



IRISH HERITAGE

Promoting young Irish musicians and Irish composers

1st October 2015

NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends, Supporters and Musicians

We officially launched the Irish Heritage 2015/16 programme on Monday 21st September and you can see some pictures of the event in Europe House on our Facebook: IrishHeritageLondon. The details of the programme together with our new presentation brochure are on our website www.irishheritage.co.uk

Reminder: Friends of Irish Heritage: We are grateful to those of you who renewed your **Friends of Irish Heritage membership** (£50 per household) or joined for the first time and to those Friends who purchased a **Season Ticket** (£60 or £110 for two) which is **exclusive** to paid up Friends of Irish Heritage). If you have not joined or rejoined please contact Kathy O'Regan (details below) or log on to our website where secure payments can be made. We offer you a unique opportunity to help young Irish musicians at the time they need it most for their continuing education.

Our Next Events

The adjudication for the **Irish Heritage Music Bursary** takes place on **23rd October 2015** and the results will be announced in our next Newsletter. We received 11 nominations from the four London Conservatoires – all young Irish musicians studying in London. The panel of judges will be chaired by John Gilhooly OBE, Director Wigmore Hall.

The inaugural **Irish Heritage Fundraising Golf Day** is also on **Friday 23rd October** in Batchworth Golf Club (Rickmansworth, WD3 1JS) Teams of 4: £100 per person including evening dinner and lots more. Non-Golfers welcome to attend for dinner at £40 per person: Details, including sponsorship opportunities from Tom Scanlon: tom@scanlon.London Tel: 07973 835542. On our website, www.irishheritage.co.uk Or contact@irishheritage.co.uk

Alex Petcu-Colan, Percussion Counterpoint: The Forge Music Venue, Camden

The London Debut concert of Alex Petcu-Colan, Ireland's leading young virtuoso percussionist, is on **Tuesday 17th November 2015** in the Forge Music Venue, Camden NW1 7NL at 7.30 (reception 6.45).

Winner of numerous awards in Ireland and internationally, Alex will present a fascinating programme of solo percussion music, including works by Steve Reich and Evelyn Glennie.

"Petcu-Colan's Rising Star performance [National Concert Hall, January 2015] was memorable no less for the breadth of technique than for the comparable range of emotion, expression and mood" – The Irish Times.

Tickets £15 incl wine from Kathy O'Regan, kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk tel 020 7226 4578 or on our website www.irishheritage.co.uk click on Donate (no booking fee). Tickets can also be purchased on the Forge website www.forgevenue.org

Of Special Interest

NYOI London Alumni Launch at The Forge on Tuesday 17th November

Over the past 45 years, over 3,000 young Irish musicians have passed through the **National Youth Orchestra of Ireland ("NYOI")** - rehearsing, learning and performing challenging and exciting music with the great conductors of our time in world class concert halls at home and abroad while making friends and memories to last a lifetime. Many have

performed at Irish Heritage concerts. NYOI is very proud of its alumni, many of whom have gone on to pursue careers in London as musicians and in other professions. It is now establishing a London Alumni.

The Irish Heritage concert in The Forge on **Tuesday 17th November 2015** marks the launch of the **NYOI London Alumni**, a forum to keep in touch and arrange get-togethers, celebrating NYOI memories and creating new ones. **Alex Petcu-Colan**, who is the featured artist on 17th November was a member of the percussion sections of the NYOI between 2003 and 2009, performing alongside Dame Evelyn Glennie in his final concert series with the orchestra.

Irish Heritage and NYOI warmly welcome former NYOI members to this concert, and plan to meet at 6.30pm for a pre concert drink and a catch-up at The Forge. See above for ticket details. To find out more visit and “like” [Facebook: 'NYOI London Alumni'](#)

Discovering forgotten Irish composer Ina Boyle (1889 – 1967)

Our Joint Artistic Director, Katie Rowan is a relative of the Irish Composer, Ina Boyle, one of the most prolific and important composers in Ireland up to 1950. Katie, together with an influential group of musicians and academics in Dublin, have been hugely active in uncovering and archiving her outstanding work and arranging performances. The results of this work will be seen in London next year as part of our Irish Heritage programme. A website dedicated to her story and her work was recently launched and you can view it on www.inaboyle.org

We will be bringing you updates on this story in future Newsletters as it is a significant “re-discovery” internationally at a time when female composers are very much in the limelight, mainly because so few are known in musicians’ curricula.

Meet the opera stars of the future at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden

Celia Moran, the Opera Press and Communications Officer of the Royal Opera House reminded me that **Jennifer Davis (soprano, appearing with Irish Heritage on 12th February 2016)**, who is a Jette Parker Young Artist, will be taking part in **Meet the Young Artists** week at the Royal Opera House from 19-24th October – and you are welcome to come.

“Meet the Young Artists Week provides a chance to see the future faces of opera in the intimate setting of the Linbury Studio Theatre at the Royal Opera House. The week’s activities also include a diverse programme of free recitals and a chance to meet the Young Artists in person. Meet the Young Artists Week takes place from 19-24 October. More info can be found here: <http://www.roh.org.uk/about/jette-parker-young-artists-programme/events/meet-the-young-artists-week>”

David Keating (guitar) who performed with Irish Heritage in November 2013

is keeping in touch and here are some interesting dates of his forthcoming performances which we are delighted to report to you.

*“On **November 22nd**, I’ll be giving a solo recital for **Cromer Music Evenings in Norfolk**.*

See: <http://cromermusicevenings.org.uk/>

*On **March 20th 2016**, I’ll be playing the Giuliani Concerto in A with **the Angel Orchestra** in London see: <http://the-angel-orchestra.co.uk/tao/Concerts.html>*

*And in addition, I’ll be performing Rodrigo’s Concierto de Aranjuez, with the **Wilmslow Symphony Orchestra on June 11th 2016**.*

Carolyn Dobbin (Irish Heritage April 2008, and keeps in touch) writes:

*“The English Touring Opera’s production of Massenet’s Werther in which I perform the role of Charlotte, opens on the **2nd October 2015** at the Royal College of Music Britten Theatre at 7.30 pm and is repeated on **Thursday 8th October**. It continues on a tour of Britain in October and November <http://englishtouringopera.org.uk/productions/werther>*

It would be lovely to see my Irish Heritage supporters there, Carolyn.”
www.carolyndobbin.com

Final note: **Wexford Festival Opera** begins its 64th Festival on 21st October. It runs until 1st November. You will find details of its outstanding programme on www.wexfordopera.com. We wish the organisers, the performers and our Friends who visit Wexford for the Festival a memorable visit and we pay tribute to this remarkable Irish cultural success story.

Thank you all for your continuing support and we hope to see you at many of our events.

Niall Gallagher

Chairman, Irish Heritage

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