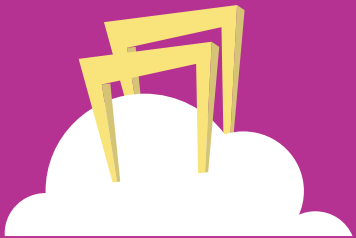


Belfast Trad Fest



27 JULY - 2 AUGUST 2019

www.BelfastTradFest.com

 #BelfastTradFest
 @BelfastTradF
 #BelfastTradFest

Belfast Trad Fest

27 JULY - 2 AUGUST 2019

 #BelfastTradFest  @BelfastTradF  #BelfastTradFest



FUNDERS
Belfast City Council



tourism northernireland



SPONSORS

BULLITT

THE DIRTY ONION.



THE CLOTH EAR
PUBLIC HOUSE & RESTAURANT

DAWSONS
dawsons.co.uk

VENUE PARTNERS



SPECIAL THANKS TO



www.BelfastTradFest.com

Contents

Page 3	Concert Lúnasa, Ulaid & Ríoghnach Connolly
Page 5	Concert R. L. O’Mealy - Annual Concert
Page 7	Concert The Belfast Harp Festival of 1792
Page 9	Concert Sean Maguire – Omós
Page 11	Concert Skin, Wind & Reed
Page 13	Concert Songs of the People
Page 15	Concert Connla
Page 16	Ceili in Association with Belfast Pride
Page 17	Sessions
Page 19	Talks, Workshops, Lectures & Demonstrations
Page 29	Masterclasses
Page 35	Special Events
Page 37	Timetable At a Glance

Belfast TradFest



Foreword

Now in its third year, the Belfast TradFest is making a big impact on the local appreciation of Irish and Ulster-Scots traditional music, creating the opportunity for many more people to engage with the music in all its different forms. The Trad Fest has turned Belfast into a hub for the best musicians from across these islands to come together to perform with each other, to share their practice, and to teach and encourage the emergence of the next generation of young musicians. Participants of all ages and abilities will have the opportunity to develop their talents in traditional music, dance and song with the help of high-quality professional tutors, and audiences will have the pleasure of hearing established and rising stars such as Niamh Dunne, Jarlath Henderson, Ríoghnach Connolly and Conor Mallon.

The talent is there for all to see in both Irish and Ulster-Scots musical traditions, so it only makes sense to explore the rich potential of bringing these two great traditions together. Such synergies and collaborations can inspire fresh creativity and innovation, particularly when you concentrate so much talent into a week of intense artistic activity, such as we see at the Belfast TradFest.

The Arts Council wishes the Belfast TradFest another very successful event as it brings this highly accessible, upbeat and positive addition to the creative and cultural life of the city.

**Joanne Wright, Traditional Arts Officer,
Arts Council of Northern Ireland**



Lúnasa, Ulaid & Ríoghnach Connolly

Three of the hottest acoustic acts on the planet will appear for one night only as the opening concert of Belfast Tradfest. Don't miss this opportunity of a lifetime to catch Lúnasa, Ulaid & Ríoghnach Connolly in concert for what promises to be a most spectacular night of traditional music and song in one of the most beautiful theatres in Ireland.

Lúnasa is composed of Kevin Crawford (flute), Trevor Hutchinson (double bass), Ed Boyd (guitar), Seán Smyth (fiddle) and Cillian Vallely (uilleann pipes). The band is internationally acknowledged as being one of the finest traditional Irish instrumental outfits of recent times. Their inventive arrangements and bass driven grooves have steered Irish acoustic music into surprising new territory.

Ulaid features three supreme instrumentalists, gifted composers and talented interpreters of traditional and original music in one explosive package. John McSherry (Uilleann Pipes), Dónal O'Connor (Fiddle) & Seán Óg Graham (Guitar) are considered to be some of the finest players of their generation. Having released their eponymous record in 2015 to great critical acclaim, they have followed it up with a host of collaborations with some of Ireland's finest singers such as Duke Special, Liam Ó Maonlaí, Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh, Mary Dillon & Ríoghnach Connolly.

The irrepressible, inimitable **Ríoghnach Connolly** grew up as part of the Armagh Pipers Club where she had her eyes opened to the world of folk music and how it travelled into other countries and cultures. She regularly features with Afro Celt Sound System and is one half of The Breath with Stuart McCallum, which has released two albums to date. Tonight, she performs new material with Ulaid.

Venue | Lyric Theatre Belfast

Date | Sat 27 July

Time | 8pm

Tickets | £24.50



Lúnasa

ulaid

**RÍOGHNACH
CONNOLLY**

SAT 27 JULY
2019

LYRIC THEATRE, BELFAST
DOORS 8PM | TICKETS £24.50
BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT www.BelfastTradFest.com

R. L. O'Mealy Annual Concert

Richard Lewis (R.L.) O'Mealy (1872-1947), uilleann piper and pipe maker, was born in Westmeath in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. He lived most of his adult life in Belfast where he was renowned as a piper, broadcaster, piping teacher and pipe-maker. His piping was crisp, entertaining and inventive and his broadcasts were essential listening for anyone with an interest in Irish music. Through his teaching and making of the instrument he was central to the continuance of piping in the north-east of Ireland in the early twentieth century. As an entertainer he was widely celebrated for both his knowledge of piping and the eccentric costumes he wore while performing. Tonight we celebrate the man and his music.

Support provided by young musicians of the Glengormley School of Traditional Music.



THE DUNCAIRN
CENTRE FOR
CULTURE & ARTS

Venue | The Duncairn, Belfast

Date | Mon 29 July

Time | 8pm

Tickets | £12.00

FEATURING

Jarlath Henderson

Mary Bergin

Harry Bradley

Kevin Crawford

Finlay McDonald

Gareth McLees

John McSherry

Francis McIluff

Seamie O'Dowd

Eamon Murray



MON 29 JULY
2019

THE DUNCAIRN, BELFAST
DOORS 8PM | TICKETS £12.00
BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT www.BelfastTradFest.com



#BelfastTradFest



@BelfastTradF

The Belfast Harp Festival of 1792

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.

Venue | Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich

Date | Tues 30 July

Time | 8pm

Tickets | £12.00



HOSTED BY LYNETTE FAY (BBC RADIO ULSTER)

MICHELLE MULCAHY

RÍOGHNACH CONNOLLY

OISÍN MAGDIARMADA

EDEL FOX

CONOR CONNOLLY

BRIAN MCGRATH

JOHN JOE KELLY



TUES 30 JULY
2019

CULTÚRLANN MCADAM Ó FIAICH
DOORS 8PM | TICKETS £12.00

BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT www.BelfastTradFest.com



Sean Maguire - Omós

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.

