

An impressionistic painting of a coastal scene. The sky is a mix of light blues and greys, with visible brushstrokes. In the middle ground, there are white buildings, possibly a town or village, with a prominent dark church spire on the right. The foreground is dominated by dark, swirling water and large, textured patches of yellow and orange, suggesting a beach or a field. The overall style is expressive and textured.

11th. ANNUAL

**Donegal Bay and
Blue Stacks Festival**

Féile an Fhómhair

OCTOBER 1-9 2011

FREE PROGRAMME

PRESENTED BY
DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
CULTURAL SERVICES

www.donegal.ie

BA MHAITH LINN BUÍOCHAS A GHABHÁIL CHUIG

Maura Logue, Andrea Kennedy, Martin Ferris, Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon. **Conor Malone**, Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey. **Margaret Cunningham**, An Cláchán, Ballyshannon. **Johnny Boyle**, Highlands Hotel, Glenties. **Mary Thompson, Margaret Sweeney**, Glenties Community Centre. **Brendan O'Reilly**, Dicey Reilly's, Ballyshannon. **Seán Ó Beirne**, Áislann Chill Chartha. **Anne Marie Moyne**, HSE. **Paul Diver**, Sand House Hotel, Rosnowlagh. **Barney McLaughlin**, Ballyshannon.

Mandy Blinco and **Mark Hill, LUXe. Denise Blake. Clíodhna Ní Anluain**, RTE Radio 1. **Emer Keon**, Erne Enterprise Development Company Ltd.

Patricia McBride, Niall Cranny, Nicola Burns, An Grianán Theatre. **Iarla McGowan**, Workhouse Theatre. **Kieran Quinn**, Balor Rep. **Christian Carbin** and **Art Kavanagh**, Donegal Drama Circle. **Michael Flaherty. Caoimhín MacAoidh, Rab Cherry**, Cairdeas

na bhFidiléirí. **Anne Jennings** and **Toni Doherty**, NorthWest Opera. **Marie Askin. Little John Nee. Joe Brennan. Ruth McGowan**, Gutsy Productions. **Tara Connaghan. Chantal McCormick, Jym Daly** Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Company. **Marc Geagan. Marcel Otten**, Man-made Images, Mountcharles. **Deborah J. Stockdale. Brian Sweeney. Kathleen Rafferty. Michael McMullin. Shaun Hannigan, Jeremy Howard**, Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny. **Micheál Ó Fearraigh, Aideen Doherty, Micheál Mac Aoidh**, Donegal County Development Board Cultural Resources Forum.

Ciaran Patton, Leslie Long, Gordon Harte, Patsy O'Kane, Sound, Lighting and Production.

Ballyshannon Town Council .

Cover : Ballyshannon on The Erne, **Michael Flaherty**. See. P.21

FUNDERS & PARTNERS



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Coiste Gairmoideachais Chontae Dhúin na nGall
County Donegal Vocational Education Committee

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RÉAMHRÁ INTRODUCTION

This is the 11th. year of the Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival, an initiative of Donegal County Council's Cultural Services Department.

Among the highlights of this year's event is the Carnival Parade in Ballyshannon which this year adopts a circus theme and new name, **Cirque du Saimer**. The award-winning **LUXe** company from Inishowen have devised this year's hugely anticipated show which takes place on Saturday night, October 8.

Once again, theatre features strongly on the programme with **An Griánán Theatre** and the new **Workhouse** theatre company combining to stage an eagerly anticipated production of Brian Friel's *Aristocrats*, in Ballyshannon and in Glenties. There's more classic Friel in Donegal Town where **Donegal Drama Circle** bring the Mundy household to effervescent life in their Festival production of *Dancing At Lughnasa*. **The Balor Rep** are on the road again with *The Story of Patsy Cline*, a follow-up to their massively successful *Stand by Your Man* in 2009. There's new writing from Donegal with **Ruth McGowan's** *Lovesongs for Losers* and there's Edinburgh Festival Fringe success coming to Donegal in the form of **Pat Kinevan's** multi award-winning show, *Silent*, in Ballybofey.

NorthWest Opera are back at The Balor Arts Centre with one of the most popular operas of all time, Georges Bizet's **Carmen**. With a cast of professional singers from Germany, America, Bulgaria and Donegal, and a live Orchestra, this will be a night of passionate opera not to be missed.

Festival audiences can look forward to the best of Donegal and visiting music with a revival of **Margaret McGinley's** evocative *Glencveagh Suite*, by **Marie Askin** and Friends, at Ballyshannon; **Tara Connaghan, Denise Boyle** and **Paul Anderson** in Glencolmcille; **Danny Meehan** and a special tribute to the great Teelin fiddle player, the late **Frank Cassidy**, at the Donegal Fiddlers Gathering in Glenties; **Rainy Boy Sleep** and the exciting new **Dune Collective** in Ballyshannon, the **Rare Groove Funk Orchestra** in Bundoran and the best of bluegrass with **Woodbine** in Kilcar.

We are extremely happy to welcome RTE Radio 1's iconic **Sunday Miscellany** show back to the Festival for a second time. The show's producer and presenter **Cliodhna Ni Anluain** has gathered

together a mouth watering line-up of writers and musicians, including **Carlo Gebler, Moya Cannon, Little John Nee, Frank Galligan, Anthony Glavin**, the **Donegal Chamber Orchestra** and **Doimnic Mac Ghiolla Bhríde**, for your enjoyment. The radio show will be recorded live at The Abbey Centre, Ballyshannon on Sunday afternoon, October 9.

The visual arts enjoy a strong presence in this year's programme, led by renowned Kerry artist **Michael Flaherty's** wonderful studies of Ballyshannon, the exhibition of which will be staged at the Abbey Arts Centre and opened on October 1st. by the Minister of State at the Department of Arts, Heritage and The Gaeltacht, **Mr. Dinny McGinley TD**. At the same time, the six artists of the Meitheal Ealaíne artists group, **Deborah J. Stockdale, Margaret Cunningham, Ana Stromberg, Rik Walton, Tom McLaughlin** and **Michael Doherty**, will open their group show in Glencolmcille, while **James McManus' new** solo show opens in Donegal Town on Friday night, September 30.

The Festival's heartiest congratulations go to Marcel Otten at the **Man-made images Photo Gallery** in Mountcharles on the occasion of the gallery's 5th. anniversary which be celebrated with a group show featuring one signature work from each of the 23 artists who have exhibited there, since it opened in 2006.

This year we again happy that the Festival's Childrens Events programme features new work by two Donegal artists, **Little John Nee's** intriguingly titled *Bag of Queens* and **Joe Brennan's** delightful *Star Boy*, and we welcome back those intrepid Kerrymen, **The Fanzini Brothers**, with their hot favourite show, *Deathwish!*

Tá súil againn, mar sin, go mbainfidh pobal uilig Dhún an nGall Theas mór-thaitneamh as Féile an Fhómhair seo. Lena linn, beidh réimse leathan d'amharclannaíocht is opera den gcéad scoth againn, is carnabhal sráide, ó gcompántais áitiúla agus ó dtaobh amuigh. Beidh ard chaighdeán cheoil traidisiúnta agus comhairsireach ann fosta comh maith le clár imeachtaí ealaíne do dhaoine óga agus clár thaispeántaisí fosta - achán chuid de ag titim amach fán dtaobh tíre álainn seo idir Chuan Dhún an nGall agus Sléibhte na gCruacha Gorma.



Theatre Carnival Drama locht Carnabhal

RISE PRODUCTIONS AND
THE LISA RICHARDS AGENCY

Fight Night

By **Gavin Costick**. Directed by **Brian Burroughs**

Performed by **Aonghus Óg McAnally**



SATURDAY OCTOBER 1

Balor Arts Centre **Ballybofey**

8.30.pm €15 / €12

Winner of both **Best Actor** and the Bewley's **'Little Gem'** Award in Dublin's ABSOLUT Fringe Festival 2010, *Fight Night* is a gripping journey charting the comeback of Dan Coyle Jr., a failed amateur boxer from a long line of accomplished fighters.

