ANNUAL MUSIC ISSUE ~~~ HAPPY St. Patricks Day!!!

Irish Arts & Entertainment

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Vol. XXXV # 3 March ~~ An Mhárta 2026

Our Annual Salute To Irish Music Makers!

Starts on Page 6



Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones



Kris Colt, *The Black Rose*



Dylan Walshe



Bren Holmes



Members of Celtic Woman





LEFT: Hozier *ABOVE:* Lunasa

Irish Arts & Entertainment

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Letter from the Publisher

Dear Readers,

The Irish Season is a splendid reason and time for celebrating our heritage and joining other Irish people at events and gatherings. The Irish heart of *Amerikay* is on display and everyone is invited to join us as we honor St. Patrick and our Irish roots.

The advertisers, concerts and events in this issue are all offering our readers a great selection of top notch Irish and Celtic entertainment and hospitality so please support them.

A love of music seems to be embedded into the heart and soul of all of us who are blessed with being Irish so it is always a joy and labor of love to put together this annual issue. This year we will be covering more Irish Music Makers from around the Globe than ever before as we now do two issues per month. That means, we will have another cache of musicians and bands for you mid-month. As most of you know, we always enjoy input from our readers and subscribers; so if you know of an Irish Music Maker that you think would appreciate a short feature, please send us the suggestion and we will follow up.

Being Irish is the reason that we run this publication. We are a niche market in advertising and business parlance for sure but we are much more than that. We are a very special group of individuals who are bound together by a heritage molded by determination and toughness.
As we go to press, the United States is suddenly engaged in a Middle East War that we started. Historians will debate the reasons, the cause, the effects and every associated fact in the years to come. The war has and will cause hardship and upheaval to all of us. We have already experienced cancellations and concern from our advertisers, friends and readers. There is bound to be more anguish and mayhem.
The Irish know these things well and we know how to handle the challenges of life. For now, all we can do is pray for a speedy end to this conflict.
Meanwhile, life must go on. We all need to keep the faith as we have done for centuries!

As we move ahead; we will keep offering a fantastic value to our subscribers. Right now we are offering our readers a $5. per year discount on our one year subscription. Mention GOOD DEAL when you call or Email us.

Stay safe and pray for peace!



James McDonough, Publisher

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Release Date Announced
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Irish Film and Television Awards
The 23rd anniversary IFTA Ceremony took place on Friday, February 20 at the Dublin Royal Convention Centre.
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The Irish Season is in full swing!
Make the best of it!
Happy St. Patrick's Day

Erin Go Bragh!
Ireland Forever!

St. Patrick: The Apostle of Ireland

The story of St. Patrick is one where history and myth merge!

Patrick is the primary patron saint of Ireland, but he was not Irish by birth. He was a Roman Briton who arrived in Ireland as a captive slave. The life of St. Patrick is a miracle filled tale of great courage and faith. The stuff of legend, a teenage captive who forgave and loved his captors so much that after he escaped; he returned as a defiant missionary to help them!

That mission in spreading the Gospels and message of salvation would have been sufficient but his life vision and work were so much more that in reality; St. Patrick fundamentally reshaped the religious and cultural landscape of the entire World for generations.

Early Life and Capture

Patrick was born in the late 4th century, most likely around 385 AD. He was born into a high-status family in Roman Britain; his father, Calpurnius, was a deacon and a minor local official (decurio), and his grandfather, Potitus, was a priest. Despite this clerical lineage, Patrick would later admit in his "Confession" , basically his spiritual autobiography, that in his youth, "I did not know the true God" and was indifferent to the teachings of the church.

At the age of sixteen, Irish raiders, attacked Patrick's family estate. Patrick was captured and transported across the Irish Sea and he was sold into slavery in Ireland. Most historians agree that he was a shepherd near the "Wood of Foclut" in County Mayo for about six years.
It was during this period of isolation, hunger, and cold that his spiritual awakening occurred. He turned to prayer as a means to bolster his spirit and to stay alive. He wrote later that he would pray up to a hundred times a day.
The indifferent teenager was replaced by a man of profound, mystical faith.

The Escape and Return to Roman Britain

Patrick's escape was guided by what he described as divine visions. A voice told him, "See, your ship is ready."
He fled his master and traveled approximately 200 miles to a port, where he eventually convinced a group of sailors to take him aboard. After a perilous journey through a deserted landscape—likely Gaul (modern-day France)—and a brief period of further hardship, he eventually made his way back to his family in Britain.

His homecoming was bittersweet. While his family begged him never to leave them again, Patrick experienced another vision. He saw a man named Victoricus coming from Ireland with countless letters. As Patrick read one titled "The Voice of the Irish," he heard the people who lived by the Wood of Foclut crying out: "We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more."

Education and the Return to Ireland

Patrick realized that to return to Ireland as a missionary, he required the formal backing and education of the Church. He traveled to Gaul, where he spent years studying in the great monastic centers. It is widely believed he studied under St. Germain of Auxerre.

During this time, he was ordained a deacon and eventually a priest. However, his path to the episcopacy was not easy; his lack of a formal classical education (stunted by his years in slavery) made him an object of derision among some of the more "polished" British and Gallic clergy. Despite these obstacles, he was consecrated a bishop and tasked with the mission to Ireland around 432 AD.

Preaching Across the Island

Patrick did not arrive in a vacuum—there were scattered Christian communities in Ireland already—but he was the first to venture into the pagan heartlands of the North and West. He understood the tribal nature of Irish society. Instead of appealing only to the poor, he sought the protection of local kings, offering them gifts to allow him to preach in their territories.

His travels took him across the Emerald Isle

First to Slane: Legend says he lit the Paschal fire on the Hill of Slane in direct defiance of the High King Laoghaire at Tara, symbolizing the light of Christ eclipsing Druidic rituals.

Galway and Mayo: He spent forty days fasting on Croagh Patrick, a mountain in Mayo that remains a major pilgrimage site.

Armagh: He established his principal church here, which remains the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland to this day.

Cashel:

He is said to have baptized Aengus, the King of Munster, at the Rock of Cashel. One writer has called this the "Bloody Baptism" and it is a testament to the faith of King Aengus! The compelling part of the tale is often left out of the good king's conversion. During the ceremony at the Rock of Cashel, Patrick used his heavy, sharp-pointed pastoral staff (the Bachall Isu) to steady himself. As he reached out to baptize the King, he accidentally drove the iron spike of the staff straight through Aengus's foot and into the ground.

The King never flinched. He stoically endured the excruciating pain throughout the entire liturgy. When the ceremony finally ended and Patrick looked down in horror at the pool of blood, he asked King Aengus why he hadn't said anything. The King simply replied that he thought the stabbing was a part of the ritual—a symbolic representation of the suffering of Christ.



The Irish Season!

Saint Patricks Legacy

The Journey to Downpatrick and Burial

In the latter years of his life, Patrick moved toward the northeast. He established a church at Saul, near Downpatrick in County Down. This was supposedly the site of his first church in Ireland, built in a barn offered to him by a local chieftain named Dichu. Patrick died on March 17, around the year 461 AD (though dates vary by source). Tradition holds that he died at Saul. To prevent a war between rival tribes over his remains, it is said his body was placed on a cart drawn by two untamed oxen; wherever they stopped, he was to be buried. Legend says, the oxen stopped at the "Hill of Down."

He is buried in the grounds of Down Cathedral in Downpatrick. His grave is marked today by a massive, yet simple granite slab inscribed with the name "Patric."



In captivity, St. Patrick turned to prayer as a means to bolster his spirit and to stay alive.



St. Patrick and St. Odhran: Ireland's First Martyr

The history of St. Patrick is often told through his grand miracles or fanciful legends—*driving out snakes* or baptizing kings—but one of the most gripping chapters of his mission involves a high-speed chase, a secret seat-swap, and the first man to die for the faith on Irish soil, St. Odhran (pronounced O-ran).

The Plot to Kill St. Patrick

By approximately 452 AD, Patrick's mission had reached a fever pitch. He was no longer a lowly former slave; he was a powerhouse dismantling the old Druidic order. This made him a marked man. In the midlands of Ireland, a fierce pagan chieftain named Failge Berraide, ruler of the Kingdom of Offaly, grew so enraged by Patrick's success that he publicly swore a blood oath: he would spear the "Foreigner" the next time his chariot crossed the border.

The Heroic Deception

As Patrick prepared to travel through the dense woods of Offaly, his faithful charioteer, Odhran, caught wind of the assassination plot. Knowing Patrick would never turn back from his mission, Odhran devised a clever, selfless plan.

As they reached the territory of the ambush, Odhran claimed he was "sorely fatigued" and asked the Bishop if they could switch places. "Master," he said, "will you take the driver's seat today and let me rest in the back?"

Ever humble and unaware of the imminent danger, Patrick agreed. He took up the reins, while Odhran sat in the back of the chariot, wrapped in the Bishop's cloak.

The Spear in the Dark

As the chariot passed through a narrow gap—still known today in County Offaly as Barna-na-gCarbad (The Gap of the Chariots)—Failge Berraide leapt from the shadows. Seeing the man in the passenger seat and assuming it was the Bishop, he drove his heavy spear through Odhran's heart.

Odhran died instantly, having successfully acted as a human shield for St. Patrick. He became the very first martyr of the Irish Church.

The Curse of the Chieftain

When Patrick realized what had happened, his grief turned to a righteous, holy anger. According to ancient accounts, Patrick did not just mourn; he delivered a stinging "spiritual sentence" upon the murderer.

He didn't strike Failge down with a bolt of lightning; instead, he prayed that the earth would reject the chieftain. Legend says that Failge died not long after and when his people tried to bury him, the ground literally spat his body back out, leaving his remains to the elements—a terrifying omen in a culture that prized proper burial.

A Saint for the Road

Today, St. Odhran is remembered not just as a martyr, but as a protector of those who travel. He is also appropriately honored as the Patron Saint of Drivers. His Feast Day and sacrifice are celebrated every year on February 27th. Whether you navigate the winding roads of Ireland (or the highways of America), Odhran remains a symbol of the ultimate "wingman"—the man who took the wheel so his friend could change the world.

