from places such as The London Palladium to the stages of Eurovision and even to The Great Wall of China. We are delighted to welcome her latest project to Belfast and are sure that you'll be in for a real treat this evening.



Date | Sun 24 July

Venue | The Black Box

Time | 19:00

Tickets | £15

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EVERY
SATURDAY
AT 4PM



BELFASTTRADTRAIL.COM



Fiddle Concert in Memory of Seán Maguire

In association with
The Seán Maguire Music Society

The word 'genius' may be over-used these days, but there's no other way of describing the phenomenon of Sean Maguire in the world of traditional music. The Belfast man rewrote the book on fiddle playing after bursting onto the scene in the 40s with a combination of dazzling virtuosity, high creativity and passion for performance. It was a style which pushed the boundaries, nettled the fundamentalists and which he himself called 'progressive traditional'. Tonight we pay tribute to the man and his music with a concert featuring some of the finest traditional musicians on the planet. Also on the bill tonight is one of Ireland's most enigmatic and stunning singers Mary Dillon of Dungiven, Co. Derry.

Featuring Bríd Harper, Jesse Smith,
Mary Dillon, Dónal O'Connor,
Ciarán Ó Maonaigh, Méabh O'Hare,
Johnny Murphy (MC),
Sorcha Stockman & Brian McGrath

Date | Mon 25 July

Venue | Duncairn Arts Centre

Doors | 19:30

Tickets | £15

BYO

Fiddle Concert

In association with The Seán Maguire Music Society

In memory of
Seán Maguire



Brid Harper
Jesse Smith
Ciarán Ó Maonaigh
Méabh O'Hare
Dónal O'Connor
Brian McGrath
Mary Dillon
Sorcha Stockman
Johnny Murphy – MC



DUNCAIRN ARTS CENTRE

DOORS 19.30 | CONCERT 20:00 | MON 25 JULY
TICKETS £15 | BRING YOUR OWN **2022**



BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM



With Fife & Drum Concert

Tonight we explore the traditions of Scotland and Ireland through Bagpiping, Drumming, Uilleann Piping, Fifeing, Flute, Tin Whistle & Bodhrán, featuring some of the world's finest musicians.

Alastair Donaghy comes from Omagh, Co.Tyrone. He is currently a member of Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band, with whom he has won several major championships, including two world titles, the most recent in August 2018. Alastair has also had success on the solo scene having won titles at Junior and Intermediate Level, as well as success across the water, most notably a C Grade light music double at the Scottish Piping Society of London Competition, in 2015. Alastair was also crowned Young Piper of the Year in 2014. He now competes at Senior Level and was the winner of the Open Hornpipe and Jig at the Ulster solos in April 2018.

Mary Bergin – 'Just about the best Tin Whistle player this century' is how the Irish Times referred to Mary in a recent interview. She was born into a musical family and began playing at an early age winning many awards and competitions. Mary's first solo album 'Feadóga Stáin' brought out in 1979, holds its place as a classic in latter-day traditional music. Her second solo album was referred to as having Biblical status with fans of Celtic music. She has toured extensively in Europe, America and in Australia playing in concerts and festivals, and giving workshops and seminars. She has also given masterclasses in many Universities around the world.

From Belfast **Gareth McLees** began drumming at 8 years age playing for Glasdrummond and North Belfast Pipe Bands. He was taught by Stephen Rourke of Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe band, and the drumming legend, the late Bobby Rea, himself a 3-time World Solo Champion and Champion of Champions.

Harry Bradley was born in South Belfast. The vibrant recording heritage from the 1920s and 30s has had a huge influence on his flute-playing style as has the playing of musicians such as Seamus Tansey, Desi Wilkinson and piper Seamus Ennis. In 2014 he was the recipient of the TG4 Gradam Ceoil Traditional Musician of the Year Award.

Ian Burrows and **Andy McGregor** are Belfast TradFest board members and are highly regarded Highland Pipers and Smallpipers who have performed and taught music the world over.

Tara Bingham comes from Comber in Co. Down and learned her early music from her father Leslie Bingham, also a flute player. Her brother Terry, now living in Clare, plays concertina and accordion. Tara was influenced by musicians such as Paddy Tyrell from Dundalk (flute and sax), Cathal McConnell (flute) and Tom McHale (whistle) who visited the Bingham house and would record tunes on tape for her to learn. She is one of a group of accomplished flute players who emerged from the greater Belfast area in the late 1970's, and is renowned for the tone and smoothness of her playing.

Mikie Smyth began playing the pipes over 21 years ago in the Pipers Club in Henrietta Street, Dublin. He had the opportunity and privilege to learn from and play with many of the great pipers who were always so generous with their time and expertise. Mikie has performed both as a soloist and with shows (Riverdance and Ragus) in over 25 countries across 5 continents. He has recorded a solo album 'The Wild Keys' and has also recorded with Donal Lunny, Maurice Lennon, Sean Keane and 'The Rubberbandits' to mention a few.

Tommy Hayes has been at the forefront of traditional Irish music for over 40 years. He has performed and recorded with most of the great names in traditional music and beyond. He has been a member of a number of ground-breaking groups, including Stockton's Wing, Puck Fair, Altan, Liam O' Flynn and the Pipers Call Band and the Eileen Ivers Band.