Living in the twin shadows of his overbearing father and his brother's Olympic success, Dan

lets his training slip in favour of girls and booze. Then, an incident with his father minutes before a crucial bout splinters the family and exiles Dan from the ring. It's not until the birth of his own son years later that his competitive fire is reignited, and he takes the first tentative steps on his road to redemption.

This fast-paced and engaging solo performance combines intense physicality with a classic Dublin wit. McAnally spends the bulk of the show performing the rituals of a boxer in training, honing his body in preparation for conflict. He skips, jogs, does press-ups, and shadow boxes with weights - all for real - in a storytelling experience that will leave audiences both exhausted and exhilarated.

One Chance. One Shot. *Fight Night*. No Excuses.

McAnally and Kostick deliver a knockout blow ... extraordinary ... exhilarating and cathartic.

Irish Times

A smashing play... I loved it.

Sunday Independent

An impressive and extremely physical performance. **Irish Mail on Sunday**

Contains **Strong Language**. Suitable for **14+**

DONEGAL DRAMA CIRCLE

Dancing at Lughnasa

By **Brian Friel**. Directed by **Christian Carbin**.

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 3 - 5

John Bosco Centre **Donegal Town**
8.30pm €12/€10 Tickets At Door.

'And when I cast my mind back to that summer of 1936, these two memories – of our first wireless and of Father Jack's return – are always linked ... I remember the kitchen throbbing with the beat of Irish dance music beamed to us all the way from Dublin, and my mother and her sisters suddenly catching hands and dancing a spontaneous step-dance and laughing – screaming! – like excited schoolgirls ...'



Its 1936 and harvest time in Donegal. In a house just outside the village of Ballybeg live the five Mundy sisters – schoolmistress Kate, housekeeper Maggie, craft knitters Agnes and Rose and the youngest, Chris – barely making ends meet. The two male members of



the household are their brother Jack – a missionary priest repatriated from Africa by his superiors after twenty five years of service – and Michael, Chris' seven year old child, who now as an adult, narrates the story that unfolds over three eventful weeks in the month of August.

Dancing At Lughnasa opened to enormous public acclaim at The Abbey Theatre in early 1990. The following year, with Rosaleen Lenihan playing the role of Kate, it travelled to The National Theatre in London where it won the **Lawrence Olivier Award for Best Play** and thereafter was staged at The Plymouth Theatre on Broadway, where it won the **Tony Award for Best Play** in 1992. The play was revived in 2000 and 2004 to further success at the Abbey and Gate theatres respectively and in 2009, a production featuring the three Cusack sisters – Sorcha, Niamh and Sinéad – and Andrea Corr, had a very successful run at the Young Vic Theatre in London.

This Donegal Drama Circle production for Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival is directed by **Christian Carbin** and features **Suzanne Thomas, Margaret Timoney, Catherine Martin, Karen McCrudden, Conor Friery, Sean McLoone** and **Christian Carbin**. Design is by **Art Kavanagh** and **Martin Crawford**.

*This play does exactly what theatre was born to do, carrying both its characters and audience aloft on those waves of distant music and ecstatic release that, in defiance of all language and logic, let us dance and dream just before night must fall. Dancing at Lughnasa. **Frank Rich. New York Times.***

BALOR REP

The Patsy Cline Story

By **Conor Malone**. Directed by **Kieran Quinn**.**TUESDAY** OCTOBER 4Abbey Arts Centre **Ballyshannon**

8.30.pm €15 / €10

This brand new production from the people who brought you *Lost Highway-The Hank Williams Story* and *Stand By Your Man - The Tammy Wynette Story* - traces Patsy's career from humble beginnings in Winchester to the bright lights of The Grand Ol' Opry and beyond. Starring **Cathleen Bradley** as Patsy, this two hour musical is packed with Cline hits such as 'Walkin' After Midnight', 'I Fall To Pieces' and, of course, 'Crazy'.

Directed by **Kieran Doherty**, with Musical Direction by **Seamus Curran**, the cast includes **Jack Quinn, Stephen Slowey, Conor Malone,**

Caroline Bell, Damien Duffy, Vonny Curran, Hillary Scanlan, Paddy McMenamin and Pauric Duffy, with musicians **Seamus Curran** (guitars, vocals), **John Dolan** (piano, pedal steel and fiddle), **Denis Bonnar** (guitar, vocals), **Damien Doherty** (bass guitar, vocals) and **John McGranaghan** (drums).

*Cathleen Bradley didn't just learn her lines and songs for her part, she became Patsy Cline ... and for the duration of the show, you would have sworn that they'd somehow resurrected the country music star. **Donegal Democrat***

Also **Balor Arts Centre** Ballybofey, Monday - Wednesday, September 26-28. Booking 074 9131840

FISHAMBLE THEATRE

SilentBy **Pat Kinevane**.Performed by **Pat Kinevane**.**WEDNESDAY** OCTOBER 5Balor Arts Centre **Ballybofey**

8.30pm €15 /€12

Fringe First Award

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2011

Bank of Scotland

Herald Angel Award

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2011

Set in actor and writer Pat Kinevane's native Cork, *Silent* is the touching and challenging story of homeless McGoldrig - 'hopeless, helpless, in-the-way person' - who once had splendid things. But he has lost it all - including his mind. He now dives into the wonderful wounds of this past through the romantic silent film world of Rudolph Valentino.

In August, *Silent* played to sold-out audiences and ecstatic reviews at the world's largest arts festival - Edinburgh Festival Fringe - where it scooped a prestigious Fringe First Award and a Bank of Scotland Herald Angel Award within a week of opening at Scotland's national contemporary dance centre, Dancebase.

Silent follows Pat Kinevane's previous production for Fishamble, *Forgotten*, which has enjoyed over 100 performances throughout Ireland, the UK, France and the US. A very successful and

highly respected actor, Kinevane is particularly well known for his portrayal of Roy Keane in the massively successful musical theatre show, *I Keano*.

Unflinching, intensely physical performance... bristling with black humour.

The Scotsman

A Festival Fringe must-see if ever there was one.

The LIST

Kinevane moves, in a striking performance, with the elegance of a dancer and the engaged poise of a boxer. It's a startling combination... the



caress of poetry and the disarming direct address of stand-up... a moving story, which, until its end, pulses with the erratic noise of life.

The Irish Times

I am delighted to offer my congratulations

to Fishamble and Pat Kinevane on winning a prestigious Fringe First at this year's Edinburgh Festival... This award is recognition of the value placed on Irish arts abroad and on one of our most talented character actors. Mr. Jimmy Deenihan TD, Minister at the Department of Arts, Heritage and An Gaeltacht.

Contains **Strong Language**. Suitable for **14+**

AN GRIANÁN THEATRE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH WORKHOUSE PRESENTS

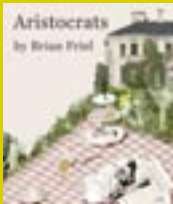
Aristocrats

By **Brian Friel**. Directed by **Iarla McGowan**.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 6
Abbey Arts Centre **Ballyshannon**
8.30.pm €15/€10

SUNDAY OCTOBER 9
The Community Centre **Glenties**
8.30.pm €15/€10

Set, like so many of Friel's plays, in the fictional Donegal village of Ballybeg, *Aristocrats* explores similar themes to his 19th century set drama *The Home Place* except here the focus is on an upper class Catholic family and the action takes place in the 1970s.



Ballybeg Hall is the decaying home of District Justice O'Donnell where those who return for a wedding stay on to attend a funeral. Friel's chronicle of three sisters and their brother reveals the way in which the changing fortunes of one

family become the metaphor for a whole society and a way of life.

First produced by the Abbey Theatre in 1979, *Aristocrats* won the **Evening Standard Award for Best Play** (1988) and the **New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Foreign Play** (1989).

This latest Donegal production opens at An Grianán Theatre on September 28th. and closes its run, very

appropriately, in the Community Centre in Glenties which is generally accepted to be the model for Friel's fictional village of Ballybeg.