The Hare and The Hounds

Goods from the British Isles

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Celtic Woman;
"A New Era" for the 21st Anniversary

This year's tour marks a major milestone for Celtic Woman. Returning to the stage is Grammy-nominated veteran Mairéad Carlin, joined by the powerhouse vocals of Muirgen O'Mahony and Caitríona Sherlock. Rounding out the quartet is the incredibly talented Kate Heneghan on fiddle and harp. Expect a high-energy production that balances their beloved classics with fresh, contemporary arrangements

www.celticwoman.com

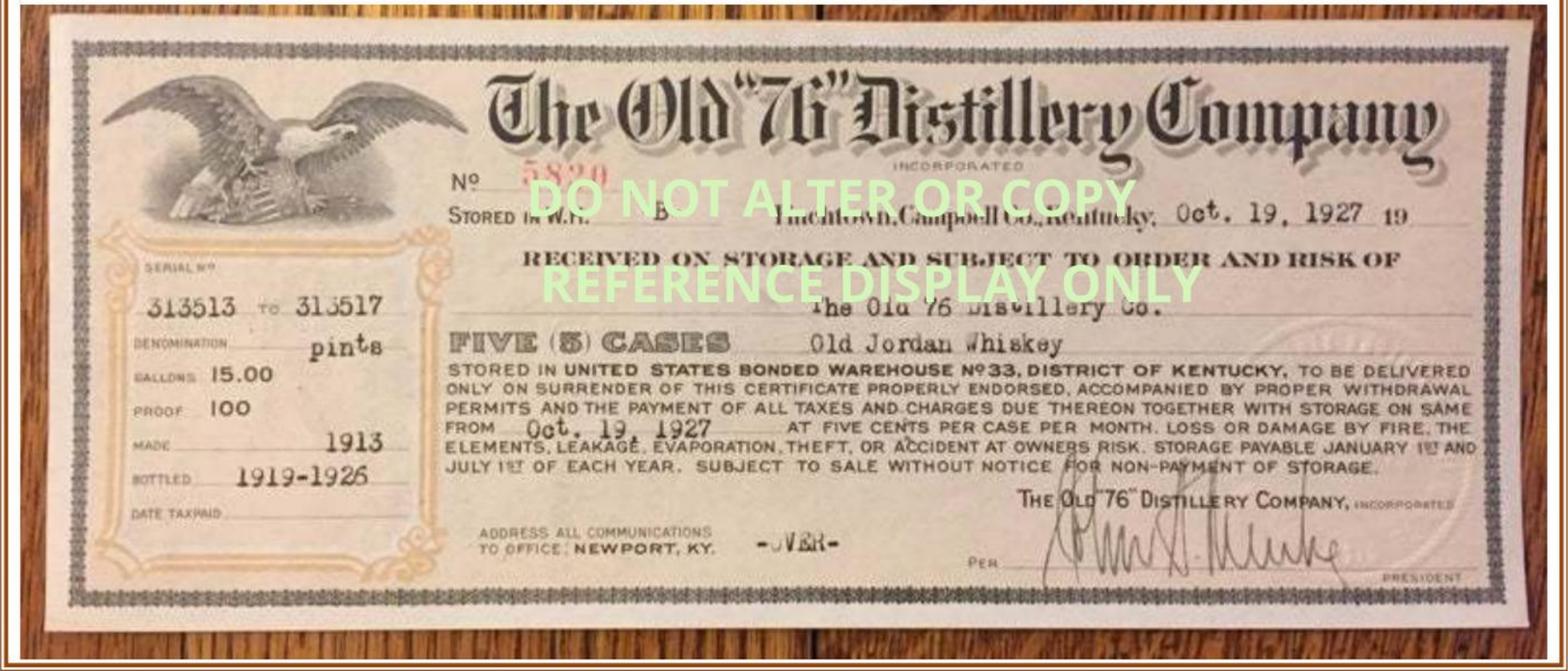


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Also known as a Bonded Whiskey Warehouse Receipt. Only a few thousand of these Certificates were ever printed during the Prohibition Era and only a few hundred are know to exist today. The 11-30-25 value will only increase, The 100th Anniversary of the Repeal Of The Volstead Act has only increased awareness of one of America's biggest blunders so interest is growing in rare items like this Authentic Certificate! We just released another 10 for sale, so act fast.

ONLY $200. from Mac's Collectibles.

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IRISH MUSIC MAKERS

Celtic & Roots Music Singer -songwriter Kris Colt, the Black Rose

The sensational Kris Colt has shifted her base of operations. While she was long associated with Los Angeles and the Big Bear area and played concerts, Irish and Scottish Fair and Pubs for many years throughout the Golden State; she is now actively performing in the Southern United States, particularly in Tennessee and Texas and in the Midwest from her new home near Nashville. Her last appearance in SoCal was at Koroneburg in Riverside County last year and that festival has now been sadly been disbanded.

We certainly understand her reasoning in making the move to the Nashville area but her fans miss her!



Kris Colt Festival Favorite!

Her Southern Spring tour starts this month; notable upcoming dates include:

March 7, 2026: Sumner County Irish Fair at Bledsoe's Fort Historical Park in Castalian Springs, Tennessee.

Continued, - See bottom of page 8



The Soul of Wicklow: Hozier's Global Journey

By Jim McDonough

Before he was a household name topping the Billboard charts, Andrew Hozier-Byrne was a student of the blues in Bray, County Wicklow. Born into a musical home—his father, John, was a local blues drummer and his mother, Raine, a gifted visual artist—Hozier's education was grounded in the soul and jazz records he found in his parents' collection. This early exposure to artists like Nina Simone and Muddy Waters shaped the "troubadour" spirit that defines his sound today.

Hozier's path wasn't a straight line. After a stint with the renowned Irish choral group Anúna and a brief period studying music at Trinity College Dublin, he famously recorded the demo for "Take Me to Church" in his attic. That raw, haunting track catapulted him from Dublin open-mic nights to global superstardom, proving that the world was hungry for the deep, literary, and socially conscious songwriting he provides.

Stateside Success and "Love Rocks"

Currently, Hozier is in the midst of a massive US tour, bringing his Unreal Unearth era to packed arenas across the country. But true to his Irish roots, he hasn't forgotten the importance of community and giving back. This week, on March 5th, he joins an incredible lineup including Paul Simon and Mary J. Blige at the Beacon Theatre in New York for "Love Rocks NYC." This 10th-anniversary benefit concert supports God's Love We Deliver, an organization that provides life-sustaining meals to New Yorkers living with severe illness. It is a rare chance to see a modern Irish icon performing for an essential cause.

"Hozier: *I always felt this kind of lasting guilt of being a college dropout – that there was all this literature I had never really dived into... [Now] I approach the writing and the producing in good faith.*"

— Hot Press Magazine



More online: www.hozier.com

Kris from page 7

Spring/Summer 2026: She is also a recurring featured performer at the Sherwood Forest Faire in McDade, Texas (near Austin), where she performs her signature "Festival Music of the British Isles with an Appalachian Twist." We will have more dates in our Mid-month updated calendar.

New Music & CDs

While her debut album The Voyage and the follow-up Charmed are her most well-known works, there is movement on the recording front:

Third Album in Progress: Kris had been working with producer Steve Ayvazian on her third CD. The project has been delayed owing to some health problems that Steve suffered.

Style Shift: Her newer material leans more into her love of Americana, Bluegrass, and Country, blending those "Appalachian" roots with her traditional Celtic sound.

Official Website
www.kriscolt-blackrose.com

A VERY WORTHY CAUSE

Hozier Takes the Stage for Love Rocks NYC

Hozier-Byrne returns to the historic Beacon Theatre on March 5 for the 10th annual Love Rocks NYC benefit concert. This milestone event brings together legends like Paul Simon and Elvis Costello to support God's Love We Deliver.

Since 1985, this organization has delivered millions of medically tailored meals to those living with severe illness. It's a night of world-class music that feeds the soul—and the city.

Location: 2124 Broadway, NYC

Tickets: Available now via Ticketmaster
Can't make the show? You can still support the organization's 40th anniversary by donating directly at : glwd.org.

Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones...
The Legend Marches On

After nearly four decades as the frontman of the legendary Wolfe Tones, Derek Warfield could have easily rested on his laurels. Instead, in 2005, he channeled his boundless energy into a new mission: The Young Wolfe Tones.

By pairing his immense experience with the fire of a younger generation of virtuosos, Derek has ensured that the "story of Ireland" isn't just a memory, but a living, breathing force. The Man at the Helm was born in Inchicore, Dublin and is proud of his heritage and musical roots. Derek was once apprenticed as a tailor but soon the call of the ballad drew him away. Today, when he isn't touring the world, he calls Kilcock, County Kildare, home. His tireless nature is legendary; he has been on the road for over 60 years and shows no signs of slowing down.



Derek Warfield

The legendary artist is also more than a performer—he is a published historian. His work isn't a mere hobby; he is a respected authority on the Irish diaspora's military history. His books, such as The Songs and Ballads of 1798 and The Irish Songster of the American Civil War, are essential reading for those who want to understand the deep connection between Irish music and global history.

Today's Young Wolfe Tones

The Current Lineup: **A Powerhouse of Talent**

Every member of this group is an accomplished artist in their own right, bringing a diverse range of skills to the stage. Damaris Woods (Banjo): Hailing from Co. Meath, Damaris is recognized as one of the finest banjo players in the world. Known for her "trademark triplets," she began playing in the Meath/Monaghan/Cavan traditional scene. When not on tour, she is a gifted teacher and runs the "Ag Seinm" Traditional Arts Camp in Co. Cavan.

Cormac McGuinness (Vocals): A native of Tallaght, Co. Dublin Cormac. Affectionately known as "The Foggy Dude", he grew up in a musical household, where he was inspired by his grandfather, Paddy Doyle. His powerhouse vocals and quick wit make him a fan favorite.

Andreas Durkin (Keyboards & Vocals): From Co. Cavan, Andreas has been performing since he was 21. He grew up performing alongside his mother, the famous country singer Kathy Durkin, and has recorded several solo albums that blend Celtic and contemporary sounds.

Mylo Moylan (Guitar & Vocals): Originally from Kildare Town. As a youngster, Mylo began playing in the world-famous Temple Bar district of Dublin. He is also a prolific songwriter and stands out as he brings a unique, modern folk edge to the band's traditional repertoire

We invite submissions to the *Irish Poetry Corner*

A poem or saga in the Irish Bardic Tradition are both considered. We prefer shorter works to fit on a page but we make exceptions

E-Mail us:

irishmissive@gmail.com



Andreas Durkin, Cormac McGuinness . Derek Warfield (Center), Damaris Woods and Mylo Moylan

Dublin Soul, Carolina Clay: The Authentic Voice of Dylan Walshe

Originally hailing from the streets of Dublin, Dylan Walshe has spent over 25 years proving that a true Irish ballad singer can find a home anywhere—from the frantic energy of London to the creative heart of Nashville. Now, Walshe has found a new rhythm in the serene southern highlands of Black Mountain, North Carolina.

Living in the shadow of the Blue Ridge Mountains seems a fitting backdrop for an artist whose voice has been described by No Depression as being "at once so holy and damned it can shake heaven and hell simultaneously."

A Wordsmith's Journey

Walshe is a rare breed of performer who bridges the gap between traditional working-class anthems and contemporary folk-roots. His latest album, All Manner Of Ways, features an elite roster of collaborators, including James Fearnley of The Pogues and Micah Hulscher (Emmylou Harris). The record has cemented his reputation as a successor to the likes of Townes Van Zandt, earned him a nomination for the Irish Folk Music Awards, and garnered high praise from the legendary Christy Moore, who calls him a "true Irish ballad singer."

Connecting the Carolinas: Upcoming in March

As he settles into his western North Carolina residency, March marks a significant month for local fans to catch this "acoustic poet" in his new element. Walshe is increasingly active in the Asheville and Black Mountain circuit, bringing his 25-plus years of stagecraft to the intimate venues that define the region's music scene.



Dylan Walshe

Whether he is opening for heavyweights like Flogging Molly or headlining a solo set, his performances transcend genre. He has successfully captivated audiences across the spectrum—from Punk and Ska to Celtic and Metal—proving that authentic songwriting knows no boundaries.

In a world often cluttered with imitation and image, Walshe offers something visceral. It is music that demands to be felt first and contemplated long after the last note fades.