BELFAST TRADFEST PRESENTS

WITH FIFE & DRUM



THE STRAND ARTS CENTRE

ALASTAIR DONAGHY | TOMMY HAYES | MARY BERGIN
IAN BURROWS & ANDY MCGREGOR (MC) | TARA BINGHAM
HARRY BRADLEY | GARETH MGLEES | MIKIE SMYTH

TUES 26 JULY
2022

BYO | TICKETS £15.00 | DOORS OPEN 19:30

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM

STRAND
ARTS CENTRE

Belfast
TradFest

A stylized graphic of a harp, rendered in shades of green and teal. The harp is positioned vertically on the left side of the page, with its headstock at the top and its base at the bottom. The strings are represented by vertical lines, and the body of the harp is a large, curved shape. The background is a dark, textured brown.

Belfast Harp Festival Féile Cruitirí Bhéal Feirste

The Belfast Harp Festival, called by contemporary writers “The Belfast Harpers Assembly”, 11–14 July 1792, was a four-day event organised by merchant class Presbyterians Dr. James McDonnell, Robert Bradshaw and Henry Joy, (proprietor of the Belfast News-Letter and uncle to Henry Joy McCracken). It’s purpose was to revive an interest in harp music and to collect the music of the harpers and note their style of playing for future generations. What was hoped to be a revival, proved to be a farewell to the old tradition. Eleven harpers attended. Seven were blind. The eldest, Denis Hempson (1695 -1807) from Derry, was 97. He was the only one to use the ancient way of playing with the fingernails. By far the most important thing that happened at the festival was that a young man from Armagh named Edward Bunting(1773-1843), was employed to write down the music of the harpers, and to make notes on their instrumental techniques. He dedicated the rest of his life to collecting and preserving Irish music. He published three volumes of music, collectively known as the Ancient Music of Ireland.

Tonight we pay tribute to that event and the Bunting Collection.

Date | Tue 26 July

Venue | Áras Mhic Reachtain

Doors | 19:30

Tickets | £15

BYO

BELFAST TRADFEST PRESENTS



BELFAST HARP FESTIVAL
FÉILE CRUITIRÍ BHÉAL FEIRSTE



MÁIRE NÍ CHATHASAIGH | STEVE COONEY | EDWINA GUCKIAN
BRÌGHDE CHAIMBEUL | MUIREANN NIC AMHLAOIBH
DOIREANN NI GHLACAIN - BEAN A'TÍ

TUES 26 JULY
2022

ÁRAS MHIC REACHTAIN
DOORS OPEN 19.30 | TICKETS £15 | BYO

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM



Ceol Beirte Concert

When you consider duos in traditional music, one can't help but think of the likes of; Dennis Murphy & Julia Clifford, Peter Horan & Fred Finn, and Maggie Barry & Michael Gorman. The musical understanding between two musicians can be an incredibly powerful thing to witness. Tonight's concert features some of the finest duos in traditional music circles today.

Award-winning musicians **Caitlín Nic Gabhann & Ciarán Ó Maonaigh** are quickly becoming one of the foremost duets in Irish music today. Their music & dance is full of spirit, soul and life. Together on fiddle, concertina & dance, they breath fire into traditional tunes, combining their arts with enough energy to fire a small steam engine!

Síle Denvir & Barry Kerr come together as a dynamic duet to deliver a potent combination of tradition and innovation. Their songs and instrumental music on uilleann pipes, flute, and harp are supported by subtle and innovative motif based arrangements, sending listeners soaring through the emotive and hypnotic to the driving and vivacious.

Dave Munnelly & Steve Cooney – Accordion & Guitar – what more can we say except to say that sparks will fly!!

Méabh O'Hare & Ann Marie McCormack – Two fantastic fiddlers Belfast meets Ennis in a stage performance that mirrors the twin relationship between, arguably, Ireland's leading urban hot spots, for traditional music. Expect bows to be flailing and plenty of craic.

Date | Wed 27 July

Venue | An Droichead

Doors | 19:30

Tickets | £15

BYO

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM

BELFAST TRADFEST PRESENTS

CEOL BEIRTE



CIARÁN Ó MAONAIGH &
CAITLÍN NIC GABHANN



BARRY KERR
& SÍLE DENVIR



MÉABH O'HARE &
ANNE MARIE MCCORMACK



DAVE MUNNELLY
& STEVE COONEY

WED 27 JULY
2022

AN DROICHEAD

DOORS OPEN 19:30 | TICKETS £15.00

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM



BELFAST TRADFEST PRESENTS
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
BELFAST PRIDE

PRIDE Céilí

OH YEAH MUSIC CENTRE | DOORS: 20:00



WITH DANCES CALLED BY RONAN EASTWOOD

WED 27 JULY
2022

CÉILÍ WITH
CIARAN KELLY & FRIENDS

TICKETS £5 BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM



Dàibhidh Stiùbhard Miadhachlughain O'Donnell

Dàibhidh Stiùbhard is a singer, hailing originally from “a place with no name” (where there’s not even a road sign!) – Tullywiggan in Co. Tyrone. He’s regarded as a traditional singer, but even this ready tag turns out to be something of a conundrum, if not a contradiction in terms, since, as he candidly admits on the liner notes of his debut album: “I was not born into or brought up with the tradition. I came from a Church Of Ireland background, yet traditional music did creep into my childhood. As I grew older, I slowly reclaimed the right to own my native culture and language... and yet at times, I feel like An Sionnach Dubh (The Black Fox). A strange little creature outside the norm, finding my way through the vast rich realm of songs native to these islands.”

Miadhachlughain O'Donnell is a brilliant young flute player and traditional singer from Castlewellan Co. Down. Growing up steeped in and surrounded by traditional music, it is no coincidence that she is blossoming into a consummate and charismatic performer. Her mother Tiona McSherry was the lead singer in the highly acclaimed 90's band Tamalin and her uncle John McSherry is regarded as one of the finest Uilleann pipers of all time, and has variously been a member of Dónal Lunny's Coolfin, Lúnasa, At First Light, Ulaid and The Ollam.

