

# Belfast Tradfest

21-28 JULY  
**2024**



**BELFASTTRADFEST.COM**

# Booking Details

## Box Office

Online at: [www.belfasttradfest.com](http://www.belfasttradfest.com)

Telephone: 028 9031 4981

Email: [info@belfasttradfest.com](mailto:info@belfasttradfest.com)



## Accommodation

City centre summer school accommodation can be booked on festival website from £349 for 7 nights.

## Accessibility & Age Restrictions

Belfast TradFest aims to be as accessible as possible. Unfortunately a small number of venues have restricted access and age limits due to licensing laws. See website for all access information or email [info@belfasttradfest.com](mailto:info@belfasttradfest.com) with requirements.

## Mailing List

Be the first to get festival information and earlybird discounts by signing up to our mailing list at [www.belfasttradfest.com](http://www.belfasttradfest.com).

## Discounts

10% Family Discount for two or more family members attending masterclasses, at checkout apply code FAMILYJULY24.

For community, school and group discounts, get in touch.

## Festival Team

**Dónal O'Connor**, Artistic Director

**Patricia Murray**, Festival Producer

**Chloe McGregor**, Marketing Officer

**Dermot McGowan**, Production Manager

**Alex Walsh**, Production Assistant

**Moya Sweeney**, Summer School Co-Ordinator

**Maeve O'Donnell**, Session Trail Co-Ordinator

**Jeff Robinson**, PR

## Trustees

**Ray Morgan**, Chair

**Andy McGregor**, Vice Chair

**Brendan Morgan**, Treasurer

**Goretti O'Connor**, Secretary

**Christine Dowling**, Trustee

**Ian Burrows**, Trustee

BELFAST TRADFEST IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT REGISTERED CHARITY. CHARITY NO: NIC104823

[belfasttradfest.com](http://belfasttradfest.com)

# Welcome



Welcome to the sixth annual Belfast TradFest!

It is with immense joy and anticipation that I extend my warmest greetings to all of you. As we gather once again to celebrate the rich tapestry of traditional music, song, and dance, I am reminded of the resilience and spirit that define our community. TradFest has always been more than a mere festival; it is a vibrant thread, woven into the fabric of Belfast. Our artists, both seasoned and emerging, infuse life into ancient melodies and songs, bridging generations and connecting us to our roots.

This year we have curated a diverse array of performances, workshops, céilís, launches, and the Dunville's Irish Whiskey Session Trail showcases the breadth and depth of our tradition. Whether you're a seasoned céilí dancer or a curious newcomer, there's something in the over three hundred and fifty events, for everyone.

As we navigate these challenging times for the arts, TradFest remains a beacon of hope. Our artists, like the ancient bards, continue to tell stories through their music - stories of love, loss, resilience, and joy. They remind us that music transcends borders, heals wounds, and unites hearts. Let us embrace this gift and revel in the magic that unfolds when we gather in celebration.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our funders, sponsors, volunteers, board and the entire TradFest team. Your dedication ensures that this festival thrives year after year. To our audiences, thank you for your unwavering support. Your applause, foot-tapping, and laughter fuel our artists' spirits and inspire them to create anew.

So, let us raise our glasses to the musicians, dancers, singers and storytellers who breathe life into our traditions. May their tunes echo through the cobbled streets of Belfast, across the River Lagan, and into the hearts of all who join us in this wonderful UNESCO city of music.


Sláinte

**Dónal O'Connor**

Artistic Director







# TITANIC CÉILÍ

A FREE ONE-DAY OUTDOOR  
**FAMILY EVENT**  
WITH PERFORMANCES BY

**BLACKWATER CÉILÍ BAND**

**ROSIE STEWART / JACK WARNOCK**

**CLEAMAIRÍ FEIRSTE BELFAST WREN BOYS / ARDS CCE**

**GLENGORMLEY SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC**  
BODHRÁN CIRCLE, FOOD STALLS AND FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES

**SUNDAY 21 JULY**  
**FROM 1PM - 5PM**

**THE TITANIC SLIPWAYS**  
**BELFAST'S MARITIME MILE**

**[WWW.BELFASTTRADFEST.COM](http://WWW.BELFASTTRADFEST.COM)**



Belfast  
City Council





# MOYA BRENNAN

## ZOË CONWAY & JOHN MCINTYRE

Celtic Goddess **Moya Brennan** has a voice that continues to provide a constant reminder of how the heart can be touched by the purity and thrill of music. Her live solo shows, having all the musicality and power of Clannad - but with added, heart-warming intimacy - are always a rich and moving experience. Her unique, effortless vocals and timeless music pay homage not only to her vibrant traditional Irish heritage but also her grasp of contemporary forms. This concert will be a visual as well as an aural spectacle with rhythm, atmosphere and vibrant harmony.

Her fantastic five piece band features her daughter, **Aisling Jarvis** and son, **Paul Jarvis**, along with the remarkable harper **Cormac De Barra** and fiddler **Clare Friel** from Glasgow/Donegal.

With an exciting blend of eclectic fiddle and guitar music, **Zoë Conway & John McIntyre** bring to the stage sympathetic arrangements of traditional Irish music, compositions and songs, old and new. The husband-and-wife folk duo possess a rare facility to draw pieces into their repertoire from other genres such as classical, jazz and world music and express this material in way which not only displays the sheer range and knowledge of both instrumentalists but also exhibits the wonderful versatility of their instruments.

"SIMPLY ONE OF THE BEST FOLK DUOS ON THE PLANET" - BBC

**Sun 21 July**

**Empire Music Hall**

**Doors 7pm**

**Tickets £27.50**





# FLUTOPIA

Belfast is synonymous with the sound of the flute. Energy and creativity are very much the hallmarks of the Belfast style. The music of this city invariably has a persistent and hypnotic pulse which draws the listener into a trance-like state. This concert features some of the world's best traditional flute and whistle players and it promises to be a spectacle of brilliant solo and collaborative performances.

Hosted by Belfast flute legend **Davy Maguire**, a highly respected performer and teacher, both at home and abroad. A frequent visitor to Brittany, Davy has performed with Dealán Dartha and Commonalty, as well as in duo with Jamie McMenemy.

**Kevin Crawford** from Birmingham is best known as a founding member of Moving Cloud and current member of Ireland's cutting edge traditional band Lúnasa.

**Catherine McEvoy** was awarded TG4 Gradam Ceoil Musician of the Year in 2019. She was a member of the first all-female traditional group Macalla.

**Gary Hastings** from east Belfast is recently retired as a Rector in the Church of Ireland. He has been influenced by legendary musicians such as Cathal McConnell, Len Graham, Joe Holmes, Mick Hoy and Eddie Duffy.

**Mary Bergin** – 'Just about the best tin whistle player this century' is how the Irish Times refers to Mary. She was born into a very musical family and began playing at an early age winning many awards including the All-Ireland title.

**Robbie Harris** is a highly sought-after bodhrán player and percussionist. Over the years he has recorded and performed with many world-renowned artists: Bobby McFerrin, Afro Celt Sound System, Clannad and Bob Geldof, to name but a few.

**Éimhear Flannery** was the youngest ever finalist to compete in the Bonn Óir Seán Ó Riada, and in 2024 she was named winner for her outstanding performance on the Tin Whistle.

**Ed Boyd** is a member of Lúnasa and is widely regarded as one of the finest acoustic guitarists on the European folk circuit. He is a founding member of the BBC Folk Award-winning group Flook, with whom he recorded four critically acclaimed albums.

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**Mon 22 July**

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**The Black Box**

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**Doors 6pm**

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**Tickets £15**

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**All Ages**

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FEATURING  
**KEVIN CRAWFORD | CATHERINE MCEVOY**  
**MARY BERGIN | ROBBIE HARRIS**  
**ÉIMHEAR FLANNERY | OISÍN MCCANN**  
**ED BOYD | GARY HASTINGS**  
**DAVY MAGUIRE**

CONCERTS

CONCERTS



# Ceol na nGael

## Wild Music of the Gael

I gcomhpháirt le Scoil Samhraidh Mhic Reachtain agus leis na haoi-cheoltóirí - **Diane Cannon** (Bean an Tí), **Mick O'Brien**, **Derek Hickey**, **Ryan Molloy**, **Lorraine Ní Bhriain** & **George McAdam**.

Forged out of the centuries-old traditions of her native Donegal, **Diane Cannon** is a singer who brings the songs and the music played by the hearth fire of a long gone ceilí house, to the sophisticated tastes of a 21st century audience. From Meenlaragh, which nestles between spectacular Errigal and the Islands of Tory and Inisboffin in the heart of the Donegal Gaeltacht, Diane inherited her musical talents from both sides of her family

**Mick O'Brien** was born into an extremely musical Dublin family and is a highly regarded uilleann piper who has broadcast on TV and radio extensively both as a soloist and with various artists including the likes of Charlotte Church and The Dubliners, to name but a few. His traditional style shows great delicacy and subtlety, strong in rhythm and enlivened by his unique inflections and nuances.

**Derek Hickey** joined Irish supergroup Dé Dannan at the age of 21. In his rich and varied performing experiences, he has shared the stage with some of world's greatest talents including Stephane Grappelli and The Rolling Stones. He is the current TG4 Gradam Ceoil 'Musician of the Year'.

Longtime resident of Belfast, **Lorraine Ní Bhriain** hails from a famous family of musicians in County Clare. She is a highly regarded performer and tutor on the concertina.

**George McAdam** from Monaghan has won numerous junior and senior All-Ireland titles. He is a highly sought-after performer, recording artist and tutor throughout Ireland, the UK, Europe and North America.

**Ryan Molloy** was recently awarded TG4 Gradam Ceoil Composer of the Year (2024) and is widely recognised as one of the masters of modern accompaniment in Irish traditional music. His compositions, rooted in the language of Irish traditional music, have been performed by world-leading ensembles.

**Mon 22 July**

**Áras Mhic Reachtain**

**Doors 7:30pm**

**Tickets £15**

**12+**



FEATURING

**DIANE CANNON | MICK O'BRIEN**

**DEREK HICKEY | RYAN MOLLOY**

**GEORGE MCADAM | LORRAINE NÍ BHRIAIN**



CONCERTS

CONCERTS

# Seán Maguire - Ómós

In association with the Sean Maguire Music Society

The word 'genius' may be over-used these days, but there's no other way of describing the phenomenon of Sean Maguire in the world of traditional music. The Belfast man rewrote the book on fiddle playing after bursting onto the scene in the 40s, with a combination of dazzling virtuosity, high creativity and passion for performance. It was a style which pushed the boundaries, nettled the fundamentalists and which he himself called 'progressive traditional'. We pay tribute to the man and his music with a concert featuring some of the finest traditional fiddlers on the planet.

**Cathal Hayden** from Tyrone is one of the foremost fiddle and banjo players of his generation, best known as founding member of Irish supergroup Four Men and a Dog.

**Tara Breen** has been described as "a musical wizard", sharing stages with renowned artists including The Chieftains, Stockton's Wing, Dónal Lunny and Carlos Núñez.

**Zoë Conway** is recognised for her ability to effortlessly combine a background steeped in Ireland's rich aural music tradition with a strong founding in classical music.

**Niall Murphy** is a multi-award-winning fiddler who has toured with Nathan Carter, Cara Dillon, Breaking Trad, Doolin, The Roots Revival and is a member of Cathal Hayden's Bow Brothers.

**Seán Smyth** hails from County Mayo and is founding member of Lúnasa. Coming from a musical family he is All-Ireland champion in both fiddle and whistle.