"Traditionally assured alternative folk with the charismatic charm of an acoustic poet"
— Mojophenia,

www.dylanwalshe.com

Young Wolfe Tones Continued...New Music Now On Sale

Fans have a lot to be excited about. The band recently released a major milestone album, "Live at Liberty Hall, Dublin." Recorded during special performances in one of Ireland's most historic venues, it captures the raw, patriotic energy of their live show. Additionally, they have been promoting the studio release: "Let The Birds Fly Free," which highlights their commitment to new arrangements of classic anthems.

March 2026 U.S. Tour Highlights

They are currently "On the One Road" across America. Their show is a high-octane journey that blends education with entertainment—expect to hear everything from The Foggy Dew to Celtic Symphony. ***SEE PAGE 33***

CDz & Merch Available at: theyoungwolfetones.com or major Irish music retailers like Spindizzy Records and Golden Discs.

Much more online:

theyoungwolfetones.com Derek's History & Solo Work: derekwarfield.com

Trans-Atlantic Modern Trad

The Lúnasa Story

When Lúnasa formed in 1997, they didn't just play Irish music; they re-engineered it. Named after Lughnasadh, the ancient Celtic harvest festival, the band was born from a "supergroup" mentality.
Founding member Seán Smyth sought to capture the raw energy of the 1970s Bothy Band but with a contemporary edge—replacing the traditional piano or bodhrán with a driving upright bass.



The Lúnasa Sound: Innovation through Tradition The vision has been consistently adhered to; for nearly 30 years, they have remained entirely excellent and instrumental, proving that Irish music doesn't need a vocalist to tell a story. Their sound is defined by complex, interweaving "three-part" harmonies between the pipes, fiddle, and flute, all pinned down by a jazz-influenced rhythm section.

Beyond the technical precision, what truly sets Lúnasa apart is their revolutionary approach to the "bottom end" of the music. By treating the double bass and guitar not just as metronomes, but as melodic engines, they create a driving, propulsive energy that feels as much like a contemporary jazz combo as a session in County Clare. This rhythmic sophistication allows the front-line players toinnovate, shifting textures and dynamics in a way that creates a wall of sound. Whether they are navigating a slow, haunting air or a set of blistering reels, there is an intellectual depth to their arrangements that rewards the close listener, while still maintaining the raw, foot-stomping power that can ignite a festival crowd of thousands.

One such audience Favorite is "Morning Nightcap", their quintessential "hit" that captures this energy. (from their 1999 album The Merry Sisters of Fate.)It begins with a deceptively simple, funky bass groove before exploding into a masterclass of syncopation and melody. It remains a staple of their live sets and a definitive example of how they managed to make traditional music feel dangerous, modern, and utterly sophisticated all at once.

Meet the Band

The current lineup consists of some of the most respected names in the genre. While they tour globally, most members maintain deep roots in Ireland, though the "modern" Irish musician often lives a somewhat nomadic life between the Emerald Isle and the U.S.

Seán Smyth, Fiddle & Whistles A founding member and All-Ireland champion from Mayo. Remarkably, Seán is also a practicing medical doctor. He is the visionary behind the band's "wall of sound" arrangements.

Kevin Crawford, Flute & Whistles Born in Birmingham but a long-time resident of County Clare. Formerly of Moving Cloud, Kevin is the band's primary frontman on stage, known for his incredible virtuosity and quick wit.

Cillian Vallely, Uilleann Pipes Hailing from the famous Vallely musical dynasty in Armagh. He has recorded with Bruce Springsteen and toured with Riverdance. His piping provides the "soul" of the Lúnasa sound.

Trevor Hutchinson, Double Bass From Tyrone, Trevor is the "engine room." A former member of The Waterboys, his use of the upright bass (rather than electric) is what gives the band its unique, acoustic "swing."

Ed Boyd, Guitar
Originally from the UK folk scene (notably the band Flook), Ed joined in 2012. He is considered one of the finest acoustic guitarists in Europe, specializing in intricate, percussive backing.

Colin Farrell, Fiddle & Whistles A Manchester-born powerhouse with family roots in Galway. He frequently tours with the group and is a prolific composer, often adding a second fiddle layer to their live shows.

The band is a bit of a transatlantic operation. Seán Smyth, Kevin Crawford, and Trevor Hutchinson have historically maintained their primary bases in Ireland (specifically Clare and Dublin/Tyrone). However, Cillian Vallely and frequent collaborator Patrick Doocey (guitar) have lived in the United States (New York) for many years. This "dual-residency" status allows them to bridge the gap between the traditional sessions of Ireland and the major festival circuits in North America.

Young Dub to Solo Star: Bren Holmes Takes the Stage at The Mint March 7

Bren Holmes is a name synonymous with the high-energy Celtic rock scene, having spent over three decades as a foundational member and bassist for the legendary Young Dubliners.
Bren was born and raised in Dublin before making Los Angeles his long-time home.
Bren turned a new page in his storied career after parting ways with the band in 2019. He traded the heavy touring schedule of the group for the intimate, authentic storytelling of a solo artist.

The Music and the Man

While many know him for his driving bass lines, Bren is a multi-instrumentalist who leans into a "rootsy" Americana and pop-rock vibe for his solo work. On his recordings, you'll hear him masterfully handling; Bass, Guitar, Mandolin and Percussion. His newest album, *A Rush to the Start Line* (released February 2026), follows his successful solo debut, *Everything You Never Wanted*. The new record is described as a move toward well-produced pop-rock with a classic 1970s singer-songwriter feel, while still retaining that unmistakable "Hibernian melancholy" and Irish spirit.
Music press has been quick to embrace Bren's solo evolution. *Spill Magazine* said: "Bren Holmes is an extremely talented and gifted performer and writer... [the album] lovingly embraces the listener, which makes for an outstanding listening experience." Other reviewers, like those at *Americana Highways*, have praised his "infectious songwriting" and "gritty melodic roots rock".

Also comparing his vocal tonality to the likes of Frank Tovey and even catching flashes of Shane MacGowan in his more spirited tracks.

Another gift, he isn't flying solo on the record; it features guest spots from Paul Bushnell (who plays with Tim McGraw) and even his old bandmate Bob Boulding.

Some fans might be surprised to learn that Bren is also a very talented photographer. His visual eye often complements his musical output as he has been known to work across various mediums, bringing the same authenticity to his photography that he brings to his songwriting.

Bren is returning to The Mint soon, one of LA's most iconic stages to celebrate his new music. It's a chance to see this local Irish legend in an intimate setting.



IRISH ARTS SPOTLIGHT:

The Pasadena Folk Music Society

For over 40 years, the Pasadena Folk Music Society (PFMS) has been the quiet heartbeat of traditional and acoustic music in Southern California. Originally founded in 1983 as a student club at Caltech, the organization has evolved into a premier non-profit dedicated to bringing world-class "unplugged" talent to intimate local stages.

The society is led by its longtime President, Nick Smith, a dedicated advocate for the preservation of folk traditions. Under his leadership and a tireless all-volunteer board, the PFMS has become a vital port of call for Irish touring acts. Their stage has hosted legends like Kevin Burke, Andy Irvine, and the band Téada, ensuring that the "pure drop" of Irish music remains accessible to West Coast audiences.

The PFMS relies on memberships, ticket sales, and donations to keep these cultural exchanges alive. Whether you are a musician or a listener, supporting them ensures that the finest fiddlers, pipers, and balladeers continue to include Pasadena on their world tours.
To find out more or donate, visit them at:
www.pasadenafolkmusicsociety.org

The Mint

6010 W Pico Blvd,
LA, CA
Saturday, March 7
Doors open at 7:00 PM
Show starts at 7:30 PM
(He's sharing the bill with The Uninvited and ReBelle)

Tickets:
www.themintla.com

Artist Site:
www.brenholmes.com



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You can find the Irish Stew podcast on all major streaming platforms, including Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, and YouTube. It is also hosted on their website: irishstewpodcast.com

The show is hosted by two Irish-Americans based in New York:

John Lee: A communications and PR professional who is deeply involved in the Irish-American community, having served as the president of the Irish Business Organization of New York.

Martin Nutty: Originally from Dublin, Martin moved to the U.S. on an athletic scholarship. He now works in the financial technology sector and brings the perspective of an Irish-born immigrant.

The podcast is subtitled "Conversation for the Global Irish Nation." It focuses on the "Irish Edge"—the unique qualities, resilience, and creativity of the Irish diaspora and those at home.



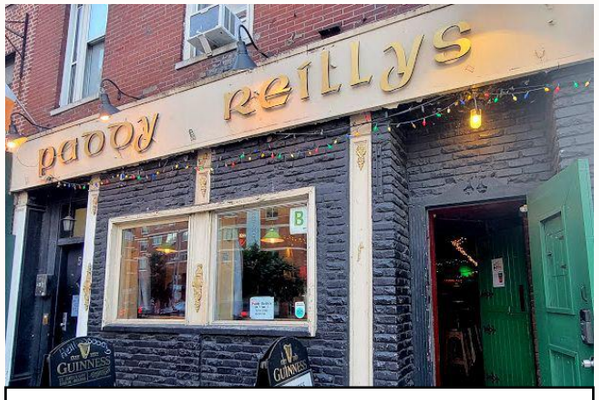
New York Travel Tip:
The Pre or After Concert Pint

If you are heading into Manhattan for the Hozier benefit at the Beacon Theatre, you are in luck. The Upper West Side is home to some of the most authentic Irish "shebeens" in the city. Since the show features a massive lineup including Paul Simon and Elvis Costello, expect the local spots to be lively!

Where to Go Near the Beacon

Paddy Reilly's Music Bar (519 2nd Ave): If you find yourself in Kips Bay, this is Hozier's "home away from home" in NYC. He celebrated his birthday and played a surprise set here last year. It's the ultimate spot for live trad music before or after any New York stay.Westland Roe (174 W 72nd St): Just a few blocks from the theater, this is a relatively new gem in a historic 1886 building. It blends old-world Romanesque style with a perfect Guinness pour.

The Dead Rabbit (Financial District): If you are staying downtown before heading up to the show, this is the "World's Best Bar" for a reason. Fun Fact: Cillian Vallely of Lúnasa (who we featured this issue!) has been known to lead the Sunday sessions here.



Now on the must visit list. Sunday Sessions are exceptional!

New and on the way!

New features like the Irish Oracle, The Celtic Crossword Puzzle, IRISH SHORTS,--- tidbits about *All Things Irish* from around Europe and North America and our old & revived: PAN IRISH REPORT are all in the works!

We want to do it correctly so we need the help of our patrons and subscribers.
This month, we will continue sending out several polls and surveys to our subscribers via Email. As, we expand and broaden our scope, we feel that it makes a lot of sense to see what the subscribers who we already cherish, are interested in seeing from us.
We have subscribers who have been with us for over 30 years and we care a lot about your thoughts!

So far, the response has been good. In point of fact, the brief piece at the top of this page was suggested by one of our long time readers who has roots in New York. She also told us about the fundraiser at the Beacon. (See page 8)

More soon! *JMcD*



www.celticwoman.com

JUST IN

According to BelfastMedia.com

An award-winning documentary on former Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams is now available to watch on digital platforms

"Gerry Adams – A Ballymurphy Man" is now on digital platforms, including Apple TV, Amazon Prime Video and YouTube Movies.