Venue | **An Droichead, Belfast**

Date | **Wed 31 July**

Time | **8pm**

Tickets | **£12.00**



An Droichead

FEATURING

LIZ & YVONNE KANE

JOHN CARTY

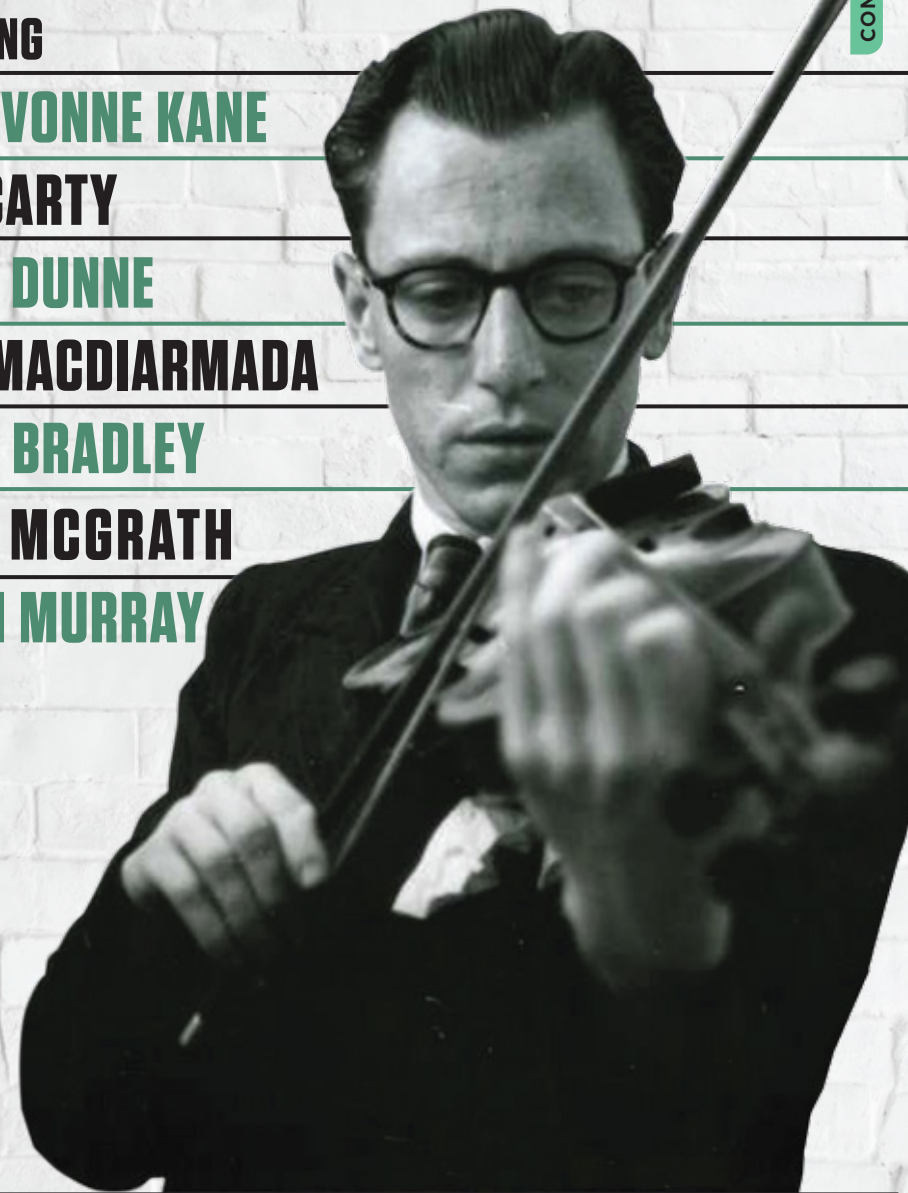
NIAMH DUNNE

OISÍN MACDIARMADA

HARRY BRADLEY

BRIAN MCGRATH

EAMON MURRAY



WED 31 JULY
2019

AN DROICHEAD, BELFAST
DOORS 8PM | TICKETS £12.00
BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT www.BelfastTradFest.com



#BelfastTradFest



@BelfastTradF

Skin, Wind & Reed

Exploring the repertoires of Scotland and Ireland through Bagpiping, Drumming, Uilleann Piping, Fife, Flute, Tin Whistle & Bodhrán, featuring some of the world's finest musicians.

Finlay MacDonald has blazed a trail as one of Scotland's finest exponents of contemporary and traditional Piping. He has worked with many leading artists in the traditional music scene including Fred Morrison, The Unusual Suspects, La Banda Europa, Old Blind Dogs and Chris Stout. **John McSherry** has been a major figure in Irish music for almost 20 years. Described by Irish Music Magazine as 'a true master', John is hailed as one of the finest exponents of the art of Uilleann piping in the world today. 'Just about the best Tin Whistle player this century' is how the Irish Times referred to **Mary Bergin** in a recent interview. Mary's first solo album 'Feadóga Stáin' brought out in 1979, holds its place as a classic in latter-day traditional music. 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. **Willie Drennan** is a musician, composer, storyteller, poet and writer who draws much of his material from the cultural traditions of his native County Antrim. A member of Flook and Mike McGoldrick bands among others, **John Joe Kelly's** Bodhrán playing has become legendary throughout the traditional music world. He has been involved in many world music collaborative projects with musicians varying from Tim O'Brien, Kate Rusby and Dan Tyminski to Zakir Hussain. Born in Birmingham, England, **Kevin Crawford's** early life was one long journey into Irish music and Co. Clare, to where he eventually moved while in his 20's. He now tours the world with Ireland's cutting-edge traditional band, Lúnasa. Kevin has also recorded several solo albums including The 'D' Flute Album, In Good Company & Carrying the Tune.

Venue | Strand Arts Centre, Belfast

Date | Thurs 1 August

Time | 8pm

Tickets | £12.00

FEATURING

FINLAY MCDONALD

JOHN MCSHERRY

MARY BERGIN

GARETH MGLEES

HARRY BRADLEY

WILLIE DRENNAN

JOHN JOE KELLY

KEVIN CRAWFORD



THURS 1 AUGUST

2019

STRAND ARTS CENTRE, BELFAST

DOORS 8PM | TICKETS £12.00

BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT www.BelfastTradFest.com



#BelfastTradFest



@BelfastTradF

Songs of the People

Tyrone born and Armagh Pipers Club raised, BBC Young Folk Musician award winner **Jarlath Henderson** is a singer, multi-instrumentalist, composer, producer and doctor.

