



# IRISH HERITAGE

Promoting young Irish musicians and Irish composers

## NEWSLETTER

1<sup>st</sup> April 2015

### Dear Friends and Supporters

I hope you all had an enjoyable St Patrick's Day. There were some wonderful events throughout London in that week of celebration - it just gets bigger and bigger. One notable event was the All Party Parliamentary Group on the Irish in Britain, St Patrick's Day reception in Westminster, attended by the Irish Ambassador, Dan Mulhall, and a large gathering of prominent members of Parliament and distinguished members of the Irish Community in Britain. They gathered to show their great friendships and respect on our National Day - and to "drown the shamrock". They did their duty!

What made it even more special was a brilliant musical interlude with Irish Heritage Artistic Advisor, Jean Kelly (harp) and her cousin, soprano Daire Halpin, who entertained the guests with distinction – and also said some nice things about Irish Heritage and our next event. Which leads me to....

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**Our Next Event:** Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015 will be a first for Irish Heritage. As part of our new partnership with the **Royal Dublin Society** (established in 1731) we are pleased to present the London debut concert of **Clara Daly Donnellan**, the (youngest ever) winner of the RDS Music Bursary - one of the most prestigious music awards in Ireland.

Clara is a 19-year-old trombonist (and accomplished pianist) who started her music studies at the age of 5 in the Cork School of Music. She is currently studying in Bern, Switzerland, with internationally famous trombonist Ian Bousfield.

In her concert on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at the **Princess Alexandra Hall, Royal Over-Seas League, St James's Street London SW1A 1LR** (nearest Underground station Green Park), Clara will be accompanied by leading pianist, Alison Procter, and a quintet of young friends of Clara from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and Wells Cathedral School, where Clara studied on scholarship from the age of 15.

The programme will include classical and modern pieces for trombone, trumpet, horn, piano and harp and an Irish air *The Quiet Land of Erin* adapted for harp and trombone by the great harpist Mary O'Hara. It is a truly exciting and interesting programme. The full music programme is on our website [www.irishheritage.co.uk](http://www.irishheritage.co.uk).

This is a unique event, not to be missed, and we will be pleased to have as our special guests, his Excellency the Irish Ambassador to the UK, Dan Mulhall and Mrs Greta Mulhall.

**Tickets:** £20 (students and artists £5) including wine reception and programme from: **Kathy O'Regan**, tel: 020 7226 4578, e-mail: [Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk)  
**On line** at [www.irishheritage.co.uk](http://www.irishheritage.co.uk) click on DONATE (no booking fee).

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## A Date for your Diary

After the great success of last year's Fundraising Dinner in the Savile Club, I am pleased to announce that our Guest Speaker at this year's **Dinner, on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015**, will be the leading Irish opera singer **Ailish Tynan (soprano)**. Ailish, who lives in London and has performed several times with Irish Heritage, is currently singing the lead role in Hansel and Gretel with Welsh National Opera and has an extremely busy performance schedule internationally.

As well as a reception, a 3 course dinner + coffee, and our Guest Speaker, we will have musical entertainment from young Irish musicians - all for the price of **£75 per ticket**.

**Venue:** Savile Club, Brook Street, W1K 4ER. You are advised to **book early** by contacting Kathy O'Regan: tel. 020 7226 4578, e-mail [Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk) .Enquiries: [contact@irishheritage.co.uk](mailto:contact@irishheritage.co.uk)

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## News of our Artists - A tale of three great pianists

**Fiachra Garvey** will be performing with his Ducasse trio at Wigmore Hall on Monday April 13th at 7:30pm. Fiachra writes "*should any of you be free and interested in coming along for some fun times with clarinet, violin and piano, you would be most welcome*" ([www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/whats-on) and [www.fiachragarvey.com](http://www.fiachragarvey.com) )

**Simon Lepper** (performing with Irish Heritage on 2<sup>nd</sup> June in Leighton House with Gavan Ring) will be performing with mezzo soprano Karen Cargill in Wigmore Hall on 15<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. The programme includes songs by Gustav and Alma Mahler, Wagner and Grieg. ([www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/whats-on) and [www.simonlepper.com](http://www.simonlepper.com) )

PS. Simon writes, "*We will be in the Cock and Lion pub on Wigmore Street afterwards*". See you there.

**Michael McHale's** forthcoming concerts include a morning coffee concert at Wigmore Hall with London Winds on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May and a solo lunchtime recital at St James's, Piccadilly on 5<sup>th</sup> June (see <http://www.sjp.org.uk> and [www.michaelmchale.com](http://www.michaelmchale.com)).

**Note to artists:** Why is it that pianists are so good at contacting us about their events?

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## Special Thanks

An honourable mention of Willie Moone, who does a fantastic job in putting together a most comprehensive monthly e-letter (**WillieLeaks**) of what's on in London and **never** misses an Irish Heritage event. If you would like to be on his mailing list drop him a line at [willie.moone@upcmail.ie](mailto:willie.moone@upcmail.ie)

With kindest regards and thanks for your continued support.

*Niall Gallagher*

Chairman, Irish Heritage

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