

## Cairde Ceoil Oirghialla

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## Dátaí do do Dhialann

*Love and Information* by Caryl Churchill, performance by BA Theatre and Film Practice Students, 20-22 November 2018, MacAnna Theatre, DkIT, 1.10pm

Annual Christmas Concert with DkIT Choir, Fr McNally Chamber Orchestra and Guests, 13 December 2018, St Oliver Plunkett Church, Blackrock, 7.30pm

## Buíochas

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Louth County Council, Creative Ireland, Louth PPN, Paul Hayes and the team at An Táin Arts Centre, CTI Business Solutions, Inisfree Dancing Shoes, Derek Farrell, Alphie Mulligan, Alice Hoey, Karen Cumiskey, Orla Kelleher, Dara Larkin, Sarah Mc Gauley.

## Eolas

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An Roinn Cultúir,  
Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta  
Department of Culture,  
Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Clár Éire Ildánach  
Creative Ireland  
Programme  
2017 - 2022



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

# Oirghialla Oscailte

le Ensemble Cheoil Traidisiúnta ITDD

agus Oriel Traditional Orchestra

curtha i láthair ag

Roinn na nEalaíon Cruthaitheach, Meán agus  
Ceoil, ITDD



14ú Samhain 2018

Amharclann An Táin

Dún Dealgan



An Roinn Cultúir,  
Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta  
Department of Culture,  
Heritage and the Gaeltacht



DUNDALK  
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA  
DHÚN DEALGAN

## Fáiltiú

On behalf of the Department of Creative Arts, Media and Music may I extend a warm welcome to you all to tonight's concert *Oirghialla Oscailte* in collaboration with the Oriel Traditional Orchestra.

The Oriel region has been a rich cultural area for centuries and the evidence of connections beyond the region are evident. Notable figures include Sligo-born fiddle player John Joe Gardiner who settled here and influenced many musicians in the second half of the twentieth century. Local musicians regularly travel to perform all over the world and in 2018 Drogheda hosted Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann, welcoming visitors to the region to experience the wonderful music and heritage of the area.

Historically artists, poets, composers and musicians have enriched the cultural heritage of the region and at DkIT we pride ourselves in preserving and promoting this heritage. Tonight's concert is one such example and is a celebration of just some of the richness of music and song from our environs and the broader influences from which we can draw.

Performing tonight are members of the DkIT Traditional Music Ensemble under the direction of Dr Daithí Kearney. The membership of the ensemble is drawn mostly from the BA (Hons) Applied Music, one of the many creative and innovative programmes which we offer to students in the Department of Creative Arts, Media and Music where we aim to be a proactive centre of teaching and learning, research and performance. The DkIT Traditional Ensemble are a key performing group in the Department and have been instrumental in raising the profile of the Institute on an international stage including performances at Speyfest in Scotland during the summer, supported by Culture Ireland GB18.

We are delighted to be joined by one of the ensembles-in-residence at DkIT, the Oriel Traditional Orchestra. The OTO has quickly developed and established itself as an intergenerational community orchestra that brings musicians together from across the region. Their programme tonight demonstrates their commitment to the music of the Oriel region and the celebration of local composers, collectors and researchers. We are grateful to all of the members who give their time generously and who join us tonight.

A special word of thanks also to Paul Hayes and the team at An Táin Arts Centre, with whom we are delighted to collaborate on a number of events and projects and we look forward to developing this further into the future.

Gabhaim buíochas le gach duine atá ag glacadh páirte sa cheolchoirm anocht agus le gach duine a chabhraigh lena n-eagraíocht. Ta súil agam go mbainfidh sibh sult as an gceol.

**Dr Adèle Commins**

**Head of Department of Creative Arts, Media and Music**

**Ceannasaí Roinn na nEalaíon Cruthaitheach, Meán agus Ceoil**



## Department of Creative Arts, Media and Music

### Dundalk Institute of Technology



#### Cláracha Acadúla i gCeoil agus Meán Cruthaitheach Academic Programmes in Music and Creative Media

**BA (Hons) in Applied Music**

**BA (Hons) in Communications in Creative Media**

**BA (Hons) in Film and Television Production**

**BA (Hons) in Production of Music and Audio**

**BA in Media Arts and Technologies**

**BA in Theatre and Film Practice**

**MA/PgDip in Traditional Music Studies**

**MA/MSc/PgDip in Music Technology**

**Diploma in Composing for Games**

**Certificate in Entrepreneurship in the Creative Industries**

**Certificate in Sound Design and Implementation for Interactive Media**

**Certificate in Data Wrangling and Digital Imaging**

**Certificate in Irish Traditional Music**

**MA/MSc by Research**

**PhD by Research**

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# Oriel Traditional Orchestra

The Oriel Traditional Orchestra is a cross-border community orchestra whose members come from Louth, Meath, Monaghan and Armagh and focus on Irish traditional music repertoire from the region arranged especially for the orchestra. The orchestra have performed locally in Co. Louth, as well as Youghal, Co. Cork, at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in Drogheda and the Gerry Whelan Weekend in Cootehill, Co. Cavan.