The documentary is directed by Trisha Ziff and she delivers an intimate and expansive feature that explores the life and legacy of one of Ireland's most significant political figures. Filmed over five years, this work allows the former Sinn Féin President to reflect on sixty years of activism, tracing his journey from a working-class childhood in West Belfast to his time as an incarcerated Republican and his eventual role as a central architect of the Good Friday Agreement.

The film is lauded for its rare, "uncensored" access to Adams, who speaks candidly about his personal life, his time in prison, and the evolution of his political philosophy.
It is richly illustrated with a feast of historical archive footage—including family photos and home movies—that contextualizes Adams' story within the broader history of the Troubles.
Critics have described the film as an "absorbing portrait" that balances personal reflections with a meditation on leadership and the transition from conflict to peace.
While some reviewers note its focus on Adams' own perspective, the documentary is widely praised for its elegant direction and its ability to provide a window into the seismic political shifts that have shaped modern Ireland.



Lace Up for the Ultimate St. Paddy's Day Craic!

St. Patrick's Day in Belfast is about to get a whole lot greener—and faster! On Tuesday, March 17th, the annual SPAR Craic 10K returns, turning the city streets into a sea of emerald as over 5,000 runners, walkers, and "tutued" revelers take to the road.

Starting at the iconic City Hall and finishing in the festive atmosphere of Ormeau Park, this event is more than just a race; it's a celebration of community, culture, and "the craic." Whether you're a seasoned marathoner or a casual walker, the inclusive spirit makes it the perfect way to kick off your holiday festivities. Plus, you'll be running for a cause, with proceeds supporting the Cancer Fund for Children.

Ready to earn your wooden medal and start your St. Patrick's Day with a burst of energy? Don't miss out—this event sells out every year! Click the link in the ad below to secure your spot today and join the greenest run in Ireland

GLOBAL CRAIC 10K

LÁ NA FÉILE PÁDRAIG 2026

POWERED BY options

Join thousands around the world celebrating Irish spirit, culture and community through one global run. Run or walk 10 kilometres this St Patrick's Day (run can be completed any time from 14-22 March 2026), support children and families affected by cancer, and receive an official Global Craic 10k certificate.

So whether you're in Canberra or Caracas, Toronto or Trondheim, Singapore or Santiago, take part in a shared global Irish moment and join the Global Craic 10K this St Patrick's Day (run can be completed any time from 14-22 March 2026).

1. Register Online
Sign up for $9.99 using our quick and secure entry form, with $1 from every entry supporting a children's cancer charity.

2. Run 10k Anywhere
Complete your 10k on St Patrick's Day (run can be completed any time from 14-22 March 2026) on a route that suits you - local streets, parks, trails, or a treadmill.

3. Submit Your Run
Log in and upload simple proof or self-certify your competition to receive your personalised Global Craic 10k certificate.

Official Global Craic 10K T-Shirt
Mark your participation with the official Global Craic 10K T-Shirt, available to purchase separately and fulfilled by Aisling Events.



Charity Partner
The Global Craic 10K is proud to support Cancer Fund for Children as its official Charity Partner. $1 from every Global Craic 10K entry is donated to Cancer Fund for Children, helping provide vital emotional and practical support to children, young people, and families affected by cancer across Ireland.

cancer fund for children

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Ireland's Chef Paul's Watters Presents:

Oven roasted Salmon on a bed of giant couscous with asparagus and tomato sauce

Serves 2



You will need

2 salmon fillets (180–200g each, skin on)

Olive oil

Sea salt & cracked black pepper

Zest of ½ lemon

Giant Couscous

150g giant couscous (pearl couscous)

1 small red pepper, small dice

½ red onion, very fine dice

80g sweetcorn (fresh or frozen)

2 tbsp chopped flat leaf parsley

1 tbsp olive oil

Juice of ½ lemon

300ml vegetable stock

8 Asparagus spears

Olive oil

Salt

Roasted Tomato Sauce

1 tin (400g) good quality plum tomatoes

1 clove garlic, sliced

1 tbsp olive oil

½ tsp sugar (optional)

Salt & pepper

Small splash red wine vinegar

ABOUT CHEF PAUL

Chef Paul Watters is an international chef from Belfast, Northern Ireland, with nearly 30 years of experience in the culinary industry.

His career began at 17, and after formal training, he worked in several prestigious kitchens around the world, including The Savoy Hotel in London and the Sydney Opera House in Australia.

After traveling and gaining extensive international experience, Watters has returned to his hometown of Belfast. He is focused on making cooking accessible to home cooks by sharing his expertise.

Food Column & Online Work

Food Column: In addition to his regular feature in this publication, he writes a regular food column called "PLATING UP" for Belfast Media

belfastmedia.com

The column's goal is to "take the fear out of cooking" by providing easy-to-follow, accessible recipes for home cooks.

Online Presence: As you noted, he is active on Facebook, where he runs a page and blog called "Simple, Tasty, Healthy by PW." Through this platform, he shares recipes, tips, and inspiration, often focusing on using local Northern Irish ingredients and helping people cook delicious meals on a budget

The Method

For the Salmon; Preheat oven to 190°C

Pour tomatoes into a small roasting tray, crush slightly.

Add garlic, olive oil, salt, pepper and sugar.

Roast for 25–30 minutes until slightly thickened and caramelised at edges.

Blend smooth, finish with a splash of red wine vinegar.

Keep warm.

Giant Couscous

Bring stock to the boil.

Add couscous and simmer 8–10 minutes until tender.

Drain if needed.

While warm, fold through:

Olive oil

Red pepper

Sweetcorn

Red onion

Parsley

Lemon juice

Season well

The Method

Asparagus

Toss with olive oil & salt.

Roast in the oven beside the salmon for 8–10 minutes

or blanch 2 minutes and finish in a hot pan.

Salmon

Pat dry and score the skin lightly.

Season with salt, pepper and lemon zest.

Heat an ovenproof pan until hot.

Add a little oil and place salmon skin side down.

Cook 3–4 minutes until skin is crisp.

Transfer to oven for 4–6 minutes (medium finish).

Internal temp guide:

48–50°C for medium

52–55°C for medium well

Rest 2 minutes before serving.

Plating (Paul Style)

Spoon and spread roasted tomato sauce across the plate.

Place a mound of couscous in the centre.

Sit salmon on top & Lean the asparagus against the salmon.

Chef Paul's Tip

I If you want extra depth, lightly sauté the red pepper and onion first
Finish with: Picked Dill

Drizzle of good olive oil

Optional, but this gives a nice restaurant touch and elevation to the food



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The View From Ireland

When Egopolitics Meets Geopolitics

Maurice Fitzpatrick the Trump



Our regular contributor, **Maurice Fitzpatrick** is an Irish writer and filmmaker who was educated at Trinity College Dublin.

Fitzpatrick authored the book, ***John Hume in America: From Derry to DC*** and wrote, directed, and produced the documentary film, ***John Hume in America***.

CLICK to buy or more

Given that the Trump administration seems perpetually poised to hurtle into the next disaster of its own making, commentators will likely forget that Greenland was once a priority. But will historians of this lamentable presidency take the same view?

There are several reasons why the threatened takeover of Greenland may occupy as prominent a position in the foreign policy narrative of the 47th US presidency as the storming of the US Capitol on January 6, 2021, did domestically. But first, let us dispense with any ambiguity. When the leader of a military ally tells a fellow NATO member that it will take over its territory 'the hard way or the easy way', and when the ruthless leader of that power has overwhelming military superiority to back up the statement, that constitutes a threat of invasion.

Yet by the time Trump arrived in Davos, Switzerland, on January 21st, for the annual gathering of the masters of the universe, he had relented considerably. The poor souls who had to sit through his ninety-minute ramblings at the World Economic Forum were at least able to extract one salient statement for the rest of us: 'People thought I would use force. I don't have to use force. I don't want to use force. I won't use force'. Still, he maintained that the US had to acquire Greenland, calling it vital for security a strategic necessity. Yet absent the use of force, Greenland remains what it is: an autonomous island within the Kingdom of Denmark.

Let's imagine another scenario in which the White House had been serious about pursuing 'the easy way'. A little advance planning and diplomacy could have gone a long way towards that end. Since 1982, residents of Alaska have received a form of universal basic income via the Permanent Fund Dividend to offset the difficulty of living in a harsh climate with long, dark winters. Given that Greenland has just 57,000 inhabitants, compared with Alaska's 740,000, it would have been far easier to offer Greenlanders a generous universal basic income, alongside guarantees preserving the Danish-level welfare provisions they currently enjoy, in exchange for becoming the 51st US state.

Greenlandic-Danish relations have long been complex, and such a proposal from the US, handled delicately, might have persuaded a significant portion of the population, perhaps even a majority. That would have engendered a schism among Greenlanders that Trump could have exploited. But he was too impatient and impetuous for such niceties. Now, in any case, it is far too late for diplomacy. Greenlanders are undoubtedly much more secure in the long-term for remaining united in their opposition to a takeover.

Am I exaggerating the significance of all this, since there has been no invasion after all? More than sixty years later, people still remember the JFK–Khrushchev confrontation that followed the Bay of Pigs fiasco. Not a drop of blood was spilled between the superpowers, yet its centrality to the course of the twentieth century is unmistakable: two enemies at the height of the Cold War came perilously close to 'going nuclear' and did not cross the line.

Beijing will have taken note that the international community—at least its European component—mobilised quickly and decisively. Like his counterpart in Washington, China's ageing and increasingly autocratic leader, Xi Jinping, is sorely tempted to seize an island (Taiwan) as a legacy project. The Greenland episode will have given him pause, and for several reasons.

The traditionally cautious and often sluggish Europeans did not confine themselves to statements of condemnation. They deployed troops and naval assets to Greenland and placed what is known in Brussels as the economic 'bazooka' on the table. When Trump threatened punitive and escalating tariffs on European states for merely assisting Greenland, EU leaders began preparing to activate the Anti-Coercion Instrument—the European Union's mechanism for responding collectively to economic intimidation by third countries. The instrument allows the EU to retaliate, including through tariffs, investment restrictions and limits on access to the single market.

From previous page, VIEW contiinued

Full credit to France's president, Emmanuel Macron, for grasping immediately that the threat of the bazooka was the only language Trump would understand. By signalling that Europe would respond decisively, Macron helped shift Europe's focus from criticism to deterrence.

Europe could contemplate such measures because, as economist Paul Krugman argued: 'The European economy is huge — almost as big, in dollar terms, as the U.S. economy — and doesn't depend crucially on the U.S. market. It's worth noting that very high US tariffs on China haven't appeared to slow China's economic growth at all'. The lesson for Europe was clear: economic coercion cuts both ways, and it is not always the coercer who prevails.

America's reputation has been grievously damaged even by the suggestion that it might coerce or conquer a NATO ally. Pulling back does not erase that damage. Trump's assault on US standing in the Western world was profoundly at odds with the views of of most American citizens;
(about 75% of Americans opposed the takeover of Greenland). The world will not simply 'move on'. The rupture has occurred, and the scar remains. Here's hoping that US voters in the midterms will remember how to thank their president and his supporters.

