

IRELAND – A HISTORY IN SONG by LARRY KIRWAN



“Larry Kirwan is a rock and roll poet with a deep appreciation of his roots.”

-- Rosanne Cash

“By the end of the evening, the audience is up, cheering and stamping. In *Hard Times* Mr. Kirwan has not only delivered a knockout entertainment, he’s done a public service, reacquainting us with the Foster songbook and the striving, teeming America for which it was written.”

-- *New York Times*

IRELAND – A HISTORY IN SONG is a new and exciting one-man show by **Larry Kirwan** that combines his 25 years experience leading **Black 47** with his parallel careers as playwright, author, journalist and radio host. Through a mixture of story-telling, acting, and singing Kirwan brings Irish history alive with emphasis on The Great Hunger of 1847, Emigration to America, The Celtic Revival, 1916 Uprising, and the recent “Troubles.” You’ll be introduced to and get to the heart of James Connolly, Michael Collins, Countess Markievicz, James Joyce, WB Yeats, Bobby Sands & Bernadette Devlin McAliskey among others.

The show will include classic Kirwan songs such as *Black 47*, *James Connolly*, *The Big Fella*, extracts from his plays and books, *Mr. Parnell*, *Blood*, *Hard Times*, *A History of Irish Music*, and *Green Suede Shoes* in a seamless story that will entertain & educate.

Larry Kirwan is one of the most popular performers/personalities in Irish-America. Apart from his groundbreaking work with Black 47 – the band that spearheaded the Celtic Rock movement - he also hosts **Celtic Crush** on **SiriusXM**, writes a bi-weekly column for the **Irish Echo**, and is president of **Irish-American Writers & Artists**. In a 25-year career **Black 47** played 2,500 gigs, released 16 CDs, and appeared on all major TV shows including **Letterman**, **Leno**, **O’Brien & Fallon**.

A critically acclaimed playwright with 15 plays and musicals, Kirwan will also weave in songs from his acclaimed musical, **Hard Times** – now being developed for a Broadway production. Always a riveting performer, Kirwan holds audiences spellbound with his intensity, insightfulness and wit. He will conclude the evening with a selection from the rollicking side of the Black 47 catalogue including hits like *Funky Ceili*, *40 Shades of Blue*, *Livin’ in America*.

Kirwan's songs have been featured in many movies and recent editions of **Sons of Anarchy** and **Gossip Girl**; they are also used in hundreds of college and high school history classes. His latest book, **A History of Irish Music**, not only illuminates the music but links it to the social and political changes of the last 75 years in Ireland.

Now booking - a powerful new solo show with all the fire and vision of Black 47 by Larry Kirwan, named one of the *Top Fifty Most Interesting New Yorkers* by The Daily News.



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