



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

# Arts in Action 2017-2018

*Ealaíona  
faoi Lánseol*



Gaillimh  
2020  
Galway

[www.nuigalway.ie/artsinaction](http://www.nuigalway.ie/artsinaction)

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**Anna Lardi Fogarty**, Music for Galway

**Marina Wild**, NUI Galway Arts Office

**Anna Cunningham**, **Deirdre Finan**, **Riona Hughes**,

**Mairtin O Connor** and **Garry O Briain**.

Front Cover Image: **Blue Raincoat Theatre Company** "Things Upon the Stone".

See Artists' websites for full biographies.



# President's Message

Focaíl ón Uachtarán

Tá ról tábhachtach ag OÉ Gaillimh i saol cultúrtha an cheantair seo agus na tíre ar fad. Táimid ag tacú leis na blianta le pobal bríomhar ealaíontóirí ar an gcampas, ealaíontóirí a rinne saibhriú ar chultúr na tíre.

NUI Galway has always played a key role in the cultural life of our region and of the nation. In recent years this activity has been further highlighted with the University's close involvement in Galway's successful bid to become European Capital of Culture 2020 – a development which will put Galway firmly in the international arts spotlight.

Recent developments such as the opening of the O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance and the establishment of a Music Programme at NUI Galway testify to the genuine commitment to embed the creative arts into the University's academic mission.

The Arts in Action programme is another great example of this. Through Arts in Action, NUI Galway students are encouraged to engage with the creative arts during their studies. Arts in Action offers students access to high-quality artistic events throughout the academic year, thereby enhancing their learning experience immeasurably. Drawing on academic resources such as Archives and Special Collections, the programme is rich in creative and educational opportunity to stimulate academic interest.

This year Arts in Action has developed a new audience development initiative with Music for Galway with a series of International Lunchtime concerts designed to bring the best in contemporary and classical music to our campus community.

Of course, NUI Galway has always had a deep commitment to the arts. Over the years we've supported a vibrant creative ethos on campus which has enriched national life and fostered cultural organisations and initiatives such as Druid Theatre Company, An Taibhdhearc, Macnas, Music for Galway, Galway Ensemble in Residence and Galway International Arts Festival.

I heartily commend the Arts in Action programme to students and to all members of the campus community.

Mholfainn an clár Arts in Action do gach ball de phobal an champais. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh go léir an-taitneamh as Arts in Action i rith na bliana.

—  
**James J. Browne PhD, DSc, MRIA, C.Eng**  
**Uachtarán - President**  
**July 2017**



## Dean's Message

Focal ón Déan

On behalf of the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies I would like to welcome you to the Arts in Action series for 2017.

Galway is a city of the Arts – it is core to what we do. Recognising this, we in the University we have been adding to strengths in these areas in recent years, creating degree programmes in Film, Irish Cultural Studies, Creative Writing and Drama. We partner with the Burren College of Fine Arts and from 2018, we are launching a new BA in Music.

The Arts in Action Series complements these programmes by bringing the highest quality performers to the University. It also gives our whole academic community access to world class arts, which will entertain, enrich and inspire.

This year and for many years, our colleague Mary McPartlan has put together a really high quality and diverse series. From classical music to drama and theatre to traditional music to jazz to poetry to early music to choral music, the programme of events provides us a weekly oasis of artistic creativity within the busy University timetable.

It's the first thing that goes into my diary for the year. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

–

**Professor Cathal O'Donoghue, Dean,  
College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies**

# Arts in Action 2017-2018



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

# NUI Galway Art Collection

*The ten artworks featured here are from the NUI Galway Art Collection, which has existed since the establishment of the University in 1845 and has grown over the decades through many bequests, gifts and acquisitions. It is a significant collection of Irish and international, traditional and contemporary art and comprises over 500 pieces, curated by Marina Wild and Fionnuala Gallagher.*

View the entire art collection at:  
**[www.nuigalway.ie/artcollection](http://www.nuigalway.ie/artcollection)**

**Luca Ciavarelli**

The Tradition Of Change  
Mixed Media Sculpture

**Dagmar Drabent**

Spirit  
Acrylic on Canvas

**Roger Fry**

The Pond  
Oil on Canvas

**Kizito Kashito**

Untitled  
Oil on Canvas

**Louis Le Brocquy**

Annamoe River  
Watercolour and Ink on Paper

**Alice Maher**

Godchildren Of Enantios  
Etching

**John Mulhern**

Oíche Gaillimheach  
Oil on Canvas

**Simon Murphy**

Making Space No.1  
Clay Sculpture

**Lisa O'Donnell**

Flying Circles Patchwork Armchair  
Oil on Canvas

**Jane O'Malley**

Looking Towards Caher Island From  
Uaich Na Gcaorach, Clare Island,  
Oil and Gesso on Board

**Fred Robeson**

In De Buurt Van Het Eiland 2  
Image Transfer Technique on Panel

**Anne Yeats, More Stones (No.41)**

Oil on Board

**Maurice MacGonigal**

Portrait of Máirtín Ó Direáin  
Oil on Canvas

*Bailiúchán Ealaíon OÉ Gaillimh*





**Fred Robeson**  
In De Buurt Van Het Eiland 2  
Image Transfer Technique on Panel

# Semester I



**Date:** September 27<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** The Cube  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm



## Jane Brazil & Tiffany Qiu

**Arts in Action in collaboration with Music for Galway and SAP present a series of International Lunchtime Concerts.**

–

These two young performers have impressed pianists like Finghin Collins, Cédric Tiberghien and Joanna MacGregor. We are delighted to give them their Galway debut.