We're excited to see what these two brilliant emerging artists have in store for us tonight.



Date | Thur 28 July

Venue | Sunflower Folk Club

Doors | 19:30

Tickets | £10

Full bar available

Flutopia Concert

Belfast is synonymous with the sound of the flute. Energy and creativity are very much the hallmarks of the Belfast style. The music of this city invariably has a persistent and hypnotic pulse which draws the listener into a trance like state, reminiscent of that cast by the chanting of Buddhist monks. Tonight's concert features some of the world's best traditional flute players and whistlers.

Harry Bradley's distinctive rhythmic playing style is influenced by early recordings of Irish music, and by the great flute players of counties Galway, Sligo and Leitrim. In 2014 he received the Gramad Ceoil TG4 Musician of the Year award for his contribution to traditional music.

Mary Bergin – 'Just about the best Tin Whistle player this century' is how the Irish Times referred to Mary in a recent interview. She was born into a very musical family and began playing at an early age winning many awards in Oireachtas and Fleadh Ceoil competitions, including the All-Ireland Championships at Junior and Senior level.

Tara Bingham comes from Co. Down and learned her early music from her father Leslie Bingham, also a flute player. Tara was influenced by musicians such as Paddy Tyrell from Dundalk, Cathal McConnell and Tom McHale who visited the Bingham house and would record tunes on tape for her to learn.

Barry Kerr is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, singer and painter. Steeped in the traditions of this island, Barry Kerr's creative work – both as a painter and as a musician – expresses the very heart of Irish life. Originating from the southern shores of Lough Neagh in Co. Armagh, Kerr is now living and working in Connemara, Co. Galway.

Maria Rafferty has long been a stalwart of the Belfast flute community. Having studied with the McPeake School of Music, and having had the opportunity to spend many years in the company of well-known and respected musicians from the locality, Maria has a wonderful repertoire and style which she passes on to the many students she teaches in the greater Belfast area and beyond.

Brendan Kerr was introduced to traditional Irish music through Irish dancing from a very young age, competing up to world championship level until he was 18. Through dance, he discovered traditional music and wanted to learn the tunes to which he had spent years dancing to.

Well-known as one of the greatest bodhran players of all time,

Tommy Hayes has been at the forefront of traditional Irish music for over 40 years. [Ten Years Band](#)

BELFAST TRADFEST PRESENTS



FLUTOPIA



**HARRY BRADLEY | MARY BERGIN | BARRY KERR
TARA BINGHAM | MARIA RAFFERTY | BRENDAN KERR
TOMMY HAYES & BRIAN MCGRATH**

THURS 28 JULY
2022

THE DEER'S HEAD
DOORS OPEN 18.00 | TICKETS £15.00

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM



Tá Bean in Éirinn

Taken from a line in the poem *Mná na hÉireann* written by South East Ulster poet Peadar Ó Doirnín (1704–1796), and is perhaps more widely known as a song set to an air by Seán Ó Riada, tonight is a celebration of some of the finest female traditional musicians, singers and dancers in Ireland.

One of Ireland's favourite singers **Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh** is from west Kerry. She has had a long track record of producing critically acclaimed albums, as well as enjoying a successful broadcasting career on both television and radio. She toured the world as a member of Danú, and her song repertoire is as wide as it is deep.

TG4 Gradam Ceoil winner **Angelina Carberry** is an exceptional banjo player, known for her solid rhythm and delicate articulation. She is from a very well-known Longford musical family and she is steeped in the tradition. Quite simply, she is one of the best tenor banjo players of all time.

Caitlín Nic Gabhann is a concertina player, performer, teacher, composer and percussive dancer. Having toured for years as a dancer with Riverdance, three time All-Ireland concertina champion Caitlín is a regular performer at festivals and concert halls from North America to Asia over the last 15 years.

Síle Denvir is a harpist and sean-nós singer who is deeply influenced by her upbringing in the Connemara Gaeltacht where she was surrounded by music and song from an early age. She is a founding member of the group Liadan and has toured with The Chieftains.

Edwina Guckian has now taught her steps and shared the stage with some of Ireland's most influential acts such as Altan, De Danann, Dervish, Mairtín O Connor, Frankie Gavin, Kíla, Martin Hayes, Séamus Begley, and Laoise Kelly to name a few. She set up *Airc Damhsa Culture Club* for youths in her area to have a space to be immersed in traditions and cultures from home and all across the world in a fun and non – competitive environment. In April 2022, she was awarded the TG4 Gradam Comaoine for her outstanding contribution to culture.

Doireann Ní Ghlacáin hails from the north-side of Dublin, and is steeped in the rich musical tradition of the area. From her paternal family, The Glackins, she learnt the fiddle under the tutelage of her father, Kevin Glackin. She has recently completed a PhD in NUIG. Much of her thesis relates to the music studied by her grandfather Seán Ó Riada.

Date | Thur 28 July

Venue | Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich

Doors | 19:30

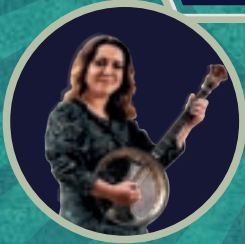
Tickets | £15

Full bar available

BELFAST TRADFEST PRESENTS



TÁ BEAN IN ÉIRINN



MUIREANN NIC AMHLAIBH | ANGELINA CARBERRY
CAITLÍN NIC GABHANN | DOIREANN NÍ GHLAGÁIN
SÍLE DENVIR | EDWINA GUCKIAN

THURS 28 JULY
2022

CULTÚRLANN MCADAM Ó FIAICH
DOORS: 19.30 TICKETS £15.00

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM



Sharon Shannon & Liam Ó Maonlaí

Belfast TradFest is pleased to welcome Sharon Shannon to the Ulster Hall for what will surely be one of those 'I was there' evenings. Opening the show will be Hothouse Flower's frontman Liam Ó Maonlaí performing a rare solo set with Grand Piano, Bodhrán & Tin Whistle followed by Sharon Shannon's eclectic six piece band.