The OTO performs repertoire from and inspired by the Oriel region with new compositions by members and local composers. Their repertoire includes music from Meath born harper-composer Turlough O'Carolan (1670–1738), South Armagh fiddle player Josephine Keegan (b.1935), and Louth composers Adèle Commins and Daithí Kearney. They also perform music by Brian O'Kane (b.1939) from Ballybay, Co. Monaghan, which he performed with the Siamsa Céilí Band from Dundalk, as well as tunes from local collections. To date, the repertoire has also included music sourced to the Luke Donnellan collection, which formed part of Pádraigín Ní Uallacháin's seminal study *The Hidden Ulster* (2003) and local fiddle player Gerry O'Connor's MA dissertation at Dundalk Institute of Technology (2006). The orchestra has also sought to include new compositions by its members and to date this has included a set from composers and directors Daithí Kearney and Adèle Commins from their album and collection *A Louth Lilt* (2017) and a new set from member Philip McGuinness. As the group develops, it is planned to include some songs from the rich Oriel tradition that has been researched by Pádraigín Ní Uallacháin and some of the region's harp music, which is currently being researched by MA student Sylvia Crawford at DkIT.

The developing relationship between the OTO and Centre for Creative Arts Research at DkIT highlights the shared themes and goals of the members and provides opportunity for a sharing of research, expertise, space and performances. As well as regular performances in the local area, researchers from CARC and the Department of Creative Arts, Media and Music have developed a strong international profile and brought the music of Oriel to audiences globally. DkIT was the first Irish performing group to participate in the International Society for Music Education Conference when it was held in Brazil in 2014, appearing again in Glasgow in 2016. Researchers regularly present their research at Academic Conferences and for other audiences and are

delighted to collaborate with the Oriel Traditional Orchestra. Research projects include the collation and transcription of the music of Brian O'Kane by Dr Daithí Kearney at DkIT, some of which has been arranged for both *Ceol Orghialla* and the OTO. Research on Josephine Keegan undertaken at DkIT will shortly be published as a contribution to a significant work on women and music in Ireland. Other ongoing projects focus on Rory Kennedy and the Siamsa Céilí Band.



## Clár

Bruce's Address	Air / Strathspey / March (attr. R. Burns)
The Shy Octopus / Farewell to Fochabers	Strathspey (D. Kearney) / Khoro (D. Kearney)
The Luachrachán/ The Mist on the Mountain	Jigs (J. Crehan)
The Portumna Workhouse / The Musical Priest	March (J. Madden) / Reel (Trad.)
The Hill of Thieves	Song (C. Dillon)
Brid Óg Ní Mháille	Amhrán (Trad.)
The Dutchman	Song (M. Smith)
Fiddler's Green	Song (J. Connolly)
The Kerry Recruit	Song (Trad.)
Fest Noz / Laridé à Six Temps	Rideé (N. Quemener and Y. Lefebvre) / Rideé (Trad.)
Farewell to Catskills	Waltz (J. Madden)
Pound a Week Rise / The Finnish Polka	Song (E. Pickford) / Polka (Trad.)
Lady Louth / The Louth Election / The Mulacrew	Reels (Trad.)

## SOS

Porto Alegre's Dream 2 / The Bus Ticket / The Priest's Polka	Polkas (A. Commins / D. Kearney / D. Kearney)
The Job of Journeywork	Set Dance (Trad.)
Roslin Castle	Air (J. Oswald)
The Shores of Lough Major	March (B. O'Kane)
Carolan's Welcome	Planxty (T. O'Carolan)
The Rose in the Gap	March / Reel (Trad.)
Blissful in Byrnes' / The Last Hill in Leinster	Reels (P. McGuinness)
Sporting Paddy	Reel (Trad.)

## Nótaí ar an gCeol

Tonight's concert is a celebration of the musical heritage of the Oriel region and marks the coming together of two pillars in the artistic community in the region, the Oriel Traditional Orchestra and Dundalk Institute of Technology. The music reflects both old and new with reference to the local and global, reminding us that music is both timeless and beyond boundaries. Through the music and related stories, we explore our connections to place and to each other.

The first half of the concert features musicians from DkIT, many of whom are studying on the BA (Hons) Applied Music programme. Their arrangements are both old and contemporary and range from tunes associated with local musicians as collected by Dundalk fiddle player and DkIT graduate Gerry O'Connor (b.1958), new compositions by Louth composers and others in the Irish tradition, and repertoire from related traditions including Scotland and Brittany. Those connections are reinforced when we remember that it is 700 years since the Battle of Faughart (1318) when Edward de Bruce, who had been crowned King of Ireland in Dundalk, was killed. 'Bruce's Address' is adapted from a melody associated with Robert Burns' poem of 1793 recalling Edward's brother, Robert and the Battle of Bannockburn (1314). A version is also found in the Luke Donnellan Collection, sourced here to Gerry O'Connor's *The Rose in the Gap* (2018).