Jane Brazil, born in 2000, studies piano with Thérèse Fahy at the RIAM where she has been on scholarship since the age of six. This year Jane was selected for the Dublin International Piano Competition Finlay Programme and the RIAM Young Scholars Programme. She has participated in masterclasses with Leif Ove Andsnes, Joanna MacGregor and Finghin Collins.

16-year old Tiffany Qiu is currently studying with Professor Thérèse Fahy in the RIAM where she has been winning continuous scholarships ever since. She gave her first solo recital for the Dublin Philharmonic Society at the age of thirteen. She has also performed concerti under the baton of Finghin Collins, James Cavanagh and Uri Segal. Tiffany has won many prizes including First in the Feis Ceoil Patricia Read Cup 2017 and Second in the César Franck International Piano Competition 2016.

*Grá mo Chroí an Óige*





**Date:** October 4<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** O'Donoghue Centre for  
Drama, Theatre and  
Performance  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

*Cóta Gorm Báistí*

# Blue Raincoat Theatre Company

## Theatre

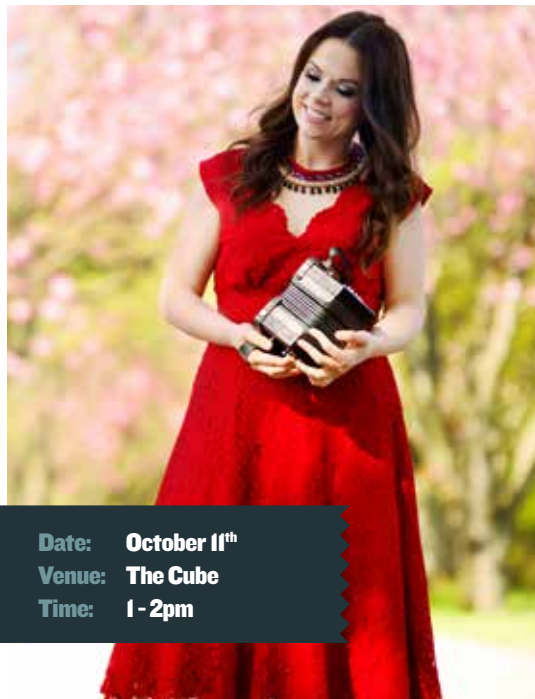
Filmed and directed by Peter Martin, *Things Upon The Stone* records the rehearsal process of Blue Raincoat Theatre Company's 2016 production of *The Cat And The Moon*.

The Blue Raincoat Theatre Company are a venue-based professional theatre ensemble. Their company and venue, The Factory Performance Space, was founded in 1991. They produce between four and six professional productions every year, with an emphasis on staging modern European classics, new writing and new adaptations for stage. They employ a repertory system to tour each of these productions throughout Ireland and internationally. They provide a broad range of professional arts related support for community and cultural programming within their immediate region. They implement training, teaching and cultural development programmes with relevant state agencies and third-level institutions throughout Ireland.

**Members of the company will hold a post screening discussion.**



**Dagmar Drabent**  
Spirit  
Acrylic on Canvas



**Date:** October 11<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** The Cube  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

## Louise & Michelle Mulcahy

### Traditional Music

Louise and Michelle Mulcahy from Abbeyfeale in Co. Limerick play a dazzling array of instruments between them but it's the sweetness and tunefulness of their ensemble playing that is most striking. They have an unmistakable, infectious sound and their skill and enthusiasm comes from a lifetime of playing together. Their latest family album titled *The Reel Note* recorded with their father Mick has received worldwide acclaim and was awarded, 'Album of the Year' by Tradconnect in 2017. Louise and Michelle were also recently voted 'Female Musicians of the Year' at the Live Ireland Music Awards 2017.

Both girls have also followed the academic pathway with Michelle completing her PhD studies in Arts Practice at the University of Limerick. Her thesis, titled 'Aistear: Performing Cultural Encounter: An Arts Practice Investigation of Karen, Burmese and Irish Harping Traditions. The thesis explored the relationship between artistic practice, creativity and cultural encounter facilitated through intercultural musical exchanges during ethnographic fieldtrips to Burma between 2009 and 2012. Louise is currently undertaking her PhD studies at NUI Galway. Her thesis is titled 'Na Píobairí Uilleann, 'Sharing the Sound': Pedagogy and Uilleann Piping in the 21st Century'. Louise and Michelle have performed at many festivals worldwide and are much sought after tutors as well as performers. Louise and Michelle are also regular contributors to many music programmes on TV and radio, nationally and internationally.





*Tairseach Phurgadóra*

**Date:** October 18<sup>th</sup>

**Venue:** O'Donoghue Centre for  
Drama, Theatre and  
Performance

**Time:** 1 - 2pm

## **The Lyric Theatre Archive, James Hardiman Library, Featuring Theatre and Film Actress Stella McCusker**

**With Special Guests: Actor Seamus O Hara from Belfast reading Seamus Heaney's  
Station Island with Uilleann Piper Padraig Keane**

Stella McCusker, one of Ireland's leading actresses, will read extracts from stories and poems published in *Threshold* literary journal, first published by the Lyric Theatre in 1957. The journal provided an important literary outlet for new writing in Northern Ireland for over four decades. Extracts will include work from Mary Beckett, Brian Friel, Elizabeth Walsh, Mary Lavin, Thomas Kinsella, Seamus Heaney and others.



