

National Tours



Cello Quartet: William Butt, Rosalie Curlett, Martin Johnson & Ailbhe McDonagh

12 — 21 May 2021 €10 Watch online

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Four masterful cellists perform together in an exciting new Music Network collaboration.

With its sonorous tone, swan-like elegance and an expressive range that gives the human voice a run for its money, no other instrument manages to play on our heart strings quite like the cello.

Performing together for the very first time and guided by their collective musical influences, William Butt, Rosalie Curlett, Martin Johnson and Ailbhe McDonagh have crafted an inspirational and varied programme which celebrates the beauty of their instrument.

Audiences can look forward to marvellous arrangements of works by Bach, Beethoven and Bartók, Mozart's beautiful Ave verum corpus, a fiery exchange between two cellos in Barrière's popular Sonata, as well as Debussy's uberromantic Clair de lune and Gershwin's jazz-infused favourite "Summertime". Contemporary music for this unusual combination is well catered for in Ailbhe McDonagh's own Cellango and in An Autumn Night's Dream, a new Music Network commission by Conor Linehan.

Along with this beautiful programme of music, viewers will hear from the musicians in interviews hosted by Music Network's CEO Sharon Rollston, and composer Conor Linehan will introduce his new work in a short Composer Insight Session during the broadcast.

Dates & Venues

Wednesday I2 May - 7.30pm Music Network

Thursday I3 May - 7.30pm Waterford Music

Friday I4 May - 8.30pm The Courthouse Arts Centre

Sunday 16 May - 8pm Riverbank Arts Centre

Wednesday 19 May - 8pm St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre

Thursday 20 May - 7pm Linenhall Arts Centre

Friday 21 May - 8pm glór

10 String Symphony

26 May — II July 2021 €10 Watch online

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Described as "The newest and most promising voices in Americana" by NPR, 10 String Symphony is a collaboration between Grammy-nominated fiddle player Christian Sedelmyer and acclaimed songwriter and multiinstrumentalist Rachel Baiman.

Rachel Baiman (fiddle, banjo, vocals) Christian Sedelmyer (fiddle, vocals)

10 String Symphony have recorded a stunning high definition concert specially for Irish audiences, all the way from Nashville's legendary Station Inn.

Take ten strings, add two compelling voices and one shared sense of social justice, and what you've got is a dynamic and quietly authoritative duo in the best tradition of Guthrie and Seeger. Christian Sedelmyer and Rachel Baiman are artists firmly rooted in the old-timey Americana tradition, but with musical explorations that carry them fearlessly into the present moment, creating songs and sound worlds that are immediate and compelling.

These are musicians whose prime inspiration is our world and how we live in it. Through their musicianship, they engage with life, art, nature, and global challenges in ways that are variously warm, humorous and thought-provoking. They are champions of change, and though just two in number, their impact is massively amplified by their brilliant use of technology and skilful arrangements. These are truly musicians of our time.

Dates & Venues

Wednesday 26 May - 7.30pm Music Network

Thursday 27 May - 8pm The Dock

Friday 28 May - 8.30pm The Courthouse Arts Centre

Saturday 29 May - 8pm Siamsa Tíre

Wednesday 2 Jun - 8pm Belltable

Friday 4 Jun - 8pm Garter Lane Theatre

Saturday 5 Jun - 8pm glór

Wednesday 9 Jun - 7pm National Opera House

Thursday 10 Jun - 8pm Riverbank Arts Centre

Friday II Jun - 8pm Ionad Cultúrtha, Baile Mhúirne

Sunday II Jul - 8pm Cairde Sligo Arts Festival

Patrick Rafter and Fiachra Garvey

I6 June — I July 2021 €10 Watch online

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Violinist Patrick Rafter and pianist Fiachra Garvey join forces to present a stunning programme of music by Franck, Fauré, Ysaÿe and Emma O'Halloran.

"I'll get my coat!" cried Patrick Rafter when Maxim Vengerov phoned to invite him to study with him in Switzerland, and since then, Patrick's diary has been stuffed with performance dates with some of the most prestigious orchestras and conductors in the world. Kilkenny born, he swapped his hurl for a bow, and his swift rise to being one of Ireland's finest musicians is no surprise given his innate musicianship, his dazzling technique and his passion.

Fiachra Garvey is possessed of a maturity and profound understanding of his art, which when combined with his infectious enthusiasm for music-making, has already captivated audiences in concert halls across Europe and beyond.

Patrick and Fiachra have planned a beautifully-ethereal programme, with works by Fauré, Franck and Ysaÿe presented alongside the world premiere of a new Music Network commission by Emma O'Halloran.

Along with this beautiful programme of music, viewers will hear from the musicians in interviews hosted by Music Network's CEO Sharon Rollston, and composer Emma O'Halloran will introduce her new work in a short Composer Insight Session during the broadcast.