**Conor Caldwell** from Belfast will host this evening's concert and is known for his energetic northern fiddle style. His music is informed by his research in traditional music which explores both archival and contemporary sources, and he will host this concert.

**Ryan Molloy** was awarded TG4 Gradam Ceoil Composer of the Year (2024). He widely recognised as one of the masters of modern accompaniment in Irish traditional music.

**River McGann** from Ennis, Co. Clare was crowned Fiddler of London 2024 at the final in the London Irish Centre.

**Johnny Murphy** is a former pupil of Seán Maguire's. A prolific performer and teacher, tonight he will be joined by some of his own fiddle students, continuing Seán's legacy.

**Tues 23 July**

**The MAC**

**Doors 7:30pm**

**Tickets £19.50**

**All ages**

FEATURING  
**CATHAL HAYDEN**  
**TARA BREEN**  
**ZOË CONWAY**  
**NIALL MURPHY**  
**SEÁN SMYTH**  
**CONOR CALDWELL**  
**RYAN MOLLOY**  
**RIVER MCGANN**  
**JOHNNY MURPHY**  
& FIDDLE STUDENTS



# Na Máistrí

## Masters of Traditional Music

I gcomhpháirt le Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich.

Hosted by **Neil Martin**, from Belfast, who is a composer and musician with an international reputation. His work has been performed across the world from Ground Zero to Mostar Bridge and the Royal Albert Hall.

**Tara Howley** is native to County Clare, with a background in classical and traditional music. Her illustrious career is adorned with prestigious awards and notable performances.

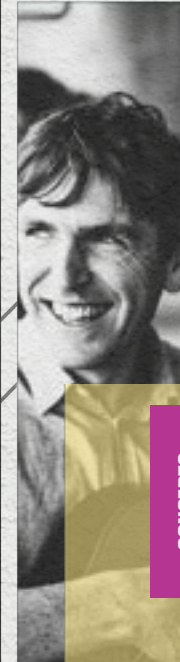
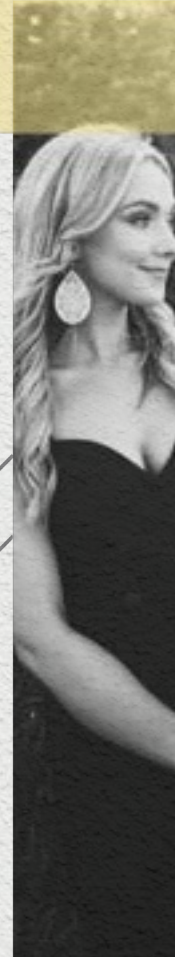
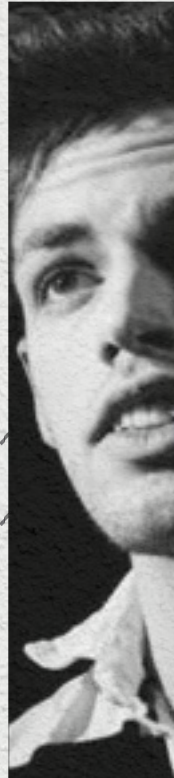
**Dàibhidh Stiùbhard** is a senior traditional singing champion who grew up in County Tyrone and sings from that deep place within which the most meaningful and meant words are found.

**Pádraig Rynne** from County Clare is best known for his virtuosic playing of the concertina and his significant contributions to contemporary traditional Irish music.

**Mirella Murray** hails from County Galway. Artists such as Sharon Shannon, Lúnasa and the Bumblebees credit her as a source of uncommon melodies through her vast collection of tunes from her travels.

**Aimée Farrell Courtney**'s debut performance was at the age of eight in Dublin's National Concert Hall. Her dynamic playing ranges from a renowned sensitive style of accompaniment to electrifying rhythmic solos and duets.

**John McIntyre** grew up immersed in the language, songs and traditional dance music of southwest Donegal. He has toured extensively worldwide and has worked alongside many world-renowned artists and producers.



CONCERTS

CONCERTS

### FEATURING

**Neil Martin | Tara Howley | Dàibhidh Stiùbhard**  
**Pádraig Rynne | Aimée Farrell Courtney**  
**John McIntyre | Mirella Murray**

**Tues 23 July**

**Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich**

**Doors 7:30pm**

**Tickets £15**

**All Ages**



# BOW BROTHERS

## Mary Dillon, Dónal O'Connor & Neil Martin



Cathal Hayden's Bow Brothers comprises some of the biggest names in traditional music, featuring Tyrone maestros **Cathal** and **Stephen Hayden**, and award-winning County Armagh fiddler **Niall Murphy**. The trio are joined by multi award-winning singer and guitarist **Seamie O'Dowd**, legendary Fermanagh musician **Brian McGrath** and percussionist **Jimmy Higgins**.

Described as one of the foremost fiddle and Banjo players of his generation, **Cathal Hayden**'s recordings, both solo and collaborations with the acclaimed Four Men and a Dog or Máirtín O'Connor Trio and more recently with Christy Moore, have become standard bearers for emerging musicians over the last twenty years.

**Stephen Hayden**, brother of Cathal, is regarded as one of the finest fiddle players of his generation. He first rose to fame as the fiddle player in energetic trad band Upstairs in a Tent, over 20 years ago. In more recent times, Stephen has performed as a guest with bands such as the Máirtín O'Connor Trio and Four Men and a Dog, before becoming a full-time member of the 'Dogs'.

**Niall Murphy** is one of the most talented fiddle players to have toured the world. He is a 5-time National Fiddle Champion, 3-time 'Fiddler of Oriel' and winner of 'Fiddler of Dooney'. Niall has toured with many global talents such as Nathan Carter, Cara Dillon, Breaking Trad, Doolin, The Roots Revival and many more.

Bow Brothers' shows have been described as 'powerhouse' and 'virtuosic' as they deliver an 'awe-inspiring level of energy and soul'.

Together, **Mary Dillon**, **Dónal O'Connor**, and **Neil Martin** create a spellbinding tapestry of traditional and contemporary sounds. Their collaborative efforts promise to breathe new life into timeless Ulster songs and tunes, marrying Mary's evocative vocals with the expressive interplay of fiddle, cello, harmonium & uilleann pipes.

Few singers are as cherished and revered as **Mary Dillon**. With a voice as pure as crystal and as deep as a spring well, this two-time All-Ireland singing champion hails from Dungiven in County Derry. The 'voice of Déanta', she has captivated audiences with her emotive vocals and passionate delivery for decades.

**Dónal O'Connor** is one of Ireland's leading producers and musicians. He comes from a long and distinguished line of Irish fiddlers and singers and his collaborations have variously included membership of Ulaid, At First Light and Lá Lugh. He has brought his native Oriel music to all four corners of the globe and is the artistic director of Belfast TradFest.

Hailing from Belfast, **Neil Martin** is a highly accomplished cellist and composer who has left an indelible mark on the world of classical and traditional music in Ireland. Born with a passion for both genres, Neil's journey has been defined by his ability to seamlessly traverse the boundaries between them, creating a unique and captivating musical identity.

"WHEN THREE TRADITIONAL MUSIC COMETS COLLIDE, SPARKS WILL SURELY FOLLOW" - CQAF



**Wed 24 July**

**Empire Music Hall**

**Doors 7:30pm**

**Tickets £24.50**



# Belfast Harp Festival

## Féile Cruitirí Bhéal Feirste

The **Belfast Harp Festival** of 1792, was a landmark event in the preservation and revival of the tradition of Irish harp music, which was in danger of disappearing. Organized by a group of merchant class Presbyterians, including Dr. James McDonnell and Henry Joy McCracken, the festival brought together ten of the last remaining Irish harpers, many of whom were elderly and blind. These harpers included renowned figures such as Denis Hempson and Arthur O'Neill.

The task of transcribing and documenting the music played by the harpers, was undertaken by Edward Bunting, a young organist in Belfast Cathedral. Bunting meticulously recorded the melodies and techniques, ensuring that the rich heritage of Irish harp music would not be lost to future generations.

The Harp Festival was more than a musical event; it was a cultural renaissance that celebrated and safeguarded our musical heritage. It highlighted the artistry and significance of the Irish harp, inspiring subsequent generations to appreciate and continue this vital cultural tradition which is celebrated in this concert.

**Eilís Lavelle** hails from County Monaghan. She has collaborated with a wide range of genres and featured on various broadcasts. Eilís is currently undertaking a PhD at Queen's University, Belfast focusing on the Edward Bunting collection of music.

Concert host **Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh** is a multi-award-winning traditional singer and musician and was the RTÉ Radio 1 Folk singer of the year 2022. Her upbringing in West Kerry saw her immersed in a rich cultural environment influencing the foundation of her distinctive vocal and instrumental sound.

**Gráinne Meyer** is a County Antrim based composer, harpist and pianist. Gráinne is the most recent winner of the *World Music Competition* following performances at Wales International Harp Festival 2023. She will perform with a ensemble of her local students.

**Aisling Lyons** is a multi-award-winning musician and composer from County Clare. She is the holder of eight All-Ireland titles, has performed internationally and collaborated with distinguished artists and musicians in various projects.

**Mary Bergin** is considered the world's greatest tin whistle player and was born into a very musical family. She began playing at an early age winning many awards in Oireachtas and Fleadh Ceoil competitions, including the All-Ireland Championships.

**Pádraic Keane** was awarded TG4 Young Musician of the Year (2011). He has collaborated with various artists including Ragús, The Irish Chamber Orchestra, Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin, RTÉ Concert and Symphony Orchestras and many more.

**Mary McGuiggan** hails from County Derry and has been dancing since she was four years old, learning her dance steps from May Allen. Mary has had success in competition at local, Ulster and All-Ireland levels.

FEATURING

EILÍS LAVELLE

AISLING LYONS

MARY BERGIN

MUIREANN NIC AMHLAOIBH

GRÁINNE MEYER & HARP ENSEMBLE

PÁDRAIC KEANE

MARY MCGUIGGAN



CONCERTS

CONCERTS

**Wed 24 July**

**Crescent Arts Centre**

**Doors 7:30pm**

**Tickets £17.50**

**All Ages**



# With Pipe & Drum

We explore the musical traditions of Scotland and Ireland through the sounds of the Highland bagpipes, snare drum, flute, tin whistle, smallpipes & bodhrán, featuring some of the world's finest musicians.

**Joanie Madden** is an Irish-American flute and whistle player from The Bronx in New York. She is best known as leader of the all-female group Cherish the Ladies and has performed her music all over the world.

**Fin Moore** is a Scottish piper, born & bred. Considered a master in Highland pipes, Border pipes and Scottish smallpipes, he regularly performs with Dannsa and is a founding member of pipe quartet Seudan.

Concert host **Andy McGregor** is a Belfast TradFest board member and a highly regarded Highland piper and smallpiper who has performed and taught music the world over. He is a founding member of folk band Pure Blarney.

**Mick McAuley** from Kilkenny is a long-time member of Irish-American ensemble Solas. He has been part of a movement which continues to push the musical boundaries of the tradition to bring Irish music to a wider and more diverse audience around the world.

**Gary Hastings** from east Belfast is an exceptionally talented flute player and has been influenced by legendary musicians Cathal McConnell, Len Graham and Joe Holmes. Gary has recorded albums with Fr Séamus Quinn, The Chieftains and Frankie Gavin.

**Aimée Farrell Courtney** – With a debut performance at the age of eight at Dublin's National Concert Hall, Aimee's dynamic playing ranges from her renowned sensitive style of accompaniment to electrifying rhythmic solos and duets.