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St. Patrick's Day in Washington: *Which Irish Leaders Are Attending?*

Irish Taoiseach Micheál Martin is set to travel to Washington, D.C. for St. Patrick's Day celebrations, but his planned visit comes amid growing political controversy at home.



Taoiseach Micheál Martin

Critics — including members of the public and political figures — have urged Martin to skip the traditional White House shamrock bowl ceremony, where he is expected to once again present shamrocks to U.S. President Donald Trump. Opposition to the visit has been fueled by concerns over Trump's recent political positions, including comments related to Greenland.

Sinn Féin has announced it will boycott White House St. Patrick's Day events for a second consecutive year in 2026. Party leader Mary Lou McDonald and Northern Ireland First Minister Michelle O'Neill said the decision was made in protest over the ongoing war in Gaza and what they described as U.S. complicity in the humanitarian crisis. Ties between the people of Ireland and the United States are very important. As a party, we have deep and enduring bonds with that go back decades. These relationships were critical in the peace process and in the campaign for Irish re-unification. Those relationships will continue, wrote Mary Lou McDonald.

Unionist leaders from Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) and Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) are nevertheless expected to attend this year's White House celebration, where the president will receive the traditional bowl of shamrock.

The visit has drawn attention for its political irony, as unionist parties frequently oppose expressions of Irish nationalism at home while participating in one of the most visible Irish cultural events abroad.

The planned trip also comes amid renewed controversy surrounding allegations linked to Trump in documents associated with the Epstein investigation and political leaders must consider the optics of publicly associating with him.

Despite the criticism, Martin's itinerary currently includes the White House stop as well as a visit to Philadelphia, coinciding with the 250th anniversary of American independence.

The trip forms part of Ireland's wider 2026 St. Patrick's Day diplomatic program, which will see approximately 40 government representatives travel to more than 50 countries to promote Ireland's economic interests, trade opportunities, tourism, and global partnerships.

Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister Helen McEntee said the annual program offers a unique platform to showcase Ireland internationally, emphasizing the country's role as an open trading economy and its commitment to multilateral cooperation. The government also plans to use the global celebrations to highlight Ireland's historic contributions to the United States as America marks 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.



Party leader Mary Lou McDonald will boycott the White House celebration on March 17th.



Submitted by John McNally
Our frequent Contributing Writer is Insightful and well traveled. McNally is very well known throughout Southern California as an Irish Community activist and organizer.
AI was used in compiling some research for this feature

The Irish Literary Showcase

My Spancil Hill

By Greg Patrick

"This is my most special place in all the world, Ray. Once a place touches you like this, the wind never blows so cold again. You feel for it, like it was your child."
-Field of Dreams, Phil Alden Robinson

California 2023

Moonlight filtered through the window as John slept casting shadows as restless as his dream-haunted sleep. Rain whispered at the pane, and he groaned. It had been an excruciatingly long day and night serving hordes of revelers at the local pub on Saint Patrick's Day. He clenched his teeth and fists as he saw his homeland caricatured and parodied in a nauseating overload of neon green props and costumes.

"Spancil Hill," John whispered his tone like that of a prayer or a bereaved lover. And as if ancient gods heard his words and answered. He blinked and looked down. He felt the rush of wind and the sensation of flying. From aerial perspective he saw the majesty of the Celtic Sea below him reflecting the sky and the greenest shore like a mirror cast down to a goddess vanity.

The clouds parted and he saw it as if a feverish desire was granted, the hills basking in golden glow like an illuminated manuscript unveiled. He was jarred from the shimmering vision by a voice on an intercom.

"Aer Lingus flight 17 will be landing shortly,"

How long had it been? Since his American wake and his departure in search of a mirage and elusive dream of success.

He stepped from the pavement and onto the green grass lingering as rain fell. A luxuriant silvery Torrent. He shivered in its shocking cold. Only when his breath sighed in the chill air did he finally know he was home.

He fell to his knees running his fingers through the wet grass and leaning in to kiss the ground.

His words like that of one finally reunited with a lover.

"I almost forgot how beautiful you were...", No get out of one's head. Words that roar like a battle cry as one clenches one's teeth at the mockery. The imitation of a brogue. The leprechaun jokes. The questions about drinking and potatoes.

There was no one waiting to greet him in homecoming at the airport. No kind warm words to greet him.

Only the cold caress of the wind on his cheek whispering as if in ancient tongue. The wind grew louder and in it he heard familiar voices in choir.

"Where are all of you now?" John whispered.

He watched the countryside pass from his taxi, and he smiled in fond memory till the rain on the window distorted it like a fun-house mirror, and he looked down at his hands. The taxi dropped him off at last. He stood awkwardly at a familiar but strange sight of a neighbouring village.

The storefronts and faces had all changed. The place felt haunted to him. Not in the spectres conjured by an elder's stories around the turf fire in the hearth but because every tree and stone had a memory that seared with regret. In the Shadow of that wizened tree he was stood up like a fool in the rain till the bouquet he was holding fell from his hands and he trudged back home. He passed through a pathway through the bracken and walls where he walked his beloved dog daydreaming of being a Celtic warrior as brave and fearless as Cuchulainn.

There, a sequestered spot, his secret hideaway where he composed songs while dreaming of performing on a stage in Dublin or overseas. Only the medieval ruins and ancient standing stones awaited like old friends in the rain awaiting his arrival. He felt in turns rejuvenated and then as old as the hills. He stopped at an old haunt. His favourite pub. Its name had changed. The management as well. It was where he once had his American wake.

No friendly nods now. Only a wall of backs. He sat quietly in the corner. The drink when it was finally served remained untouched as he raised it like a toast to the shadows. His eyes expressionless over the rim of his cup. Some drink to forget. Yet he remembered the sparkle of her voluminous green eyes like shimmering tidepools of Celtic Sea lingering, left by the waves sighing to the greenest shore.

A band stood up to perform. He listened with haunted distant eyes looking into the depths of hearth. The singer's red lips were like reopened wounds as she sang.

"A Stor Mo Chroi, when you're far away From the home that you'll soon be leaving,

Sure it's many a time by night and by day That your heart will be sorely grieving.

For the stranger's land may be bright and fair, And rich in all treasures golden.

You'll pine, I know, for the long, long ago And the heart that is never olden."

...*On to page 24*

He got up to leave lingering at the threshold as rain fell harder and harder. He knew better then to walk out into it, yet he did resolutely. He marched through the rain blinded by it. He shivered as the rain intensified. Yet he knew his way. Suddenly he paused mid-step. People ran for shelter from the rain. One of them turned. There was a moment of startled recognition.

“Aoife?”

She turned to wink and smile before she hurried away.

“Aoife!” John called after her. As he was immersed in shockingly cold rain, he thought he could see her, his Aoife calling to him. His life's delight and pain. She seemed hailed in shimmering iridescence as he staggered towards that radiant presence like a fleeting oasis of warmth and light like the interval of sun before the inevitable clouds close in.

He staggered blinded by the rain that roared like a passing train. The rain ceased at last and he stood before it at first enshrouded by the mist then radiant in the sun.

“Spancil Hill...” he whispered in awe standing in the shivering cold where old wounds ache. The wind stirred the grass rising to the mist-covered heights and sighed a lament through abandoned cottages reclaimed by the green. No familiar neighbours came out to greet him only birds nesting in the broken eaves flew out at his cry.

Then he heard that lilting voice.

“John? What are you waiting for?”

Aoife beckoned to him looking glorious in her new Sunday dress.

“You remember me?”

“Of course I do silly. We saw each other just yesterday! Come with me! We will be late for mass again. You know how grumpy father Duffy gets when his flock are late!”

“Aoife! Aoife! Wait for me! Wait for me!” John cried chasing her across the misty dreamscape.

She was running up the hill. He almost collided with others. They were all climbing to the old Cross of the hill enshrined on the heights as the steeple bells tolled.

The ringing echoed in the depths of his soul. The others seemed completely oblivious to his presence like he was not there at all. He broke through the crowd. He saw Aoife at last in front of ev~~er~~yone. She was running to someone else. “Liam! Oh Liam!” she gushed.

Then he remembered. The note he got postmarked from Dublin that he crushed in a trembling fist after reading it. The pictures of an engagement announced on social media. She looked so happy he thought. She never looked at him that way. He planned to go back. Felt he needed to.

Then the virus struck the world. Travel plans interrupted. Then he heard Aoife was sick. Very sick.

“Aoife! “Why can’t you hear me!” John called after her.

The crowd overtook him.

“Move! Move! Aoife! AOIFE!!!!”

He fell to his knees. Aoife paused suddenly and turned around.

John’s head was bowed. He was sobbing. He felt a tender touch on his chin lifting it up. He looked into those impossibly green eyes like tidepools of Celtic Sea.

“Your hands are so cold...I thought you were...you were...” he stammered.

“Johnny you’re only joking as so many a time before...”

The crowd paused and gathered around him. He looked around him at the familiar faces. Tailor Quigley. He always boasted he could mend anything...

“But can you mend a broken heart Mr. Quigley?”

“No lad...but she can...” the tailor replied.

Aoife was laughing...laughing so hard she fell on the ground. Laughing so hard she was gasping.

“She can’t breathe! She can’t breathe!!!” John cried.

He ran to her his feet splashing in the wet grass then fell to his knees. His lips met hers. He tried to resuscitate her. The rain fell harder on John’s window pane. Harder and harder till the grey dawn lit the dreamer. His eyes opened. He felt the pain in his chest. He fumbled frantically for the phone. He dialed a 9. Then stopped.

“Wake up Aoife! Wake up!” John pleaded.

He suddenly felt her hands around his head as he kissed her cold lips passionately. He shook off the hands of others.

“Let me go! I don’t belong here! I never did! Let me go home...”

The alarm rang loudly and shrilly again and again. The neighbours nocked. No answer. Then the music came on.

“Dance with me Johnny,” Aoife smiled.

“Make a space for them,” Tailor Quigley ordered.

The crowd parted, forming a circle around him. John and Aoife slow-danced. Johnny leaned in holding her as closely as he held the dream of her to his heart. He closed his eyes as they swayed. When he opened them again, his perspective changed. He saw himself from afar...saw himself from a rising height. Yet the music never felt distant. The song as close as his love.

“Last night as I lay dreaming of pleasant days gone by My mind been bent on rambling to Ireland I did fly I stepped on board a vision and followed with a will Til next I came to anchor at the cross in Spancil Hill...”

I never really did,” he sighed.

He ventured across a dreamscape of mist-enshrouded ground knowing his way by heart like words of a rebel song that one could never Return to Spancil Hill

☘ The 2026 IFTA Watchlist: Stream the Winners

Stay ahead of the curve with where to find these Irish triumphs on U.S. screens:

Christy (Best Film):
Following its sweep at Dublin, this indie gem is currently on a limited theatrical run in select U.S. cities (NY/LA).
Expect a digital release on Apple TV+ and Amazon Prime by late spring 2026.

Hamnet (Best International Film / Acting Wins):
This Chloé Zhao-directed masterpiece starring Jessie Buckley and Paul Mescal is available to stream on Peacock and for purchase on Google Play.

Blue Lights (Best TV Drama):
The gritty Belfast police drama's award-winning third season is now streaming on BritBox for U.S. audiences.

House of Guinness (Lead Actor - Drama):
You can catch Anthony Boyle's winning performance in this historical epic exclusively on Netflix.