**Kizito Kashito**  
Untitled  
Oil on Canvas

# Mike Nielsen Trio

Contemporary Jazz

**Arts in Action in collaboration with Music for Galway and SAP present a series of International Lunchtime Concerts.**

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Featuring Mike Nielsen on Guitar, Matthew Berrill on Saxophone and Clarinet and Derek Whyte on Double Bass, this trio will play jazz standards drawn from the Great American Songbook. They will also include a number of Swing Classics which will feature Swing Dancing as part of this performance.

From Sligo and of Danish heritage, Mike Nielsen is a renowned Musician, Composer and Educator who initiated and coordinates the Masters in Jazz Performance Degree programme at the Dublin Institute of Technology.

The Irish Times describes him as: “the most gifted and original guitarist here....”

Joining him are two jazz musicians who are active in Ireland, the UK and further afield - Galwegian, Matthew Berrill and Dubliner, Derek Whyte.

*Doirt Luascacha*

**Date:** October 25<sup>th</sup>

**Venue:** The Cube

**Time:** 1 - 2pm





**Date:** November 1<sup>st</sup>

**Venue:** The Cube

**Time:** 1 - 2pm


# Danny Diamond & Conor Caldwell

**Traditional / European Music**

Danny Diamond is a fiddle player, composer, researcher and recording engineer based in Dublin. In his music Danny creates a unique sound-world, rooted in the rich heritage of Irish traditional music, while also incorporating wider influences from Nordic and American folk to Baroque music to electronic music. Danny has been collaborating with Belfast fiddle player and lecturer, Conor Caldwell on a number of creative and academic projects in recent years. Conor is a PhD graduate of Queen's University and is known for his work with the traditional music group, Craobh Rua. For their critically acclaimed duet album, NORTH, Conor and Danny seamlessly blend their shared Northern musical heritage with the fruits of further-afield musical adventures to create a landmark contemporary Irish fiddle recording. NORTH was nominated for the Irish Times Traditional Album of the Year in 2016.

*An Bóthar Fada  
na nGleanntach*





# **‘She was the idea of Ireland’ Celebrating Siobhán McKenna**

**In Collaboration with the James Hardiman Library**

Known to many simply as ‘Siobhán’, Ireland’s most internationally celebrated actor of her generation, Siobhán McKenna has enthralled audiences from Galway to Broadway. A member of the University Dramatic Society at UCG, from the 1940s, later moving to Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe, the Abbey Theatre, the Gate Theatre to Druid Theatre and venues around the world, Siobhán was a talented and generous performer in both Irish and English, an Irish language campaigner, a human-rights activist and a member of the Council of State. Her contribution to Ireland’s public as well as artistic life ensures her record as a true great of the 20th century. Siobhán’s rich archive of personal correspondence, scripts, programmes, photographs and more today resides at the Hardiman Library, NUI Galway.

Lelia Doolan, producer and director, will recount personal insights from a life spent in the theatre and in close friendship and companionship with Siobhán. This special event will showcase the private and public lives of Siobhán as an actor but also as friend and collaborator with Lelia Doolan from the 1960s onwards.

The event will also feature newly available digitised video material from the Abbey Theatre and Druid Theatre archives, bringing Siobhán’s talent and voice to audiences once more. Curated by Barry Houlihan, Archivist James Hardiman Library and directed by Marianne Ní Chínneide, O’Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance.

**Date:** November 8<sup>th</sup>

**Venue:** O’Donoghue Centre for  
Drama, Theatre and  
Performance

**Time:** 1 - 2pm



**Date:** November 15<sup>th</sup>

**Venue:** The Cube

**Time:** 1 - 2pm

# Ronan Browne, Siobhán Armstrong & Róisín Elsafty

**In Association with Galway Early Music**

This trio presents the scintillating voice of one of Ireland's finest Conamara singers, Róisín Elsafty together with the very rare and meltingly beautiful sound of the medieval Irish harp, played by Ireland's foremost historical harper, Siobhán Armstrong, woven with the diverse colours of Ronan Browne's flutes, whistles and 170-year-old pipes.

From sparkling songs to harp laments and old pipes "pieces", we are given a glimpse of the unique sound of early Ireland. Róisín performs evocative songs in the florid Conamara style, together with achingly beautiful 17th and 18th century Irish harpers' songs with harp and flute accompaniment. Playing a facsimile copy of Ireland's national emblem – and Europe's oldest surviving harp, the medieval Trinity College harp – in the ancient manner, with fingernails striking brass, silver and 18-carat gold strings, Siobhán plays the compositions of the old Irish harper-composers. Ronan's flat pitch Union pipes, dating from the 1840s, have that rich tone which makes you want to curl up and snuggle deep into their rumbling purr as he performs old airs, marches and jigs.