County Limerick born **Niamh Dunne** is the singer and fiddle player with the group Beoga and comes from a long line of musicians and singers.

Seamie O Dowd is a guitarist, singer, and songwriter who also plays fiddle, harmonica, mandolin and a number of other instruments. He has travelled worldwide playing music and has shared stages and played with many great musicians and bands including; Mairtin O'Connor, Cathal Hayden, Christy Moore, The Chieftains, Jimmy Higgins, Tommy Emmanuel & Dervish.

Conor Connolly is the current TG4 Ceoltóir Óg na Bliana / Young musician of the year and as well as being a fantastic accordion player he is a very fine singer.

Jane Cassidy is a singer, broadcaster and writer who has toured extensively in Europe bringing her own blend of traditional Ulster music to folk audiences. A highlight was her playing support to Joe Cocker before 8,000 people at the Fête du Peuple Breton in Brittany. **Maurice Leyden**, Jane's husband, is a folk-song collector, singer, broadcaster and writer with a passion for Ulster folk-song.

From Meenlaragh, which nestles between spectacular Errigal and the Islands of Tory and Inisboffin in the heart of the Donegal Gaeltacht, **Diane Cannon** inherited her musical talents from both sides of her family and she has just released her album Idir Mhuir agus Sliabh to rave reviews.

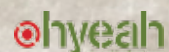
Eamon Murray from Randalstown, Co. Antrim is one of the most important young bodhrán players in Irish music. Described by Johnny McDonagh (De Dannan/Arcady) as "the future of bodhrán playing", Eamon has held the All-Ireland Bodhrán title on four occasions. He is a member of Irish band Beoga.

Venue | Oh Yeah Centre, Belfast

Date | Thurs 1 August

Time | 8pm

Tickets | £12.00



Get your tickets online at BelfastTradFest.com

SONGS OF THE PEOPLE



HOSTED BY LYNETTE FAY (BBC RADIO ULSTER)

FEATURING

JARLATH HENDERSON

NIAMH DUNNE

EAMON MURRAY

DIANE CANNON

SEAMIE O'DOWD

CONOR CONNOLLY

JANE CASSIDY

MAURICE LEYDEN



THURS 1 AUGUST

2019

OH YEAH CENTRE, BELFAST

DOORS 8PM | TICKETS £12.00

BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT www.BelfastTradFest.com



#BelfastTradFest



@BelfastTradF

Connla

Hailing from the cities of Armagh and Derry, Ciara McCafferty (vocals), Ciaran Carlin (Flute/Whistles) and Paul Starrett (Guitar) Emer Mallon (Harp) and Conor Mallon (Uilleann Pipes/Whistles). Labelled as the Hottest New Group out of Northern Ireland, (Chicago Irish American News) Connla have been quickly making an impact on the folk/traditional scene. Since the release of their EP in April 2015, and album "River Waiting" in July 2016 they have received fantastic reviews at home and internationally. They have already gathered a big following in the UK, Ireland, Europe and the USA. Songlines magazine made Connla their "must see act" for the tour of the UK and stated "A band this young shouldn't be this good". Their sensitive and innovative arrangements of traditional and modern folk songs and tunes, have helped them create a sound which is very identifiable as Connla.



Venue | The Points, Belfast

Date | Fri 2 August

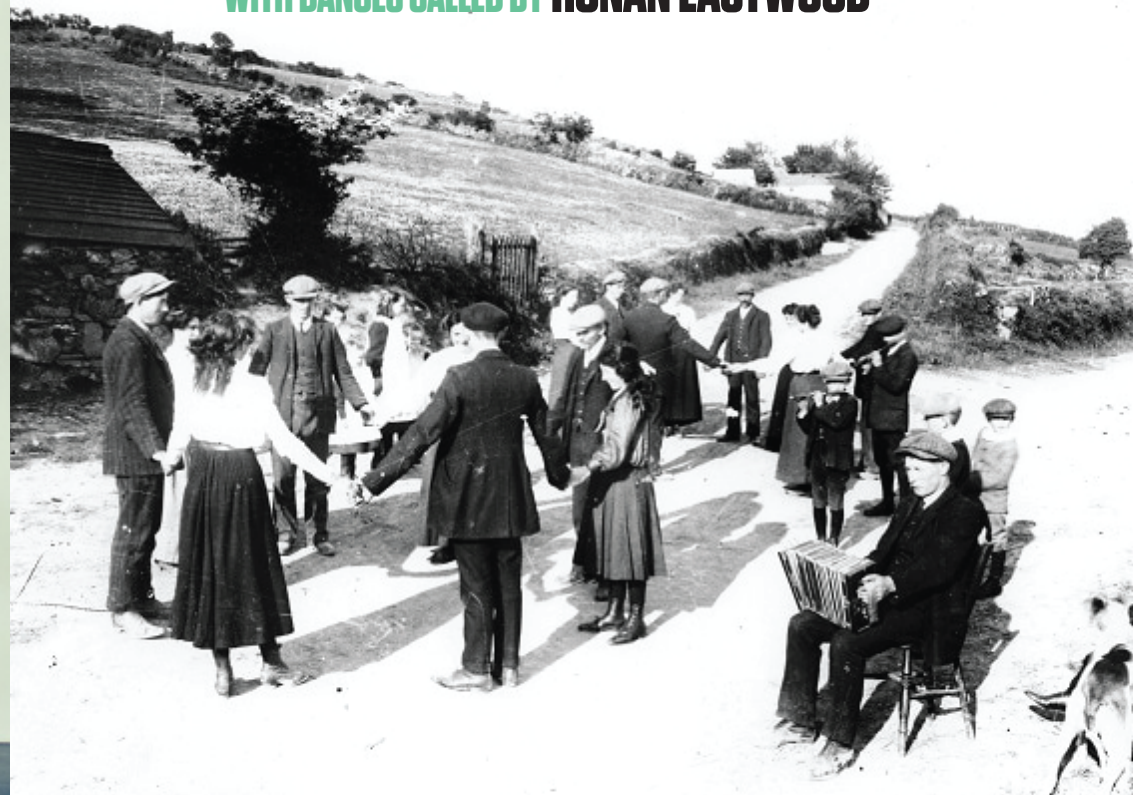
Time | 8pm

Tickets | £15.00

THE POINTS

Ceilí in Association with Belfast Pride

FEATURING CIARÁN KELLY, EDEL FOX & TERESA CLARKE
WITH DANCES CALLED BY RONAN EASTWOOD



Venue | Oh Yeah Music Centre

Date | Wed 31 July

Time | 8pm

Tickets | £8 and £5 Concession

[ohyeah](http://ohyeahmusic.com)