Saipan (Lead Actor - Film):
The "Roy Keane" biopic starring Éanna Hardwicke is currently available via Hulu and Disney+ (international).

Trespasses (Lead Actress / Script - Drama):
This intense thriller featuring Lola Petticrew is available to stream on AMC+ and Sundance Now.

F1 (Supporting Actress - Film):
Kerry Condon's high-octane performance alongside Brad Pitt is available on Apple TV+.



The Irish Wave Surged through the 76th Berlin International Film Festival *"Berlinale"*

The Double-Header: Irish Cinema Sweeps Berlin and Dublin

The 76th Berlin International Film Festival, "Berlinale," concluded on February 21, marking a watershed moment for Irish storytelling on the global stage. This year, the "Irish Wave" wasn't just a ripple; it was a coastal surge that dominated the closing ceremonies. While the industry gathered in Germany, a simultaneous celebration unfolded at the IFTA Awards in Dublin on February 20, creating a rare "double-header" of prestige. This synchronized success underscores a golden era for the nation's film industry, where domestic triumphs like the Cork-based drama Christy winning Best Film are now perfectly mirrored by major hardware being hauled home from the world's most elite competitive festivals.



Grant Gee Secures the Silver Bear

The crowning achievement in Berlin came from the Main Competition, where director Grant Gee was awarded the Silver Bear for Best Director for his mesmerizing feature, Everybody Digs Bill Evans. A sophisticated co-production between Ireland and the UK, the film transcends the traditional musical biopic to offer a deep, psychological portrait of the legendary jazz pianist. The jury, presided over by the iconic Wim Wenders, lauded Gee's innovative visual language and atmospheric cinematography. By capturing the internal world of Evans with such haunting precision, Gee has solidified his reputation as a visionary, proving that Irish-led productions are currently setting the pace for avant-garde international cinema.



Danielle Galligan: A Star Ascending

Beyond the director's chair, the festival spotlight shone brightly on Irish actress Danielle Galligan, who was officially inducted as one of the ten European Shooting Stars for 2026. This prestigious program, which previously launched the careers of Andrew Scott and Ruth Negga, recognized Galligan for her "charismatic and transformative" presence. Known for her versatile work in Shadow and Bone and House of Guinness, she was praised by the international jury for a "fierce, humoristic, and playful demeanor" that commands the screen. Her recognition ensures that the future of Irish acting remains as robust as its current veterans, marking her as the next great export in the lineage of Irish dramatic excellence.



Dominance from the Big Screen to the IFTAs

The momentum of the "Irish Wave" shows no signs of receding, as the Berlinale honors coincided with a night of high emotion at the IFTAs in Dublin. As Grant Gee was accepting his Silver Bear, Jessie Buckley was taking home Lead Actress for her powerhouse performance in Hamnet. This intersection of talent—ranging from experimental jazz biopics in Berlin to gritty local dramas in Cork—highlights the incredible range of the current Irish creative output. Whether it is emerging stars like Galligan or established forces like Buckley and Gee, the Irish film community has effectively turned February 2026 into a month-long masterclass in cinematic artistry, leaving an indelible mark on the international circuit

The Irish Film and TV Academy Awards 2026

The Irish Film & Television Academy (IFTA) Awards just wrapped up at the Dublin Royal Convention Centre, and it was a massive night for both homegrown indie darlings and international heavyweights.

The ceremony, hosted by Kevin McGahern, felt like a true homecoming for some of the biggest names currently dominating Hollywood. Here is a feature on the winners and the moments that will resonate most with an Irish-American audience.

The Big Winners: Film & Drama

The night belonged to Christy, an independent drama set in Cork, which took home the top prize for Best Film. Directed by Brendan Canty, the film follows a young man navigating life after the foster care system—a story that hit an emotional chord and swept several craft categories.

Category	Winner	Project
Best Film	—	Christy
Lead Actor	Éanna Hardwicke	Saipan (as Roy Keane)
Lead Actress	Jessie Buckley	Hamnet
Supporting Actor	Paul Mescal	Hamnet
Supporting Actress	Kerry Condon	
Best TV Drama	—	Blue Lights

Highlights & Emotional Moments

A "Hamnet" Sweep: The adaptation of Maggie O'Farrell's beloved novel was a major force. Jessie Buckley gave a tearful speech about the "strength and tenderness of mothers" while accepting Lead Actress, and Paul Mescal further solidified his "Golden Boy" status with a Supporting Actor win.

The Roy Keane Factor: In a win that will delight sports fans, Éanna Hardwicke won Lead Actor for his portrayal of Irish football legend Roy Keane in the film Saipan. Steve Coogan, who also stars in the film, accepted the award on his behalf.

Lifetime Achievement: The legendary Ciarán Hinds (of Belfast and Game of Thrones fame) received the Lifetime Achievement Award. His 50-year career across stage and screen received a standing ovation from the Dublin crowd.



The Rising Star: Louisa Harland, whom many Americans fell in love with as Orla in Derry Girls, won the Rising Star Award. She's someone to keep a close eye on as she transitions into more major international leading roles.

Irish-American Appeal

For an American audience with Irish roots, this year's IFTAs showcased the "Green Wave" currently hitting the U.S. box office:

The Hollywood Connection: The Best International Actor award went to Leonardo DiCaprio (for One Battle After Another), and Emma Stone won Best International Actress (Bugonia). Seeing these A-listers recognized by the Irish Academy highlights the deep creative bridge between Dublin and Los Angeles.

Major U.S. Productions: Many of the winners are stars of huge American hits. You'll recognize Anthony Boyle (Best Lead Actor in Drama for House of Guinness) from Masters of the Air, and Alison Oliver (Supporting Actress in Drama) from her breakout role in Saltburn.

The Irish Arts & Entertainment's CELTIC CAMERA

Jesse Jackson and Ireland

Submitted By John McNally

The Reverend Jesse Jackson, the American civil rights leader and political activist, has died aged 84. A protégé of Martin Luther King Jr., Rev. Jackson founded the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, advocating for social justice and economic equality across the United States.

He twice sought the Democratic Party's presidential nomination, finishing runner-up to Michael Dukakis in 1988, and later served as shadow senator for the District of Columbia. Paying tribute, former President Barack Obama said Jackson's historic campaigns helped lay the groundwork for his own path to the presidency.

Rev. Jackson also maintained a longstanding interest in Ireland, recognising the influence of the US Civil Rights Movement on Northern Ireland's civil rights campaign in the 1960s.
He was a strong supporter of the Good Friday Agreement, he visited Ireland on numerous occasions and backed efforts to secure lasting peace in the region.

Gerry Adams said of Jesse Jackson: "He was a fearless and inspirational civil rights leader and a tireless advocate for equality and justice in the USA and elsewhere, including Ireland.

"In Irish there is a saying:
'Is ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine'
which translates as: 'We all live in each other's shadow.'



Rev. Jesse Jackson with MáirtÍn O'Muilleoir and Gerry Adams Europa Hotel, Belfast, Nov 12, 2002.

Rev. Jackson had spoken the previous night at the Aisling Awards with his legendary exhortation to the assembled leaders still dithering over the peace agreement, "Seal the Deal"



IRISH POETRY CORNER

We invite submission to this regular feature.

A poem, tale or saga in the Irish Bardic Tradition, are all wanted.

Please send to us via E-Mail:
IrishMissive@gmail.com

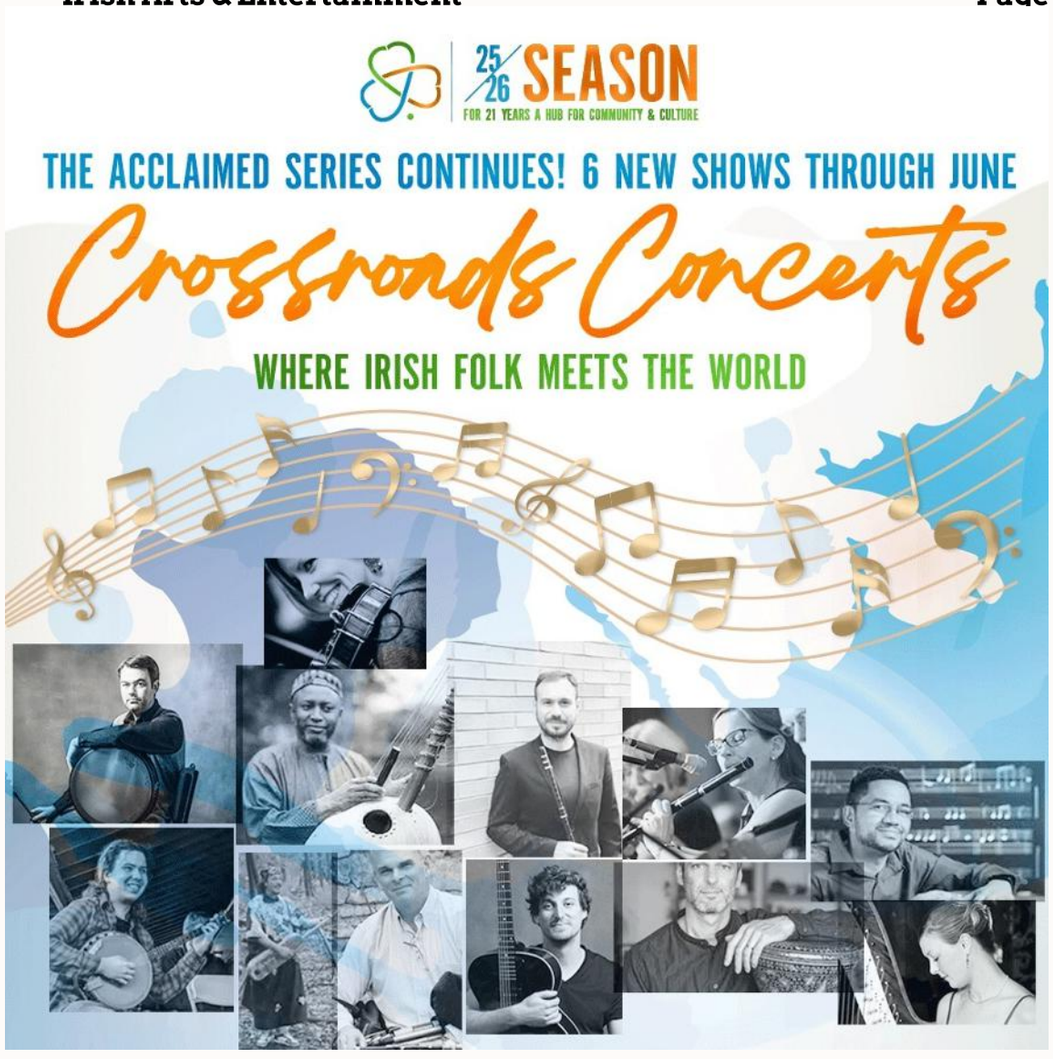
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Cultural Collisions at the Crossroads: NYIC's Boundary-Pushing Music Series

By IA&E Staff

The next performance will see the familiar sounds of the Irish tradition (think the lilt of a fiddle or the breathy skip of a tin whistle) weave around the specific, complex textures of Sene-Gambian music on the Kora. The show is set for Thursday, March 26 @ 7:00 PM in Long Island City. This unique concert will connect the ancient musical lineages of Ireland and the Sene-Gambia region of West Africa (Senegal and Gambia).