Director **Iarla McGowan** is from Letterkenny and is now based in London. His performances earlier this year as Richard III in *Love and Madness'* stylish production of the Shakespearean classic were the subject of rave reviews across the UK and Ireland. He founded **Workhouse** theatre company in 2009 and directed their first show, *Conor McPherson's The Weir*, in a sold-out run at the Regional Cultural Centre in December of that year.

An Grianán and Workhouse have assembled a stellar cast for this hugely anticipated production, including **Gerard McSorley, Clare McMahon, Maura Logue, Orla McGranaghan, Sean Hanrahan, Chris O'Shea, Sean Byrne, Sean McCormack, Jamie Menard** and **Elaine Gillespie**. Design is by **Abby Price, Joanne Quigley** and **Niall Cranny**. The show is produced by **Patricia McBride**.

A lovely play, funny and harrowing...Mr Friel makes the Irish condition synonymous with the human one.'
Frank Rich, The New York Times

An ironic, loving, imaginative, and all but faultless play. Make that a faultless play.
Edith Oliver, The New Yorker

Also, **An Grianán Theatre**, Letterkenny.

www.angrianan.com

Wednesday – Saturday, 8.00pm,

September 28 – October 1. Booking 074 9120777.

GUTSY PRODUCTIONS

Love Songs for Losers

A confessional play that combines theatre, comedy, live karaoke and storytelling.

By **Ruth McGowan**. Directed by **Ruth McGowan**

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7

Dacey Reilly's Market Street
Ballyshannon 9.30pm €5

Love Songs for Losers comes to the Festival hot on the heels of a very successful run at the Dublin Absolut Fringe where it played for two weeks at the famous Stag's Head pub, off Dame Street. A homecoming of sorts, the play was written and directed by **Ruth McGowan** from Ballybofey, whose family are particularly well known in the Donegal drama scene by their close connection, over many years, with the Butt Drama Circle and The Balor Theatre.

Set in a backstreet bar room, Love Songs for Losers is a confessional play which combines theatre, comedy, karaoke and storytelling. Witness a handful of

strangers tell you stories you shouldn't hear, sing you their songs and try to start again. Be their confidant on a journey towards hope, regeneration and karaoke glory. Hit the bar then settle in for a night of shameless voyeurism, melancholy mischief and big ball-busting ballads. After all, karaoke is way cheaper than therapy!

The all-singing, all-acting cast includes **Sonya O' Donoghue, Neill Flemming, Klara McDonnell, Ann Marie O' Donovan, Ben Reynolds** and **Diana O'Connor**.

*There's something extremely cathartic about witnessing somebody work out their own internal drama by singing 'Dancing Queen' at the top of their lungs in front of a crowd of strangers. It's quite heroic. The drama these everyday heroes experience is laid bare in this exciting new play by Ruth McGowan. **Róise Goan, Director, Dublin Absolut Fringe Festival.***

LUXe PRESENTS

Cirque du Saimer



SATURDAY OCTOBER 8
College Street Castle Street
The Port **Ballyshannon** 7.30pm



Its Carnival time in Ballyshannon and once again the celebrations are in the capable hands of Mandy Blinco and Mark Hill of LUXe, Donegal's own processional spectacle company, who have won the **Best Overall Pageant Award** at the St. Patrick's Day Festival Parade in Dublin for the past three years running.

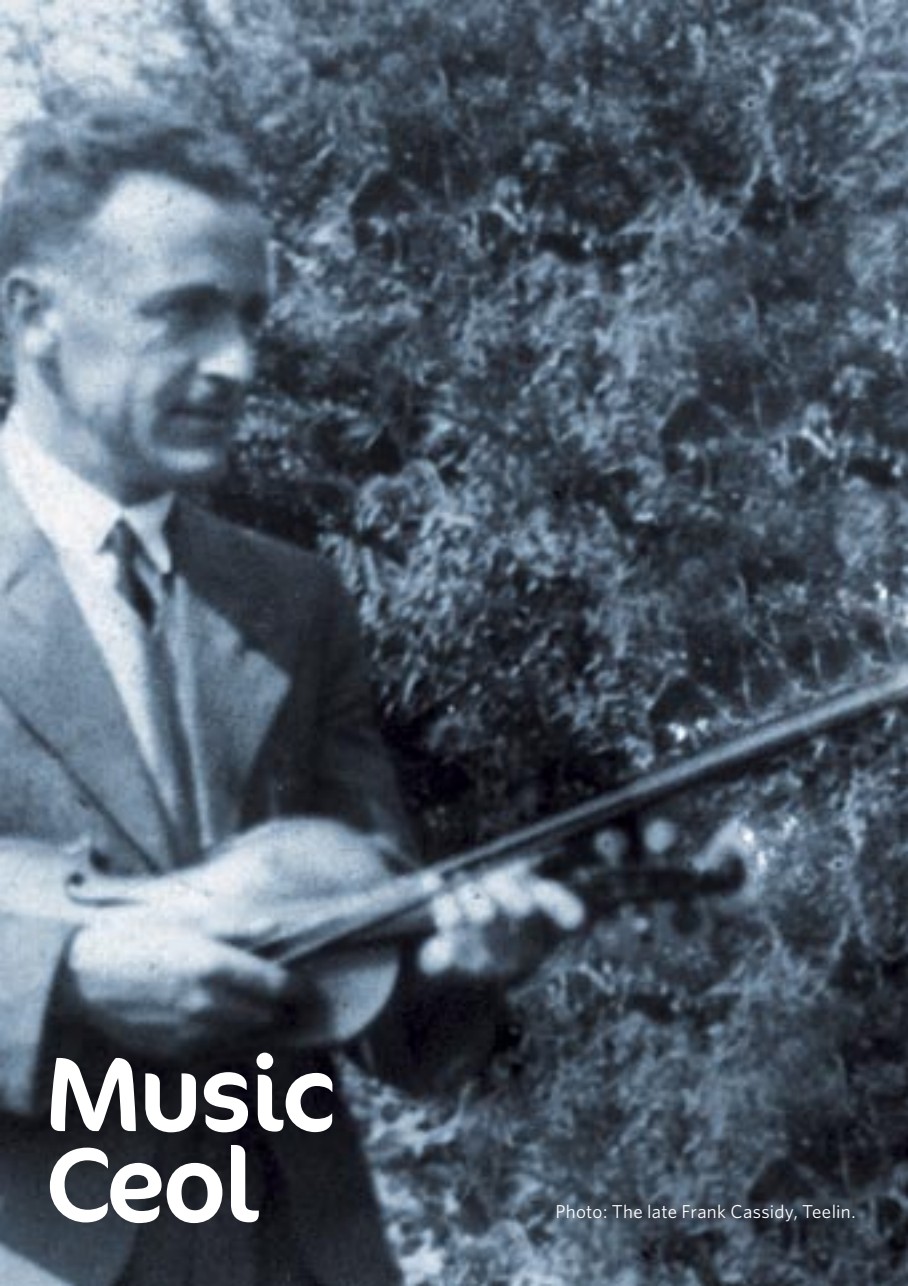
So roll up, roll up for the most spectacular street show of the year as the world's most glamorous

circus, *Cirque du Saimer*, assembles in Ballyshannon for one unforgettable night only. Be amazed as travellers from distant lands pass through the town performing spectacular feats and defying gravity, spinning fire and igniting the imagination with light, sound, movement and shadow.

Cirque du Saimer will include work and performances from **LUXe**, Edinburgh's **Strange Bird Circus**, **Workhouse Studios Sligo**, **Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Company** who have just returned from performing in South Africa, **Inishowen Carnival Group** who produced this year's very successful Earagail Arts Festival carnival parade, the **Fanzini Brothers** from Tralee, **Réalta** from Galway, Belfast **Streetwise** and **Performance Arts Students** from **Sligo Institute of Technology**. Local community involvement has been central to the success of Carnival since the outset and this year, there are even more local people participating as performers and as stewards and by way of production support, including **Ballyshannon Bundoran NYP**, **Killybegs Youth Samba Band**, **Parthalon Street Band**, the **Abbey School of Acting**, **Stars of The West**, **Dance 4 Lyfe**, members of the **Ballyshannon Pantomime**, **Musical** and **Drama** societies, as well as performers drawn from local **primary** and **second level schools**.