**Grahame Harris** from Belfast studied under the late Freddy Russell and Roddy MacLeod MBE. He has recorded and performed with various artists including the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland, Ulster Orchestra and Carlos Núñez, to name but a few.

**Mark Wilson** from County Down is a presenter and musical director who has won an array of awards in solo and pipe band snare drumming. He has travelled the world to teach, perform and collaborate with renowned musicians and composers.

**Friends of Campbell College Pipe Band** was founded in 1909 and is currently one of the oldest active pipe bands in Northern Ireland.

**Glengormley School of Traditional Music** is an internationally recognised, award-winning, volunteer-based, community school that provides tuition in a variety of musical instruments to a diverse range of ages and abilities.

FEATURING

**JOANIE MADDEN**

**MICK MCAULEY**

**FIN MOORE**

**GARY HASTINGS**

**ANDY MCGREGOR**

**GRAHAME HARRIS**

**MARK WILSON**

**AIMÉE FARRELL COURTNEY**

**FRIENDS OF CAMPBELL COLLEGE PIPE BAND**

**GLENGORMLEY SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC**

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**Thurs 25 July**

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**Titanic Hotel**

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**Doors 7pm**

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**Tickets £15**

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**All Ages**

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CONCERTS

CONCERTS



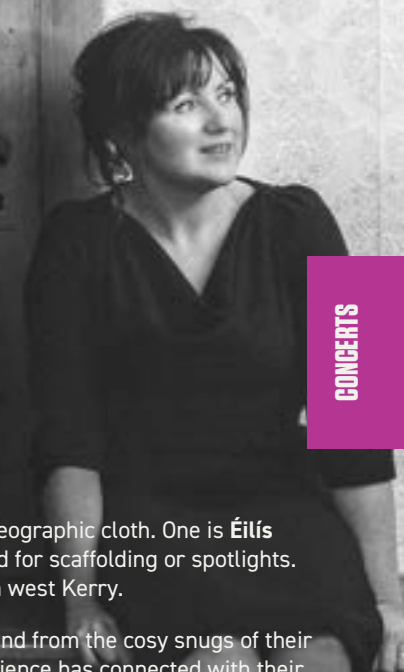
# Lúnasa | Lumiere

Once described as an “Irish music dream team”, **Lúnasa**’s complex arrangements and unique sound reshaped the boundaries of traditional music and energised audiences the world over, becoming one of the most influential bands in the history of traditional music.

The current lineup features: Tyrone’s **Trevor Hutchinson**, who achieved fame as the bassist with the The Waterboys; Armagh piper **Cillian Vallely** who was a member of Riverdance and recorded with Bruce Springsteen; Birmingham born Flute player **Kevin Crawford**, considered to be one of the greatest Irish flute players, award-winning fiddler **Seán Smyth**, who performed with Donal Lunny’s legendary Coolfin and guitarist **Ed Boyd** who made a name for himself in the UK folkscene with bands such as Flook, Kate Rusby, and Cara Dillon.

**“THE NEW GODS OF IRISH MUSIC...NOBODY SINCE THE BOTHIES  
HAS WIELDED SUCH A THRILLING RHYTHMIC UNDERLAY.”**  
- MOJO MAGAZINE

CONCERTS



CONCERTS

**Lumiere** brings together two distinct voices cut from the same geographic cloth. One is **Éilís Kennedy**, whose sound has ready access to the soul without need for scaffolding or spotlights. The other is **Pauline Scanlon**, an award-winning singer also from west Kerry.

Since their debut launch, the duo has toured their distinctive sound from the cosy snugs of their native Dingle to international concert halls, and a worldwide audience has connected with their offering of real music, by real singers, communicating real emotions.

They are joined by **Donogh Hennessy**, a guitarist, composer, music producer and studio engineer who has been working mostly with Irish traditional and folk music and is best known for his recorded and live work with artists such as Lúnasa, Sharon Shannon & the late Seamus Begley.

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**Thurs 25 July**  
**Empire Music Hall**  
**Doors 7:30pm**  
**Tickets £29.50**

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belfasttradfest.com





# 2025 FESTIVAL DATES

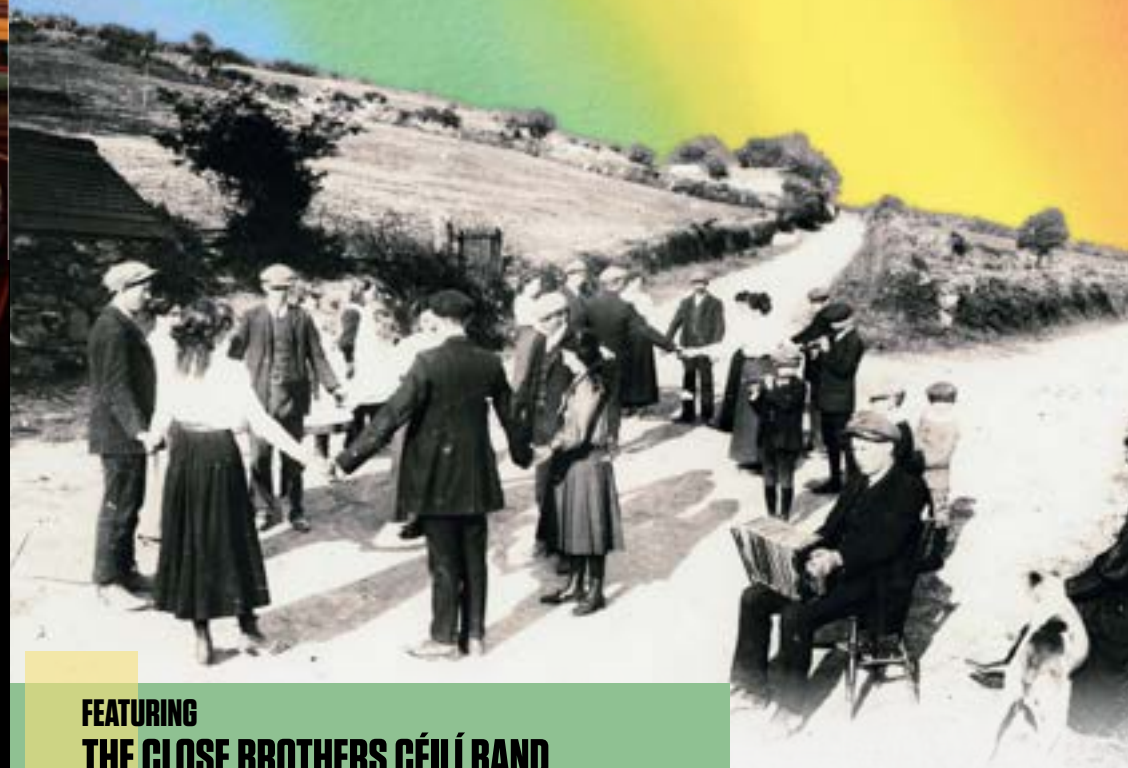
Winter Weekend, 21st - 23rd Feb 2025

Belfast TradFest, 27th July - 3rd Aug 2025

[belfasttradfest.com](http://belfasttradfest.com)

# PRIDE CÉILÍ

In association with Belfast Pride



FEATURING  
**THE CLOSE BROTHERS CÉILÍ BAND  
& SET DANCE MASTER RONÁN EASTWOOD**

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**Wed 24 July**

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**The Black Box**

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**Doors 7:30pm**

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**Tickets £5**

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**Fri 26 July**  
**The Duncairn**  
**Doors 7:30pm**  
**Tickets £12**  
**All Ages**

## Céilí with The Abbey Trio

The Cork-based **Abbey Trio Céilí Band**, also known as 'Hammer The Floor', features **Ger Murphy** (keys), **Andrew O'Connell** (fiddle) and **Hughie Kennedy** (accordion).

With **Rónan Eastwood**, a set dance master from Belfast, calling the dances and on hand to guide you along the way, this is sure to be an evening of dancing fun!

CONCERTS

## Róis + Córas Trio

In association with Moving on Music

**Róis** is an Irish composer, multi-instrumentalist and performer whose songs explore diverse modes of expression; forging an idiosyncratic blend of folk and sean-nós, electronics, jazz harmony and extended vocal techniques. Often compared to the likes of Meredith Monk, Björk or Hatis Noit, Róis is continually adapting her set list which people have described as transcendent and unearthly.

Belfast's **Córas Trio** are steeped in free improv, electronic music, and the city's "seisiún" or session scene. Comprising of **Kevin McCullagh** (fiddle, electronics), **Paddy McKeown** (guitar, electronics) and **Conor McAuley** (drums), the trio are part of a new creative wave of musicians based in Belfast exploring how traditional music relates to the experience of the 21st century.



**Fri 26 July**  
**Crescent Arts Centre**  
**Doors 6pm**  
**Tickets £15**

belfasttradfest.com

AN AUTHENTIC IMAGE OF A DUNVILLE'S MURAL IN VICTORIA SQUARE, AROUND 1860

## THE WHISKEY THAT BUILT BELFAST



**FOUR  
IMAGES**

**FOUR  
LABELS**



DUNVILLE PARK



BELFAST CITY HALL



VICTORIA SQUARE



ROYAL IRISH DISTILLERY



@DUNVILLESWHISKEY

@DUNVILLEWHISKEY

@DUNVILLESIRISHWHISKEY



# JIGGY

## Tara Breen, Pádraig Rynne & Jim Murray

**Fri 26 July**

**Mandela Hall**

**Doors 7:30pm**

**Tickets £19.50**

CONCERTS

CONCERTS

**Jiggy** continue the tradition of their musical ancestors while bringing a whole new exotic flavour to the table, more of a collective than an orthodox band. Their mercurial line up mixes and melds Irish traditional music, world rhythms and cutting-edge dance grooves, to bring an electrifying energy to the stage. Full of natural charisma, the audience are drawn in to create a sense of unity and celebration.

The band's musicianship is undeniable, with each member showcasing impressive skills on their respective instruments. With their debut album reaching #1 in the World Music Charts across the globe, Jiggy have gained a worldwide audience and are now in high demand.

It's impossible not to feel the joy and passion emanating from the stage during a Jiggy performance.

**"JIGGY ARE BEST SERVED LIVE AND WOULD BE A SHOE IN FOR ANY ONE OF THOSE HUGE SUMMER CELTIC FESTIVALS ON THE CONTINENT. PLAY HYPERNOVA LOUD AT YOUR NEXT FAMILY SUNDOWN BARBECUE, IT'S A SIZZLER" – IRISH MUSIC MAGAZINE**

**Tara Breen, Pádraig Rynne, and Jim Murray**, showcase the best of the Irish music tradition, delivering performances that range from gentle and melodic to rhythmic and everything in between.

**Tara Breen**, a highly skilled multi-instrumentalist from County Clare, is renowned for her mastery of the fiddle and has performed with renowned groups like Stockton's Wing and The Chieftains, and is celebrated for her virtuosity on not just the fiddle, but also the flute and saxophone.

**Pádraig Rynne**, described as one of the finest concertina players in Irish music, is recognized for his fresh and innovative approach to the tradition. He explores diverse genres and has formed the instrumental group NOTIFY, performing at esteemed folk, world, and jazz festivals worldwide.

**Jim Murray**, known as Sharon Shannon's trusted collaborator, has garnered respect both nationally and internationally, collaborating with notable artists such as Sinéad O'Connor, Séamus Begley Steve Earle, Shane Mac-Gowan, Altan, and Mary Black.