Sessions

All Sessions are Free Admission



SUNDAY

Evening Session with

**Brian McGrath John Carty
& Finlay McDonald**

Date: Sunday 28 July
Time: 7pm – 9pm
Location: Maddens

Evening Session with

**Kevin Crawford, Jason O'Rourke
& Teresa Clarke**

Date: Sunday 28 July
Time: 8pm – 10pm
Location: The Crown & Shamrock Bar

Baltic Belfast Bullitt Session with

**Moya Sweeney Jack Warnock,
& Friends**

Date: Sunday 28 July
Time: 9pm – Late
Location: Baltic Bar, Bullitt Hotel

MONDAY

Slow Session led by

Christine Dowling & Kieran Brady

Date: Monday 29 July
Time: 2pm – 3pm
Location: Foyer, Ulster University, Belfast

Tea Time Session with

**Michelle Muleahy, Oisín MacDiarmda
& John Joe Kelly**

Date: Monday 29 July
Time: 5pm – 7pm
Location: Sunflower Public House

Tea Time Session with

**Ríoghach Connolly, Niamh Dunne
& Seamie O' Dowd**

Date: Monday 29 July
Time: 5pm – 7pm
Location: Duke of York

Baltic Belfast Bullitt Session with

**Jack Warnock, Sinead McKenna
& Friends**

Date: Monday 29 July
Time: 10pm – Late
Location: Baltic Bar, Bullitt Hotel

TUESDAY

Slow Session led by

Finlay McDonald & John Carty

Date: Tuesday 30 July
Time: 2pm – 3pm
Location: Foyer, Ulster University, Belfast

Afternoon Session led by

**Edel Ní Churraoin, Edel Fox
& Finnian O'Connor**

Date: Tuesday 30 July
Time: 4pm – 6pm
Location: Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich

Tin Whistle Session with

**Mary Bergin, John McSherry
& Kieran Brady**

Date: Tuesday 30 July
Time: 5pm – 7pm
Location: The Dirty Onion

Evening Session with

**Liz Kane, Brian McGrath
& John Carty**

Date: Tuesday 30 July
Time: 7pm – 9pm
Location: Sunflower Public House

Evening Session with

**Finlay McDonald, Yvonne Kane
& Gareth McLees**

Date: Tuesday 30 July
Time: 8.30pm – 10.30pm
Location: The Cloth Ear

Baltic Belfast Bullitt Session with

Jack Warnock, Oisín McCann & Friends

Date: Tuesday 30 July
Time: 10pm – Late
Location: Baltic Bar, Bullitt Hotel

WEDNESDAY

Slow Session led by

Harry Bradley & Dónal O'Connor

Date: Wednesday 31 July
Time: 2pm – 3pm
Location: Foyer, Ulster University, Belfast

Tea Time Session with

**Edel Fox, Willie Drennan
& Gareth McLees**

Date: Wednesday 31 July
Time: 5pm – 7pm
Location: The John Hewitt Bar

Tea Time Session with

**Kevin Crawford, Seamie O Dowd
& Eamonn Murray**

Date: Wednesday 31 July
Time: 5pm – 7pm
Location: Maddens

Evening Session with

**Mary Bergin, Conor Connolly
& John Joe Kelly**

Date: Wednesday 31 July
Time: 7pm – 9pm
Location: The American Bar

Evening Session with

**'Piping Hot' with John McSherry,
Francis McIluff & friends**

Date: Wednesday 31 July
Time: 8.30pm – 10.30pm
Location: Sunflower Public House

Evening Session with

**Jarlath Henderson, Desi Adams &
Seamie O' Dowd**

Date: Wednesday 31 July
Time: 9.30pm – 11.30pm
Location: Maddens

Evening Session with

**Michelle Muleahy, Lorraine Ní
Bhriain & Kieran Brady**

Date: Wednesday 31 July
Time: 9.30pm – 11.30pm
Location: Duke of York

Baltic Belfast Bullitt Session with

**Kevin Meehan, Jack Warnock
& Friends**

Date: Wednesday 31 July
Time: 10pm – Late
Location: Baltic Bar, Bullitt Hotel

THURSDAY

Slow Session led by

Edel Fox & Mary Bergin

Date: Thursday 1 August
Time: 2pm – 3pm
Location: Foyer, Ulster University Belfast

Tea Time Session with

**Conor Connolly, Kevin Crawford
& Niamh Dunne**

Date: Thursday 1 August
Time: 5pm – 7pm
Location: The American Bar

Evening Session with

**Brian McGrath, Ruadhraí Cunnane &
Paul 'The Brother' Maguire**

Date: Thursday 1 August
Time: 7pm – 9pm
Location: The Dirty Onion

Evening Session with

**Yvonne Kane, Oisín MacDiarmada
& Ruadhraí O'Kane**

Date: Thursday 1 August
Time: 8.30pm – 10.30pm
Location: The Cloth Ear

Evening Session with

John Carty, Liz Kane & Edel Fox

Date: Thursday 1 August
Time: 9.30pm – 11.30pm
Location: Maddens

Baltic Belfast Bullitt Session with

**Jack Warnock, Eimhear Mulholland
& Friends**

Date: Thursday 1 August
Time: 10pm – Late
Location: Baltic Bar, Bullitt Hotel

FRIDAY

Summer School Farewell Session with

**Harry Bradley, Jarlath Henderson &
Willie Drennan**

Date: Friday 2 August
Time: 5pm – 7pm
Location: The John Hewitt Bar

Talks, Workshops, Lectures & Demonstrations

MONDAY

Talk

A History of Traditional Music - Part 1 - How old is traditional music?

An exploration of the earliest sources and the society in which dance music, harp music, and song combined into "ancient music" with Dr Martin Dowling.

Date: Monday 29 July | Time: 2pm – 3pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Talk & Demonstration

'The Clareman's Trumpet'

Edel Fox discusses the humble Concertina and she charts its journey through Irish Music.

Date: Monday 29 July | Time: 2pm – 3pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Instrument Workshop

Fiddle Surgery with Liz Kane

Spend 5/10 minutes with one of Ireland's finest fiddlers and fiddle teachers. Liz will be focusing on what it is adjudicators look for in competition fiddling. Tips, tricks and techniques. First-come basis.