Salieu Suso (Kora): The Kora is a unique, breathtaking West African instrument—a 21-string bridge-harp-lute. Suso is not just a performer; he is a traditional Griot, a repository of his people's history and genealogy, passed down from father to son for centuries. His virtuosity will bring a cascade of melody and rhythm to the stage.

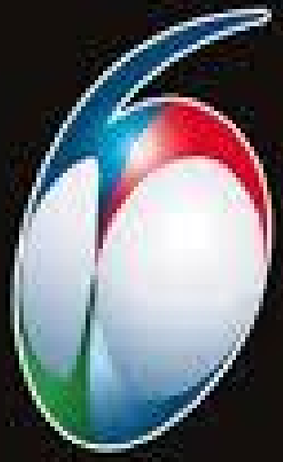
Ebrima Jassey (Balafon): The Balafon is a West African wooden xylophone, also a key griot instrument. Its resonance is woody, bright, and percussive, adding a rich rhythmic foundation to the evening's performance.

When these West African strings and percussion meet the Irish sound, the result is less a fusion (where things are combined into a single new sound) than a crossroads—two powerful traditions meeting, greeting, and playing off each other in real-time.

The Crossroads Concerts are held at the New York Irish Center (NYIC) at 1040 Jackson Avenue in Long Island City (A quick ride across the East River from Grand Central on the 7 train). Tickets are always $25, a incredible value for this caliber of performance.



GUINNESS SIX NATIONS



2026 Guinness Six Nations Standings (After Round 3)

France remains the only team with a perfect record, while Scotland and Ireland are hot on their heels.

Pos Team Played Won Lost Points

1 France: 3 3 0 15

2 Scotland: 3 2 1 11

3 Ireland: 3 2 1 9

4 England: 3 1 2 5

5 Italy: 3 1 2 5

6 Wales: 3 0 3 1

Remaining Fixtures

The action resumes this coming Friday, March 6, with a rare Friday night clash in Dublin.

Ireland v Wales Aviva Stadium, Dublin: 10 PM

Mar 7 (Sat) Scotland v France Murrayfield, Edinburgh 9:10 AM

Mar 7 (Sat) Italy v England Stadio Olimpico, Rome 11:40 AM

Mar 14 (Sat) Wales v Italy Millennium Stadium, Cardiff 2:40 PM

Mar 14 (Sat) France v England Stade de France, Paris 4:10 PM

US Broadcast on PEACOCK Network

GUINNESS SIX NATIONS RUGBY

By Jim McDonough

As of today, February 28, 2026, the Guinness Six Nations is currently in its fallow (rest) week after three rounds of intense action. France is the dominant force so far, sitting at the top of the heap! Now, remaining the only team on track for a Grand Slam ! The reality has shifted from preseason speculation to a dominant display of French flair and a resilient Irish pursuit. With three rounds in the books, the championship landscape is becoming clear, defined by a runaway leader and a chasing pack fighting to keep the title race alive.

The story of the tournament so far is undoubtedly France. "Les Bleus" have emerged as an unstoppable force, marching through the first three rounds with clinical precision. Their campaign opened with a definitive 36–14 statement against Ireland and has only gained momentum since. After a crushing 54–5 victory over Wales and a convincing 33–8 win against Italy, the French side sits atop the table with a perfect record and a massive point differential. They are not just winning; they are dictating the terms of every match they play.

Ireland, meanwhile, has shown the grit typical of a defending contender. Despite the early setback against France, the Irish squad bounced back with a steady 20–13 win over Italy and a high-scoring 42–21 masterclass against England in Round 3. Currently sitting in third place, Ireland remains the primary threat to the French coronation, though they will need a lapse in French concentration—and a flawless finish of their own—to retain the trophy.

Scotland has also inserted themselves into the conversation, currently holding second place after gritty wins over England and Wales. Their upcoming Round 4 clash against France on March 7 serves as the tournament's tipping point. A Scottish victory would throw the gates wide open for a dramatic final weekend, while a French win would all but seal the title before the final "Le Crunch" against England.

As it stands, France is the heavy favorite to lift the trophy. Their blend of physical dominance and tactical depth has made them the team to beat, leaving the rest of the field hoping for a miracle in the final two rounds of play.

Key Terms to Know:

The Grand Slam: If a team wins all five of its matches, they are crowned Grand Slam champions and they get the ultimate bragging rights!

Super Saturday:
The final day of the tournament where all three final matches are played back-to-back.



The 2026 All Ireland Rugby Team

On-Going Links & Listings: Every Week

Sundays starting @ 4:pm
Irish Music Session Traditional music / No Cover
Auld Dubliner Irish Pub . Long Beach

www.aulddubliner.com

EVERY MONDAY
CELTIC ARTS CENTER
Open Session, Irish Language

Classes & Socials Full Bar

CAC @ The Mayflower Club
11110 Victory Blvd.,
North Hollywood, CA
www.celticarts center.com

Every Monday starts @ 7:PM
Orange County Celtic Jam
Players invited!
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1221 Wass St., Tustin
Doors open at 6:30 pm. Music at 7:00 pm.
$3 donation for use of the room.
www.facebook.com/groups/OCCelticJam



***FIRST TUESDAY of every month*!**

FRIENDS Of IRELAND Breakfast

You're invited. Join the craic and get together with a great bunch of folks and share your love of Ireland and all things Irish.

Breakfasts are very good too!

Breakfast at 9.30 am
Kenos Restaurant
2661 West La Palma Anaheim
More info & to get on the mailing list:
PETE WALSH
pbeireanua@att.net
1 714-200-7365

Sundays in January
Starting at 4:00pm



KEN O'MALLEY

Irish balladeer, enjoy an afternoon/evening of story and song from one of the masters...

Appearing in Redlands, CA

@ The Three Stags Irish Pub
www.thethreestagspub.com

Cincinnati, Ohio

The Irish Heritage Center of Greater Cincinnati (IHC) was established to promote the culture, traditions and arts of Ireland. The IHC is a culture center that has a pub, library, museum, theater and concert hall. The venue boasts lots of space and rooms to rent for wedding, parties, concerts and more.
Pub night is every Thursday beginning at 6pm.

TICKETS&INFO



The Shamrock Irish Pub and Eatery

39252 Winchester Rd. #145 Murrieta, CA
Hours: 12 Noon Till Late 7 Days

theshamrockirishpubandeatery.com

O'Brien's Irish Pub & Restaurant

Santa Monica, CA

www.obriensla.com

For all commercial links/listings & ads:

Contact Jim at Jim@pubguide.com

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You can now Subscribe and see our Media Kit online:

www.irishartsandentertainment.com


seattlecenter
FESTÁL
Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs
CULTURE
Aer Lingus
Vox Hiberniae Seattle
IRISH WEEK 2026
March 7th - 15th
Seattle & Galway: 40 Years as Sister Cities
1986 - 2026
Soda Bread Competition
Sat. March 7
IRISH HERITAGE CLUB
Irish Festival - Seattle Center
Sat. March 14 - Sun. March 15
St. Patrick's Day Parade
Newly located at the Waterfront
Sat. March 14
Mayor's Proclamation Lunch
Fri. March 13
Emerald City Irish Film Festival
Sat. March 14 - Sun. March 15th
Laying of the Green Stripe
Fri. March 13
www.irishclub.org

Updates in the works!

Check back Monday AM and the calendar will have been updated

The usual Celtic Camera will be back in our Mid-month edition

Thanks, ED



HAPPY
St. PATRICK'S DAY
to all of our
friends and readers!



Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library & St Patrick's Day Phoenix

1106 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ, United States, Arizona 85004

The St. Patrick's Day Parade and Faire you know and love with an elevated twist! Join us at the Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library from 10 AM - 5 PM on March 14 for the first ever "Emerald Experience!" Upgrade your Phoenix St. Patrick's Day Faire experience with a private, limited-access bar, whiskey tastings, and a chance to learn how to make the perfect Irish cocktail—all in an adults-only setting at the Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library. Your purchase includes:

1. Adults only area (must be 21+ with ID)

2. Private, limited access bar with custom cocktails (beat the lines and try something new!)

3. Exclusive indoor bathrooms

4. FREE Mixology course in the Castle Keep

a. Learn how to make an Irish cocktail or pour the perfect pint*

5. Whiskey tasting tent (free testers)

6. Cigar tasting and pairing experience (cigars for purchase)

7. Exclusive food and merchandise vendors

8. Book sale and genealogy services in the Castle

9. Live music

10. Shaded seating areas

Everything is included with General Admission tickets

Headliner Announced for First Annual GREAT AMERICAN IRISH FAIR

One Eyed Reilly

Set To Play

This great Irish Band formed shortly after St Patrick's Day 2012, bringing a new and original sound to the Sacramento Celtic music scene . After more than a decade of performing, the band has steadily grown it's schedule, becoming favorites at Irish pubs, breweries, wineries and festivals across Northern California and beyond.

One Eyed Reilly blends well-crafted original songs with modern Celtic rock, Americana, and energetic, innovative versions of traditional Irish classics.
Live band performances are built around their Irish-themed repertoire of original songs enhanced with a fun dash of inspired covers by the likes of Flogging Molly, Dropkick Murphy, and even Bob Dylan and the Grateful Dead as weii as other roots-based influences.

Meet the members at the Irish Fair! CDs and Merch will be available!



ONE EYED REILLY

Band members are:

Rick Meagher -- lead vocals, acoustic guitar & songwriting

Aaron Hendel -- bass guitar & background vocals

Tim Kurteff-Schatz -- drums/percussion & background vocals

Nick Carvajal -- electric guitar, mandolin & background vocals



For More on Owen Dara and his films may we suggest the following links and digital resources:

www.owendara.com

Owen Dara on...