*Binneas na nAoiseanna*



PROMOTING THE HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE OF MEDIEVAL,  
RENAISSANCE & BAROQUE MUSIC IN GALWAY SINCE 1996



**Roger Fry**  
The Pond  
Oil on Canvas





**Date:** November 17<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** O'Donoghue Centre for  
Drama, Theatre and  
Performance  
**Time:** 6 - 8pm

*An Ōrámadóir is an file*

## Marina Carr and Mary O'Malley

### The Playwright and the Poet

Poet Mary O'Malley and playwright Marina Carr present specially selected readings and discuss their practice.

Marina Carr is one of Ireland's best known and highly significant modern playwrights. Her works to date include *Ullaloo* (1989), *Portia Coughlan* (1996), *By the Bog of Cats* (1998), *Ariel* (2000), *Marble* (2007) and she has also written a number of plays for children. The RSC produced a world premier of her re-imagining of *Hecuba* at the Swan Theatre in September in 2015, and in August 2015, the Abbey Theatre produced a major revival of *By the Bog of Cats*. In 2017, Marina's reinterpretation of the classic *Anna Karenina* played for two months at the Abbey Theatre. Her work has been played around the world and has been translated into many different languages. Currently she lectures in the English department at Dublin City University.

Mary O'Malley is a Galway poet and an educator and has taught on the MA programmes for Writing and Education in the Arts at NUI Galway for ten years. She served on the council of Poetry Ireland and was on the Committee of the Cúirt International Poetry Festival for eight years. She also held the Chair of Irish Studies at Villanova University, Lisbon for 2013. Mary is very active in environmental education with a specific interest in the sea and bogland. She has published seven books of poetry, the most recent *Valparaíso* arising out of her residency on the national marine research ship. *Playing The Octopus* is her latest book of poems. She is currently working on a memoir of childhood as well as essays on place.



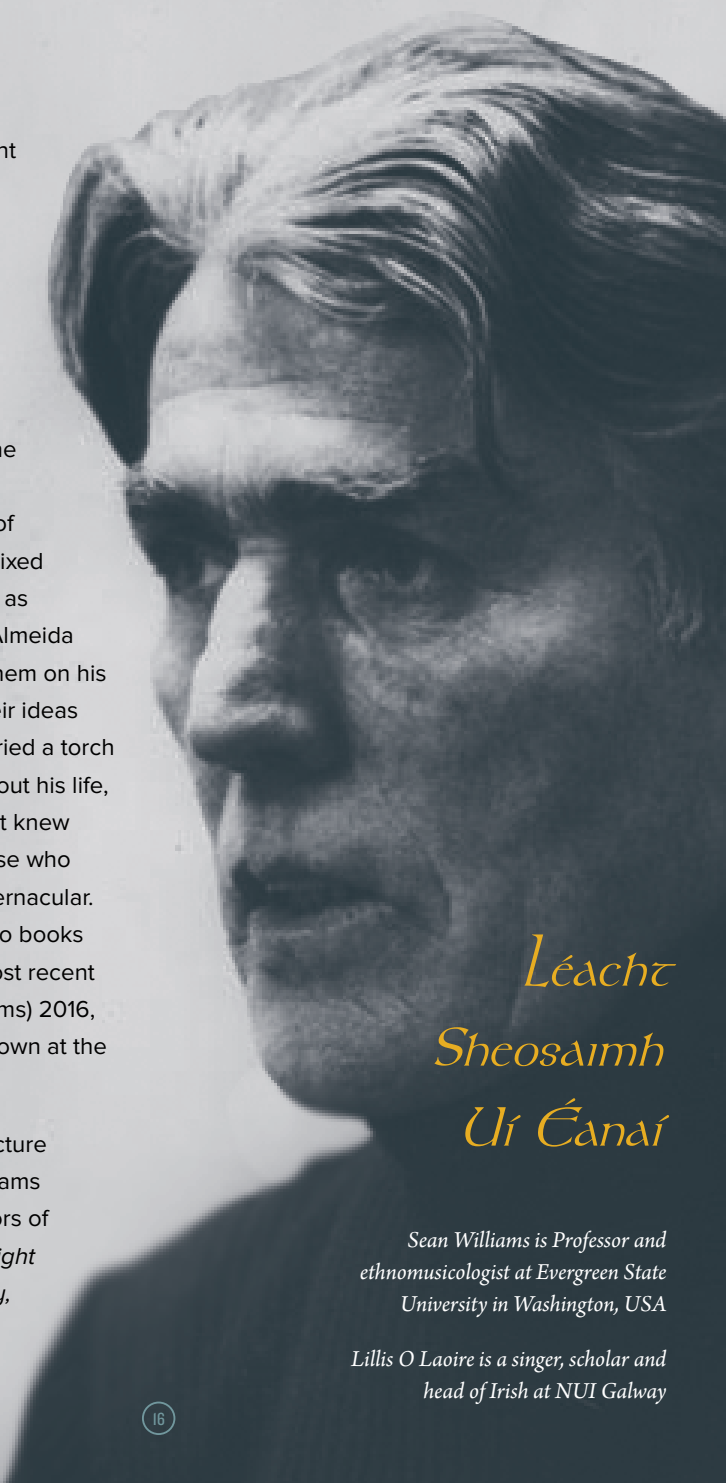
# Inaugural Joe Heaney Lecture

**Date:** November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
**Venue:** O'Donoghue Centre for  
Drama, Theatre and  
Performance  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

Joe Heaney (Seosamh Ó hEanáir) was born in Ard East (An Aird Thoir) in Carna, Co. Galway in October 1919 and he died in Seattle on May 1st, 1984.

