

Irish Heritage

NEWSLETTER

December 2011

Dear Friends,

As we head towards the festive season I would like to thank you for your support during 2011. We have had an energetic and interesting year and, yet again Ethna Kennedy has provided an artistic programme of the highest quality. The recent Music of Ireland evening in St Patrick's Church, Soho Square was an outstanding event in a packed Church with exceptional performances from the three artists, Nicola Mulligan, Jean Kelly and Gavan Ring.

As part of the festive season, we are delighted to lend our support to a great pianist, Cathal Breslin, on **Wednesday 28th December at 7.30 in the Wigmore Hall**. It will make a nice Christmas treat. Cathal, who first appeared with Irish Heritage in June 2000 in Leighton House, has been praised worldwide as one of the most exciting musicians of his generation. Top prize-winner in many international competitions, including Viotti in Vercelli, he has recently performed throughout Europe, Asia and the US, including Carnegie Hall (Weill).

His programme for the Wigmore Hall is: **Brahms**, Klavierstücke Op. 118: **Philip Hammond**: New Work (world première): **Prokofiev**: Piano Sonata No. 4 in C minor Op. 29: **Chopin**: The Four Ballades.

The recital is promoted by the UK 2013 City of Culture Company – Derry-Londonderry and the proceeds go to the Walled City Music Trust (HMRC Charity Ref. XT20573)

Bookings: Wigmore Hall Box Office: Phone 020 7935 2141 or www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

Early Reminder: Thursday 16th February 2012: Young Musician Programme

Featuring: Jessie Grimes (clarinet), Jaquim Trio (clarinet, viola, piano), Hamish Dustagheer (piano).

Bolivar Hall, 54 Grafton Way, London, W1T 5DL. Tickets can be reserved from Kathy O'Regan: e-mail:

kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk

News

Owen Gilhooly received great reviews for his appearance in Mozart's The Magic Flute OTC at The Lir Dublin and now on tour. Writing in the Irish Times, critic Michael Dungan wrote on 29th November, "*The clear leader is Owen Gilhooly as Papageno. Never straying into slapstick, always vividly inhabiting the opera's most human and sympathetic character, Gilhooly matched his fine comic timing and presence with his customarily refined singing.*"

Brian O'Kane (cello), who appeared in our Young Musician Programme in October 2009, will be making his first appearance in Wigmore Hall on February 27th 2012 at 7.30pm where he will perform sonatas by Beethoven & Faure with a wonderful Korean pianist, MinJung Baek. He will make his debut with the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland in June and a full Wigmore Hall recital with **Michael McHale** in the Autumn. Brian is rapidly climbing the ladder of success.

You may have seen recently that **The Barbara Stanley Gallery** has moved from Upper Richmond Road to 27 Connaught Street, Hyde Park, London W2 2AY. Barbara, a former Irish Heritage committee member, has an extensive exhibition programme, including her Christmas exhibition which opened on 8th December and, as always, Barbara welcomes Irish Heritage members to her Gallery. See her excellent website <http://www.irishartinlondon.com>.

Wishing you a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas from Ethna Kennedy and the Committee

Niall Gallagher

Chairman

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