

Irish Heritage

*Promoting the best of Irish and Anglo-Irish literature, music and young performers and celebrating
40 years – 1974-2014*

NEWSLETTER

4th April 2014

Dear Friends and Supporters

The main focus of this Newsletter is on our major event ***ENCHANTED EVENINGS - CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF IRISH HERITAGE*** on Thursday 8th MAY 2014 at St George's Church, Hanover Square London W1S 1FX at 7.30pm. We ask all our friends to support this unique occasion and contact your friends near and far. It will be a very special evening and tribute to the founders of Irish Heritage (the late Charles Kennedy, and Ethna Kennedy our Artistic Director) and the massive contribution they have made to the cultural life of Britain and the image of the Irish in Britain.

Tickets are now on sale at £20 (including wine reception and programme) and are available from Kathy O'Regan, tel. 020 7226 4578, E-mail Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk, or on-line via our website www.irishheritage.co.uk – click on **Donate (no booking fee)**. **A special student and artist rate of £5** (including wine and programme) is also available but must be booked in advance – preferably via our website.

The show:

Enchanted Evenings has been written and devised by Ethna Kennedy. It will feature excerpts from some of the classical Irish Heritage productions over the past 40 years, with profiles of great Irish and Anglo-Irish literary and musical figures, such as Oliver Goldsmith (the subject of the first ever Irish Heritage event on 4th April 1974), Thomas Moore, W.B. Yeats, James Joyce, Oliver St John Gogarty, John Count McCormack, Oscar Wilde, Patrick Kavanagh and Percy French – combined with a touch of opera and some great Irish songs and stories.

With a cast of experienced and exciting young professionals, Jennifer Davis (soprano), Lawrence Thackeray (tenor), Harry Sever (piano) and Donal Cox (actor/narrator), this will be a unique celebration in the superb venue in Central London - St George's Church, Hanover Square, London W1S 1FX (Handel's Church) see www.stgeorghanoversquare.org

IRISH HERITAGE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY

We are delighted to announce a new partnership with the Royal Dublin Society (RDS), established in 1731. The RDS Music Bursary, one of the largest in Europe, is awarded annually to a leading young Irish musician and part of this year's Bursary will be a solo recital in London with *Irish Heritage* for the winner who will be announced on 29th April. You can see the details on <http://www.rds.ie/musicbursary>. Further details will be in the next Newsletter.

NEWS OF THE ARTISTS

Rachel Kelly, mezzo-soprano, (the daughter of Una Hunt (piano), who recently performed with Irish Heritage in Regent Hall) is getting outstanding reviews for her performances in the Globe Theatre, London in **L'Ormindo** a joint production with the Royal Opera House, see

www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/music/opera/10708628/Rachel-Kelly-New-Music.html?fb a superb review by the Telegraph's distinguished opera critic, Rupert Christiansen. There is also an excellent interview with Rachel in the Irish Post 5th April edition www.irishpost.co.uk

INTERESTING EVENT

Brian Friel's iconic Irish play, **Translations**, will be at the Rose Theatre, Kingston from Tue 22 April - Sat 3 May. The Cast includes: Cian Barry, Niall Buggy, Paul Cawley, John Conroy, Beth Cooke, Hannah James-Scott, Roxanna Nic Liam, Rory Murphy, James Northcote and Ciaran O'Brian. Booking www.rosetheatrekingston.org Box office: 08444 821 556 (booking fee).

FINALLY

Please book early for our 40th Anniversary Celebration on 8th May. Booking details above

Niall Gallagher

Chairman

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