Joe Heaney remains a constant icon of Connemara culture in today's world. His artistic achievement put the genre of sean-nós on the map of world cultures. His singing has inspired countless others to follow the road to the west and find the living culture of the Gaeltacht in Carna. Starting in Carna, he spent the last third of his life in America where he mixed with other cultural giants such as Bob Dylan, Pete Seeger and Almeida Riddle, holding his own with them on his own terms and influencing their ideas about traditional song. He carried a torch for the Irish language throughout his life, ensuring that everyone he met knew about his early life among those who used Gaelic as an everyday vernacular. He has been the subject of two books and a number of films. The most recent is *Song of Granite* (Harvest Films) 2016, directed by Pat Collins and shown at the 2017 Film Fleadh in Galway.

The Inaugural Joe Heaney Lecture will be delivered by Sean Williams and Lillis O Laoire (joint authors of the highly acclaimed book *Bright Star of the West – Joe Heaney, Irish Song Man*).



*Léacht  
Sheosamh  
Uí Éanaí*

*Sean Williams is Professor and  
ethnomusicologist at Evergreen State  
University in Washington, USA*

*Lillis O Laoire is a singer, scholar and  
head of Irish at NUI Galway*

**Date:** November 29<sup>th</sup>

**Venue:** The Cube

**Time:** 1 - 2pm

# Aisling Kenny & Oscar Montague

**Arts in Action in collaboration with Music for Galway and SAP present a series of International Lunchtime Concerts.**

—

Galwegian soprano, Aisling Kenny, studied singing at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis, Basel, with Evelyn Tubb and has participated in master classes with Emma Kirkby and Andreas Scholl. Specialising in early music, she is active as a soloist, recitalist and ensemble singer.

Monaghan-born guitarist Oscar Montague began his guitar studies at the age of 10. Oscar has since gone on to earn a 1st Class Honours Degree and a Masters in Music from the Royal Irish Academy of Music. He has had multiple radio and television appearances, along with high profile recitals across Ireland and Europe.

Aisling and Oscar will perform a varied programme of repertoire spanning the centuries with a twist or two on some well-known classics.



*An Glór is an Giotár*



**Anne Yeats**  
More Stones (No.41)  
Oil on Board

# Semester 2





**Date:** January 31<sup>st</sup>

**Venue:** The Cube

**Time:** 1 - 2pm

*Alasdair na  
gCnaigirí*

## Alex Petcu

**Arts in Action in collaboration with Music for Galway and SAP present a series of International Lunchtime Concerts.**

—

An Irish musician of Romanian origin, Alex is quickly establishing himself both nationally and internationally as a percussionist of the finest calibre. His recent appearances as a soloist with both RTE orchestras and as the National Concert Hall Rising Star recitalist are some of his main highlights so far.

An active freelance musician, Alex performs with a wide variety of ensembles and in a range of settings. He regularly performs with the Crash and Hard Rain ensembles, two of Ireland's main contemporary groups, and the various professional orchestras in Ireland.

His debut album, "Alex Petcu: In Time" has just been released on the RTÉ lyric fm label.



**Alice Maher**  
Godchildren Of Enantios  
Etching



**Date:** February 7<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** The Cube  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

## ConTempo Quartet

### Contemporary Jazz

Formed in 1995 in Bucharest, ConTempo Quartet is recognised as one of the most exciting and vibrant chamber ensembles performing today. It has performed world-wide in many prestigious venues, winning prizes at competitions in Munich, Rome and London, and worked alongside artists of the highest calibre. It has broadcast widely on European radio and premiered and recorded many contemporary pieces. ConTempo Quartet was chosen as Galway Music Residency's Ensemble in Residence in 2003 and continues to captivate audiences throughout the city and county with its repertoire of classical, contemporary, folk and traditional music. In June 2016 the members were conferred with Honorary Doctorates in Music by NUI Galway in recognition of their role in promoting music and education in the West of Ireland. In 2013 ConTempo was also appointed RTÉ's Quartet in Residence.

*Ceathrar ag Ceol*



**Date:** February 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** Aula Maxima  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

# Mark Duley, Choral Master and Musician

**Presenting members of NUI Galway Choral Ensemble with classical pianist, Ramin Haghjoo**

A native of New Zealand, Mark Duley came to Ireland in 1992 and has held several major posts in the country, including organist and director of music at Christ Church Cathedral Dublin, chorumaster to the RTÉ Philharmonic Choir and artistic director of the Irish Baroque Orchestra. Aside from a busy freelance career, Mark holds the posts of Pipeworks artistic director, organist of the Collegiate Church of St Nicholas, Galway, founder-director of St Nicholas Schola Cantorum, and artistic director of Resurgam.



In this concert, Collegium together with the NUI Galway choral scholars present a short retrospective of the western sacred choral canon including music appropriate to the day.

Ramin Haghjoo is an organist and pianist originally from California with a B.M. in Piano as well as an M.A. and Ph.D. in Music Theory from the University of California. After working as a music director and performer in the San Francisco Bay Area, he moved to Galway in 2012. He now teaches music and conducts the orchestra at Maoin Cheoil na Gaillimhe, works as organist/music director at the Augustinian Church, gives music workshops at NUI Galway and performs and conducts in the city and abroad.