A Lesser Gift on

YouTube

like us on facebook

IMDb

Streaming Now Just CLICK Graphic

CHOOSING SIGNS









Wednesday, March 11 @ 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

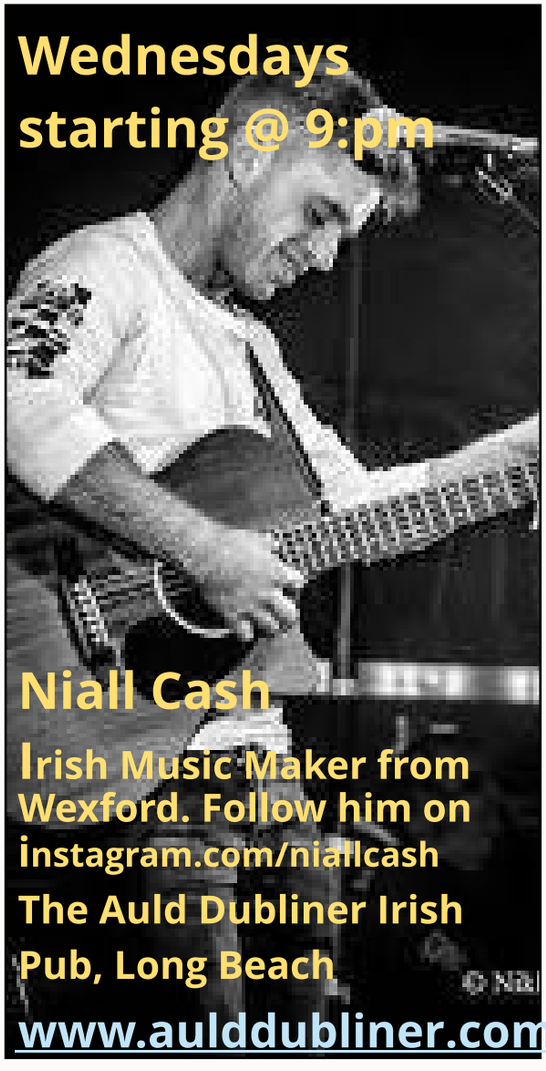
Pop-Up Gaeltacht at the IAHC

Join the Irish American Heritage Center and Na Gaeil Chicago for an evening of Irish language and culture. Featuring special guest MacDara Ó Conaola, a storyteller and singer from the Aran Islands, the night begins with songs and lore followed by a social gathering in the Fifth Province Pub. All levels of Irish speakers, from beginners to native speakers, are welcome. Cost: Free
Irish American Heritage Center
4626 N. Knox Ave, Chicago, IL
773-282-7035
www.irish-american.org



Ken O'Malley
Irish Music & Ireland Tours
ken@kenomalley.com
(310) 569-1062 mobile
www.kenomalley.com
Authentic Traditional Irish Music
"The real deal from Ireland"
Personally Guided Tours of Ireland
"The road less traveled"

Dates & Links



Irish Cultural Center
PHOENIX ARIZONA

www.arizonairish.org



https://irishfest.com/Tickets

EVERY MONDAY!
CELTIC ARTS CENTER
CAC/ACS
@ The Mayflower Club
11110 Victory Blvd.
North Hollywood, CA

www.celticartscenter.com

Remember to check back for Calendar links and listings, new Features & Updates

Usually, we have been updating the Irish Arts around the middle of or 15th or 16th of each month so look for another issue in 15 days. We will also update the Calendar again and do a BLAST to all subscribers usually on Wednesday afternoons. Then again on Sunday evening (or possibly Monday by Noon)
There is a lot going on this month so stand by for What's on tap!

IRISH COMMUNITY LISTINGS ARE FREE!!

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For all other links/listings & ad info:

Contact Jim at
Jim@pubguide.com

EZ to ENTER & WIN

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irishmissive@gmail.com We are giving away Lunasa and
St.Patricks Day in Ireland tickets in March!

www.irishartsandentertainment.com

SEEKING SUBMISSIONS

Our new Travel & Tours Section is interested in hearing from you if you want to write about your Irish Travels.

Send us your ideas and time frame.

irishmissive @gmail.com

www.irishartsandentertainment.com



IRISH ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT TRIVIA LISTINGS

PUB QUIZES & TRIVIA

Mondays

The Auld Dubliner
Every Monday we host Trivia Night, gather your friends and come in to compete and enjoy a pint.
71 Pine St. Long Beach, CA
www.aulddubliner.com

O'Brien's Irish Pub
Trivia Nights are Mondays and Wednesdays
Monday starts at 8PM till 10:30PM
WED: 8PM to 10PM Form a team or try to form one at the pub.
Play for cash prizes of $150. No entry fee
2226 Wilshire Santa Monica, CA
www.obriensla.com

Wednesdays

Ye Olde King's Head British Pub & Restaurant
Trivia in the pub at 7:30pm
116 Santa Monica Bl Santa Monica, CA
www.yeoldekingshead.com

Robin Hood British Pub

Trivia Night: "English Style" Pub Quiz every Tuesday night starting at 8:00 PM.

Reviewers frequently highlight the authentic, wood-paneled interior and the friendly, neighborhood atmosphere.

3640 Burbank Blvd,
Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks, CA

www.robinhoodbritishpub.com

Links & Listings Wanted Send to
irishmissive@gmail.com or through our website:
www.irishartsandentertainment.com

THE IRISH OUTREACH CENTER
25 YEARS

The Irish Outreach Center
Serving the Irish Community in Southern California

https://irishoutreachcenter.org

MEDIA KIT INFO

We invite you to Advertise With Us

Our new Media Kit is available if you are interested in advertising or promoting your business or event with us. Our proven 30 plus year track record speaks for itself when it comes to great value with our niche market publication!

We really have no equal.

Now in addition to our effective and well respected publication; our team has mastered Digital Marketing and we can enhance your outreach for a very cost effective rate.

The digital age has been good to us and we have been able to prosper and grow our subscriber base. We will have final details soon on our expansion plans and our Affiliate Programs. We are also going to enhance our Very Irish Perks and start a new series of very exciting Drawings and Contests!

This month, many more events are on tap than usual because it is March, then the Fairs and Festival Season is almost here and then we will be doing Special issues for Halloween and for Christmas!

Contact us for a Special Offer:
951 216-1493

IRISH LANGUAGE *An Ghaeilge*

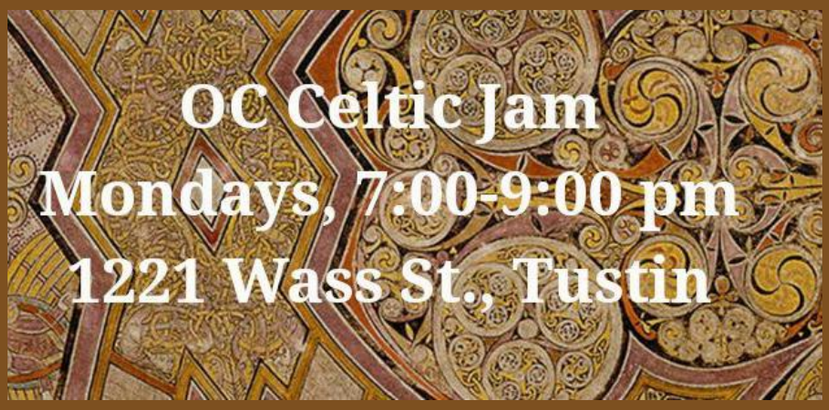
The View From Ireland Feature last year about the Irish Language by our great friend and Irish Arts and Entertainment columnist Maurice Fitzpatrick really resonated with us. We use the months of the year in each issue but our collective Irish is very limited.

In fact, working on the folio (the top of each page) recently, I forgot the word for October in Irish and had to look it up. I found this really interesting YouTube video and share the link below.

I would like to change my lack of Irish too. so starting now and in future issues, we will be offering our readers a few words or phrases in our Mother Language.

Also, if you are in the LA area,the Celtic Arts Center has ongoing Irish lessons. As we expand around the US, we will add more such links. More on this project in coming issues.

CLICK ICON FOR
A QUICK LESSON



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Check our FACEBOOK PAGES for Daily Updates:

Irish Arts & Entertainment PubGuide E News LA County Irish Events

Like Like Like

VERY IRISH PERKS VIP GROUP

All subscribers become members of our VIP Group.

Currently we are offering some really good promotions and we will add more for March, 2026

At Present:

O'Brien's On Wilshire in Santa Monica will give our subscribers a Free Appetizer with purchase.
www.obriensla.com

Go to the menu click here

An amazing offer for our own VIP Members and Subscribers! Buy a GIFT SUBSCRIPTION between now and December 31st, 2026 and we will give you a FREE ONE YEAR EXTENSION on your own subscription.
LIFETIME Subscribers get a second Gift Subscription instead.

Irish Arts & Entertainment's
VERY IRISH PERKS (VIP) PRIMER

The VIP program is a very important component of our subscription program. It has a multitude of positive factors built into the program. It serves as a bonus/reward system for spending hard cold cash on our publication AND it is a good networking tool for the Publisher. We are able to attract subscribers and advertisers to our publication and keep them interested while delivering great Irish content and information to our readers. The advertisers benefit by having a readership interested in our exciting niche market and they can target our readers with special offers.
We need volume makes it worthwhile for them to participate so subscription prices are low!

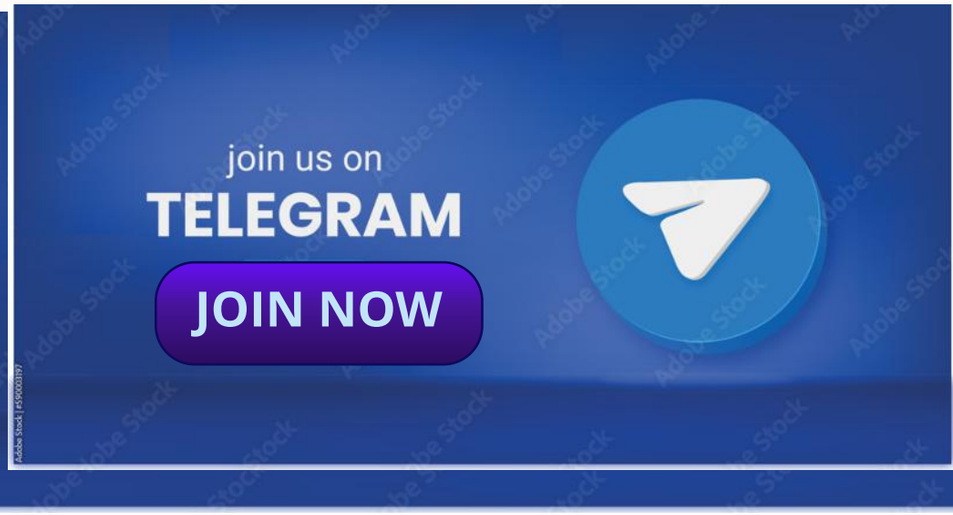
The Pandemic and subsequent societal turmoil set us all back a bit in one way or another and we are rebuilding our VIP benefits package. We were counting on discounts and deals at pubs and events but that plan is now on the back burner as there are fewer Irish events and pubs in SoCal now. We need volume to make the discounts practical. In the meantime, we are working hard to line up new offers for our subscribers. We have some very good deals and 2 for 1 offers that are exclusive for our subscribers!
We offer them to Subscribers Only. One VIP, offer now as it makes a great gift; Buy ONE SUB at $25. and get a Gift Subscription or second year free.

We are expanding and we are using new and improved methods for reaching out to our readers!

We have set up a new affiliated Irish Arts & Entertainment Channel on Telegram.

We also have updated our Website.

www.irishartsandentertainment.com



Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones

March 2026 USA Tour

1st March - The Celtic Junction Arts Center - St Paul - MN

3rd March - Killarney House - Davidsonville - MD

4th March - Killarney House - Davidsonville - MD

5th March - St Christophers Church - Hobe Sound - Florida

6th March - The Averitt Center For The Arts - Statesboro - GA

7th March - Burlington County St Patrick's Day Parade - Mount Holly - NJ

8th March - Donovan's Irish Bar & Venue - Holyoke - MA

10th March - The Plough & The Stars - Philadelphia - PA

11th March - Lily Flanagan's - Babylon - NY

12th March - Connolly's Charlotte - Charlotte - NC

14th March - Paddy Fest St. Pete - St Petersburg - FL

15th March - Paddy Fest St. Pete - St Petersburg - FL

16th March - Culhanes Irish Pub - Jacksonville - FL

17th March - McGinley's Golden Ace St Patrick's Day Festival 2026 - Indianapolis - IN

Ticket Sales & Info: www.theyoungwolfetones.com/tour-dates

Also available via every venue