Individually, Patrick and Fiachra are stellar musicians who are making a significant mark on the international stage. Together, their performance on this digital tour promises to more than clear the very high bar that these young musicians have set for themselves.

Dates & Venues

Wednesday 16 Jun - 7.30pm Music Network

Thursday I7 Jun - 7.30pm Waterford Music

Friday 18 Jun - 8pm Ionad Cultúrtha, Baile Mhúirne

Sunday 20 Jun - 8pm Riverbank Arts Centre

Wednesday 23 Jun - 7pm National Opera House

Thursday 24 Jun - 8pm Pavilion Theatre

Sunday 27 Jun - 4pm Music in Kilkenny

Wednesday 30 Jun - 7pm Linenhall Arts Centre

Thursday I Jul - 8pm Siamsa Tíre

Iarla Ó Lionáird, Úna Monaghan & Kevin Murphy

I — 19 September 2021 €12-25 (booking fee may apply) Roscommon, Drogheda, Limerick, Castlebar, Carrick-on-Shannon, Dublin, Ennis, Portlaoise, Cork, Newbridge, Dún Laoghaire, Listowel, Clifden, London, Belfast, Sligo.



You won't want to miss this much-anticipated new Music Network collaboration featuring vocalist Iarla Ó Lionáird, harper and sound artist Úna Monaghan, and cellist Kevin Murphy.

Iarla Ó Lionáird voice Úna Monaghan harp, electronics Kevin Murphy cello

Renowned vocalist and member of supergroup The Gloaming, Iarla Ó Lionáird is one of Ireland's most distinctive voices. A master of the Sean Nós singing tradition, his instinct for seeking out new ideas while guiding songs along gorgeous musical pathways distinguishes him as a true pioneer.

Úna Monaghan is a highly respected harper and sound artist, who mines her degree in astrophysics for musical inspiration and constantly challenges the boundaries of her instrument using electronic technologies.

Slow Moving Clouds' cellist Kevin Murphy, a skilled collaborator who has been the inspiration behind many imaginative projects, will join Monaghan and Ó Lionáird in what promises to be a truly memorable series of performances.

Music Network has commissioned the trio to collectively write a new work which will be premiered as part of the concert programme.

Dates & Venues

Wednesday I Sep - 8pm Roscommon Arts Centre, Roscommon

Thursday 2 Sep - 8pm Droichead Arts Centre, Drogheda

Friday 3 Sep - 8pm Lime Tree Theatre, Limerick

Saturday 4 Sep - 8pm Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar

Sunday 5 Sep - 5pm The Dock Summer Sessions at The Market Yard, Carrick-On-Shannon

Tuesday 7 Sep - 7.30pm St. Ann's Church, Dawson Street, Dublin 2

Wednesday 8 Sep - 8pm glór, Ennis

Thursday 9 Sep - 8pm Dunamaise Arts Centre, Portlaoise

Friday 10 Sep - 8pm Triskel Christchurch, Cork (Triskel Arts Centre)

Saturday II Sep - 8pm Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge

Sunday I2 Sep - 8pm Pavilion Theatre, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday I4 Sep - 8pm St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre, Listowel

Wednesday I5 Sep - 8pm St. Joseph's Church, Clifden (Clifden Arts Festival)

Friday 17 Sep - 7.30pm Grand Junction, London (Irish Music and Dance in London)

Saturday 18 Sep - 7.30pm The MAC, Belfast (Moving on Music)

Sunday 19 Sep - 8pm Hawk's Well Theatre, Sligo

Mairéad Hickey & Agnès Clément

7 October — 13 November 2021 Baile Mhürne, Cork, Tinahely, Dún Laoghaire, Stradbally, Dublin, Waterford, Kilkenny, Clifden, Paris



A captivating new duo featuring the celebrated Irish violinist Mairéad Hickey and the acclaimed French harpist Agnès Clément.

Mairéad Hickey violin Agnès Clément harp

Like coffee and cake, fish and chips or Fred and Ginger, some pairings just can't be topped. The exquisite combination of violin and harp is most definitely a match made in heaven, and no more so than in this new Music Network collaboration between Irish violinist Mairéad Hickey and French harpist Agnès Clément.

Celebrated for her captivating expression, soaring tone and fearless virtuosity, Mairéad Hickey's natural ability to communicate sincerely, and with beauty and integrity has entranced audiences worldwide. Agnès Clément is recognised as a musician of exceptional talent whose astonishing virtuosity alongside an ability to deliver performances brimming with fullblooded passion has won her widespread acclaim.

Featuring a beautiful selection of music by Bach, Saint-Saëns, Massenet, Viardot, Renié, Spohr (the inventor of the violin chin rest no less!) and a brand new Music Network commission by John McLachlan, their programme will delight and enthral music lovers around the country.