Date: Monday 29 July | Time: 3pm – 4pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £3



Talk

'Session Etiquette'

Important matters that contribute to good playing and enjoyable sessions with Mary Bergin, Eamon Murray, Harry Bradley & Yvonne Kane hosted by Summer School board secretary Ray Morgan.

Date: Monday 29 July | Time: 3pm – 4pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Taster Class

Beginners Pipe Band Snare Drum

Try the Snare Drum for the first time with 2017 & 2018 World Solo Drumming prize winner Gareth McLees.

Date: Monday 29 July | Time: 4pm – 5pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Workshop

'Meet Your Feet - Rhythms and Steps from Ulster & Beyond'

Sean Nós Jigs for beginners. for all ages and abilities with two of Ulster's leading exponents Berni Corr & Bernie Graham.

Date: Monday 29 July | Time: 4pm – 5.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Workshop & Demonstration

'The music of the great Sligo Fiddle masters'

John Carty will present a workshop of music delving into the vast repertoire of North Connaught as a tribute on fiddle to honour the great Sligo fiddle masters, Lad O'Beirne, Paddy Killoran, James Morrison and Michael Coleman.

Date: Monday 29 July | Time: 4pm – 5pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Workshop & Demonstration

'The Folk revival and its effect on piping since the 1960's/70's with Finlay McDonald'

In this illustrated workshop, Finlay will look at how the music, context and image of Piping have changed over the last 40 years. Delving into the early use of pipes in the modern folk band, looking at bands such as the Tannahil Weavers, The Battlefield Band and Ossian. Finlay will introduce the major players and composers that have emerged such as Gordon Duncan, Fred Morrison and Martyn Bennett, showing their personal approaches to playing and composing for pipes within what is now a truly global and progressive part of the tradition in Scotland and beyond.

Date: Monday 29 July | Time: 5pm – 6pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



TUESDAY

Talk

A History of Traditional Music - Part 2

How has Irish politics affected Irish music? Usually below the surface of politics, Irish music has sometimes become a hot political topic and an important part of political debates in Ireland. This lecture compares three such episodes in the 1790s, 1890s, and 1990s with Dr. Martin Dowling.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 2pm – 3pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



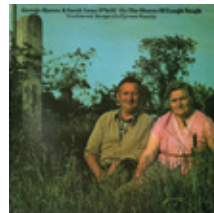
Talk & Demonstration

The Singers and Songs of the Lough Shore

Jarlath Henderson, Niall Hanna & Ríoghnach Connolly will discuss, sing and chat about their repertoire and singing style. Geordie Hanna & Sarah Ann O'Neill were traditional singers with a distinctly northern and rural style associated with the shores of Lough Neagh.

Date: Tuesday 30 July Time: 2pm – 3.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Dance Workshop

Sean-Nós Dancing Workshop / Ceardlann

Damhsa ar an Sean-Nós with Edel Ní Churraoin

Edel Ní Churraoinoin grew up immersed in the vibrant Connemara music and dance tradition. She is a sean-nós dancer and also plays the tin whistle & button accordion.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 2.30pm – 3.45pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



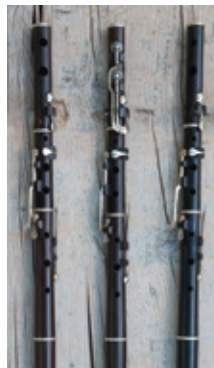
Workshop

Flutopia with Geert Lejeune - Bring your flute, try a new headjoint or an old body.

Geert Lejeune is a highly regarded flute and bagpipe maker from Brugge in Belgium. His flutes are much sought after and in recent years Belfast has become his shop window. Today he runs a workshop, where people can come with their flute, try different headjoints, try different bodies, try historical flutes, after a short introduction about what are the main differences to be found in traditional flutes.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 3pm – 4pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Talk & Demonstration

The music of Joe Cooley by Conor Connolly

was born in Peterswell, Co. Galway in 1924. He influenced an entire generation of musicians and music-lovers with his powerful, clear, passionately joyful and unique way of playing Irish accordion. An excellent CD 'Cooley' can be found on Gael-Linn CEFGD 044 compiled by accordion player Tony MacMahon. Joe emigrated to the US in 1953, having already established a distinguished playing career with the Tulla Ceili Band and many other fine musicians. TG4 Ceoltóir Óg na Bliana Conor Connolly will discuss the music and the man.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 3pm – 4pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Instrument Workshop

Fiddle Surgery with Oisín MacDiarmada

Spend 5/10 minutes 1 on 1 with one of the best in the business. First-come basis. 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.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 3pm – 4.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £3



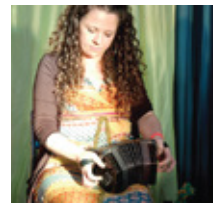
Workshop

Concertina Surgery with Michelle Muleahy

Michelle will be focusing on what it is adjudicators look for in competitions. Tips, tricks and techniques. First-come basis.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 3pm – 4.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £3



Workshop

Arrangements in Traditional Music with Seamie O Dowd, Niamh Dunne & Brian McGrath

Workshop participants will get the rare opportunity to work with three of traditional Irish music's most iconic and dynamic musicians. Masters of melody and accompaniment.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Taster Class

Bodhran for Beginners

Try the Bodhrán for the 1st time with one of the all-time greatest Bodhrán players Eamon Murray.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Talk & Demonstration

'Spit & Puff' - Belfast Flute and Fife Traditions

Join Willie Drennan and Harry Bradley as they explore Belfast's powerful flute and fife traditions and styles.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 4pm – 5pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Talk

The Manchester, Birmingham & London Irish Music Scenes

John Carty, Kevin Crawford & John Joe Kelly discuss growing up in England playing Irish Traditional Music and the strong Irish music scenes in the major cities of London, Birmingham & Manchester.