Please Note. Parking Restrictions and Traffic Diversions will be in place along the Parade Route from 6.30pm - 9.30pm. Please co-operate with Parade Stewards, An Garda Síochána and Civil Defence Personnel at all times. Warm Clothing is advisable. Enjoy the Parade.

Also. Dicey Reilly's Market Street **Ballyshannon** 9.30pm
Enjoy a Post Circus Show with **Rainy Boy Sleep** and **The Dune Collective**. See P18



Music Ceol

Photo: The late Frank Cassidy, Teelin.

ABBAY ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS

The Glenveagh Suite

Composed by **Margaret McGinley**. Arranged by **Marie Askin**. Additional Script by **Soinbhe Lally**.

Performed by **Marie Askin**, Piano.
Shauna Mullin, Singer. **John McNamee**,
 Fiddle. **Damien McGeehan**, Fiddle.
Seanan Brennan, Guitar. **Catherine
 McHale**, Cello. **Ciara Campbell**, Dancer.
Rosnowlagh Choral Singers,
 Dir. **Angela Currid**.
 with **Tracey Ferguson** as Cornelia Adair
 and **Conor Carney**, Additional Text.



SATURDAY OCTOBER 1

Abbey Arts Centre

Ballyshannon 8.30pm

Admission FREE

Advance Booking Essential

This **Festival Opening Night** performance of The Glenveagh Suite will be preceded by the unveiling by Frankie McGinley of a portrait of the composer, the late **Margaret McGinley**, painted by artist Barry Sweeney. The portrait has been specially commissioned by **Cairde Mhairéad Nic Fhionnghaile** and will go on permanent display at the Abbey Arts Centre.

This year marks the 150th. anniversary of the infamous Derryveagh Evictions, when North Donegal landlord John George Adair ('Black Jack') evicted 47 families - over 250 people - from his Glenveagh estates to make room for his new sheep rearing enterprise.

The original Glenveagh Suite was composed by Margaret McGinley, the gifted Ballyshannon musician, composer and teacher, and was first performed at Glenveagh Castle in September 1989. The Suite tells the story in music, song and dance of the beauty of Glenveagh and of the tragedy of the Evictions of 1861.

In this special Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival opening event, Ballyshannonn composer and arranger, Marie Askin, has chosen to work with a group of former students of Margaret McGinley to present a selection of pieces from the original Suite, all linked by a new narrative in the voice of

John George Adair's American-born wife, Cornelia, the work of Rosnowlagh playwright Soinbhe Lally. The part of Lady Adair will be played by Tracey Ferguson while Conor Carney will offer a contemporary account of the social and political context of the time, reading selections from William Allingham's impassioned and highly charged narrative, Laurence Bloomfield in Ireland : A Modern Poem, published in 1864.

Rare Groove Funk Orchestra

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1

Chasin Bull **Bundoran** 10.30pm FREE



This North-West based ensemble is steeped in the fusion of heavy funk, jazz and musical friendships. The musicians have

performed with an impressive array of artists and bands such as Kila, Asian Dub Foundation, Chuck Berry, Primal Scream and The Republic of Loose.

The line up features horns, vocals, guitars, bass, hammond organ, drums and percussion. Taking inspiration from various artists and genres, they have created an intoxicating blend of jazz, funk, soul, blues, reggae and hip-hop. In addition to their own original material, they have begun to rework songs from artists such as Nirvana, Radiohead, The Police as well as Miles Davis and John Coltrane. A Rare Groove Funk Orchestra show is all about immersing yourself in the infectious grooves and blistering improvisations.

Tonight's show takes place at the climax of on-going **2011 European Surfing Championships** in Bundoran. The atmosphere will be electric. It's a night not to be missed.

CUIREANN ÁISLANN CHILL CHARTHA I LÁTHAIR
OÍCHE CHEOIL BLUEGRASS AGUS COUNTRY LE

Woodbine

DÉ HAOINE 7Ú DEIREADH FÓMHAIR
FRIDAY OCTOBER 7

Áislann Chill Chartha

Cill Chartha Kilcar 8.30pm €10/€5

Ceathrar cheolóir den scoth as Chill Dara is iad Woodbine, a chasann ceoil Bluegrass agus Country óna a leithéidí agus Bill Monroe, na Stanley Brothers, Johnny Cash, Rhonda Vincent agus a gcuid cumadóireachtaí fhéin comh maith. Tá said le chéile le beagnach deich mbliana anuas anois agus tá seóanna curtha i láthair acu go rialta, ag féiltí cheoil bluegrass uilig na tíre seo. Tá an dóchas ann go mbeidh an seó seo le Woodbine ina thús le sraith rialta ceolcoirmeacha den cineál seo, ar stáitse na hÁislainne, sna míonna amach romhainn.



Woodbine have played all the major Irish bluegrass and related festivals of recent years with a repertoire of material from Bill Monroe, The Stanley Brothers to Johnny Cash to Rhonda Vincent, and much more in between.

The band includes **Liam Wright** on lead guitar, dobro, bass fiddle and vocals, **Richard Hawkins** (ex. Sackville String Band and Neill Toner Band) on 5 string banjo, **Tony O'Brien** on rhythm guitar and vocals with **Nicola O'Brien** on double bass and vocals.

TRADCEOL IS AMHRÁNAÍOCHT DEN SCOTH
Ó DHÚN NA NGALL IS Ó ALBAN

**Tara Connaghan Denise Boyle
Peter Campbell Paul Anderson
Ellie McGinley Catherine
McGinley**

DÉ DEARDAOIN 6Ú
DEIREADH FÓMHAIR
THURSDAY OCTOBER 6

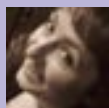
An Clachán The Folk Village
Gleann Choilm Cille 8.30pm €10/€6

Tá Tara Connaghan, Denise Boyle agus Peter Campbell taghta le chéile go speisialta fá coinne an seó seo, le haghaidh ceol dúchasach Na Gleanntaí agus Na Cruacha Gorma, ach go háirithe, a chur os ard. Is ceoltóir agus is cumadóir cliútach é Paul Anderson a bhfuil an- tóir ar a chuid bhuannaíochtaí san Alban, áit in a mbíonn sé ag casadh ceol go rialta don a leithéid agus Sean Connery agus an Prionsa Searlais. Is beirt colceathrar iad Ellie agus Catherine McGinley a mbíonn ag canadh le chéile ag féiltí agus ócáidí speisialta thart fána mbaile dhúchais. Ghlac said páirt anuraidh i dtaifeadadh beo den clár raidió Sunday Miscellany a rinneadh san Abbey Arts Centre ag RTÉ Raidió 1.



Peter Campbell is from a well known musical family, steeped in the Donegal fiddle tradition from the influence of his Uncle Vincent and father Jimmy.

Denise Boyle is passionate about keeping the fiddle tradition alive in her hometown. Denise's playing has been influenced by the late James Byrne from Glencolmille, Mick Brown and the Campbells from the Glen of Glenties.



Tara Connaghan's music is also influenced by the great fiddlers of South West Donegal and she has a particular interest in archival recordings. She has

spent the last three years as Festival Director of Éigse Carlow Arts Festival and has recently returned home to live in Glenties and is in the process of recording a duet CD with fellow Donegal fiddler, Derek McGinley.

Paul Anderson won Scotland's premier fiddle playing event, the Glenfiddich Scottish Fiddle Championship, in 1995. A very popular figure on the Scottish cultural scene, he performed at Sir Sean Connery's 80th. birthday celebrations at Edinburgh Castle and also at a reception at Fyvie Castle celebrating Prince Charles' 60th



Ellie and Catherine McGinley are first cousins from

Glencolmille who perform wonderful renditions of traditional songs as Gaeilge. They are also accomplished fiddle players who learned much of their music from the late, great James Byrne.

Afternoon Tea Dance

THURSDAY OCTOBER 6
The Lakeside Centre **Ballyshannon**
2.00pm €5 (071 9852822)



This Festival event sees the launch of the weekly Afternoon Dances for active age groups at the Lakeside Centre. Couples and groups from Ballyshannon and beyond are invited to enjoy an afternoon of dancing, singing, recitations and good chat. There will be tea and refreshments for all and music will be provided by **Kieran McAree**.