*CÓR IS PIANÓ*





**John Mulhern**  
Oiche Gaillimheach  
Oil on Canvas



**Date:** February 21<sup>st</sup>

**Venue:** The Cube

**Time:** 1 - 2pm

# Matthew Berrill Trio

## Contemporary Jazz/Traditional Music

Matthew Berrill on clarinets and saxophone alongside Greg Felton on piano and Sean Carpio on drums will lead you on a journey through the world of jazz - from the 1910s to the present day.

Performing pieces ranging from New Orleans, Swing, Bebop to Contemporary Jazz including their own original compositions.

Seán Carpio is a multi-instrumentalist whose practice incorporates song, sound and improvisation. Described by The Irish Times as “maybe the finest drummer ever produced here”, Seán is an active as a soloist in Europe and the USA, and has featured on twenty recordings.

Greg Felton is regarded as one of the best pianist/composers to emerge in Dublin in recent years. He holds a Masters in Composition from Waterford IT and a diploma in Jazz Performance from Newpark Music Centre, where he teaches composition, rhythm and improvisation.

Matthew Berrill is based in Galway and is an active musician and educator in the West and throughout the country. He is Artistic Director of the Galway Jazz Festival, Conductor of the NUI Galway Concert Orchestra and a tutor and ensemble director in Headford Music Works. He has a keen interest in a myriad of styles of music - influenced heavily by jazz, traditional Irish and classical music.

*Ceol TRIÚIR*

*Réamonn  
Suaithinseach*

**Date:** February 28<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** The Cube  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

## Redmond O'Toole

**Arts in Action in collaboration with Music for Galway and SAP  
present a series of International Lunchtime Concerts.**

Redmond O'Toole has been described as Ireland's most distinctive guitarist. His unusual playing technique uses an 8-string guitar held in the cello position. He has toured extensively in the US and Europe as soloist, as a former member of Dublin Guitar Quartet and as guest guitarist for the Chieftains. Redmond has recently held residencies at the National Concert Hall and the National Opera House and has collaborated with world class musicians such as Raphael Wallfisch (cello), Derek Gripper (guitar) and many others. He teaches at the Royal Irish Academy of Music in Dublin. His Galway recital will include music by Domeniconi, Haydn and Bach.



**Louis Le Brocquy**  
Annamoe River  
Watercolour and Ink on Paper





**Date:** March 7<sup>th</sup>

**Venue:** The Cube

**Time:** 1 - 2pm

*Buillí tuirsiúil*

*Ag máidí rámha*

*Bád lán le héisc*

*Ag teacht abhaile*

*Ar fharraige ór*

*Ag deireadh an lae*

*San Earrach thiar.*

**Maurice MacGonigal**

Portrait of Máirtín Ó Direáin

Oil on Canvas

## Máirtín Ó Direáin

**Marking the 30th Anniversary of the distinguished poet**

Coinciding with the opening of an exhibition to be held in the Hardiman Research Building from March to July 2018 to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the death of distinguished poet, Máirtín Ó Direáin, composer and traditional musician Johnny Óg Connolly will present work from his song cycle based on the writings of Ó Direáin, with special guest musicians.

Born in Sruthán, Inis Mór, in 1910, Ó Direáin is considered one of the foremost Irish-language modernist poets of the twentieth century. While much of Ó Direáin's poetry is concerned with the poet's profound attachment to his native place and the sense of alienation provoked by city life in Dublin, this exhibition reconsiders Ó Direáin's ties to Galway city.

Ó Direáin's literary imagination was first sparked by his contact with leading Galway-based intellectuals who he came into contact with when living in the city from 1928-1937. He was involved in the founding of the An Taibhdhearc theatre, and played a leading role in the Galway branch of Conradh na Gaeilge.

**Date:** March 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** The Cube  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm



