

Irish Heritage

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

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

21st June 2013

Dear Friends

We finished the 2012/13 season on 4th June in the wonderfully restored Leighton House Museum, Holland Park Road, London with a stunning performance by **Fiachra Garvey (piano)**. The elements were kind to us on a beautiful early June evening which provided the perfect environment for the end-of-season recital and social gathering.

Ethna Kennedy (Artistic Director) and the committee are now putting finishing touches to the artistic programme for 2013/14 – the **40th year of Irish Heritage**. Full details of the programme will be advised to you in a few weeks when venues and artists have been confirmed.

One date you can put in your diary is **Sunday 20th October 2013**, when you will have an opportunity to hear **Fiachra Garvey (piano)** perform his solo debut in *Wigmore Hall*. We will give you further details in due course.

News of Artists and Events of Interest

We were delighted to learn that our patron, **John Gilhooly**, Director of Wigmore Hall was last week named an **OBE** in the Queen's Birthday Honours list for his services to music. Aubrey Adams, chairman of the Wigmore Hall Trust, said: "*John has made a tremendous contribution to music in Britain and under his leadership he has established Wigmore Hall as the pre-eminent chamber music and song recital venue in the world.*" We all join in congratulating John on this most prestigious honour.

Fiona Murphy (soprano) is having a busy summer and performed recently at *Grange Park Opera* singing Madame Lidoine in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. You can see her singing Musetta in *La Boheme* at *Longborough Festival Opera*, in Gloucester from 18th to 28th July. Additionally, those in Ireland who tune into *Newstalk fm* can hear her chat with George Hook each week on the '*Saturday Sit In*' show in an effort to educate George on all things classical! I expect she will also be "singing the praises" of *Irish Heritage*.

Cathal Breslin, Assistant Professor of Piano at University of Memphis, Tennessee, United States (and who performed with Irish Heritage a number of times) is Founding Co-Artistic Director of the *Walled City Music Festival* in Derry. The *Walled City Music Festival* was started in 2009 by Cathal and American flautist, Sabrina Hu, with the aim of bringing outstanding classical music making to the heart of cultural life in Derry, Northern Ireland. It has since attracted artists of international calibre from around the world, including the Kronos Quartet, Sir James Galway, Augustin Dumay, Emma Johnson, Jonathan Lemalu, Richard Sherman. Cathal has asked for our support to keep it going and sent me the following request:

Support Northern Ireland's 2013 Walled City Music Festival in Derry, Northern Ireland!

Please consider "sharing" our Kickstarter campaign for our Walled City Music Festival among your networks, as we try to secure the final piece of funding. From this link, you can view the Kickstarter project, watch the video, and share:

<http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/2077204339/support-northern-irelands-2013-walled-city-music-f>

Thank you so much for your help, we really appreciate it! Cathal

Cathal is performing at the *City of London Festival* (see www.colf.org) with the Brodsky Quartet on June 24th in Draper's Hall, 7.30. It will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3.

There are many more events and items of interest involving "our" artists. Apologies if I have missed out on some, but we are delighted to receive information from you of events in London and elsewhere. So, please (artists) keep us informed so that we can keep all our Friends informed.

Yours sincerely

Niall Gallagher

Chairman

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