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MUSIC CEOL

CAIRDEAS NA BHFIDLÉIRÍ

The 29th. Annual Donegal Fiddlers Gathering

www.donegalfiddle.com

FRIDAY - SUNDAY

OCTOBER 7 - 9

The Highlands Hotel **Glenties**

The Highlands Hotel, Glenties is the venue for the annual Donegal Fiddlers Gathering. Organised by **Carideas na bhFidléirí**, this event is one of the highlights of the Irish traditional music calendar.

Pass The Fiddle

The Gathering begins on Friday night with the Pass The Fiddle session, an informal and very social event where a single fiddle gets passed around between the players present. This is often the kick-off to a night of sessions. At the whim of the attending fiddle players there may also be sessions in other venues around Glenties and in The Glen Tavern (Big Glen of Glenties), over the course of the weekend.

Fiddle Masterclasses

Saturday and Sunday 11.30am to 1.00pm at the Highlands Hotel. There is no charge but **Booking** on 071 9852144 or rabcherry1@gmail.com, is advisable.

Remembering Frank Cassidy

On Saturday at 12.00pm, there will be a presentation and a discussion about the music of the great Teelin fiddle player, Frank Cassidy, who died 40 years ago this year.

Danny Meehan CD Launch.

On Saturday at 1.30pm, there will be the launch of an eagerly awaited CD of the fiddle playing of Danny Meehan, from Drimalost, near Mountcharles. Entitled *Drimalost and Beyond*, this double CD features mostly solo fiddle playing and some duets with Aidan O'Donnell on fiddle and with Donal Kelly on melodeon.

GALA CONCERT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8

Highlands Hotel Ballroom

9.00pm €10



One of the main focal points of the weekend will be the Donegal Fiddlers concert on Saturday night. The true greats of Donegal fiddling will once again be celebrated and the concert will feature performances by many of the leading local players including **Danny Meehan** from Mountcharles, **Micheál Cherry** - one of the fine younger players in the Donegal tradition - and **Tara Connaghan** and **Derek McGinley**, from Glenties.

Celebrating the strong musical links between Donegal and Scotland has long been a priority with the Donegal Fiddlers and this year the organisers are delighted to feature celebrated Aberdeenshire fiddler **Paul Anderson**. Paul is an acclaimed musician and composer from Tarland, near Cairngorm National Park, who won Scotland's premier fiddle playing event, the Glenfiddich Scottish Fiddle Championship, in 1995 and has recorded eight acclaimed solo albums to-date. (See also **P. 13**)

Tickets for Saturday night's concert will be available at The Highlands Hotel on the night of the performance. Tel. **074 9551111**.

NORTHWEST OPERA

Carmen

By **Georges Bizet**.
Directed by **Aodh McCay**.

www.northwestopera.com

Sung in **English** and with English dialogue.



FRIDAY - SATURDAY

OCTOBER 7-8

Balor Arts Centre **Ballybofey**

8.00pm €18/€12

After the wonderful success of last year's *La Bohème*, NorthWest Opera return to the Balor stage this Festival to perform Georges Bizet's iconic opera, *Carmen*, which contains some of the most popular operatic songs of all time including 'The Habanera', 'The Flower Song' and 'The Toréador's Song'.

The story is set in Seville around 1820, and concerns Carmen, a beautiful gypsy factory worker with a fiery temper. Free with her love, she woos the corporal Don José, an inexperienced soldier. Their relationship leads to his rejection of his former love, a mutiny against his superior, and his joining a gang of smugglers. Carmen however, soon tires of him and leaves him for the glamorous bullfighter Escamillo, but Don José's passion and jealousy ensures that tragedy is never too far away.

Once again NorthWest Opera has assembled a cast which pairs world class operatic voices with the best of local artistic talent. Acclaimed American tenor **George Humphry** sings the leading role of the jealous lover Don Jose and **Ann Jennings** is the fiery and seductive Gypsy, Carmen. **Michel da Souza**, baritone, is the toréador Escamillo and the cast also includes **John Porter**, **Caroline Jones**, **Elisabeth Goell** and **Anna Stefanova** in scenes of clashing swords, sultry senioritas, smugglers and finally, death.

The musicians of the **Carmen Orchestra** will be conducted German maestro **Karin Kurzeja**, of Katowice University while the street childrens' parts will be played students of **Sessiaghoneill Primary School**, Ballybofey.

CIRQUE DU SAIMER PRESENTS

Dune Collective Rainy Boy Sleep



SATURDAY OCTOBER 8
Dicey Reilly's Market Street
Ballyshannon €5 9.30pm

The Dune Collective

The Dune Collective is a company of musicians, artists, actors, photographers and sound technicians from South Donegal, North Leitrim, Fermanagh and Sligo that pool together to create new music. They have just released a stunning album of ten songs that has been a year in the making and they are delighted to take the opportunity of this Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival carnival night appearance to celebrate the **Donegal Launch** of their debut CD, *The Dune Collective*.

The songs on the album are quite an eclectic mix. Funky bass lines with strong dance beats layered over with vocal harmonies and complemented by some of the finest musicians in the area.

The complete Dune ensemble includes Adrian Dunbar (vocals), Alan Cooke (guitar), Barry Gallagher (vocals), Brian Sweeney (guitar, accordeon, vocals), Connie Murray (vocals), Dee Armstrong (fiddle), Elena Mila (designer), Fionnuala McCosker (vocals), Kevin Lowery (drums, percussion, bass), Mark Bradley (trumpet), Mark Murphy (keyboard), Mick McGettigan (drums), Niamh Currid (keyboard), Patsy O'Kane (sound), Roisin Atchenson (vocals), Rory Fallon (vocals), Seanan Brennan (bass, guitar, bazouki), Seamus Sweeney (accordeon), Steve Wickham (fiddle), Stephen Gallagher (bass) and Tara Mooney (vocals).

This summer, The Dune Collective made their first public performance at Temple House Festival in Sligo. The ensemble tonight will include **Brian Sweeney, Kevin Lowery, Alan Cooke, Niamh Currid, Steve Wickham, Seanan Brennan, Tara Mooney, Rory Fallon, Roisin Atchenson, Fionnuala McCosker, Dee Armstrong** and **Mick McGettigan**.



Rainy Boy Sleep

Rainy Boy Sleep is a producer, singer and musician from Lifford whose recent performances on the *BBC Introducing* stages at the Glastonbury, Reading and Leeds festivals have raised

his profile considerably on the UK music scene. His success comes on the back of his innovative material – excellent songs such as *Manchester News* and *Shopping Centre Song* – being consistently championed by BBC Radio Ulster DJs and his outright winning of the inaugural An Grianán Theatre / Donegal News Live and Kicking competition, last summer.

A scenic view of a rocky coastline. The foreground is filled with smooth, light-colored rocks of various sizes, some with dark seaweed or algae growing on them. The ocean is visible in the middle ground, with a blue horizon line. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and a few blue birds are scattered across it. The overall atmosphere is bright and serene.

Táispeantais Litríocht
Exhibitions
Literary Events

Sunday Miscellany

**Carlo Gebler Moya Cannon LittleJohn
Nee Frank Galligan Anthony Begley
Ann Hull Anthony Glavin Patrick Hull
Donegal Chamber Orchestra
David and Peter Howard Leila Keeney
Doimnic MacGhiolla Bhríde**
Hosted by Clíodhna Ní Anluain

SUNDAY OCTOBER 9

The Abbey Arts Centre

Ballyshannon 3.00pm FREE.

Booking Essential 071 9851375

For over four decades RTÉ Radio's Sunday Miscellany has been at the heart of Sunday morning. This wonderful radio experience captures our ever-shifting moods, our obsessions and distractions, our dreams and fears and the intimate details of our lives. Its distinctive mix of brand new short essays and poetry presented on air by their authors and interspersed with music, makes hugely welcome return visit to The Abbey Centre where two editions of the iconic radio programme will be recorded for future broadcast, the first on Sunday, October 16th.