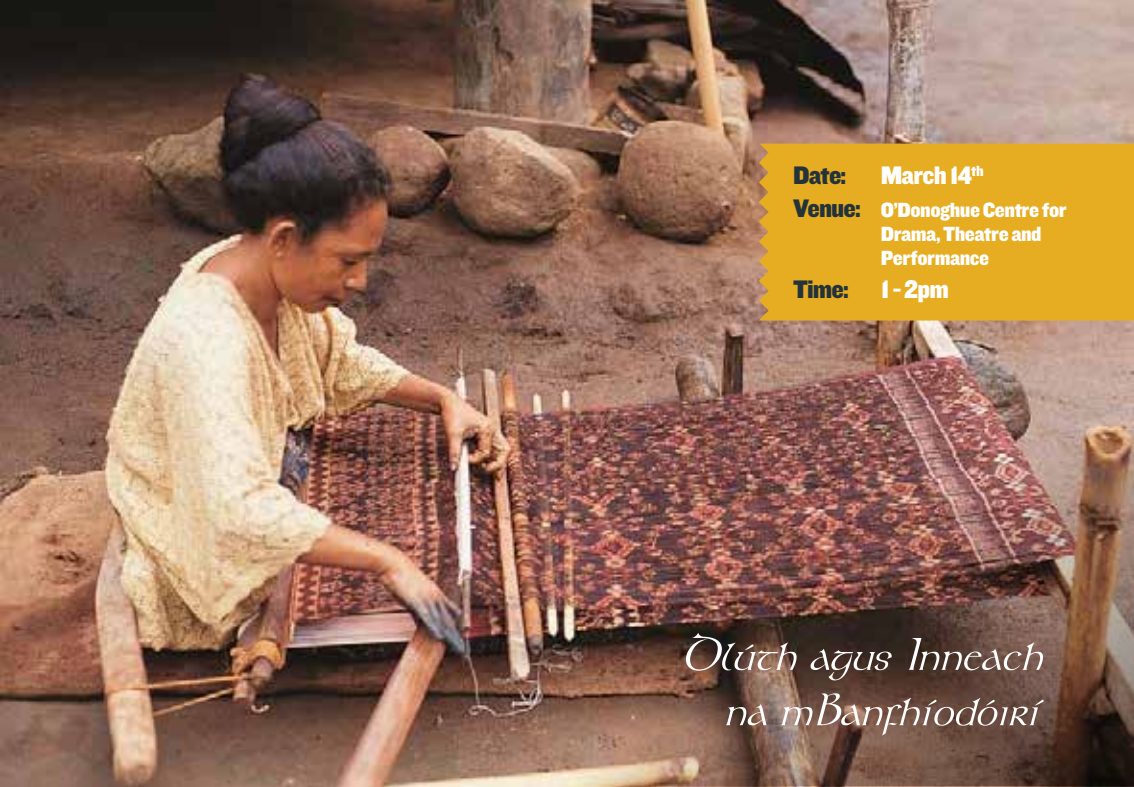
## Sam Gleaves & Tyler Hughes

Bluegrass music from Kentucky and West Virginia

Sam Gleaves and Tyler Hughes play newly written songs from the Appalachian mountains, inspired by the great American folk legend, Jean Ritchie. Both natives of southwest Virginia, Sam and Tyler learned their craft from the finest traditional musicians of the region. Sam and Tyler's programs feature fiddle and banjo hoedowns, close mountain harmonies, stories of all kinds, Carter Family-inspired autoharp and guitar, country gospel songs, lonesome ballads and flatfooting, the percussive dancing of the Appalachians. As a duo, Sam and Tyler also perform contemporary songs that tell stories from today's Appalachia, which can be heard on Sam's critically acclaimed album *Ain't We Brothers*. Sam and Tyler have performed at many venues throughout the eastern United States and on programs such as West Virginia Public Radio's Mountain Stage and Lexington, Kentucky's Red Barn Radio (broadcast on Kentucky Educational Television). The first recording by the duo (titled Sam Gleaves & Tyler Hughes) is produced by veteran roots musician Cathy Fink and was released in June 2017 on the Community Music Inc. label.

"Sam Gleaves and Tyler Hughes claim their place in the deep tradition of duet singing, so much a part of their Southwest Virginia home. Tyler's *When We Love* and Ola Belle Reed's *Tear Down the Fences* are heart stopping anthems to everything that is the best in Appalachia and in each of us." - John McCutcheon, folk musician and songwriter.

*Ceol na mBeann Gorm*



**Date:** March 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** O'Donoghue Centre for  
Drama, Theatre and  
Performance  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

*Olúth agus Inneach  
na mBanfhíodóirí*

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Jean Ritchie Lecture Delivered by Curator Roy Hamilton

### Weaver's Stories from Island Southeast Asia

Unlike in Europe and the Middle East, where both men and women were often engaged in the production of traditional textiles, Southeast Asian cultures categorically regard weaving and other textile arts as a domain of women. In this lecture Roy W. Hamilton will discuss his project *Weavers' Stories from Island Southeast Asia*, retelling some of the most compelling life stories that women chose to record on video in their own words. Drawing upon examples from the islands of Flores, Sumba, and Timor, the videos reveal how each woman views her work and the role it plays in forging her place in her community.

Roy W. Hamilton organized some forty exhibitions over the course of his 24-year career as Curator of Asian and Pacific Collections at the Fowler Museum, University of California Los Angeles. His field research in weaving communities across the Southeast Asian archipelago led to numerous books, including *Gift of the Cotton Maiden: Textiles of Flores* and *The Solor Islands* (1994), *From the Rainbow's Varied Hue: Textiles of the Southern Philippines* (1998), and *Textiles of Timor, Island in the Woven Sea* (2014). Another book, *Material Choices: Refashioning Bast and Leaf Fibers in Asia and the Pacific* (2007), won the R.L. Shep Book Award of the Textile Society of America.