# CHERISH THE LADIES

For over 39 years, **Cherish the Ladies**, one of America's most heralded Irish music ensembles, have won the hearts of audiences around the world with their rousing blend of traditional music, captivating vocals, and propulsive step dancing. Since their inception, they have toured the world performing thousands of concerts from the White House to the Olympics, recording 18 critically acclaimed albums and an Emmy award winning PBS television program, "An Irish Homecoming".

Under the leadership of **Joanie Madden**, the 2021 National Heritage Fellowship Award winner and All-Ireland flute and whistle champion, these extremely gifted women create an incredible moving experience brimming with sheer talent and exuberant entertainment. Their group includes All-Ireland champions **Mirella Murray** (accordion) and **Nollaig Casey** (fiddle) along with the nimble finger-work of **Mary Coogan** (guitar), the beautiful vocals of County Clare songstress **Kate Purcell** (lead vocals, guitar) and the extremely talented Glasgow based, **Kathleen Boyle** on piano. World champion dancers add their magical footwork to the performances.

Madden and her band have amassed a long, impressive list of awards at home and in Ireland, including being forever immortalized with a street named in their honor on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx, NY. No matter how far from home, their continued success as one of the best-loved Irish groups rests on their blend of virtuoso instrumentals, beautiful vocals, traditional and original arrangements along with stunning step dancing — all presented with extraordinary talent, creativity, and humor. The New York Times calls their music "passionate, tender, and rambunctious," and The Washington Post praises their "astonishing array of virtuosity."

This will be their biggest Belfast show yet and it promises to blow the roof off the Mandela Hall!

**Sat 27 July**

**Mandela Hall**

**Doors 1pm**

**Tickets £22.50**

**All Ages**

[belfasttradfest.com](http://belfasttradfest.com)

CONCERTS

CONCERTS





# NIALL HANNA & DAMIAN MCKEE

**Thurs 25 July**

**The Black Box**

**Doors 6pm**

**Tickets £15**

**All Ages**

Niall Hanna and Damian McKee are performing and releasing their upcoming solo albums, *The Roving Journeyman* and *Moyola Cottage*, for the very first time at Belfast TradFest.

Joining Niall and Damian are some of Ulster's finest musicians including; **Liam Bradley** (keys), **Ciaran Hanna** (whistles/concertina), **Rachel McGarrity** (fiddle/vocals), **Chris McGlone** (bodhrán) & **Kieron Leonard** (percussion).

CONCERTS

## SEAMIE O'DOWD

In association with Sunflower Folk Club

**Thurs 25 July**

**Sunflower Public House - Upstairs**

**Doors 8:30pm**

**Tickets £15**



belfasttradfest.com

# Solo Highland Piping Competition

**Sun 21 July**

**The Deer's Head**

**Doors 4pm**

**Tickets £5**

**All Ages**

Join us, as some of Ireland's top pipers compete to be crowned winner of the Belfast TradFest Solo Highland Piping Competition. Each piper will perform a 6-8 minute medley selection of their choice, showcasing their unique playing styles. Sit back, relax and take in some of the best Highland piping to be heard across Ireland.



Last year's winner **Alastair Donaghy** from Tyrone has had a very successful solo piping career, both here in Northern Ireland and in Great Britain. As a member of FMM, he has won the World Championships three times, as well as a host of other major and All-Ireland championship prizes.

**Alan MacPherson** from Cullybackey has competed for 10 years at the highest level of competitive piping in Grade 1; winning all of the major band titles. He was crowned a World Champion with Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band in 2018.

**Scott Wallace** has had an extremely successful solo piping career having won all the major senior titles in Ireland and has been a regular in prize lists in Scotland. He has played as a member of both world championship winning pipe bands, Field Marshal Montgomery & St Laurence O'Toole.

**Reece Doherty** from Ballykelly is an up-and-coming solo piper who has had success in local solo competitions and is the current U18 All Ireland champion. He is a current member of Grade 2 Manorcunningham Pipe Band.

**Alan Glenholmes** from Cullybackey currently competes with Grade 1 Closkelt Pipe Band and has previously played with St Laurence O'Toole and Cullybackey Pipe Band. He has won several prizes in solo competitions across Ireland.



# BIIRD | PÓLCA 4

Making their debut Irish performance at Belfast TradFest, **BIIRD** are a brand new 11-piece, all female, superstar collective made up of some of Ireland's best traditional musicians and singers. Brought together through a shared love of the music that raised them, the collective is breaking the mould by teaming up with Ireland's most disruptive and creative designers & stylists. BIIRD aim to update the image and narrative of trad music across the globe.

Their members have won multiple All-Ireland titles, toured the world performing in shows such as Riverdance, Lord of the Dance, The Young Irelanders, The Late Late Show and Electric Picnic, to name but a few.

The line-up includes Mayo's **Lisa Canny** (harp/banjo/vocals), **Ciara Murphy** (fiddle/vocals), **Aoife Kelly** (fiddle/vocals), **Aisling Egan Sage** (pipes/fiddle), **Sal Heneghan** (harp/fiddle), **Zoran Donoghue** (concertina), Castlewellan native **MÚLÚ** (flute/shruti/vocals), **Niamh Hinchy** (vocals/whistle/synth), **Hannah Heimstra** (drums/vocals) and **Laura Doherty** (guitar/vocals) plus Belfast's very own **Claire Loughran** (fiddle/synth).

Having performed their debut show in March at Trafalgar Square to 8,000 people, it is clear that something magical happens when BIIRD take to the stage.

**"SOMETHING HARD TO DESCRIBE BUT EASILY, DEEPLY FELT." - ANNIE MAC MANUS**

**Pólca 4** are guaranteed to get the foot tapping and blood flowing with their high energy shows and vigorous arrangements, mixing local polkas and slides with jigs, reels and songs. The band's arrangements breathe new life into these time-honored melodies, infusing them with their unique interpretations while preserving the essence of the traditional tunes.

Pólca 4's performances are characterised by lively interplay between **Daire Bracken** (fiddle), **Pádraig Ó Sé** (vocals & accordion), **Gary O'Brien** (guitar) and **Robbie Harris** (bodhrán & percussion), creating a musical tapestry that transports listeners to the heart of West Kerry.

This will be their biggest Belfast show to date and you will be dancing, we promise!



**Sat 27 July**  
**Mandela Hall**  
**Doors 7:30pm**  
**Tickets £19.50**

belfasttradfest.com



CONCERTS

CONCERTS



# FESTIVAL CLUB

SUN 21 JULY



## ALAN BURKE JORDAN LIVELY BAND

Venue: The John Hewitt  
Doors: 10pm  
Tickets: £10

MON 22 JULY



## LUKE SAVAGE SEXTET PIARAS Ó LORCÁIN

Venue: The John Hewitt  
Doors: 10pm  
Tickets: £10

TUES 23 JULY



## JACK WARNOCK TRIO ÚNA MCGLINCHEY, RUAIRI HOWELL, OISIN BRADLEY & RORY MCEVOY

Venue: The John Hewitt  
Doors: 10pm  
Tickets: £10

WED 24 JULY



## THE BIG MAD HORN CÉILÍ BAND

Venue: The Deer's Head  
Doors: 10pm  
Tickets: £15

THURS 25 JULY



## HUARTAN

Venue: The Deer's Head  
Doors: 10pm  
Tickets: £15

FRI 26 JULY



## SUPERCÉILÍ MCGARRITY - MACPHERSON

Venue: The Deer's Head  
Doors: 10pm  
Tickets: £15

SAT 27 JULY



## POKA SUPERCÉILÍ

Venue: The Deer's Head  
Doors: 10pm  
Tickets: £15

FESTIVAL CLUB

FESTIVAL CLUB





# Donegal Group Getaways

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Co. Donegal

From our unique accommodation options to our versatile communal spaces, **Corcreggan Mill** is the perfect place to create a truly memorable group stay in beautiful Donegal.



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## Oh! Listen to the Band! Album Launch

CONOR CALDWELL & RYAN MOLLOY

**Oh, Listen to the Band!** celebrates what we know about the music of 1920s Ireland and imagines the things we don't. It offers new perspectives on Ireland's musical past while being firmly rooted in the present-day spirit of innovation.

**Conor Caldwell** (fiddle) and **Ryan Molloy** (piano) imagine the lost sounds of the Roaring '20s in Ireland. **Ben Castle** (clarinet/saxophone) and **Matthew Jacobson** (percussion) provide soaring jazz-infused counterpoint to Caldwell's and Molloy's dynamic duet. **Conal O'Kane** (guitars) and producer **Dan Byrne-McCullough** (mandolin/banjo) add layers of harmonic complexity, while **Cathal Ó Curráin** (vox/bouzouki) breathes new life into long-forgotten songs.

**Sat 27 July**

**Raidió Fáilte**

**Doors 2pm**

**Free Entry**



## Restranging the Stone Fiddle

THE TUNNEY FAMILY

The Tunney Song Tradition Trust is delighted to be publishing a brand-new edition of Paddy Tunney's memoir: **The Stone Fiddle: My Way to Traditional Song**.

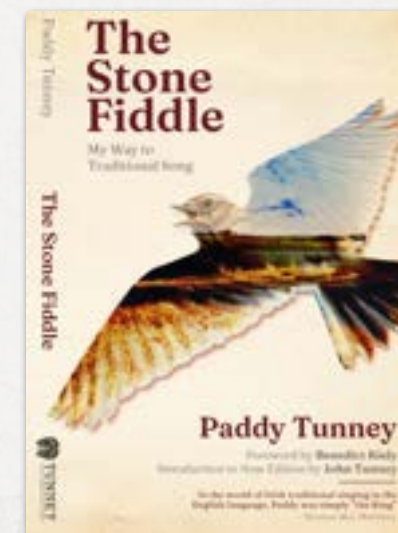
Originally published in 1979 and written when the author was living in Galway, **The Stone Fiddle: My Way to Traditional Song** is a dazzling evocation of Ireland in the first half of the 20th century, particularly the Donegal-Fermanagh hill country above Lough Erne – its political undercurrents, its people, culture, folklore and superstition. It is the perfect book for fans of Irish traditional singing and those looking to expand their own singing repertoire.

**Sat 27 July**

**Raidió Fáilte**

**Doors 4pm**

**Free Entry**



LAUNCHES



# BELFAST SUMMER SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

The Summer School's team of tutors is made up of internationally renowned performers with proven track records as teachers and educationalists. The primary means of teaching and learning is 'by ear' with an emphasis in the less experienced classes of assisting pupils to develop oral/aural skills in addition to instrumental competency and developing core repertoire.

Classes are designed for intermediate to advanced (minimum 2 years instrument experience) adults and children over 6 year of age, with the exception of beginner instrument classes, Whistle & Sing, Traditional Singing, Amhránaíocht, Sean-Nós Dancing and Set Dancing, which are suitable for all levels.