Carlo Gébler

Carlo Gebler is the author of novels including *The Cure* (1994) and *How to Murder a Man* (1998). In 2009, the Lagan Press published his novel, *A Good Day for a Dog* while Fourth Estate published

the memoir, *My Father's Watch*, which was co-written with Patrick Maguire, youngest of the Maguire Seven. His new novel, *The Dead Eight*, was published by New Island in May 2011. Carlo Gébler is currently writer-in-residence in HMP

Maghaberry, Co. Antrim and teaches at Queen's University. He was elected to Aosdána in 1991. He lives in Enniskillen with his wife and five children.



Moya Cannon

Moya Cannon was born in Donegal and has lived for many years in Galway. Her early poetry is informed by the landscapes and seascapes of Galway, Clare and Donegal. Her

first collection, *Oar* (Salmon Press, 1990), won the inaugural Brendan Behan Award. Since then she has published two further collections, *The Parchment Boat* (Gallery Press, 1997) and *Carrying the Songs* (Carcenet Press, 2007). Her forthcoming collection for Carcanet Press, *Hands*, although mainly grounded in native territory, also relates to time spent in Spain, France and Latin America. She is a member of Aosdána and is the 2011 Heimbold Professor of Irish Studies at Villanova University, Pennsylvania



LittleJohn Nee

Born in Glasgow, raised in Donegal and now living in Tuam, Co. Galway, John Nee is a uniquely accomplished writer, actor and musician. He has

combined all three disciplines in the creation and presentation of a series of hugely popular plays including *The Derry Boat*, *Country and Irish*, *Rural Electric* and *Limavady My Heart's Delight*. His latest production, *The Mother's Arms*, was a big success for this year's Earagail Arts Festival. Earlier this year, the scripts of three of John's best loved plays - *The Derry Boat*, *Rural Electric*, *The Mental* - were published for the first time by an An Grianán Theatre, under the title of *A Donegal Trilogy*.

Frank Galligan

A native of County Donegal, Frank Galligan is a writer and broadcaster. He is a columnist with the *Donegal Democrat* and a published poet and short story writer. He is a long time facilitator with Poetry Ireland and The Pushkin Trust, specialising in cross-border creative writing initiatives with primary schoolchildren. He is the resident MC at the Ulster-American Folk Park's Annual Bluegrass Music Festival, the Johnny Keenan Banjo Festival in Longford and Derry's Jazz and Big Band Festival.

Anthony Begley

Anthony Begley is a very well-known historian, former school principal and history teacher from Ballyshannon, who has just published a major new history of his hometown, Ballyshannon and Surrounding Areas – History, Heritage and Folklore. A noted authority on all things Ballyshannon, including the O'Donnells, Mícheál Ó Chláirigh and the Four Masters, the Allinghamms and the town's impressive maritime heritage, he is currently curator of the Donegal Historical Society's museum at the Franciscan Friary in Rosnowlagh.



Ann Hull

Ann Hull was born in London of Donegal parents. She has worked for the Inner London Probation Service and the Diocese of Westminster. She lives in Rathmullan, and is a member of the

Garden Room Writers' Group. Earlier this summer, her piece, Jerusalem Two Ways, was broadcast on Sunday Miscellany.



Anthony Glavin

Boston-born Anthony Glavin lived in Donegal during the 1970s and 1980s. Author of a critically acclaimed novel, Nighthawk Alley (New Island, 1997) and two story collections, One for Sorrow (

Poolbeg, 1980) and The Draughtsman and The Unicorn (New Island, 1999). He served as editor of the New Irish Writing pages in The Irish Press from 1986 to 1988. His short stories have appeared in The Faber Book of Irish Short Stories 2006-07 and New Irish Short Stories (Faber, 2011).



Patrick Hull

Patrick Hull is an undergraduate science student who completed his secondary education at Loreto Community School, Milford in 2010. He won the senior category of the Teaching English Magazine

Write a Poem competition in 2010 and was also the recipient of the 2007 Schools' Prize in History, awarded by Trinity College Dublin.

Donegal Chamber Orchestra

The Donegal Chamber Orchestra was founded in 2006 by Spanish cellist Víctor Yélamo (Artistic Director) and Hungarian violinist Orsolya Szabó both of whom work with the County Donegal VEC Music Education Partnership. The Orchestra performed at this event last year and drew high praise from the capacity audience and the Sunday Miscellany team.



Leila Keeney

Leila Keeney is a singer from Letterkenny, possessed of a memorable voice and an assurance in performance that belies her young years. Many of her musical heroes and influences are from the American Oldtime and Country music genres

Doimnic Mac Ghiolla Bhríde

A native of Gaoth Dobhair, Doimnic MacGhiolla Bhríde won the coveted Corn Uí Riada award - sean nós singing's highest accolade - at the Oireachtas Festival in 2010. He also has a great interest in choral singing and directs both the Cór Thaobh a' Leithead choir in Gaoth Dobhair and the Cór Cois Locha choir in Belfast. An artist who likes to explore and experiment, he is currently collaborating with classical and jazz musicians.

David and Peter Howard

Brothers David and Peter Howard are a piano and saxophone duo from Letterkenny David is a recent graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester and is a member of the UK classical / jazz trio, Interference, while Peter is a member of the Donegal Youth Orchestra and the Errigal Groove Orchestra.



Acknowledgement

Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival and Sunday Miscellany would like to acknowledge the support of the **Sand House Hotel, Rosnowlagh**, in the presentation of this event.

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TAISPEANTAIS LITRÍOCHT EXHIBITIONS LITERARY EVENTS

Meitheal Ealaíne

Margaret Cunningham
Micheal Doherty Tom McLaughlin
Deborah Stockdale
Ana Stromberg Rik Walton

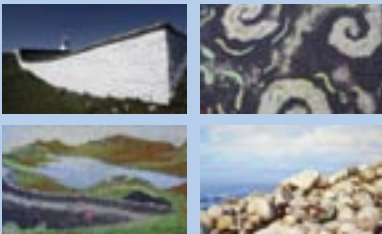
1Ú- 9Ú DEIREADH FÓMHAR

OCTOBER 1-9

DOMHNAIGH - DOMHNAIGH

SUNDAY - SUNDAY

1.00pm - 6.00pm Saor in Aisce/
FREE Eolas ar 087 2718967



Oíche Láinseála ar An Satharn 1ú Deireadh
Fómhair ag 8.00pm Fíor Fáilte roimh Cách.

Opening Night Saturday October 1st. at
8.00pm. Everybody Welcome.

Grúpa seisear ealaíontóir is iad Meitheal Ealaíne, a d'fhás as an grúpa Dathú le Chéile, is atáid ag cur futhu thart fá ceanntar a' Ghleanna, a thógann ionsporáid ón nádúr is ón gcomhshaol drámatúil fán dtaobh sin tire.

Bíonn **Margaret Cunningham** agus **Deborah J. Stockdale** ag plé le fíodóireacht is le táipéisí, is griangrafadóir é **Rik Walton** agus is péintéirí iad

Ana Stromberg, Tom McLaughlin agus **Michael Doherty** a oibríonn le ollaí, uiscedathanna agus pinn luaidhe.

Meitheal Ealaíne is the latest artistic incarnation of the Glencolmcille art group known as Dathú le Chéile. Founder members **Margaret Cunningham** (tapestry weaver), **Ana Stromberg** (painter) and **Deborah Stockdale** (textile arts and collage), have invited three other artists as guests for this special Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival exhibition. Joining them this year are photographer **Rik Walton**, painter **Tom McLaughlin** and **Michael Doherty** who works with pencil and paper. This diverse show featuring some of Glencolmcille's busiest artists is well worth a visit.

EXHIBITION

James McManus

SATURDAY - SATURDAY

OCTOBER 1 - 8 10.00AM - 5.00PM

The Gallery (Doherty Architects Building) Castle Street **Donegal Town**

Opening Friday Sept 30 6.00pm

James McManus hails from Drimarone and now lives in Mountcharles. He is inspired by the landscape, traditions and culture of Donegal. In this, his second solo exhibition, he has captured scenes from Donegal Town, Fintra, Killybegs and surrounding areas. James works from his studio at home and at the Create-A-Link Art Centre in Letterkenny. Artistic talent runs in his family as he is related to the famous Mountcharles poet and playwright, Seamus Mac Manus.