**Date:** March 21<sup>st</sup>  
**Venue:** The Cube  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

# Jack Talty & Graham Dunne

## Traditional Music

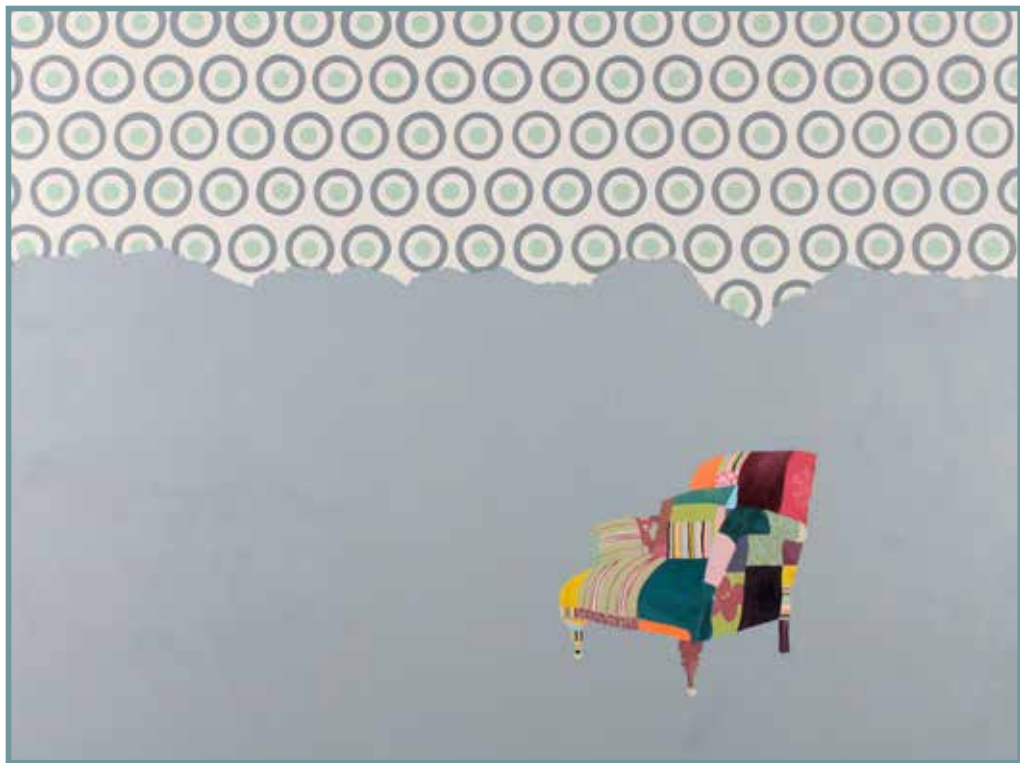
Jack Talty and Graham Dunne explore improvised electroacoustic Irish traditional music, on concertinas, guitars, percussion and electronics. This duet project provides a platform to explore sympathies between the improvisatory heterophony of the Irish instrumental tradition, and electroacoustic composition.

Jack Talty is a musician, composer, and producer from Co. Clare. In 2011, he founded Raelach Records, and has released three albums with the award-winning Ensemble Ériu. Since 2013 he has performed as a section leader with the Irish Memory Orchestra. He has also recorded *Na Fir Bolg* with Cormac Begley and released his debut solo album, *In Flow*, in November 2016.

Graham Dunne is a guitarist, audio engineer, music producer, music systems programmer, and electroacoustic music composer. Graham maintains a professional career as a guitarist and as accompanist to singer Niamh Parsons, while also maintaining his interest in solo fingerstyle jazz guitar arrangements, amongst other things.

*Óis Óána*





**Lisa O'Donnell**  
Flying Circles Patchwork Armchair  
Oil on Canvas



**Jane O'Malley**

Looking Towards Caher Island From Uaich Na Gcaorach, Clare Island,  
Oil and Gesso on Board



**Date:** March 28<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** The Cube  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

## Neasa Ní Bhriain & Kärt Ruubel

“The blue and the dim and the dark cloths  
Of night and light and the half light”

**Arts in Action in collaboration with Music for Galway and SAP present a series of International Lunchtime Concerts.**

–

Dublin-born Neasa and Estonian, Kärt met in Germany while pursuing busy careers as soloists, chamber, and orchestral musicians. Their friendship has led them to develop interesting programmes that bridge their countries of origin. This programme looks at the movements of light and darkness and seeks to express the fragility and elegance of movement in the shadowlands in order to appreciate forms of dance that is to be seen out of the corner of our eye. In continuing with their work on the connection between Ireland and Estonia “Éire/Eesti”, they will perform Estonian and Irish compositions that highlight this ethereal theme. Emphasis is also placed on literature from both our countries, in particular on poetry.

*Aóhus is Thall*

**Date:** April 4<sup>th</sup>  
**Venue:** The Cube  
**Time:** 1 - 2pm

# The NUI Galway Medical Orchestra 'Coimbra Recital'

*Celebrating Eight  
Years in Action*

**Introducing the Medical Students Choral  
group and soloists.**

—

“The Medical School Orchestra provides a vehicle for creativity for future doctors which enhances personal and professional development. We in the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences are proud of their accomplishments and the manner in which they enrich the lives of those around them.”

**Professor Tim O'Brien**  
Dean, College of Medicine,  
Nursing and Health Sciences







*Leigheas an Cheoil*



"Congratulation Arts in Action! What a wonderful series of cultural events and encounters are described here! It is going to be an exciting and stimulating time for us all in Galway".

**Hannah Kiely, CEO, Galway 2020**



"In just two and a half years time Galway City and County will become the European Capital of Culture 2020. Both the build up and the year itself, will be an opportunity to celebrate our artists and their collaborations with artists and cultural organisations from around Europe and the world. There will be lots of surprises and events to delight every taste and audience and to enable us to think about Europe from very different cultural perspectives".

**Chris Baldwin, Creative Director, Galway 2020**







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