

# *Irish Heritage*

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

## **NEWSLETTER**

**October 2013**

### ***Dear Friends and Supporters***

We had our Annual General Meeting with Friends on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October in Europe House and we have a number of changes to our Committee and list of Patrons, details of which are set out below.

The AGM was followed by a most interesting illustrated talk by Fintan O'Toole, Literary Editor of The Irish Times, entitled ***Object Lessons: 10 Irish Objects and what they say about Irishness*** (in Association with The Irish Times). It was an outstanding success and if you wish to learn more about the theme of Fintan's talk you should follow the link <http://www.museum.ie/en/list/history-of-ireland-in-100-objects.aspx>

### ***Reminder***

Our Season Ticket Offer is now open. For £60 you can attend all the events organised by Irish Heritage up to June 2014 and bring a guest free to one of the events. Contact Kathy O'Regan on [Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk) or [Irish.heritage1@gmail.com](mailto:Irish.heritage1@gmail.com)

We have two major events coming up over the next month, see below. We hope you can join us for these events – and spread the word with your friends.

### ***Next Events***

#### ***SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013 7.30 pm***

**Fiachra Garvey** (piano), Wigmore Hall. (Organised and promoted by Wigmore Hall and supported by Irish Heritage. Booking: Wigmore Hall Box Office.) Fiachra, who played so brilliantly for Irish Heritage at the sell-out recital in Leighton House in June 2013, was the Jaques Samuel Pianos, Intercollegiate Piano Competition Winner 2012. He has chosen a beautiful musical programme which you can view on the Wigmore Hall website:

<http://www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/whats-on/productions/fiachra-garvey-piano-33602>

#### ***TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2013 7.30 pm***

Young Musician Programme - "***Classic Meets Folk***". **David Keating** (classical guitar) and **Eimear McGeown** (flautist) and her folk band, Bolivar Hall, 54 Grafton Way W1T 5DL.

**Tickets** £12 (inc. wine reception), Students with ID £5. Tickets available from Kathy O'Regan [Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk) Tel 020 7226 4578; or on our website [www.Irishheritage.co.uk](http://www.Irishheritage.co.uk) click on **DONATE**– there is no booking fee.

**David Keating, from Cork**, at present studying in the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester under Craig Ogden, will play some traditional pieces for classical guitar – with a Spanish flavour and in addition he will play Jazz, Reggae and South American music from his repertoire.

**Eimear McGeown and her folk band** consisting of Eimear (Irish and classical flute), Colm McGonigal (harp/concertina), Tad Sargent (bouzouki/bodhran), Anna Jenkins (violin), Neil O'Loughlin (double bass), will perform a mixture of traditional Irish melodies, including "She Moved Through the Fair", and five original new compositions, including "Inis", the title track from her new Celtic Album. These will be specially arranged for the five piece band. See [www.eimearmcgeown.com](http://www.eimearmcgeown.com)

### **News of Irish Heritage Artists**

**Sioned Williams:** We have recently re-established our contact with the renowned harpist Sioned Williams, who since 1990 has been the Principal Harpist of the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Sioned is a long-term friend of our co-founders, Ethna Kennedy and her late husband Charles, and played many times with Irish Heritage in its early years.

We are delighted to hear that Sioned is **visiting Dublin** shortly for a recital entitled "*English Music Spiralling Through the Centuries*". It is on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 2.30pm in the Royal Dublin Society, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. Admission €15/€10 concessions (available at door) Reservations [events@concertharp.com](mailto:events@concertharp.com)

Sioned will also present a masterclass on orchestral harp cadenzas at DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, 163-7 Rathmines Road, Dublin 6 on Saturday 19 October, 2-4pm. Admission: €5. All Welcome. See <http://concertharp.com/page8.html> for further details.

**Jennifer Davis**, the young Irish Soprano who will appear with Irish Heritage on 10th April 2014, was recently announced as winner of the prestigious Bernadette Greevy Bursary Award 2013 (and follows in the footsteps of Rachel Kelly, mezzo-soprano, who won the award in 2012). Jennifer makes her **Wexford Festival Opera** debut later this month with the lead role of Adina in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* and is one of the 2013/14 trainees with The National Opera Studio in London.

### **Message to our Artists**

**Daire Halpin**, soprano (who performed with Irish Heritage in 2003 and in May 2013 sang with the European Youth Orchestra in St John's Smith Square) is involved with other musicians, including her cousin Jean Kelly (harp), in a very worthwhile community project. They organise concerts for members of the Southwark Irish Pensioners Project and are looking for volunteers to give a one hour concert for the members of the Project. The Southwark Irish Pensioners Project is a day centre for older and vulnerable Irish people living in the community. They offer support, a hot meal and a befriending service.

Daire and her friends are looking for fellow enthusiastic musicians who want to meet other Irish people and share their talents with them in a relaxed and informal context. Concerts will take place at the Southwark Irish Pensioners Project, Grange Walk, London SE1 3DY on Tuesday afternoons and expenses will be provided.

Daire writes: "***This is a great opportunity to make a difference in your community, to try out a concert programme or to sing a few of your favourite tunes with a lively audience***"

For more information contact [dairehalpin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dairehalpin@yahoo.co.uk). <http://www.irishinlondon.org/>  
Daire Halpin – Soprano [www.dairehalpin.com](http://www.dairehalpin.com)

## ***Feedback***

We would be delighted to receive feedback from you and any comments or artistic news for the new **blog facility** on our new website [www.Irishheritage.co.uk](http://www.Irishheritage.co.uk) . You can also use our **Facebook**: <https://www.facebook.com/IrishHeritageLondon>.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our events this year and in 2014.

Yours sincerely  
*Niall Gallagher*  
Chairman

**E-mail:** [Irish.heritage1@gmail.com](mailto:Irish.heritage1@gmail.com)

## ***Irish Heritage Committee 2013/14***

Chairman: Niall Gallagher; Artistic Director: Ethna Kennedy; Secretary: Cormac Cawley;  
Treasurer: Laurence X Cahill; Friends Liaison: Kathy O'Regan; Events: Mary Connolly; Mary Mullin; Keith Raffan; Cliona Howell

## ***Patrons***

Lady (Mary) Clancy-Hatch; John Gilhooly OBE; Seamus McGarry; Peter Sutherland KCMG SC

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and  
Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/IrishHeritageLondon>