Composer John McLachlan will present a Composer Insight Session during the final concert of the tour at Station House Theatre, Clifden on 16 October.



Dates & Venues

Thursday 7 Oct - 8pm Ionad Cultúrtha, Baile Mhúirne

Friday 8 Oct - 8pm Triskel Christchurch, Cork

Saturday 9 Oct - 8.30pm The Courthouse Arts Centre, Tinahely

Sunday 10 Oct - 8pm Pavilion Theatre, Dún Laoghaire

Tuesday 12 Oct - 7pm The Malt House, Stradbally

Wednesday 13 Oct - 7.30pm St. Ann's Church, Dawson Street, Dublin 2

Thursday I4 Oct - 7.30pm Garter Lane Arts Centre, Waterford

Friday 15 Oct - 7pm St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny

Saturday I6 Oct - 8pm Station House Theatre, Clifden

Saturday I3 Nov - 6pm (French time) Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris

Kit Downes' Dreamlife of Debris

19 — 26 October 2021 Letterkenny, Newbridge, Dublin, Tinahely, Portlaoise, Cork, Dún Laoghaire

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An unmissable opportunity to hear Kit Downes' highly anticipated and critically acclaimed album Dreamlife of Debris in concert.

Kit Downes piano, organ* Tom Challenger tenor saxophone Lucy Railton cello Sebastian Rochford drums

The wandering mind is a curious thing, and Kit Downes' Dreamlife of Debris explores its tangents and threads, subtleties and secrets in this stunning project inspired by W. G. Sebald's The Rings of Saturn novel. There is a suitably zero gravity feel to this music, buoyant, orbital, full of whorls and tendrils and utterly bewitching.

Kit's playing is highly original and personal, his solo church organ album Obsidian being one of the most remarkable ECM albums of recent years. His three co-navigators on this voyage of discovery are all world-class improvising musicians and their inflight conversation invites us into a world of restless melody, crisp rhythmic jousting, and a luminous palette of sonic colour and texture. Garnering major attention worldwide, this is an inspired, highly anticipated and critically acclaimed album, already a must-have on the shelves of anyone who is curious about or in love with intelligent, beautiful music.

The concert in Triskel Christchurch is presented by Music Network in association with Triskel Arts Centre at Guinness Cork Jazz Festival.

Dates & Venues

Tuesday 19 Oct - 8pm Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny

Wednesday 20 Oct - 8pm Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge

Thursday 2I Oct - 7.30pm St. Ann's Church, Dawson Street, Dublin 2

Friday 22 Oct - 8.30pm The Courthouse Arts Centre, Tinahely

Saturday 23 Oct - 7pm Dunamaise Arts Centre, Portlaoise

Sunday 24 Oct - 8pm Triskel Christchurch, Cork

Tuesday 26 Oct - 8pm Pavilion Theatre, Dún Laoghaire

Tamsin Waley-Cohen and George Fu

I7 — 24 November 202I Tickets €5-€20 Dún Laoghaire, Waterford, Ennis, Birr, Baile Mhúirne, Dublin

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Bringing intelligence and sensitivity to anything they tackle, this charismatic violin and piano duo have a passion for discovering new music and reinvigorating the old.

Tamsin Waley-Cohen violin George Fupiano

Widely praised for her expressive and strikingly individual performances, Tamsin Waley-Cohen has performed as a soloist and chamber musician in many of the world's great concert halls. An adventurous and prolific recording artist, her recent recording of Beethoven Violin Sonatas on the Signum Classics label has received widespread critical acclaim.

Described by the Boston Music Intelligencer as a "heroic piano soloist" with "stunning virtuosity", American pianist George Xiaoyuan Fu has established an international reputation as a captivating musician with distinctive intelligence and sensitivity. Passionate about the creation of new work, he is also a composer and an avid performer of contemporary music.

This phenomenal duo will present a programme that includes the F-A-E Sonata, uniquely co-authored by three great 19th century composers, Stravinsky's exquisite Duo Concertant, Beethoven's much loved 'Kreutzer' sonata and Release, a Music Network commission written by New York-based Irish composer Finola Merivale.

Dates & Venues

Wednesday 17 Nov - 8pm Pavilion Theatre, Dún Laoghaire

Thursday 18 Nov - 7.30pm Garter Lane Arts Centre, Waterford

Friday 19 Nov - 8pm glór, Ennis

Saturday 20 Nov - 8pm Birr Theatre & Arts Centre, Birr

Tuesday 23 Nov - 8pm Ionad Cultúrtha, Baile Mhúirne

Wednesday 24 Nov - 7.30pm St. Ann's Church, Dawson Street, Dublin 2