**Dates:** Mon 22nd to Fri 26th July

**Time:** 10am - 1pm

**Venue:** Ulster University, York Street

**Cost:** £150 for five days, fee includes admission to all afternoon events.

**\*Does not include one-to-one clinics, reed making workshop, concerts or céilís.**

Use code  
FAMILYJULY24 for  
10% Family Discount  
for 2 or more family  
members

**TUTOR & STUDENT CONCERT WILL TAKE PLACE IN BELFAST CATHEDRAL ON FRIDAY 26TH JULY AT 12PM. THIS EVENT IS FREE TO ATTEND AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME.**

belfasttradfest.com

## MASTERCLASS TUTORS



TARA BREEN



CATHAL HAYDEN



KEVIN CRAWFORD



GARY HASTINGS



ZOE CONWAY



CATHERINE MCEVOY



DEREK HICKEY



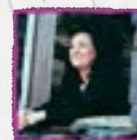
SEÁN SMYTH



CONNOR CALDWELL



MUIREANN NIC AMHLAIOIBH



DIANE CANNON



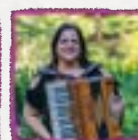
DAIBHÍD STÍUBHARD



NIALL MURPHY



MICK O'BRIEN



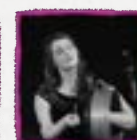
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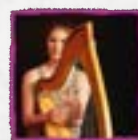
JOANIE MADDEN



JOHN MCINTYRE



AIMEE FARRELL COURTNEY



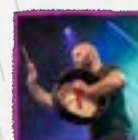
ELLIS LAVELLE



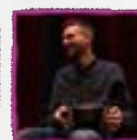
TARA HOWLEY



MARY BERGIN



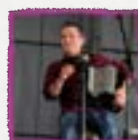
ROBBIE HARRIS



PÁDRAIG RYNNÉ



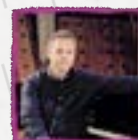
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RYAN MOLLOY



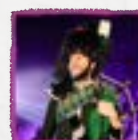
EIMHEAR FLANNERY



MARY MCGUIGAN



FIN MOORE



GRAHAME HARRIS



PÁDRAIC KEANE



AIŚLING LYONS



GEORGE MCADAM



ANDY MCGREGOR



MARK WILSON

**& MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED**

SUMMER SCHOOL

SUMMER SCHOOL



# Set Dancing

with Ronán Eastwood

## Céilí

Sunday 7 July | 2pm | Sundays on the Maritime Mile | SoundYard | Free

## Céilí

Sunday 14 July | 2pm | Sundays on the Maritime Mile | Free

## Titanic Céilí

Sunday 21 July | 1pm-5pm | Titanic Slipways on the Maritime Mile | Free

## Set Dancing Masterclass

Monday 22 - Friday 26 July | 10am-1pm | Ulster University, York Street  
£85 for 5 days (or £20 Daily)

## Talk: History of Céilí & Set Dancing in Belfast

Tuesday 23 July | 4:30pm | Ulster University, York Street | £5

## Céilí on Titanic Slipways

Tuesday 23 July | 7pm-8:30pm | Titanic Slipways on the Maritime Mile

## Pride Céilí with The Close Brothers

Wednesday 24 July | 7:30pm | The Black Box | £5

## Afternoon Céilí

Thursday 25 July | 4pm | Ulster University, York Street | Free

## Céilí with The Abbey Trio Céilí Band

Friday 26 July | 7:30pm | The Duncairn | £12

## Kerry set dances at Pólca 4

Saturday 27 July | 7:30pm | Mandela Hall | £19.50



belfasttradfest.com

# Whistle & Sing

Learn songs, airs and tunes in this beginner's class for ages 5+.

After a short introduction to the basics of the tin whistle, the aim of the class is to learn a new tune and song a day. The students will also learn some of the traditional Belfast street songs such as I'll Tell My Ma, Fair Rosa, Dusty Bluebells and the associated street dances.

No experience necessary. You will need your own Tin Whistle (in the key of D).



Date: 22 - 26 July

Time: 10am - 1pm

Venue: Ulster University

£65 for five days | Ages 5+

10% Family Discount available  
when booking for 2 or more  
family members



SUMMER SCHOOL

SUMMER SCHOOL



# Summer School Accommodation

**7 nights from only £349!**

- Belfast city centre
- 2 minute walk to masterclass location
- Suitable for individuals, groups & families
- Single & double occupancy, family clusters & studio apartments

SUMMER SCHOOL

# Bursary Sponsorship

Belfast TradFest reaches out to individuals, organisations and businesses to sponsor bursaries which provide opportunities for young musicians to attend and experience a week-long immersive learning course of traditional music, song and dance with world-class tutors in their chosen instrument.

## Special thanks to our 2023 Bursary Sponsors:

Belfast Trad

Belfast Media Group

Belfast Hotel Group Ltd

Carole Wardlaw and Eimear O'Kane

Ceol for Ciarán

Clare McCrystal

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[belfasttradfest.com](http://belfasttradfest.com)

SUMMER SCHOOL



# Slow & Junior Sessions

## Monday 22 July

1:30pm: **Slow Session with Dónal O'Connor**  
Ulster University, 3rd floor

4pm: **Junior Session with Maeve O'Donnell**  
Green Room Bar, The Black Box



## Tuesday 23 July

1:30pm: **Slow Session with Maeve O'Donnell**  
Ulster University, 3rd floor

4pm: **Junior Session with Oisín McCann**  
Green Room Bar, The Black Box



## Wednesday 24 July

1:30pm: **Slow Session with Róise Ní Mhurchú**  
Ulster University, 3rd floor

4pm: **Junior Session with Aisling Lyons**  
Green Room Bar, The Black Box



## Thursday 25 July

1:30pm: **Slow Session with Maeve O'Donnell**  
Ulster University, 3rd floor

4pm: **Junior Session with Kevin Mawdsley**  
Green Room Bar, The Black Box

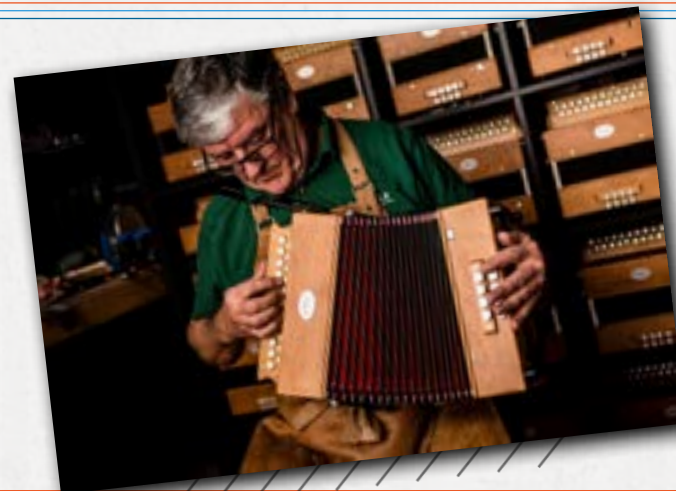


## Friday 26 July

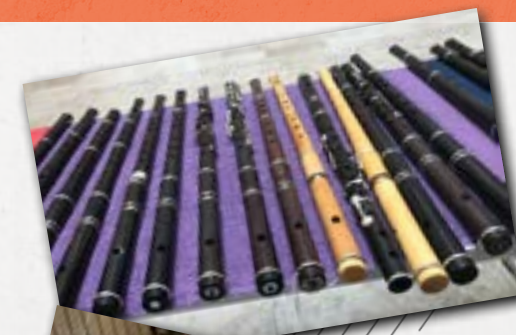
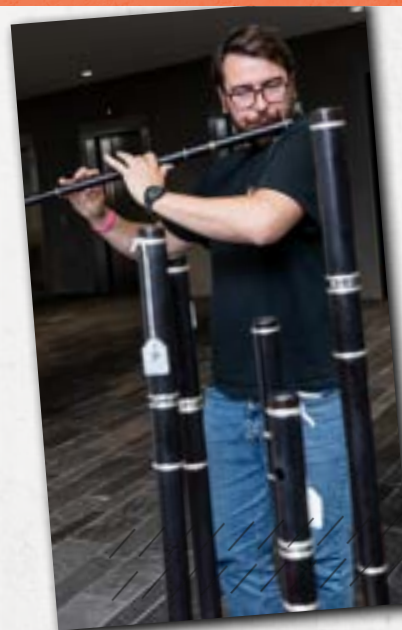
3pm: **Junior Session with Maeve O'Donnell**  
Green Room Bar, The Black Box



# Traditional Arts Market



INSTRUMENT MAKERS, INSTRUMENT SELLERS AND TRADITIONAL ARTISTS, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN EXHIBITING AND SELLING AT OUR SUMMER SCHOOL TRADITIONAL ARTS MARKET, SIGN UP TODAY AT [BELFASTTRADFEST.COM](http://BELFASTTRADFEST.COM).





# Afternoon Events

All events are £5 and take place in Ulster University unless otherwise indicated. Summer School Students can access all Afternoon Events FREE of charge except instrument clinics and the reed making workshop.

## Monday 22 July

### 1:30pm | Seminar Series

#### A History of Traditional Music

##### 1. How old is traditional music?

An exploration of the earliest sources and the society in which dance music, harp music, and song combined into "ancient music" with Dr Martin Dowling.



### 2:30pm | Workshop

#### 'Rhythms of the World' with Robbie Harris

This interactive and fun workshop will introduce participants to rhythms from all over the world and teach them to explore their own abilities through a hands-on drumming experience. All ages & abilities welcome. Percussion instruments supplied.



### 2:30pm | Workshop Series

#### Part 1. 'Trad Ensemble' - Catriona Ní Ghribín

These workshops will focus on the arrangement of traditional music with a mixture of traditional tunes and songs. A variety of musical genres will be used to create the arrangements. All instruments & singers welcome. Age 11+



### 3pm | Seminar Series

#### How to be a Fiddler with Martin Dowling:

##### Part 1. How to breathe, stand and sit

The first in a series of talks starts off from the idea that acoustic musical instruments are prosthetic devices. They are extensions of the human body designed and crafted to extend its capacity for melody and rhythm.



### 3:30pm | Discussion

#### How a session works hosted by Lorraine Ní Bhriain with Seán Smyth, George McAdam & Aimée Farrell Courtney

For most traditional musicians, the most common and accessible opportunity to perform publicly on their instrument is in the unique format of the "session".



### 4pm | Instrument Clinic

#### Tin Whistle Clinic with Joanie Madden

The tin whistle clinic is aimed primarily at intermediate to advanced players who have a repertoire of tunes and who are able to identify an issue with their playing.



### 4:30pm | Talk

#### Pádraig Rynne - The creative revolution within Irish concertina

Pádraig will reflect on the early recordings of Mullally, Mrs Crotty, Paddy Murphy, Noel Hill, Mícheál Ó Raghallaigh continuing through to a more contemporary approach from bands such as Talisk.



### 5pm | Talk

#### Uilleann Pipes in a Western Art-Music Tradition - Neil Martin

From 1960s onwards, this talk will discuss the use of uilleann pipes in a non-traditional setting with one of Ireland's foremost composers and musicians.



### 5pm | Talk

#### Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh 'Sean Nós Singing'

One of Ireland's finest singers Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh from Circa Dhuibhne in West Kerry, brings you on an illustrated journey through the ancient art form of traditional sean nós singing.



## Tuesday 23 July

### 1:30pm | Seminar Series

#### A History of Traditional Music

##### Part 2. The decline of the harpers and the rise of the pipers

Dr. Martin Dowling explores the crucial decades preceding the Great Famine where the ancient harp tradition was marginalised while a new instrument, the Irish union pipes, became dominant, accompanied by new styles of dance and an explosion of song making.





**2:30pm | Workshop Series****Part 2. 'Trad Ensemble' - Catriona Ní Ghribín**

These workshops will focus on the arrangement of traditional Irish music with a mixture of traditional tunes and songs. A variety of musical genres will be used to create the arrangements. All instruments & singers welcome. Age 11+

**2:30pm | Taster Session****Bodhrán Taster Session with Aimée Farrell Courtney**

Have you ever wanted to try the bodhrán? Well this is the perfect opportunity and one of Ireland's finest bodhrán players will show you the basics.