Date: Tuesday 30 July | Time: 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



WEDNESDAY

Talk

A History of Traditional Music - Part 3

How has technology changed Irish trad? From the printing press, to the industrial revolution, to the digital revolution, an exploration of how technology has affected how traditional music is learned, performed, and consumed with Dr. Martin Dowling.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | Time: 2pm – 3pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Talk & Demonstration

Exploring Sligo's fiddle repertoire

Oisín MacDiarmada demonstrates tune versions from some of the key historic Sligo fiddle players.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | Time: 2pm – 3pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Workshop

Reed Making Workshop with Paddy O'Hare - Part 1

Learn to make Uilleann pipe reeds with one of Ireland's top reed and pipemakers. In this two-day course you will gain hands on experience of making a reed from start to finish. All tools and materials provided.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | Time: 2pm – 6pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £25 (for 2 day course – Wednesday and Thursday)



Instrument Workshop

Fiddle Surgery with Niamh Dunne

Spend 5/10 minutes 1 on 1 with the Beoga fiddler Niamh Dunne. First-come basis.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | Time: 3pm – 4pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £3



Workshop

Playing Slow Airs - On any instrument with Mary Bergin

What makes a good slow air player? One of Ireland's finest musicians Mary Bergin discusses the art of playing the slow air. Incorporating tone, emotion, ornamentation and phrasing Mary will give a masters insight into this most personal of performances.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | Time: 3pm – 4.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Discussion & Demonstration

The Piano in traditional Irish music a demonstration/workshop with Brian McGrath, Liz & Yvonne Kane

Join one of Ireland's finest accompanists Brian McGrath as he demonstrates his approach to accompanying Irish traditional music on the blacks and whites.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | Time: 4pm – 5pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



Taster Class

'Hands on Harps' Beginners Harp workshop

Always wanted to try the harp? Come along to try the National Instrument of Ireland, with traditional harper Michelle Mulcahy.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | Time: 4pm – 5pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | Tickets: £5



THURSDAY

Talk

A History of Traditional Music - Part 4

How did the Irish session come to be (and why it's so great)? An exploration of why Irish music is so strongly associated with "the session", how this came to be, and what makes for great, and not-so-great, sessions with Dr. Martin Dowling.

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 2pm – 3pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** £5



Talk

Come all ye Gallant Sporting Blades - Sporting Songs with Maurice Leyden

Maurice talks about sporting songs from the Ulster Tradition including songs of hare-coursing, fox-hunting, horse-racing, boxing, cock-fighting, road bowls and children's songs.

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 2pm – 3pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** £5



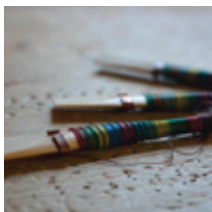
Workshop

Reed Making Workshop with Paddy O'Hare - Part 2

Learn to make Uilleann pipe reeds with one of Ireland's top reed and pipemakers. In this two-day course you will gain hands on experience of making a reed from start to finish. All tools and materials provided

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 2pm – 6pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** £25 (for 2 day course – Wednesday and Thursday)



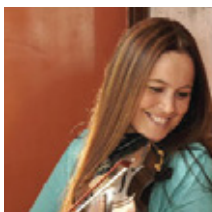
Instrument Workshop

Fiddle Surgery with Yvonne Kane

Spend 5/10 minutes with one of Ireland's finest fiddlers and fiddle teachers. Yvonne will be focusing on what it is adjudicators look for in competition fiddling. Tips, tricks and techniques. First-come basis.

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 3pm – 4pm

Location: Ulster University, York Street | **Tickets:** £3



Workshop

Harmony & Arrangement for Pipe Bands with Finlay McDonald

Finlay will take a very practical approach to developing skills in harmony and arrangement for the modern day pipe band. This will be a hands on workshop exploring the different harmonic and rhythmic possibilities open to any pipe ensemble. He will break down and explain some of the work he has produced for bands such as the Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band, Scottish Power and TRYST. Be prepared to play chanters and get involved in the music making!

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** £5



Dance Workshop

Highland Dancing Workshop with Eilidh Grant

The Fling is one of the most traditional Highland dances. It is often taught to beginners because of its cultural significance and prevalence. Come wearing comfortable clothes for dancing in, and bring a water bottle.

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 2:30pm - 4pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** £5



Ceili

Ceili with Ronan Eastwood in the foyer of the Ulster University. Music by the BBC# Ceilí Band

Come and try some Ceilí & Set Dancing, fun for all the family! Music by Conor Connolly (Accordion), Harry Bradley (Flute) & Brian McGrath (Banjo).

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 3pm – 4pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** Free Event



Dance Workshop

Old Style Hornpipe Steps for Beginners A traditional old style dance from the north of Ireland with Berni Corr & Bernie Graham

Old Style Hornpipe for Beginners. This workshop provides an introduction to this style of dance, with simple yet fun patterns of steps. Suitable for all ages and abilities with two of Ulster's leading exponents Berni Corr & Bernie Graham.

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 4.30pm – 6pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** £5



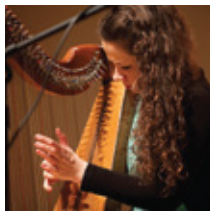
Workshop

Arranging and harmonising Harp slow airs with Michelle Mulcahy

Have you ever wondered how to go about arranging the left hand/bass clef for Irish traditional Slow airs? One of Ireland's finest harpists Michelle Mulcahy will discuss arranging and harmonising for Harp (Suitable for piano players / guitarists also).

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 4pm – 5.30pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** £5



Demonstration

Outdoor Pipe, Drum & Fife Demonstration with Finlay McDonald, Ian Burrows, Gareth McLees, Willie Drennan & Friends

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 4pm – 5pm

Location: Cathedral Gardens, Ulster University, York St.

Tickets: Free Event



Talk

'Kind Friends Lend an Ear' - Collecting Traditional Songs with Fergus Woods

With examples from his published collection of songs and stories from Monaghan in the late 1960's, Fergus Woods will host a discussion of the themes and types of song that have emerged in Ireland in the tradition of singing in English. Issues surrounding the singers, the songs and collectors will be examined. Where did the songs come from? Who sang them and where did they sing them? How can we define a folk/traditional song? What role did collectors play? Some questions raised by an oral/aural tradition will also be considered.

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 4pm – 5pm

Location: Ulster University, York St. | **Tickets:** £5



Walk

"Belfast City"

Maurice Leyden and Jane Cassidy lead a singing/walking tour with songs and stories illuminating the history of Belfast's growth from village to industrial city.

Date: Thursday 1 August | **Time:** 6pm – 7pm

Location: Meet in Reception of Ulster University, York St.

Tickets: £5



Final Recital with all Tutors and Students | MC - Dónal O'Connor

Belfast Cathedral | Friday 2 August | 2pm - 4pm

Get your tickets online at BelfastTradFest.com

THE CLOTH EAR

PUBLIC HOUSE

THE CLOTH EAR IS A TRADITIONAL
PUB IN THE HEART OF THE CATHEDRAL
QUARTER, BELFAST.

