

Irish Heritage

Promoting the best of Irish and Anglo-Irish literature, music and young performers since 1974

JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER

26th July 2013

Dear Friends and Artists

This summer edition of the Newsletter is principally aimed at our friends, the Artists: those of you who have performed with *Irish Heritage*; those who would like to; and those who are interested in what we are doing. I would like to share with all our Friends **a new approach** to the work of *Irish Heritage*, which is quite consistent with what Ethna Kennedy, our Co-Founder and Artistic Director, envisaged 40 years ago when she and her late husband, Charles, first brought the best of Irish and Anglo-Irish literature, music and drama to audiences on the West End stage and top concert halls in London. Our support for young Irish performers has been a constant throughout our 40 year history and we intend to celebrate this achievement during our programme of events for 2013/2014.

A New Approach

We are now developing a comprehensive database of those Irish artists that we already have on our contact list. We wish to extend that list to others who have been, or will be, referred to us by our many Friends and supporters. We have, for instance, some excellent contacts in the Music Colleges in Ireland and in London and in Manchester, and we would like to use that network to reach even more Irish artists.

Many of you have shown your appreciation of what we have done in the past in staging concerts in prestigious venues in London highlighting your talent and professionalism. It is gratifying to see the name of *Irish Heritage* on your biographies and we would encourage you to continue to include it. Some of you have regularly informed us of your forthcoming events and we try to include them in our Newsletter (see, for example our recent Summer Newsletter). However, there is much more we can do to help you and to promote your performances and achievement even though we can only stage a limited number of our own events every year.

Action Required

We want you, the Artists, to let us know more about your performances and achievements so that we can use our networks, including Newsletters, website and other social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter etc) to promote your events and attract larger audiences both for you and for our own *Irish Heritage* events. To give an example: Fiachra Garvey (pianist), who performed a wonderful recital with Irish Heritage in Leighton House in June, is now performing his first solo concert in Wigmore Hall on 20th October 2013. We will be actively supporting that event (even though we are not the organisers/promoters).

There are so many opportunities **if only** we know about them well in advance - and that is your challenge. Send us the details and appropriate web-links and we will do our best to give it additional coverage it deserves through our existing and new channels including a new **events and artists** section which we are developing on our existing website.

We would also ask you to send us a link to **your** website if you have one and/or **a short** biographical note and pic to update our records. Also, please send videos of

performances or links to music/downloads. You could also include *Irish Heritage* on your Facebook and we will feature an artist on our Facebook page on a regular basis.

Please send us the relevant material, forthcoming events etc, as soon as possible. We have formed a small "Artists Group" on our Committee to compile and present your information in a structured manner. Jean Kelly (harpist) and Stephanie McCabe (founder of the London-Irish Camerata) are members of this Group. A recent music graduate from Guildford University, Lily Middleton, will be our co-ordinator for this project and you can use the existing e-mail address Irish.heritage1@gmail.com to contact Lily and our Artists Group.

We look forward to hearing from you

Yours sincerely

Niall Gallagher

Chairman

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Keep up to date by visiting our website www.irishheritage.co.uk