**2:30pm | Dance Workshop****Sean Nós Hornpipe from Clonmany with Mary McGuiggan and music by Derek Hickey**

Donegal two-hand dances are simple to learn and fun to do! They use a gentle walking step and are done to a variety of rhythms, including marches, waltzes, polkas and reels.

**2:30pm | Workshop****Mary Bergin: Internal Rhythms and Ornamentation in Traditional Music**

Join one of Ireland's treasures; Mary Bergin, as she delves into the undergrowth of traditional melody playing to see what it is that defines great playing from good playing.

**3pm | Seminar Series****How to be a Fiddler with Martin Dowling: Part 2. The "No Hold" of the bow and fiddle**

Lessons from the Hungarian violinist and teacher Kato Havas.

**3pm | Discussion****Living the Music: A discussion with Joanie Madden, Mick McAuley & Seán Smyth**

An insight into how aspiring traditional musicians might go about making a living through a life of music, with Joanie Madden (Cherish the Ladies), Mick McAuley (Solás) & Seán Smyth (Lúnasa).

**4pm | Taster Session****Snare Drum Taster Session with Mark Wilson**

Always wanted to try the snare drum? Here is your opportunity with award-winning drummer Mark Wilson showing you the way.

**4pm | Talk/Presentation****The Uilleann Pipes & the Social Media Revolution with Tara Howley**

An illustrated journey in how the Uilleann pipes have evolved and grown since the turn of the century and how social media has helped showcase the Uilleann pipes to new audiences.

**4:30pm | Talk****The History of Céilí & Set Dancing in Belfast**

Belfast has a rich tradition of Céilí dancing especially in the first seven decades of the 20th century when set dancing became more popular. There are many many stories to tell and this one hour interactive talk will hope to do that.

**5pm | Talk/Discussion****The evolution of the tenor banjo in Irish music with George McAdam.**

A talk and discussion on how the Banjo, a typically American instrument, made its way over to Ireland and has become a central instrument in the Irish tradition.

**5pm | Workshop****Arranging Traditional Music Workshop with Ed Boyd & Mirella Murray**

Ever wondered how the great accompanists in traditional music come to arrange for tunes and songs. This will be a fascinating insight into the art of arrangement, chords, counter melody, pacing and stylistic accompaniment for traditional Irish and Scottish music from two leading exponents.



AFTERNOON EVENTS ARE FREE FOR SUMMER SCHOOL STUDENTS (EXCEPTIONS APPLY).



# Wednesday 24 July

## 1:30pm | Seminar Series

### A History of Traditional Music

#### Part 3. Technologies of Irish traditional music

How has technology changed Irish trad? An exploration of how technology has affected how traditional music is learned, performed, and consumed with Dr Martin Dowling.

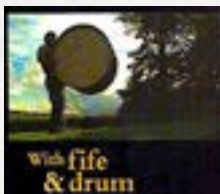


## 2:30pm | Talk/Presentation

### Lambeg, Drum & Fife.

#### Ulster Traditional Music with Gary Hastings

In this illustrated talk Gary originally from East Belfast will take us on a journey of the stories, facts and myths of Northern Ireland's 200-year-old fife and drum tradition.



## 2:30pm | Workshop Series

### Part 3. 'Trad Ensemble' - Catriona Ni Ghribin

These workshops will focus on the arrangement of traditional Irish music with a mixture of traditional tunes and songs. A variety of musical genres will be used to create the arrangements. All instruments & singers welcome. Age 11+



## 2:30pm | Instrument Clinic

### Fiddle Clinic with Niall Murphy

Spend ten minutes 1 on 1 with the fantastic Oriel fiddler Niall Murphy. The Fiddle Clinic is aimed primarily at intermediate to advanced players who have a repertoire of tunes and who are able to identify an issue with their playing.



## 3:30pm | Singing Session | £10

### 'One Singer, One Song'

An informal chat and singing session with some of Ireland's finest vocalists, hosted by Mick McAuley with Dàibhidh Stiùbhard, Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh & Diane Cannon.



## 3pm | Seminar Series

### How to be a Fiddler with Martin Dowling:

#### Part 3. How to practice and why?

Drawing from recent ideas in performance training in the realms of arts and sports.



## 3pm | Instrument Clinic

### Tin Whistle Clinic with Mary Bergin

Spend ten minutes 1 on 1 with Mary Bergin. The Tin Whistle Clinic is aimed primarily at intermediate to advanced players who have a repertoire of tunes and who are able to identify an issue with their playing.



## 3pm | Taster Session

### Smallpipes Taster Session with Fin Moore

Always wanted to try the smallpipes? Here is your opportunity with accomplished pipe maker and member of pipe quartet Seudan, Fin Moore showing you the way.



## 3:30pm | Talk

### The History and Development of Pipe Band Drums and Drumming Style

A reflection on the style of drums from the early 1900s to the present day and how the style and standard of technique have changed over the years with Mark Wilson.



## 3:30pm | Workshop

### Listen and Learn: Traditional 78 rpm recordings on a Gramophone

Pádraic Keane will host a listening session where attendees will have the opportunity of experiencing a variety of 78rpm records played on an original gramophone player.



## 4pm | Dance Workshop

### Two hand, Donegal Highland, dance workshop

Join in this fun dance workshop with Diane Cannon for all ages. No experience required.



## 4pm | Instrument Clinic

### Traditional Singing Clinic with Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh

This ten minutes 1 to 1 clinic is aimed primarily at intermediate to advanced singers who have a repertoire of songs and who are able to identify an issue with their singing – it's not necessarily about learning how to do something for the first time.





**4pm | Discussion****The Emigrant Returns**

A discussion about the Irish diaspora & traditional music with three of the leading exponents of traditional Irish music, Kevin Crawford, Catherine McEvoy and Joanie Madden

**5pm | Talk****Twisting a Rope Made of Songs**

A personal reflection on songwriting in the traditional style with Dáibhidh Stiùbhard.



## Thursday 25 July

**1:30pm | Seminar Series****A History of Traditional Music****Part 4. Traditional music and Irish Identities**

Usually below the surface of politics, Irish music has sometimes becomes a hot political topic. Dr. Martin Dowling will discuss what Irish music is and what it should be.

**2pm | Workshop****Learn some tunes from The Bunting Collection with Eilís Lavelle**

Eilís Lavelle will teach a couple of dance tunes from the Bunting Collection for all instruments.

**2:30pm | Workshop Series****Part 4. 'Trad Ensemble' - Catriona Ní Ghribín**

These workshops will focus on the arrangement of traditional Irish music with a mixture of traditional tunes and songs. A variety of musical genres will be used to create the arrangements. All instruments & singers welcome. Age 11+

**2:30pm | Taster Session****Beginner Bagpipes**

Try the Highland Bagpipes for the first time with Grahame Harris and Andy McGregor.

**2:30pm | Workshop****Composition Workshop with Ryan Molloy**

Participants will be shown some compositional examples on how to write traditional music. Ryan will explain in-depth details about his composing approach and discuss topics like melody development & chords.

**3pm | Seminar Series****How to be a Fiddler with Martin Dowling: Part 4. In Search of a Style**

What do Irish traditional fiddlers sound like and what distinguishes them from each other.

**3pm | Talk****Music in Birmingham and the Roscommon Connection**

Catherine McEvoy discusses growing up in Birmingham and the traditional music world that enveloped her there and in her family's native county Roscommon.

**3pm | Instrument Clinic****Concertina Clinic with Éimhear Flannery**

This ten minutes 1 to 1 clinic is aimed primarily at intermediate to advanced players who have a repertoire of songs and who are able to identify an issue with their playing – it's not necessarily about learning how to do something for the first time.

**3pm | Instrument Clinic****Fiddle Clinic with Tara Breen**

This ten minutes 1 to 1 clinic is aimed primarily at intermediate to advanced players who have a repertoire of songs and who are able to identify an issue with their playing – it's not necessarily about learning how to do something for the first time.

**3pm | Instrument Clinic****Banjo Clinic With George McAdam**

This ten minutes 1 to 1 clinic is aimed primarily at intermediate to advanced players who have a repertoire of songs and who are able to identify an issue with their playing – it's not necessarily about learning how to do something for the first time.





**3pm | Film Screening/Q&A****From A Forest To A Fiddle with Zoë Conway**

This mesmerising art-film captures Jim McKillop as he breathes life into wood, creating a fiddle in his rural workshop for the last time. Filmed by Patrick Conway, the film features a soundtrack by Zoë Conway, inspired by the ancient Ogham Irish alphabet.

**4pm | Céilí | Free Entry****Family Céilí with Ronan Eastwood**

Come along to this family friendly céilí where Ronan Eastwood will show the steps required to join in the fun. This is generally a highlight in the festival programme.

**4pm | Talk****Women Concertina Players in Clare**

Women Concertina Players in Clare a talk with Lorraine Ní Bhriain. From Mrs Crotty to the present day.

**4:30pm | Workshop****Composition Workshop with Aisling Lyons**

Join multi-award winning musician and composer Aisling Lyons, from County Clare in this composition workshop for all instruments.

**5pm | Workshop****Pipe Maintenance with Mick O'Brien**

How to keep your pipes in good working order, simple reed adjustments and tuning, explore how to balance the pipes with one of Ireland's finest uilleann pipers.

**5pm | Discussion****Arranging for songs in traditional music with Seamie O'Dowd & Cathal Hayden**

Two master musicians discuss their approach to arranging music for traditional songs.

**Friday 26 July****2pm | Workshop | £15****Reed Making Workshop for Uilleann Pipes with Aaron O'Hagan**

This workshop will demonstrate methods of making reeds, how to maintain, and make adjustments to get the best from your instrument.

**3pm | Talk/Demonstration****Flute & Fife: Our shared traditions with Gary Duffy & Hazlett Kerrs**

This discussion will celebrate the beauty and musicality of their respective influences and backgrounds, while advocating the value of maintaining the musical traditions and diversity for all.

**4pm | Talk****Illustrated Talk on Trad/Jazz Fusion in 1920s Ireland with Conor Caldwell**

This illustrated seminar unpacks the hidden story behind Ireland's dalliances with jazz and the unique sounds that were created between 1914 -1939.



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# DUNVILLE'S IRISH WHISKEY SESSION TRAIL

All sessions are 'Céilí House' style Listening Sessions, which are two hours long and free to attend.

The first hour of each session will be a Listening Hour. The master musicians set the scene for the session then invite the 'room' to join in. These sessions offer the aspiring musician an opportunity to listen to and observe music played by musicians of the highest calibre.

This style of session reflects the céilí house traditions of the previous century, where aspiring musicians and listeners would gather at the home of a local master musician. The master would 'hold court' and oversee an evening of entertainment, which would start with a skillful performance, followed by an invitation to join in.

We ask that you respectfully observe this tradition.