FINE FOOD • CRAFT ALES • WINE BY THE KEG

THE MERCHANT HOTEL, WARING STREET, BELFAST

THE DIRTY ONION.

BAR, RESTAURANT AND GARDEN

WWW.THEDIRTYONION.COM

Home to some of Northern Ireland's best craft beers and ales, offering music 7 nights a week with a focus on Irish Trad and local music.



YARDBIRD
—WHAT GAME FIRST—

Clucking good rotisserie chicken restaurant upstairs in The Dirty Onion. 1/4 chicken and a choice of side only £5.95

Summer School

'Whistle and Sing' (Ages 5+)

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.



Singing for beginners will be taught by Armagh Pipers Club tutor Pearse McMahon. Participants will learn to sing songs from the traditional Irish repertoire, in the aural 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: Monday 29 July – Friday 2 August | **Time:** 10am - 1pm | **Cost:** £55 for 5 days

Location: Ulster University, York Street

'Set Dancing with Ronán Eastwood

The Set Dancing classes are pitched at beginner level while also facilitating those who have danced for a few years and want to learn more dances and even some basic footwork. We will teach Set Dances from all over Ireland dancing to reels, jigs, polkas, slides & hornpipes. We will use some more experienced dancers to demonstrate each figure and then we will break down the more intricate parts of each set dance so that everyone irrespective of their experience will have a great fun.



No experience is necessary, no partner is needed and we suggest you bring are some flat leather soled shoes, a bottle of water and an open mind. It'll be great craic!"

Dates: Monday 29 July – Friday 2 August | **Time:** 10am - 1pm

Cost: £50 for 5 days (Book Online) or £15 for one day (Pay on the day)

Location: Ulster University, York Street

Music Masterclasses

The Summer School's 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.

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

Dates: Monday 29 July - Friday 2 August | **Time:** 10: 00am –1: 00pm

Location: Ulster University, York Street

Cost: £100.00 for five days, fee includes admission to all afternoon events. Does not include evening concerts, ceili or Reed Making Workshops.

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



BELFAST

TRADITIONAL

MUSIC

TRAIL

BÍONN SIÚLACH SCÉALACH



**EVERY SATURDAY
AT 4PM**

(GROUP BOOKINGS AVAILABLE)



@BELFASTTRADTRAIL



@TRADTRAILBEL



@BELFASTTRADTRAIL

BELFASTTRADTRAIL.COM



tripadvisor

COMMENDED
Northern
Ireland
Tourism
Awards
2017



Button Accordion
Conor Connolly



Harp
Michelle Mulcahy



Drumming & Percussion
Gareth McLees



Concertina
Edel Fox



Bagpiping & Small Pipes
Finlay McDonald



Uilleann Pipes
Jarlath Henderson



The Fife, Rope-drums and Lambeg
Willie Drennan



Bodhrán
John Joe Kelly



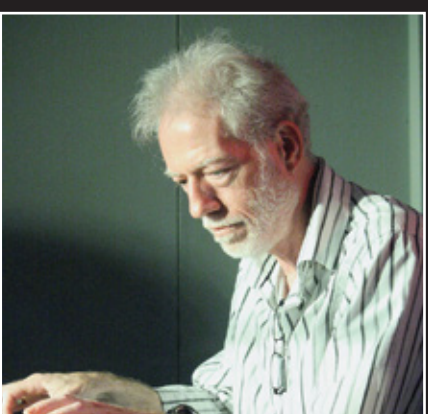
Tin Whistle
Mary Bergin



Tin Whistle
Kieran Brady



Bodhrán
Eamon Murray



Tenor Banjo Tutor
Brian McGrath



Traditional Singing
Rioghnaigh Connolly



Traditional Singing
Maurice Leyden & Jane Cassidy



Fiddle
Oisín MacDiarmada



Fiddle
Theresa Clarke



Guitar Accompaniment
Seamie O'Dowd



Fiddle
John Carty



Flute
Harry Bradley



Flute
Kevin Crawford



Fiddle
Liz & Yvonne Kane



Fiddle
Niamh Dunne

Belfast Trad Fest

27 JULY - 2 AUGUST 2019



Special Events

Belfast Traditional Music Trail

The Belfast Traditional Music Trail is a unique way to experience Irish music. With two professional musicians as your guides, walk through cobbled alleyways, past famous landmarks and in to private bars in some of the city's oldest buildings. At each of the three stops you will be treated to a performance of traditional tunes, songs and stories, all of which make up your own personal 'session'.

Date: Saturday 27 July | **Time:** 4pm | **Price:** £15



Album Launch - Paula & Melanie Houton & Friends

Paula & Melanie Houton are sisters from Inishowen, Co. Donegal. They release their long-awaited debut duo album on fiddle, flute and whistles.

Date: Sunday 28 July | **Time:** 6pm - 8pm

Location: Baltic Bar at the Bullitt Hotel



Album Launch - Pearse McMahon

The first album by Dylan Pearse, 'Songs from the North Country' has long been anticipated and is a collection of favorites from the Ulster Singing tradition with a peppering of poems and ballads from Scotland and America, thrown in for good measure. The Album will be launched by Lynette Fay.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | **Time:** 6pm - 7pm

Location: Baltic Bar at the Bullitt Hotel

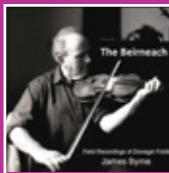


CD Launch - 'The Beirneach' - Field Recordings of the Donegal Fiddler - James Byrne

James Byrne from Meenacross, Glencolmcille, Co Donegal was one of the greatest Donegal fiddlers of his time. Born in 1946, his earliest childhood memories were of listening to his father John, also a noted fiddler, and their many musical neighbours sharing tunes and stories at the turf fire in his parents' kitchen during long winter nights. House dances, raking nights and visits by travelling musicians like the Dohertys and the McConnells were still the main entertainment in rural Donegal. His legacy is being carried forward by his family - his life partner Connie and their daughters Aisling, Merle and Séana and the many other young fiddlers he taught and inspired.

Date: Wednesday 31 July | **Time:** 7pm - 8pm

Location: Baltic Bar at the Bullitt Hotel



TAYLOR & CLAY



WWW.BULLITTHOTEL.COM

EARLY EVENING MENU

Three courses for £23.50

Sunday - Thursday | 5 pm - 7pm

40A CHURCH LANE, BELFAST, BT1 4QN.