The programme also includes two jigs from Clare fiddle player Junior Crehan (1908–1998) and two pieces from American flute and whistle player Joannie Madden (b.1965), the latter composed for the Catskills Irish Arts Week, which is approaching its 25th year. 'The Shy Octopus' and 'Farewell to Fochabers' were composed for friends at Speyfest, in the north east of Scotland, where DkIT have visited to perform on two occasions to date.

The lyrics of the chosen songs trace a variety of themes including memory, connection to place and a world beyond. 'The Hill of Thieves' reminds us of Cúchulainn who fought on the plains hereabout. 'The Dutchman' reminds us of the value of memory and the depth of love while 'Bríd Óg Ní Mháile' celebrates the most beautiful girl in Oriel. Although referring to the Crimean War (1853–1856), 'The Kerry Recruit' reminds us of the Kerryman Austin Stack who was imprisoned in Dundalk Gaol in November 1917 and led a hunger strike there. 'Pound a Week Rise' was written in 1962 and mirrors the sentiments of many union songs whose messages remain current throughout the decades.

The Oriel Traditional Orchestra open their programme with a set of polkas by DkIT composers Dr Adèle Commins and Dr Daithí Kearney, followed by an arrangement of 'The Job of Journeywork'. 'Roslin Castle' is a composition of Scottish composer James Oswald but, as noted in Pádraigin Ní Uallacháin's seminal study on the music of Oriel *A Hidden Ulster*, it is also part of the Patrick

McGahon collection from Dundalk. DkIT was proud to honour Monaghan musician and composer Brian O'Kane in 2017 and the orchestra, which includes a number of members of Brian's family, continue to perform his music. Reaching into Co. Meath, the OTO are proud to perform the music of Turlough O'Carolan (1670–1738). Born in Nobber, O'Carolan is one of the most iconic and best known composers in the Irish tradition. From the old to the new, the OTO is delighted to include two recent compositions by member and DkIT lecturer Philip McGuinness, which are inspired by the local area. These are followed by two tunes learned from local fiddle player Gerry O'Connor, who recently published a book *The Rose in the Gap*, based on research completed at DkIT on the Luke Donnellan Collection and other sources of Irish traditional music. The final set is a well-known reel found in that collection, 'Sporting Paddy', also found in the Donnellan Collection.

### ***Ceol Oirghialla* Traditional Ensemble**

Directed by Dr Daithí Kearney

Conor Bogue, Ciara Brannigan, David Boyle, Jonathon Collins, Thomas Hughes, Daithí Kearney, Megan Kierans, Friederike Lenz, Brian McHale, Caoimhe McKivergern, Calvin McManus, Jane Meehan, Míceál Mullen, Daniel O'Driscoll, Ryan Phelan, Seán Thornton, Conor Walsh.

### **Oriel Traditional Orchestra**

Directed by Dr Adèle Commins, Noreen Morgan McManus, Róisín Ward Morrow and Dr Daithí Kearney

Uta Bean Uí Almháin, Katie Boyle, Orla Brannigan, Miriam Campbell, Valerie Campbell, Mary Capplis, Lauren Carr, Yvonne Cassidy, Caroline Colwell, Adèle Commins, Gráinne Connolly, Rachel Connolly, Liliana Coyle, Peter Coyle, Grace Cunningham, Ciaran De Bhál, Rene De Kat, Gráinne Duffy, Jimmy Farrelly, Sinéad Finnegan, Mairéad Fitzpatrick, Áine Fox, Amy Gainford, Maria Gartlan, Frank Gernon, Kate Gorman, Taryn Green, Sinéad Hanlon, Muireann Harraghy, Mary Kate Harten, Davina Hearty, Leah Hughes, Liam Hughes, Michaela Hughes, Niall Hughes, Daithí Kearney, Anthony Keenan, Rosemarie Kelly, Emma Kiernan, Fionnuala Kirby, Lucia Lambe, Helen Leahy, Noeleen Mangan, Mairéad Markey, Orlaith Markey, Isabelle Martin, Kerri Martin, Lauren Martin, Talitha Matthews, Louise McGinnity, Catriona McArdle, Kerriane McArdle, Riain McArdle, Sharon McArdle, Grainne McCabe, Michelle McCloskey, Oliver McCloskey, Rita McCloskey, Finian McCluskey, Sophia McConnon, Aoife McEvoy, Philip McGuinness, Dearbhla McGurk, Aisling McKenna, Vincent McKenna, Noreen Morgan McManus, Amy Mellon, Alannah Murphy, Olive Murphy, Freddie Ní Almháin, Sinead Nutley, Christina O'Boyle, Darragh O'Heiligh, Don O'Kane, Emma O'Kane, Louise O'Kane, Sarah O'Kane, Brendan O'Sullivan, Eamonn O'Sullivan, Elaine O'Sullivan, Cara Pilbeam, Ciara Quigley, Lorraine Quigley, Conall Quinn, Dearbhla Quinn, Jane Quinn, Ella Rafferty, Cadhle Rodgers, Mary Rogan, Grace Ruxton, Jane Ruxton, Áine Scott, Caroline Walsh, Ceola Walsh, Elana Walsh, Martina Walsh, Seán Walsh, Claire Ward, Róisín Ward Morrow, Geraldine Whelan, Kevin Wynne