## Sunday 21st

**5pm | The Hatfield House**  
Ruadhraí O'Kane  
Seamus O'Kane  
Róisín Chambers

**5pm | Fountain Lane Bar**  
**St Mary's Trad Society**  
Rosie McElory  
Jane Walls  
Peter McKenna

**5pm | Sunflower Public House**  
**Magee Trad Society**  
Jack McGoldrick  
Órla Ní Chorragáin  
Luke Savage

**6pm | The Deer's Head**  
Sinéad McKenna  
Daniel McKenna  
Micky Fearon

**7pm | Maddens Bar**  
John Wynne  
Tomás Ó Ceallaigh  
Ray Gallen

**9:30pm | The Garrick Backroom Bar**  
**Smallpipes Session**  
Fin Moore  
Brìghde Chaimbeul  
Luke Ward

## Monday 22nd

**3pm | Kelly's Cellars**  
Caolan Hendron  
Eilís Lavelle  
Annie Ryan

**4pm | Duke of York**  
Pádraic Keane  
Tara Breen  
Darragh Murphy

**5pm | Maddens Bar**  
Zoë Conway  
John McIntyre  
Melanie Houton

**5pm | Sunflower Public House**  
Tara Howley  
Aimée Farrell Courtney  
Caitríona Lagan

**6pm | The Deer's Head**  
**Smallpipes Session**  
Fin Moore  
Grahame Harris  
Andy McGregor

**6pm | The Garrick Upstairs**  
**Singing Session**  
Dàibhidh Stiùbhard

**7pm | The Garrick Front Bar**  
**'Fiddlers on the Hoof'**  
Niall Murphy  
Seán Smyth  
Cathal Hayden

## Tuesday 23rd

**4pm | The Hatfield House**  
**Sean Nós Dancing Session**  
Derek Hickey  
Mary McGuigan  
Edel Ní Churraoin

**5pm | Maddens Bar**  
Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh  
Davy Maguire  
Aislinn Fegan

**5pm | Sunflower Public House**  
Joanie Madden  
Paul 'The Brother' Maguire  
Ciara Maguire

**5pm | Kelly's Cellars**  
Aoife Smyth  
Lorraine Ní Bhriain  
Ryan Hackett

**6pm | The Deer's Head**  
Kevin Crawford  
Robbie Harris  
Maria Rafferty

**7pm | The American Bar**  
Catherine McEvoy  
Martin Dowling  
Christine Dowling

**8pm | Hearth Pub**  
Éimhear Flannery  
Ed Boyd  
Lachlan McKibbin

**9:30pm | The Garrick Front Bar**  
Fin Moore  
Aisling Lyons  
Eamonn O'Sullivan

**9:30pm | Maddens Bar**  
George McAdam  
John Mackel  
Paul Bradley

## Wednesday 24th

**5pm | Maddens Bar**  
Gary Hastings  
Oisín McCann  
Maurice Hayden

**5pm | Henry's**  
Mick McAuley  
Caitríona Ní Ghribín  
Deirdre Havlin

**5pm | Kelly's Cellars**  
Mirella Murray  
Stevie Dunne  
Alison Crossey

**6pm | The Garrick Backroom Bar**  
Joanie Madden  
Aimée Farrell Courtney  
Rory McEvoy

**6pm | The Garrick Upstairs**  
**Singing Session**  
Diane Cannon



## Wednesday 24th

### 7pm | The American Bar

Seán Smyth  
Mick O'Brien  
Una McGlinchey

### 7pm | The John Hewitt

Kevin Crawford  
Catherine McEvoy  
Clare McCrystal

### 7pm | Green Room Bar

#### The Black Box The First Slip Session

Joshua Burnside  
Myles McCormick  
Kate De Barra

### 8:30pm | Crown & Shamrock Bar

Derek Hickey  
Liam Lynch  
Maeve O'Donnell

### 9:30pm | The Garrick Backroom Bar

Conor Caldwell  
Ed Boyd  
Josh Sampson

### 9:30pm | Maddens Bar

Pádraig Rynne  
Michael Coney  
Cara Quinn

## Thursday 25th

### 3pm | Kelly's Cellars

Pádraig Rynne  
Michael Gaffney  
Paul 'The Brother' Maguire

### 5pm | Maddens Bar

Mirella Murray  
Claire McGreevey  
Ruairi Howell

### 5pm | White's Tavern

Éimhear Flannery  
Jamie Murphy  
Brighde Chaimbeul

### 5pm | Kelly's Cellars

Conor Caldwell  
Eilís Lavelle  
Teresa Clarke

### 6pm | The Deer's Head

George McAdam  
Martha Guiney  
Síle Boylan

### 6pm | McHugh's Bar

Mary Bergin  
Aoife McGlinchey  
James Carson

### 7pm | Hearth Pub

Tara Howley  
Pádraic Keane  
David Armstrong

### 8pm | The John Hewitt

Mick O'Brien  
Eilish O'Connor  
Gerry Jones

### 9:30pm | The Garrick Bar

Backroom Bar  
Tara Breen  
Ciarán Kelly  
Kevin Sweeney

### 9:30pm | Maddens Bar

Rosie McElroy  
Blathnaid Hendron  
Iarla McMahon

## Friday 26th

### 4pm | Duke of York

Lorraine Ní Bhriain  
Paddy O'Hare  
Noel Maguire

### 4pm | McHugh's Bar

Oisín Murphy  
Brian Ó Gallachoir  
Miadhachlughain  
O'Donnell

### 5pm | The John Hewitt

'The Pipers of Roguery'  
Neil Martin  
Darragh Murphy  
Francis McIlduff

### 7pm | The Morning Star

Ryan Molloy  
Síle Boylan  
Deirdre Murray

### 8pm | The Deer's Head

Ciarán Kelly  
Aodhán 'Jaff' Mac Séafraidh  
Erin Rose McMullan

**1808**  
BLENDED IRISH WHISKEY

### 9:30pm | The Garrick

Backroom Bar  
Stephen Hayden  
Stevie Dunne  
Sean Dolan

## Saturday 27th

### 3pm | Kelly's Cellars

Eilish O'Connor  
Paul 'The Brother' Maguire  
Maurice Bradley

### 4pm | McHugh's Bar

Paul Bradley  
Sorcha Meehan  
Breandan O'Hare

### 5pm | Maddens Bar

Éanna Harrington  
Elaine Murphy  
Thomas Ahern

### 6pm | The Hatfield House

Martin Meehan  
Paddy McGrandles  
Luke Ward

### 7pm | The Morning Star

Milo Crossin  
Davy Maguire  
Desy Adams

### 9:30pm | The Garrick

Backroom Bar  
Méabh O'Hare  
Melanie Houton  
Seamus Tiernan

## Sunday 28th

### 1pm | McHugh's Bar

Maureen Walker  
Myles McCormack  
Brendan Loughran

### 4pm | Maddens Bar

Brian Connolly  
Cormac 'Buzz' Ó Briain  
Eleanor Gaffney

### 6pm | The Hatfield House

Zoran Donohoe  
Alison Crossey  
Conor Murphy

### 6pm | The Deer's Head

Ruadhraí O'Kane  
Ciara O'Neill  
John O'Neill

### 7pm | The Morning Star

Tomaf Taylor  
Jamie Murphy  
Tom Keenan

**DUNVILLE'S**  
DISTILLERS, BLENDEES & BOTTLERS  
THE SPIRIT OF BELFAST  
**1808**  
BLENDED IRISH WHISKEY

**Belfast**  
Tradfest



# BELFAST TRADFEST AT A GLANCE

## Sunday 21 July

1pm	Titanic Céilí	Outdoor event celebrating traditional music, song & dance	Titanic Slipways
4pm	Performance	Highland Piping Competition	The Deer's Head
5pm	Session	Ruadhraí O'Kane, Séamus O'Kane & Róisín Chambers	The Hatfield
5pm	Session	St Mary's Trad Soc, Rosie McElory, Jane Walls & Peter McKenna	Fountain Lane
5pm	Session	Magee Trad Soc, Jack McGoldrick, Órla Ní Chorragáin & Luke Savage	The Sunflower
6pm	Session	Sinéad McKenna, Daniel McKenna & Micky Fearon	The Deer's Head
7pm	Concert	Moya Brennan   Zoë Conway & John McIntyre	The Empire
7pm	Session	John Wynne, Tomás Ó Ceallaigh & Ray Gallen	Maddens Bar
9.30pm	Smallpipes Session	Fin Moore, Brighde Chaimbeul & Luke Ward	The Garrick
10pm	Festival Club	Jordan Lively Band   Alan Burke	The John Hewitt

## Monday 22 July

10am	Masterclasses	Belfast TradFest Summer School Masterclasses	Ulster University
1.30pm	Seminar	History of Traditional Music - Part 1: How old is traditional music?	Ulster University
1.30pm	Slow Session	Dónal O'Connor	Ulster University
2.30pm	Workshop	'Rhythms of the World' with Robbie Harris	Ulster University
2.30pm	Workshop	Trad Ensemble with Catriona Ní Ghríbin. Part 1.	Ulster University
3pm	Seminar	How to be a Fiddler - Part 1: How to breathe, stand and sit	Ulster University
3pm	Session	Caolan Hendron, Eilís Lavelle & Annie Ryan	Kelly's Cellars
3:30pm	Discussion	How a Session works!	Ulster University
4pm	Session	Pádraic Keane, Tara Breen & Darragh Murphy	Duke of York
4pm	Clinic	Tin Whistle Clinic with Joanie Madden	Ulster University
4pm	Junior Session	Maeve O'Donnell	The Black Box
4.30pm	Talk	Pádraig Rynne - The creative revolution within Irish concertina	Ulster University
5pm	Talk	Neil Martin - Uilleann Pipes in a Western Art-Music Tradition	Ulster University
5pm	Talk	Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh 'Sean Nós Singing'	Ulster University
5pm	Session	Zoë Conway, John McIntyre & Melanie Houton	Maddens Bar
5pm	Session	Tara Howley, Aimée Farrell Courtney & Caitriona Lagan	The Sunflower
6pm	Concert	Flutopia	The Black Box
6pm	Smallpipes Session	Fin Moore, Grahame Harris & Andy McGregor	The Deer's Head
6pm	Singing Session	Dàibhidh Stiùbhard	The Garrick
7pm	Session	Niall Murphy, Seán Smyth & Cathal Hayden	The Garrick
10pm	Festival Club	Luke Savage Sextet   Piaras Ó Lorcáin	The John Hewitt

## Tuesday 23 July

10am	Masterclasses	Belfast TradFest Summer School Masterclasses	Ulster University
1.30pm	Slow Session	Maeve O'Donnell	Ulster University
1.30pm	Seminar	A History of Traditional Music - Part 2 The decline of the harpers and the rise of the pipers	Ulster University
2:30pm	Workshop	Mary Bergin 'Internal rhythms and ornamentation in tunes'	Ulster University
2.30pm	Workshop	Trad Ensemble with Catriona Ní Ghríbin. Part 2.	Ulster University
2.30pm	Taster Session	Bodhrán Taster Session with Aimée Farrell Courtney	Ulster University
2.30pm	Dance Work-shop	Sean Nós Hornpipe with Mary McGuiggan	Ulster University
3pm	Seminar	How to be a Fiddler - Part 2: The "No Hold" of the bow and fiddle: lessons from Kato Havas	Ulster University
3pm	Discussion	Living the Music	Ulster University
4pm	Talk	The Uilleann Pipes & the social media revolution with Tara Howley	Ulster University
4pm	Junior Session	Oisín McCann	Green Room, Black Box
4pm	Sean Nós Dancing Session	Derek Hickey, Mary McGuiggan & Edel Ní Churraoin	The Hatfield House
4pm	Taster Session	Snare Drum taster session with Mark Wilson	Ulster University
4.30pm	Talk	History of Ceili Dancing & Set Dancing in Belfast	Ulster University
5pm	Workshop	Arranging traditional Music with Ed Boyd & Mirella Murray	Ulster University
5pm	Session	Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh, Davy Maguire & Aislinn Fegan	Maddens Bar
5pm	Session	Joanie Madden, Paul 'The Brother' Maguire & Ciara Maguire	The Sunflower
5pm	Session	Aoife Smyth, Lorraine Ní Bhriain & Ryan Hackett	Kelly's Cellars
5pm	Talk	Evolution of the tenor banjo with George McAdam	Ulster University
6pm	Session	Kevin Crawford, Robbie Harris & Maria Rafferty	The Deer's Head
7pm	Céilí	Céilí on Titanic Slipways with Ronán Eastwood	Titanic Slipways
7pm	Session	Catherine McEvoy, Martin Dowling & Christine Dowling	The American Bar
7.30pm	Concert	Sean Maguire - Ómós	The Mac
7.30pm	Concert	Na Máistrí / Masters of Traditional Music	Cultúrlann
8pm	Session	Éimhear Flannery, Ed Boyd & Lachlan McKibbin	Hearth Pub
9.30pm	Session	Fin Moore, Aisling Lyons & Eamonn O'Sullivan	The Garrick, Front Bar
9.30pm	Session	George McAdam, John Mackel & Paul Bradley	Maddens Bar
10pm	Festival Club	Jack Warnock Trio   Úna McGlinchey, Ruairi Howell, Oisín Bradley & Rory McEvoy	The John Hewitt