At a Glance

- Talks, Workshops, Lectures & Demonstrations
- Sessions
- Belfast Summer School Classes
- Concerts
- Special Events

Saturday 27 July

8pm	● Concert: Lúnasa, Ulaid & Ríoghnach Connolly	The Lyric Theatre
-----	--	-------------------

Sunday 28 July

6pm	● Album Launch: Paula & Melanie Houton with Ryan O'Donnell	Baltic Bar at Bullitt Hotel
7pm	● Evening Session	Maddens
9pm	● Baltic Belfast Bullitt Sessions	Baltic Bar at Bullitt Hotel
7pm	● Evening Session	The Crown & Shamrock Bar

Monday 29 July

10am - 1pm	○ Belfast Summer School Classes	Ulster University
2pm	● Slow Session	Ulster University
2pm	● Talk: A History of Traditional Music - Part 1 How old is traditional music?	Ulster University
2pm	● Talk & Demonstration: The Clareman's Trumpet	Ulster University
3pm	● Fiddle Surgery with Liz Kane	Ulster University
3pm	● Talk: 'Session Etiquette'	Ulster University
4pm	● Taster Class: Beginners Pipe Band Snare Drum	Ulster University
4pm	● Dance Workshop: 'Meet Your Feet'	Ulster University
4pm	● Talk & Demonstration: 'The music of the great Sligo Fiddle masters'	Ulster University
5pm	● Talk: The Folk revival and its effect on piping since the 1960's/70's	Ulster University
5pm	● Tea-time Session	The Duke of York
5pm	● Tea-time Session	The Sunflower Public House
8pm	● Concert: RL. O'Mealy - Famous Belfast Virtuoso Uilleann Piper	The Duncairn
10pm	● Baltic Belfast Bullitt Sessions	Baltic Bar at the Bullitt Hotel

Tuesday 30 July

10am - 1pm	○ Belfast Summer School Classes	Ulster University
2pm	● Slow Session	Ulster University
2pm	● Lecture: A History of Traditional Music - Part 2 How has Irish politics affected Irish music?	Ulster University
2.30pm	● Sean-Nós Dancing Workshop	Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich
3pm	● Flutopia with Geert Lejeune	Ulster University
3pm	● Talk & Demonstration: The music of Joe Cooley	
3pm	● Fiddle Surgery with Oisín MacDiarmada	Ulster University
3pm	● Concertina Clinic with Michelle Mulcahy	Ulster University
3.30pm	● Talk: Arrangments in Traditional Music	Ulster University
4pm	● Talk: 'Spit & Puff - Belfast Flute and Fife Traditions'	Ulster University
3.30pm	● Taster Class: Bodhran for Beginners	Ulster University
4pm	● Tea-time Session	Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich
2pm	● Talk: The Singers and Songs of the Lough Shore	Ulster University
3.30pm	● Talk: The Manchester, Birmingham & London Irish Music Scenes	Ulster University
5pm	● Tea-time 'Tin Whistle Session'	The Dirty Onion
7pm	● Evening Session	The Sunflower Public House
8pm	● Concert: Belfast Harp Festival of 1792	Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich
8.30pm	● Nighttime Session	The Cloth Ear
10pm	● Baltic Belfast Bullitt Sessions	Baltic Bar at the Bullitt Hotel

Wednesday 31 July

10am - 1pm	○ Belfast Summer School Classes	Ulster University
2pm	● Slow Session	Ulster University
2pm	● Lecture: A History of Traditional Music - Part 3 How has technology changed Irish trad?	Ulster University
2pm	● Talk & Demonstration: Exploring Sligo's fiddle repertoire	Ulster University
2pm	● Reed Making Workshop with Paddy O'Hare - Part 1	Ulster University
3pm	● Fiddle Surgery with Niamh Dunne	Ulster University
3pm	● Talk & Demonstration: Playing Slow Airs	Ulster University
4pm	● Workshop: The Piano in Traditional Music	Ulster University
4pm	● Taster Class: 'Hands on Harps'	Ulster University
5pm	● Tea-time Session	The John Hewitt
5pm	● Tea-time Session	Maddens
6pm	● Album Launch: Pearse McMahon	Baltic Bar at Bullitt Hotel
7pm	● Album Launch: 'The Beirneach' - Field Recordings of James Byrne	Baltic Bar at Bullitt Hotel
7pm	● Evening Session	The American Bar
8pm	● Ceilí in conjunction with Belfast Pride	The Oh Yeah Centre
8pm	● Concert: The Music of Sean Maguire	An Droichead
8.30pm	● Evening Session	The Sunflower Public House
9.30pm	● Evening Session	Duke of York
9.30pm	● Evening Session	Maddens
10pm	● Baltic Belfast Bullitt Sessions	Baltic Bar at the Bullitt Hotel

Thursday 1 August

10am - 1pm	○ Belfast Summer School Classes	Ulster University
2pm	● Slow Session	Ulster University
2pm	● Lecture: A History of Traditional Music - Part 4	Ulster University
2pm	● Talk & Demonstration: Come all ye Gallant Sporting Blades	Ulster University
2pm	● Reed Making Workshop with Paddy O'Hare - Part 2	Ulster University
2.30pm - 4pm	● Highland Dancing Workshop with Eilidh Grant	Ulster University
2.30pm	● Talk: Harmony & Arrangement for Pipe Bands with Finlay McDonald	Ulster University
3pm	● Fiddle Surgery with Yvonne Kane	Ulster University
3pm	● Ceilí with Ronan Eastwood	Ulster University
4.30pm	● Dance Workshop: Old Style Hornpipe Steps for Beginners	Ulster University
4pm	● Workshop: Arranging and harmonising Harp slow airs	Ulster University
4pm	● Outdoor Pipe, Drum & Fife Demonstration	Ulster University
4.30pm	● Kind Friends Lend an Ear'	Ulster University
5pm	● Tea-time Session	The American Bar
6pm	● Walk: "Belfast City of Song"	Meet at Ulster University
7pm	● Evening Session	The Dirty Onion
8pm	● Concert: Skin, Wind & Reed	The Strand Arts Centre
8pm	● Concert: Songs of the People	The Oh Yeah Centre
8.30pm	● Evening Session	The Cloth Ear
9.30pm	● Evening Session	Maddens
10.30pm	● Baltic Belfast Bullitt Sessions	Baltic Bar at the Bullitt Hotel

Friday 2 August

10am - 1pm	○ Belfast Summer School Classes	Ulster University
5pm	● Summer School Farewell Session	The John Hewitt
8pm	● Festival Finale Concert: Connla	The Points
2pm - 4pm	● Final Recital with all Tutors and Students: MC - Dónal O'Connor	Belfast Cathedral