Sharon Shannon has been a musical icon for over 20 years. Traditional Irish music is her background but she has been fearless in her musical exploration having defied genres and woven her unique style through country, French-Canadian, reggae, hip-hop, dance and classical. Sharon has recorded and toured with a who's who of the Irish and Global Music Industry, including The Waterboys, John Prine, Steve Earle, Jackson Browne, The RTÉ Concert Orchestra, The Chieftains, Shane McGowan, Willie Nelson, Nigel Kennedy, Kirsty MacColl, Bono, Adam Clayton, Sinéad O'Connor, Imelda May and more - a list that is testament to Sharon's versatility as well as talent.

Liam Ó Maonlaí is one of the most talented, charismatic and soulful performers of Irish traditional music today. But his musical prowess goes beyond his own cultural roots as he blends an eclectic mix of folk, blues, gospel, soul, rock, and more with his amazing vocals and an array of instrumental mastery from piano to flute, harmonica to bodhran. Since first bursting onto the scene in the 1980's with his band Hothouse Flowers, Liam has captured the attention of audiences, critics and musicians alike. According to "Rolling Stone Magazine" Bono noted the ensemble were the "best unsigned band on the planet." It is no wonder that Liam remains a "musician's musician" and no surprise he has performed alongside the best of them. As a solo performer as well as frontman of Hothouse Flowers, Liam continues to wow audiences worldwide reinventing himself with each performance.

Date | Fri 29 July

Venue | Ulster Hall

Doors | 19:30

Tickets | £29.50

Full bar available

BELFAST TRADFEST PRESENTS

SHARON SHANNON
BIG BAND



LIAM Ó MAONLAÍ

FRI 29 JULY
2022

ULSTER HALL, BELFAST
DOORS OPEN 19:30 | TICKETS £29.50

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM



Exhibitions

Art Exhibition: Lorcan Valley

Lorcan Valley is a visual artist from Armagh who specialises in figurative drawing and painting, using charcoal and oil as his primary media. His use of tonal layers of charcoal with the selective addition of flashes of colour is instantly recognisable. He studied Fine Art at Bath School of Art and subsequently Chelsea College of Art from 2000 to 2004 and has been exhibiting and working as a full-time artist ever since. His work is held in many public and private collections including the OPW Irish State Art Collection and the Arts Council of NI Collection. This exhibition of new work will focus on the theme of Irish Traditional Music.

Venue | The John Hewitt

Launch Date | Sun 24 July

Time | 14:00

Tickets | Free

Exhibition runs throughout the week



"Fintan Vallely at Benburb Summer School" charcoal and oil on canvas 20" x 24" 2022

Fiddle & Fife Exhibition

In association with the Ulster Scots Community Network

This exhibition highlights the rich musical heritage which thrived in the Mid & East Antrim area, focussing on the music as shared locally, performed on stage and played for traditional dance. With a wide range of musical instruments on display, The Fiddle and the Fife also explores the crossover with marching band music and Lambeg drumming.

Curated by traditional musicians Willie Drennan, David McClean and Johnny Murphy with Mid-Antrim Museum (Mid and East Antrim Borough Council), Ballymena.

Venue | Ulster University

Date | Mon 25 - Fri 29 July

Exhibition runs throughout the week



CD Launches

I gcomhpháirt le Raidió Fáilte



Glengormley School of Traditional Music

Venue | Raidió Fáilte

Date | Wed 27 July

Time | 15:00

Grainne Milner-McLoone : The Songs of Sam Henry

Venue | Raidió Fáilte

Date | Wed 27 July

Time | 16:00

Mairead Walls : Songs and tunes from County Antrim

Venue | Raidió Fáilte

Date | Thu 28 July

Time | 15:00

Dylan Pearse : Songs from the North Country

Venue | Raidió Fáilte

Date | Thu 28 July

Time | 16:00

Brian Hughes and Dave Sheridan: However Long the Day

Venue | Raidió Fáilte

Date | Fri 29 July

Time | 15:00

Belfast Summer School of Traditional Music

The Summer Schools team of tutors is made up of internationally renowned performers with proven track records as teachers and educationalists. The primary means of teaching and learning will be 'by ear' with an emphasis in the less experienced classes of assisting pupils to develop oral/aural skills in addition to instrumental competency and developing core repertoire.

10% Family Discount is available when booking for 2 or more family members

All classes are designed for intermediate to advanced (minimum 2 years instrument experience) adults and children over 6 year of age, with the exception of Traditional Singing & Set Dancing.

All pupils will be registered and graded on Monday 25th July at 09:00 and placed in the level-appropriate class with a suitable tutor.

Dates: Mon 25 to Fri 29 July

Time: 10.00 - 13.00

Venue: Ulster University, York Street

Costs: £130 for five days, fee includes admission to all afternoon events.

***Does not include evening concerts or Céilí .**



Whistle & Sing

Learn songs, airs and tunes in this beginner's class for all ages. No experience necessary. You will need your own Tin Whistle (make sure it's in the key of D). After a short introduction to the basics of the Tin Whistle, the aim of the class is to learn a new tune every day. The technique we will use is by ear and tablature (diagrams), so prior musical knowledge is not needed although notes will be given as an optional reference.