## Wednesday 24 July

10am	Masterclasses	Belfast TradFest Summer School Masterclasses	Ulster University
1.30pm	Seminar	History of Traditional Music - Part 3: Technologies of Irish traditional music	Ulster University
1.30pm	Slow Session	Róise Ní Mhurchú	Ulster University
2.30pm	Demonstration	Lambeg, Drum & Fife. Ulster Traditional Music with Gary Hastings	Ulster University
2.30pm	Workshop	Trad Ensemble with Catriona Ní Ghribín Part 3.	Ulster University
2.30pm	Clinic	Fiddle Clinic with Niall Murphy	Ulster University
2.30pm	Discussion	One Singer, One Song	Ulster University
3:30pm	Talk	History & development of pipe band drums & drumming style.	Ulster University
3:30pm	Workshop	Listen and Learn: Traditional 78 rpm recordings	Ulster University
3pm	Taster Session	Small Pipes Taster Session with Fin Moore	Ulster University
3pm	Clinic	Tin Whistle Clinic with Mary Bergin	Ulster University
3pm	Seminar	How to be a Fiddler - Seminar 3: How to practice and why	Ulster University
4pm	Discussion	Emigrant Returns: Kevin Crawford, Catherine McEvoy & Joanie Madden	Ulster University
4pm	Junior Session	Aisling Lyons	Black Box
4pm	Dance Workshop	Two hand Donegal Highland dance workshop	Ulster University
4pm	Clinic	Traditional Singing Clinic with Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh	Ulster University
5pm	Talk	Twisting a rope made of songs with Dáibhidh Stiùbhard	Ulster University
5pm	Session	Gary Hastings, Oisín McCann & Maurice Hayden	Maddens Bar
5pm	Session	Mick McAuley, Catriona Ní Ghribín & Deirdre Havlin	Henry's
5pm	Session	Mirella Murray, Stevie Dunne & Alison Crossey	Kelly's Cellars
6pm	Session	Joanie Madden, Aimee Farrell Courtney & Rory McEvoy	The Garrick
6pm	Singing Session	Diane Cannon	The Garrick, Upstairs
7pm	Session	Seán Smyth, Mick O'Brien & Una McGlinchey	The American Bar
7pm	First Slip Session	Joshua Burnside, Myles McCormick & Kate de Barra.	The Black Box
7pm	Session	Kevin Crawford, Catherine McEvoy & Clare McCrystal	The John Hewitt
7.30pm	Concert	Bow Brothers   Mary Dillon, Dónal O'Connor & Neil Martin	Empire Music Hall
7.30pm	Concert	Belfast Harp Festival / Féile Cruitirí Bhéal Feirste	Crescent Arts Centre
7.30pm	Céilí	Pride Céilí In association with Belfast Pride	The Black Box
8.30pm	Session	Derek Hickey, Liam Lynch & Maeve O'Donnell	Crown & Shamrock
9.30pm	Session	Conor Caldwell, Ed Boyd & Josh Sampson	The Garrick
9.30pm	Session	Pádraig Rynne, Michael Coney & Cara Quinn	Maddens Bar
10pm	Festival Club	The Mad Horn Céilí Band	The Deer's Head

## Thursday 25 July

10am	Masterclasses	Belfast TradFest Summer School Masterclasses	Ulster University
1.30pm	Seminar	History of Traditional Music - Part 4: Irish traditional music and Identities	Ulster University
1.30pm	Slow Session	Maeve O'Donnell	Ulster University
2.00pm	Workshop	Learn some tunes from The Bunting Collection	Ulster University
2.30pm	Workshop	Trad Ensemble with Catriona Ní Ghribín. Part 4.	Ulster University
2.30pm	Taster Session	Try the Bagpipes for the first time	Ulster University
2.30pm	Workshop	Composition Clinic with Ryan Molloy	Ulster University
3pm	Seminar	How to be a Fiddler - Seminar 4: In search of a style.	Ulster University
3pm	Talk	Music in Birmingham and the Roscommon Connection	Ulster University
3pm	Clinic	Concertina Clinic with Éimhear Flannery	Ulster University
3pm	Clinic	Fiddle Clinic with Tara Breen	Ulster University
3pm	Clinic	Banjo Clinic with George McAdam	Ulster University
3pm	Film Screening	From A Forest To A Fiddle - Film Screening with Zoë Conway	Ulster University
3pm	Session	Pádraig Rynne, Michael Gaffney & Paul 'The Brother' Maguire	Kelly's Cellars
4pm	Céilí	Afternoon Céilí with Ronán Eastwood	Ulster University
4pm	Talk	Women Concertina players in Clare	Ulster University
4pm	Junior Session	Kevin Mawdsley	Green Room, Black Box
4.30pm	Workshop	Composition workshop with Aisling Lyons (all instruments)	Ulster University
5pm	Workshop	Pipe maintenance workshop with Mick O'Brien	Ulster University
5pm	Discussion	Arranging songs with Seamie O'Dowd & Cathal Hayden	Ulster University
5pm	Session	Mirella Murray, Claire McGreevey & Ruairi Howell	Maddens Bar
5pm	Session	Éimhear Flannery, Jamie Murphy & Brighde Chaimbeul	White's Tavern
5pm	Session	Conor Caldwell, Eilís Lavelle & Teresa Clarke	Kelly's Cellars
6pm	Concert	Niall Hanna   Damian McKee	The Black Box
6pm	Session	George McAdam, Martha Guiney & Síle Boylan	The Deer's Head
6pm	Session	Mary Bergin, Aoife McGlinchey & James Carson	McHugh's Bar
7pm	Concert	With Pipe & Drum	Titanic Hotel
7pm	Session	Tara Howley, Pádraic Keane & David Armstrong	Hearth
7.30pm	Concert	Lúnasa   Lumiere	Empire Music Hall
8pm	Session	Mick O'Brien, Eilish O'Connor & Gerry Jones	The John Hewitt
8.30pm	Concert	Seamie O'Dowd at Sunflower Folk Club	Sunflower Public House
9.30pm	Session	Tara Breen, Ciarán Kelly & Kevin Sweeney	The Garrick, Backroom Bar
9.30pm	Session	Rosie McElroy, Blathnaid Hendron & Iarla McMahon	Maddens Bar
10pm	Festival Club	Huatan	The Deer's Head



## Friday 26 July

10am	Masterclasses	Belfast TradFest Summer School Masterclasses	Ulster University
12pm	Student Concert	Summer School Tutor & Student Concert	Belfast Cathedral
2pm	Workshop	Reed making for Uilleann Pipes with Aaron O'Hagan	Ulster University
3pm	Discussion	Flute & Fife - Our shared Tradition with Gary Duffy & Hazlett Kerrs	Ulster University
3pm	Junior Session	Maeve O'Donnell	Green Room, Black Box
4pm	Talk	Trad/jazz fusion in 1920s Ireland with Conor Caldwell	Ulster University
4pm	Session	Lorraine Ní Bhriain, Paddy O'Hare & Noel Maguire	Duke of York
4pm	Session	Oisín Murphy, Brian Ó Gallachóir & Miadhachlughain O'Donnell	McHugh's Bar
5pm	Session	Neil Martin, Darragh Murphy & Francis McIlduff	The John Hewitt
6pm	Concert	Róis + Córas Trio	Crescent Arts Centre
7pm	Céilí	Céilí with The Abbey Trio	The Duncairn
7pm	Session	Ryan Molloy, Síle Boylan & Deirdre Murray	The Morning Star
7.30pm	Concert	JIGGY   Tara Breen, Pádraig Rynne & Jim Murray	Mandela Hall
8pm	Session	Ciaran Kelly, Aodhán 'Jaff' Mac Séafraigh & Erin Rose McMullan	The Deer's Head
9.30pm	Session	Stephen Hayden, Stevie Dunne & Sean Dolan	The Garrick
10pm	Festival Club	SuperCéilí   McGarrity-MacPherson	The Deer's Head

## Saturday 27 July

1pm	Concert	Cherish the Ladies	Mandela Hall
2pm	Album Launch	Conor Caldwell & Ryan Molloy: Oh, Listen to the Band!	Raidió Fáilte
3pm	Session	Eilish O'Connor, Paul 'The Brother' Maguire & Maurice Bradley	Kelly's Cellars
4pm	Book Launch	Paddy Tunney's memoir: The Stone Fiddle	Raidió Fáilte
4pm	Session	Paul Bradley, Sorcha Meehan & Breandan O'Hare	McHugh's Bar
5pm	Session	Éanna Harrington, Elaine Murphy & Thomas Ahern	Maddens Bar
6pm	Session	Martin Meehan, Paddy McGrandles & Luke Ward	The Hatfield House
7pm	Session	Milo Crossin, Davy Maguire & Desy Adams	The Morning Star
7.30pm	Concert	BIIRD   Pólca 4	Mandela Hall
2.30pm	Session	Méabh O'Hare, Melanie Houton & Seamus Tiarnan	The Garrick
10pm	Festival Club	SuperCéilí	The Deer's Head

## Sunday 28 July

1pm	Session	Maureen Walker, Myles McCormack & Brendan Loughran	McHugh's Bar
4pm	Session	Brian Connolly, Cormac 'Buzz' Ó 'Briain & Eleanor Gaffney	Maddens Bar
6pm	Session	Zoran Donohoe, Alison Crossey & Conor Murphy	The Hatfield House
6pm	Session	Ruadhraí O'Kane, Ciara O'Neill & John O'Neill	The Deer's Head
7pm	Session	Tomai Taylor, Jamie Murphy & Tom Keenan	The Morning Star



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LUMIERE | JIGGY | TITANIC CÉILÍ | BIIRD | PÓLCA 4 | SUPERCÉILÍ  
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The Close Brothers Céilí Band | The Abbey Trio Céilí Band | River McGann | Alan MacPherson | Maeve O'Donnell  
Cleamairí Feirste | Siún Ní Dhuifinn | Martin Dowling | Reece Doherty | Gary Duffy | Hazlett Kerrs  
Aaron O'Hagan | Ciara Maguire | Kevin Mawdsley | Oisín McCann | Gráinne Meyer | Alan Glenholmes  
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