EXHIBITION

Michael Flaherty



Ballyshannon Bridging the Past and Present

OCTOBER 3 -31

OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY

11.00am - 4.00pm,
and at Show Times.Foyer Gallery
The Abbey Arts Centre
Ballyshannon

Oíche Oscailte. Déanfaidh **Donnchadh Mac Fhionnlaioich TD, Aire Stáit ag An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta** an taispeántas a Oscailt go hOifigiúil ar **An Satharn, 1ú Deireadh Fómhair, ag 7.30pm**

Opening Night. The exhibition will be Opened by **Mr. Dinny McGinley, TD, Minister of State** at the **Department of Arts, Heritage and The Gaeltacht**, on **Saturday, October 1st. at 7.30pm**

Noted Brandon, Co. Kerry based artist **Michael Flaherty** was a frequent visitor to Ballyshannon in the 1980's. For its special Festival exhibition, the Abbey Arts Centre invited Flaherty to return and chronicle in his own distinctive style, the

historic landmarks, the visible, the tranquil and the quiet secret places of 'Ireland's Oldest Town'. The resulting exhibition is dedicated to the many people who continue to volunteer their time in caring for the townscape and promoting its heritage, including historian Anthony Begley, the members of the Abbey Mill Wheel Trust and the Ballyshannon Regeneration Group.

School groups, art groups or community groups who would like visit the exhibition and enjoy an exhibition talk are invited to book in advance at The Abbey Arts Centre Tel. 071 9851375. E. info@bbeycentre.ie

Michael Flaherty is best known for his landscapes – spontaneous, lyrical compositions that bring to mind aspects of the work of artists as diverse as Vincent Van Gogh, Paul Henry and Seán McSweeney.

Aidan Dunne. Irish Times.

Michael Flaherty's work is truly amazing...the richness of Jack B. Yeats with the contemporary eye of Seán McSweeney, I'm stunned with delight.

Sighle Bhreathnach-Lynch,
Curator of Irish Art,
National Gallery of Ireland.

EXHIBITION

A Retrospective

Man-made Images Photo-gallery

Mountcharleswww.man-madeimages.euOPEN **TUESDAY - SATURDAY**

12.00NOON - 6.00PM



Dolph Kessler - 'Art Fair I'



Alan Reeveall - 'Hands of an Irish farmer'



Steve Bloom - 'Jumping Dolphins'

Man-made Images Photo-gallery is celebrating its 5th anniversary this autumn and to mark the occasion the gallery is hosting a special exhibition, A Retrospective, featuring one signature work from each artist who has exhibited at the Mountcharles venue over the past five years.

As such, this exceptional exhibition features work by a selection of the very best photographers working in Ireland, Europe and beyond, at the present time, including **Miss Aniela, Rebekka Gualeifsdóttir, Carsten Krieger, Steve Bloom, Stuart Quate, Jamie Heiden, Bohoe, Peter McCabe, Alan Reeveall, Joby Hickey, Gail McGowan, Sean Hillen, Kieran D. Murphy, John Darch, Ric O'Reilly, Marian van de Veen, Ilse Schrama, David Creedon, Marie Cécile Thijs, Johnny Gallagher, Dolph Kessler, Michael Kienitz and Marcel Otten.**

A Retrospective will run until 24th December at **Man-made Images** Photo-gallery, the first and only commercial gallery in Ireland - solely dedicated to the art of modern photography. Long may it prosper.

Childrens Events Imeachtaí do Pháistí



Star Boy

By **Joe Brennan**.

Performed by **Joe Brennan**.

MONDAY OCTOBER 3

Abbey Arts Centre **Ballyshannon**

TUESDAY & FRIDAY

OCTOBER 4 & 7

Touring Primary Schools

South Donegal

[http://www.rte.ie/radio1/doconone/
the-curious-ear-doconone-star-boy.html](http://www.rte.ie/radio1/doconone/the-curious-ear-doconone-star-boy.html)



A wee boy. A box. A big adventure. Star Boy is a delightful tale of a small boy who loves to explore.

First produced at this year's Earagail Arts Festival, Star Boy has since

been seen to great acclaim at the recent Kilkenny Arts Festival and was the subject of a very warmly received documentary in the RTE Radio 1 series, *The Curious Ear*, during the summer.

As he is falling asleep one night, the wee boy sees a shooting star and decides to go off in search of it. His quest to capture the star takes him through the dark woods, over and under the sea and eventually into space. Along the way he meets wild creatures, a mermaid and he even walks in space!

Joe Brennan is a hugely experienced writer and storyteller, based in Ramelton. He has told stories at festivals throughout Ireland.

Star boy is an early years theatre performance suitable for **Children aged 3-6yrs**

THE FANZINI BROTHERS PRESENT

Deathwish!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8

The Abbey Arts Centre

Ballyshannon 3.00pm €5

Children Adults FREE

Family & Group Rates

also Available.

www.fanzini.com

Gather round, gather round to witness the jaw-dropping antics of these devilishly handsome Italian Kerry men! Are they stupid or brave beyond belief? It really doesn't matter as they present 45mins of fantastic comedy and pure fun in their spoof danger, comedy circus show, Deathwish. The Italian Fanzinis are distinguished by their unusual hairdos, one a monster Afro, the other bald as a goose egg.

The language of death-defying stunts and so-what magic is used at every turn, giving a comic edge to all the carry-on. Skill is effortlessly blended with slapstick, with the audience at the heart of the performance. Do not miss these heroes of the Irish circus scene.

Awesome. **The Irish Times**.

LITTLE JOHN NEE

A Bag of Queens

By **Little John Nee.**Performed by **Little John Nee.**

TUESDAY - THURS OCTOBER 4 -6
Touring Primary Schools
South Donegal

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7
Abbey Arts Centre **Ballyshannon**

A Bag of Queens is a new show by Little John Nee. Its part of a new series of shows featuring the character Sparkplug Callaghan, a musical odyssey the races along with Little John's trademark comic storytelling style, exploring themes of 'random acts of kindness', responsibility, loneliness, greed and creative expression, in a gentle and fun way.

A favour for a friend leads Sparkplug to an old grocery and hardware shop at a country crossroads. Inside he discovers a lost treasure of consumer items that now assume a very different meaning and value. When he visits the elderly shopkeeper in a retirement home, he is cast off in an adventure to a city that's tearing itself apart for want of more 'stuff'.

Little John Nee is a much loved and hugely experienced writer, performer and musician. His theatre shows - The Derry Boat, Rural Electric and The Mental among many others - have been performed all over Ireland, the UK and, most recently, at the Milwaukee Irish Festival in the US.

This new show is best suited to
Children Aged 8 +





Culturefox.ie is the definitive online guide to Irish cultural events, giving you complete information about cultural activities both here and abroad.

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Culturefox.ie

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available now for:

iPhone | Android | Blackberry

Donegal : A Creative County. Making Connections ~ Creating Opportunities

Philip King Dermot McLaughlin
Shona McCarthy Micheal Starrett
Imelda Rey Ian Brannigan

TUESDAY OCTOBER 4
Villa Rose Hotel **Ballybofey**
8.30am – 4.00pm €10*

Booking Tel. 074 9131840

E. conor@balortheatre.com
(by Friday September 30)

This special one-day conference, organised by the Cultural Resources Forum of the Donegal County Development Board, aims to explore the possibilities for development, expansion or possibly just survival, that may be available to the cultural sector in Donegal, specifically in the areas of Cultural Tourism and in the context of the emerging focus on the role, the 'Creative Industries' are set to play in Ireland's eventual economic recovery.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

8.30am Registration - Tea/Coffee Scones

9.15am

Creative Industries Session chaired by
Méabh Connaghan, Director Enterprise Ireland NW.

What are the Creative Industries? Where are the areas of Growth and Opportunity? How can the Heritage sector become involved ?