**10% Family Discount
is available when
booking for 2 or more
family members**

Participants will learn to sing songs from the traditional repertoire, in the oral tradition in which they were originally passed from one singer to another. We will explore the historical, literary, and geographical background of songs originating from different parts of Ulster with a focus on the street songs of Belfast.

The class will also include an introduction to basic singing techniques, as well as an overview of styles of traditional singing, such as ornamentation and phrasing.

Dates: Mon 25 to Fri 29 July

Time: 10.00 - 13.00

Venue: Ulster University, York Street

Price: £65 | Age 5+



Set Dancing with Ronan Eastwood

Ronan Eastwood has been set dancing for over 30 years and developed his love of dancing from his parents (his father organised ceilis in Belfast throughout the 1940s and 1950s) and 10 sisters and 4 brothers. Ronan was taught many of the dances by the legendary Connie Ryan, as well as Joe and Siobhan O'Donovan. Over the years he has attended workshops given by Pat Murphy, Mike Mulkerrins and Timmy 'the Brit' McCarthy.

10% Family Discount is available when booking for 2 or more family members

Having attended these various workshops and going to set-dancing weekends from the 1980s, he began teaching in 1992 and has been teaching set dancing at various venues from beginner level right through to the more advanced levels at regular weekly classes throughout Belfast and beyond for well over 25 years.

Dates: Mon 25 to Fri 29 July

Time: 10.00 - 13.00

Venue: Ulster University, York Street

Costs: £60 for 5 days (or £15 Daily)

***Does not include afternoon events, evening concerts or Céilí**



Masterclass Tutors

MONDAY 25 - FRIDAY 29 JULY | 10AM - 1PM

ULSTER UNIVERSITY, YORK STREET | COST: £130 FOR 5 DAYS

HARP



Síle Denvir

HARP



Máire Ní Chathasaigh

BUTTON ACCORDION



Dave Munnelly

BAGPIPES



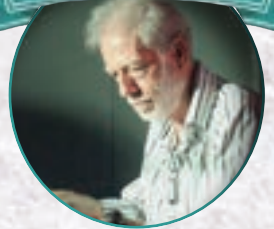
Alastair Donaghy

CONCERTINA



Caitlín Nic Gabhann

TRADITIONAL PIANO



Brian McGrath

TENOR BANJO



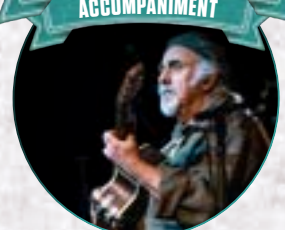
Angelina Carberry

UILEANN PIPES



Mikie Smith

GUITAR
ACCOMPANIMENT



Steve Cooney

Masterclass Tutors

MONDAY 25 - FRIDAY 29 JULY | 10AM - 1PM

ULSTER UNIVERSITY, YORK STREET | COST: £130 FOR 5 DAYS

SNARE DRUM & PIPE
BAND PERCUSSION



Gareth McLees

TIN WHISTLE



Mary Bergin

TIN WHISTLE



Kieran Brady

AMHRÁNAÍOCHT



Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh

BODHRÁN



Tommy Hayes

SMALLPIPES



Brighde Chaimbeul

TRADITIONAL SINGING



Mary Dillon

SEAN NÓS DANCING



Edwina Guckian

FLUTE



Tara Bingham

SHARON SHANNON SPECIAL 1 HOUR WORKSHOP FOR ALL INSTRUMENTS



FRIDAY 29 JULY | 1PM - 2PM | ULSTER UNIVERSITY, YORK SREET | COST: £25.00

FIDDLE



Méabh O'Hare

FIDDLE



Doireann Ní Ghlacáin

FIDDLE



Ciarán Ó Maonaigh

FLUTE



Barry Kerr

FIDDLE



Jesse Smith

FIDDLE



Brid Harper

FLUTE



Harry Bradley



Talks, Workshops, Lectures & Demonstrations

All £5 unless otherwise indicated.

Music Masterclass Students have free access to all
Talks, Workshops, Lectures & Demonstrations series.

Monday | 25 July

Seán Ó Riada Mo Sheanathair - Film Screening and Q & A

With Doireann Ní Ghlacáin & Director Feilimí O'Connor.

Time: 14:30 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Bagpipe Taster Session with Alastair Donaghy & Andy McGregor

Have you ever wondered what it might be like to try the Bagpipes? Well there's no time like the present!

Time: 14:30 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Composing songs and tunes with Barry Kerr

Talk/Workshop about his own compositions both songs and tunes with one of Ireland's finest musicians and singers.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Fiddle and Fife exhibition

This highlights the rich musical heritage which thrived in the Mid & East Antrim area, focussing on the music as shared locally, performed on stage and played for traditional dance.

With a wide range of musical instruments on display, The Fiddle and the Fife also explores the crossover with marching band music and Lambeg drumming.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

The Bodhrán with Tommy Hayes

A talk on the background, history & application of the bodhrán in Irish traditional music with one of the greatest bodhrán players of all time.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

‘Steps for Sets’ dancing class - battering steps with Caitlín Nic Gabhann

Caitlín Nic Gabhann is a concertina player, performer, teacher, composer and percussive dancer. Having toured for years as a dancer with Riverdance, 3 time All-Ireland concertina champion Caitlín is a regular performer at festivals and concert halls from North America to Asia over the last 15 years. Join her in this family friendly fun class as she demonstrates the footwork required for Set & Céilí Dancing.

Time: 16:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

“The Art of Carolan” with Máire Ní Cathasaigh

A Workshop for all instruments.

Time: 16:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Harmony & Syncopation with Steve Cooney

Steve Cooney will give a practical and inspiring hands-on workshop on harmony and syncopation – bring an instrument and/or your voice, and be prepared for an afternoon of fun and enlightenment with the maestro.

Time: 17:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Tuesday | 26 July

Traditional Dancing Family workshop with Edwina Guckian

Time: 14:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Banjo clinic with Angelina Carberry

Would you like to spend 10 minutes 1 on 1 with one of Ireland’s finest Banjo players. Tighten your triplets, work on your technique, identify where things are going a little pear shaped!

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Fiddle Surgery with Brid Harper

Spend 10 minutes 1 on 1 with the great Bríd Harper. The Fiddle Surgery is aimed primarily at intermediate to advanced players who have a repertoire of tunes and who are able to identify an issue with their playing – it’s not necessarily about learning how to do something for the first time. So, if you’ve been trying to play rolls for ages but know there is something missing then YES, the fiddle Surgery is for you.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

An introduction to Sean-Nós Singing with Muireann Nic Amhlaóibh

This talk covers regional styles, elements of vocal technique, examples of singers of note etc.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Donegal Fiddle Music with Ciarán Ó Maonaigh

Explore the fiddle music, the players and traditions of Ireland's most north westerly county with one of Donegal's finest musicians.

Time: 16:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

'Trad on TV' - Méabh O'Hare

Méabh O'Hare talks about her life and her work as a traditional musician & documentary film maker.

Time: 16:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

A Journey in Folksong – Fergus Woods

What is a folk song? A presentation on this often debated topic with specific reference to its happening and development in Belfast and my personal journey. Singers, folk clubs, other places where songs were sung in Belfast and influences on singers over the years will be topics explored. Practical examples in the form of recordings will be used.

Time: 17:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Jesse Smith: Graphic Design & Traditional Music

Jesse Smith is a much acclaimed fiddler but he's also one of the most 'in demand' graphic designers in traditional music. Join him as he chats about his work and demonstrates how he conceives and creates some of the most iconic images in traditional arts at this time.

Time: 17:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Wednesday | 27 July

Talk - The Songs of Sam Henry – Grainne Millner-McLoon

The Sam Henry collection of songs were collected, mainly from around the Causeway Coast and Glens areas, from 1923-1939. There are over 800 songs in the archive. Grainne's PhD aims to map and analyse the sense of place reflected through the collection, and what that reveals about identity and community in Northern Ireland at that time.

Time: 14:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Family Workshop in folklore customs and dances with Edwina Guckian

Family workshop with Edwina Guckian.

Time: 14:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Beginners Pipe Band Snare Drum - Why not try the Snare Drum for the first time ?

With 2017 & 2018 World Solo Drumming prize winner Gareth McLees.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

“Irish Harp Music of the 17th & 18th Centuries” with Máire Ní Cathasaigh

An exploration of some of the extensive repertoire not composed by Carolan (For all Instruments).

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Singing Surgery with Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh

Spend 10 minutes 1 on 1 with one of Ireland’s greatest singers. Work on your technique, breathing, posture etc.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

An informal chat and tune about Belfast Flute playing, flute players and style hosted by Harry Bradley with Tara Bingham, Brendan O’Hare, Barry Kerr & friends

Belfast is synonymous with the sound of the flute. Energy and creativity are very much the hallmarks of the Belfast style of flute and whistle playing. The music of this city invariably has a persistent and hypnotic pulse which draws the listener into a trance like state, reminiscent of that cast by the chanting of Buddhist monks.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Mary Bergin: Internal Rhythms and Ornamentation in Traditional Music

Join one of Ireland’s treasures; Mary Bergin, as she delves into the undergrowth of traditional melody playing to see what is it that defines great playing.

Time: 16:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

R.L O’Meally - Mikie Smyth

‘Talk & Demonstration - Belfast’s Virtuoso Uilleann Piper, Pipe Maker, Teacher and Broadcaster of the early 20th Century. A discussion and demonstration of his music hosted by Mike Smyth.

Time: 17:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Thursday | 28 July

'One Singer, One Song' - An informal chat and singing session hosted by Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh with Mary Dillon, Síle Denvir, Barry Kerr & Doireann Ní Ghlacáin

Time: 14:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Bodhrán Taster Session with Tommy Hayes

Have you ever wanted to try the bodhrán but couldn't pluck up the courage to ask for a go? Well this is the perfect opportunity. We'll supply the bodhráns and one of Ireland's finest bodhrán players will show you the basics.

Time: 14:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

The Piano in traditional Irish music: A demonstration/workshop with Brian McGrath & Angelina Carberry

Join one of Ireland's finest accompanists Brian McGrath as he demonstrates his approach to accompanying Irish traditional music on the ebony & ivory.

Time: 14:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

Spit & Puff with Willie Hill, Harry Bradley & Brendan O'Hare

Join Willie Hill, Harry Bradley & Brendan O'Hare as they explore Belfast's powerful flute and fife traditions and styles.

Time: 15:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Céilí with Ronan Eastwood in the foyer of the Ulster University

Time: 16:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast | FREE

Regional Fiddle Styles in Irish Music with Jesse Smith

American born fiddler Jesse will bring us on a journey through the different regional fiddle styles of Ireland.

Time: 16:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Amhránaíocht Chonamara with Síle Denvir

Ceardlann Amhránaíochta ar an Sean-nós le Síle Denvir. Beidh deis ag rannpháirtithe cúpla amhrán as Conamara a fhoghlaim. Fáilte roimh chách.