Dermot McLaughlin, CEO, Temple Bar Cultural Trust. Musician and former Traditional Music Officer and Development Officer with The Arts Council.



Michael Starrett, Chief Executive Officer, The Heritage Council.

Ian Brannigan, Projects Development Officer, Western Development Commission.

10.45am Break . Tea / Coffee

11.00am

Cultural Tourism Session chaired by **Clr. Dessie Larkin**, Chair of Donegal County Development Board and Member of the Board of Culture Ireland.

What is Cultural Tourism? How can it help you increase your audiences and broaden your market ? Can 2013 be Donegal's Year of Opportunity too ?



Philip King, Musician, Film Maker, Broadcaster, Founder and Director of Hummingbird Productions.



Imelda Rey, Cultural Tourism Officer, Fáilte Ireland.

Shona McCarthy, CEO, Derry Londonderry 2013 UK City of Culture Company Ltd.

12.30pm Lunch

1.30pm Presentations

Networking, Branding and Partnerships.

Seamus Neeley, Donegal County Manager.

Fiona Higgins, Batik Artist and founder member of the Donegal Designer Makers group.

Mark Wheeler, Managing Director and Proprietor, Rathmullan House Hotel and

Paul Brown, Director, Earagail Arts Festival.

2.30 - 3.30pm Facilitated Workshops for Conference Participants, discussing Conference theme and issues and ideas raised in presentations thus far.

3.30pm Feedback from Workshops.

4.00pm Close

* includes Conference Fee, Lunch etc.

For all Festival events, tickets will be available for purchase at the venue on the evening of the performance. To avoid disappointment, however, please plan to arrive at the venue at least 20 minutes before the advertised showtime. Should you wish, you may also book certain performances in advance, at the following venues ...

Booking at **The Abbey Arts Centre**, Ballyshannon. Tel. 071 9851375. **Aristocrats @ Abbey Centre** and **Glentias Community Centre**. Festival Opening with **The Glenveagh Suite, The Story of Patsy Cline, Sunday Miscellany, Deathwish!**, **Lovesongs for Losers** at Dicey Reilly's.

Booking at **The Balor Theatre**, Ballybofey. Tel. 074 9131840 **Creative Donegal Conference, Fight Night, Silent North West Opera's Carmen**

Bookáil ag **An Cláchán**, Gleann Choilm Cille. Tel. 074 9730017. Fá coinne. **Tara Connaghan, Denise Boyle, Paul Anderson**

Bookáil ag **Áislann**, Chill Chartha 074 9738376. Fá coinne. **Woodbine**

For **General Information** on The Festival, please contact **The Festival Office** Tel. 074 9121968



USEFUL CONTACTS

Fáilte Ireland Tourist Office Donegal Town	074 9721148
Man-made Images Gallery Mountcharles	074 9735928
Oideas Gael Gleann Choilm Cille	074 9730248
Áislann Chill Chartha	074 9738376
Tí Linn Cultural Centre, Teelin.	074 9739077
Bundoran Community Library	071 9829665
Ballyshannon Branch Library	071 9858270
Donegal Branch Library	074 9725329
Ballybofey Community Library	074 9175384
Dicey Reilly's Ballyshannon	071 9851371
Donegal Craft Village Donegal Town	074 9722225 / 9722015
Lakeside Centre Caravan Camper Park Ballyshannon	071 9852822
The Blue Stack Centre Drimarone, Letterbarrow	074 9735564*
Sand House Hotel Rosnowlagh	071 9851777
The Breesy Centre Cashelard, Ballyshannon	071 9858188*
The Highlands Hotel Glenties	074 9551111
Dorrians Imperial Hotel Ballyshannon	071 9851147

* Hostel Accomodation.

TAISPEÁNTAISÍ / EXHIBITIONS

MICHAEL FLAHERTY Bridges of Ballyshannon P. 21
Abbey Arts Centre **Ballyshannon** Tel. **07198 51375**
Monday - Friday 11.00am - 4.00pm FREE To October 31.

MEITHEAL EALAÍNE P.20
Margaret Cunningham Ana Stromberg Deborah J. Stockdale Rik Wlaton Tom McLaughlin Michael Doherty
An Gailearai Cashel **Gleann Choilm Cille** Tel. 087.2718967
Monday - Sunday 1.00pm - 6.00pm FREE To October 9.

JAMES MCMANUS P.20
New Gallery Castle Street **Donegal Town**
Monday - Sunday 11.00am - 6.00pm FREE To October 9

A RETROSPECTIVE (5th. Anniversary Exhibition) P. 22
Man-made Images Photographic Gallery **Mountcharles**
Tuesday - Saturday 12.00pm - 6.00pm FREE To December 24.

FÉILE NA NÓG / SHOWS FOR SCHOOLS

Star Boy Joe Brennan P. 25
Abbey Arts Centre **Ballyshannon**
Monday October 3 Booking 071 9851375

Primary Schools S. Donegal
Tuesday & Friday October 4 & 7 Bookáil 074 9121968

A Bag of Queens Little John Nee P. 24
Primary Schools S. Donegal
Wednesday - Thursday October 5 - 6
Bookáil 074 9121968

Abbey Arts Centre **Ballyshannon**
Friday October 7 Booking 071 9851375

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1

			page
Opening Bridges of Ballyshannon	Abbey Arts Centre B'shannon	7.30pm	21
Oscailt Meitheal Ealaine	Gleann Choilm Cille	8.00pm	20
Fight Night	Balor Arts Centre Ballybofey	8.30pm	3
The Glenveagh Suite	Abbey Arts Centre B'shannon	8.30pm	11
Rare Groove Funk Orchestra	Chasin Bull Bundoran	10.30pm	12

MONDAY OCTOBER 3

Dancing at Lughnasa	John Bosco Centre Donegal Town	8.30pm	4
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TUESDAY OCTOBER 4

Creative Donegal	Villa Rose Hotel Ballybofey	8.30am - 4.00pm	27
Dancing at Lughnasa	John Bosco Centre Donegal Town	8.30pm	4
Patsy Cline Story	Abbey Arts Centre B'shannon	8.30pm	5

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5

Dancing at Lughnasa	John Bosco Centre Donegal Town	8.30pm	4
Pat Kinevan 'Silent'	Balor Arts Centre Ballybofey	8.30pm	6

THURSDAY OCTOBER 6

Afternoon Tea Dance	Lakeside Centre Ballyshannon	2.00pm	13
Tara Connaghan Paul Anderson	Folk Village Glencolmcille	8.30pm	13
Artistocrats	Abbey Arts Centre Ballyshannon	8.30pm	7

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7

Carmen NW Opera	Balor Arts Centre Ballybofey	8.30pm	15
Woodbine	Áislann Chill Chartha Kilcar	8.30pm	12
Donegal Fiddlers Gathering	Highlands Hotel Glenties (informal)	9.00pm	14
Lovesongs for Losers	Dacey Reilly's Ballyshannon	9.30pm	8

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8

Remembering Frank Cassidy	Highlands Hotel Glenties	12.00noon	14
Danny Meehan CD Launch	Highlands Hotel Glenties	1.30pm	14
Fanzinis 'Deathwish!'	Abbey Arts Centre Ballyshannon	3.00pm	24
Cirque du Saimer Carnival Parade	Ballyshannon	7.30pm	9
Carmen NW Opera	Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey	8.30pm	15
Donegal Fiddlers Gala Concert	Highlands Hotel Glenties	9.00pm	14
Dune Collective Rainy Boy Sleep	Dacey Reilly's Ballyshannon	9.30am	16

SUNDAY OCTOBER 9

Donegal Fiddlers Gathering	Highlands Hotel Glenties (informal)	2.00pm	14
RTE Sunday Miscellany	Abbey Arts Centre Ballyshannon	3.00pm	18
Aristocrats	Community Centre Glenties	8.30pm	7

Donegal Bay and
Blue Stacks Festival

Féile an Fhómhair

OCTOBER 1-9

2011

FREE PROGRAMME

Carnival

Spectacle

Theatre

Literary

Music

Visual Arts

Events for Young People