Sean-nós singing workshop with Síle Denvir. Workshop participants will have the opportunity to learn some songs from Connemara. All welcome.

Time: 16:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

Harmony & Syncopation with Steve Cooney

Steve Cooney will give a practical and inspiring hands-on workshop on harmony and syncopation – bring an instrument and/or your voice, and be prepared for an afternoon of fun and enlightenment with the maestro.

Time: 17:00 | Location: Ulster University Belfast

'Take me Back'

A presentation through song and verse with Fergus Woods along with Mary Durkan, and Dominic Bennett. Fergus was born in Newry, Co Down. He has lived in Belfast for most of his life but as a child and teenager spent most of his school holidays staying in his grandmother's house in the countryside outside Newry. These visits also included trips to places on Carlingford Lough, especially Omeara.

He looks back at those times through songs, stories and poems - all composed by his father, his sister, his brother or himself. Dominic draws on the rich storytelling and bardic traditions of South Armagh to create comical tales full of colourful characters and memorable mishaps. With poetry and story he invokes past times with a fair degree of good humour and a complete lack of reverence. He also reads some poems from Fergus's father celebrating famous sporting occasions.

Time: 17:00 | Location: Ulster University, Belfast

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION OFFER

Booked your Masterclass and looking for local accommodation?

Belfast Trad Fest

- Available to over 18's only
- Brand new student accommodation property
- City centre location
- 2 min walk to Masterclass venue at Ulster University
- 100mb WiFi included
- Spacious communal areas, onsite gym and cinema room
- All lockable Ensuite Rooms with shared Kitchen facilities
- 3/4 (small double) bed with under bed storage
- Desk, chair, wardrobe and full length mirror
- Ensuite bathroom with shower, toilet and basin
- Onsite laundry facilities
- MUST have booked a Masterclass to avail of this offer

£279
for 7 nights



FESTIVAL CLUB

SUNDAY 24 JULY

GINO LUPARI

GERRY 'BANJO' O'CONNOR & FRIENDS

THE JOHN HEWITT

DOORS 22:00 | TICKETS: £10

MONDAY 25 JULY

DYLAN CARLOS

DAVE SHERIDAN & JOHN MCCARTIN

THE JOHN HEWITT

DOORS 22:00 | TICKETS: £10

TUESDAY 26 JULY

EDEL NÍ CHURRAOIN

CATHERINE NÍ SHÚILLEABHÁIN

& JOY DUNLOP

THE JOHN HEWITT

DOORS 22:00 | TICKETS: £10

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM

WEDNESDAY 27 JULY

BRISTE – ALISON CROSSEY
EMMA ROBINSON & JOANNA BOYLE
THE AMERICAN BAR

DOORS 22:00 | TICKETS: £10

THURSDAY 28 JULY

TRODA

FOLLOWED BY

TRAD DISCO

WITH DJ OLLIE MULLOOLEY
THE DEER'S HEAD

DOORS 22:00 | TICKETS: £10

FRIDAY 29 JULY

DAMIEN MULLANE TRIO

FOLLOWED BY

TRAD DISCO

WITH DJ OLLIE MULLOOLEY
THE DEER'S HEAD

DOORS 22:00 | TICKETS: £10

BOOK NOW: BELFASTTRADFEST.COM



SESSION TRAIL

ALL SESSIONS ARE FREE ADMISSION

SUNDAY

**DAVY MAGUIRE, CIARA MAGUIRE
& JASON O'ROURKE**
Sun 24 July | 17:00 – 19:00
The Reporter Bar

**ANNA O'DONNELL, PADDY MCKEOWN
& AARON DUFFY**
Sun 24 July | 17:00 – 19:00
The Second Fiddle

**RUADHRAÍ O'KANE,
JARLATH MCTERNAN
& AIDEN WALSH**
Sun 24 July | 19:00 – 21:00
Maddens

**CIARA MCCRICKARD,
STEPHEN ROONEY
& MARTHA GUINEY**
Sun 24 July | 20:00 – 22:00
Fountain Lane Bar

**JOHN MCSHERRY,
FRANCIS MCILDUFF & GARY DUFFY**
Sun 24 July | 21:30 – 23:30
The Garrick

MONDAY

**SLOW SESSION LED BY
CHRISTINE DOWLING**
Mon 25 July | 14:00 – 15:00
Ulster University, Belfast

**TARA BINGHAM, GARY ÓG DUFFY
& MEABH SMYTH**
Mon 25 July | 17:00 – 19:00
Maddens

**MUIREANN NIC AMHLAIBH
MARY BERGIN & MARIA RAFFERTY**
Mon 25 July | 17:00 – 19:00
Sunflower Public House

**TOMMY HAYES, MIKIE SMYTH
& JACK WARNOCK**
Mon 25 July | 19:00 – 21:00
The Duke of York

**SEAN NÓS DANCING SESSION WITH
DAVE MURPHY, EDWINA GUCKIAN
& EDEL NI CHURRAOIN**
Mon 25 July | 20:00 – 22:00
The Deer's Head

**HARRY BRADLEY, PAULA HOUTON
& SEAMUS O'KANE**
Mon 25 July | 21:00 – 23:00
The Last Drop

PROUDLY SUPPORTING BELFAST TRADFEST SESSION TRAIL



TUESDAY

**SLOW SESSION LED BY
DONAL O'CONNOR**

Tue 26 July | 14:00 - 15:00
Ulster University, Belfast

**CAITLÍN NIC GABHANN, STÍOFÁN Ó
LUACHRAÍN & NOEL MAGUIRE**

Tue 26 July | 17:00 - 19:00
Maddens

**SÍLE DENVIR, EMMA ROBINSON
& LAURA KERR**

Tue 26 July | 17:00 - 19:00
The Duke of York

**BRIAN MCGRATH,
BRENDAN LOUGHRAN
& STEVIE HAYDEN**

Tue 26 July | 19:00 - 21:00
The American Bar

**ANGELINA CARBERRY,
MÉABH O'HARE & LUKE WARD**

Tue 26 July | 20:00 - 22:00
The Deer's Head

**KIERAN BRADY, CONOR BRADY
& PADDY O'HARE**

Tue 26 July | 21:30 - 23:30
Whites Tavern

**BARRY KERR, GERDY THOMPSON
& LAURA KERR**

Tue 26 July | 21:30 - 23:30
Maddens

WEDNESDAY

**LORRAINE NÍ BHRJAIN,
FIONA NÍ MHEARAIN &
ALISON CROSSEY**

Wed 27 July | 13:00 - 15:00
Raidió Fáilte, An Lon Dubh

**SLOW SESSION LED BY
TERESA CLARKE**

Wed 27 | 14:00 - 15:00
Ulster University, Belfast

**ANGELINA CARBERRY,
MAURICE HEYDEN
& JOE CAMPBELL MCARDLE**

Wed 27 July | 17:00 - 19:00
Maddens

**BRÍD HARPER, TOMMY HAYES
& MAGGIE MAGUIRE**

Wed 27 July | 17:00 - 19:00
The Deer's Head

**SEAN NÓS DANCING SESSION WITH
HARRY BRADLEY, EDWINA GUCKIAN
& EIMHEAR MULHOLLAND**

Wed 27 July | 19:00 - 21:00
The American Bar

**MARY BERGIN, BRIAN MCGRATH
AND PAUL 'THE BROTHER' MAGUIRE**

Wed 27 July | 19:00 - 21:00
The John Hewitt



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**KIERAN BRADY, CORMAC CRUMMEY
& PAUL BRADLEY**

Wed 27 July | 20:00 – 22:00
Fountain Lane Bar

**SMALLPIPES SESSION WITH
BRIGHDE CHAIMBEUL,
ANDY MCGREGOR, IAN BURROWS,
ALASDAIR DONAGHY & GARETH MCLEES**

Wed 27 July | 20:00 – 22:00
The Second Fiddle

**MUIREANN NIC AMHLAIBH,
DESY ADAMS & STEVIE DUNNE**

Wed 27 July | 21:30 – 23:30
The Garrick

**DOIREANN NÍ GHLACÁIN,
ANNE MARIE MCORMACK AND ROSIE
FERGUSON**

Wed 27 July | 21:30 – 23:30
Maddens Bar

**MIKIE SMYTH, TARA BINGHAM
& DARRAGH MURPHY**

Wed 27 July | 21:30 – 23:30
Sunflower Public House

**JESSE SMITH, MOLLY WALLS
& PAUL "THE BROTHER" MAGUIRE**

Wed 27 July | 21:30 – 23:30
Whites Tavern

**MIKIE SMYTH, TARA BINGHAM
& DARRAGH MURPHY**

Wed 27 July | 21:30 – 23:30
Sunflower Public House

**JESSE SMITH, MOLLY WALLS
& PAUL "THE BROTHER" MAGUIRE**

Wed 27 July | 21:30 – 23:30
Whites Tavern

THURSDAY

**NEIL MARTIN, MÉABH MARTIN
& MOLLY MARTIN**

Thu 28 July | 13:00 – 15:00
Raidió Fáilte, An Lon Dubh

**Slow Session with Christine
Dowling**

Thu 28 July | 14:00 – 15:00
Ulster University



PROUDLY SUPPORTING BELFAST TRADFEST SESSION TRAIL

**MÁIRE NÍ CHATHASAIGH,
LORRAINE NI BHRIAN
& NIAMH NIC IONNRACHTAIGH**
Thu 28 July | 17:00 – 19:00
Maddens

**GARY CURLEY, AISLINN FEGAN
& MICHAEL SANDS**
Thu 28 July | 17:00 – 19:00
Fountain Lane Bar

**CIARÁN Ó MAONAIGH, CONOR BRADY
& BRENDAN QUINN**
Thu 28 July | 19:00 – 21:00
Whites Tavern

**DAVE MUNNELLY, KIERAN BRADY
& MELANIE HOUTON**
Thu 28 July | 20:00 – 22:00
The Deer's Head

**MIKIE SMYTH, MAEVE O'DONNELL
& CONOR MURPHY**
Thu 28 July | 21:30 – 23:30
The Garrick

**JESSE SMITH, ALEX WALSH
& TERESA CLARKE**
Thu 28 July | 21:30 – 23:30
Maddens

**BRÍD HARPER, MÉABH O'HARE
& KEVIN SWEENEY**
Thu 28 July | 21:30 – 23:30
The John Hewitt

**BRENDAN MULHOLLAND,
PAUL "THE BROTHER" MAGUIRE
& JAMES CARSON**
Thu 28 July | 21:30 – 23:30
The Last Drop

FRIDAY

**UNA MONAGHAN, BREIGE QUINN
& AARON O'HAGAN**
Fri 29 July | 13:00 – 15:00
Raidió Fáilte, An Lon Dubh

**JOE CAMPBELL MCARDLE,
MYLES MCCORMACK &
MIADHACHLUGHAIN O'DONNELL**
Fri 29 July | 17:00 – 19:00
The John Hewitt

Belfast Tradfest



23-29 JULY 2022

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BAR



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DUKE OF YORK



ULSTER HALL



the second fiddle
AN DARA FÍOIL



The Reporter.

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