

**ENNIS, CO. CLARE - INIS, CO AN CHLÁIR**  
**MAY 20 – 28 BEALTAINÉ, 2012**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CONCERTS AND STAGE SHOWS**

#### **❖ CELEBRITY CONCERT**

***Glór – 8.00 p.m. Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> May***

**THE CELEBRITY CONCERT** at Fleadh Nua ranks as one of the premier events on the Traditional Calendar. And what delights await this year's concert-goers. The first half of the show features the superlative vocal and musical abilities of **MUIREANN NIC AMHLAIOIBH** – a recent recipient of the prestigious TG4 Gradam Ceoil Amhránaí na Bliana. Muireann will be joined on stage by fellow Danú musicians, **LIAM FLANAGAN** on Fiddle and **DÓNAL CLANCY** on Guitar. Audiences at previous Fleadhanna have delighted in the exceptional talents of the musical **MULCAHY FAMILY**. Accordion legend, **MICK** and his gifted multi-instrumentalist daughter, **MICHELLE** make a most welcome return to Ennis at the Celebrity Concert.

And there's more!! For the second half features **THE MÁIRTÍN O'CONNOR BAND** - undoubtedly one of the hottest tickets on the Trad circuit these days. This unique blend combining the verve of **MÁIRTÍN O'CONNOR**, the virtuosity of **CATHAL HAYDEN** and the vibrancy of **SEAMIE O'DOWD** generates a synergy that could power the National Grid – and some. If you think their CD's "*Crossroads*" and "*Going Places*" sound good, wait until you hear them perform live. Tickets cost €15.00 and are available from the Glór box office at [www.glor.ie](http://www.glor.ie)

#### **❖ THE KILFENORA IN CONCERT**

***Glór – 8.00 p.m. Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> May***

Having enjoyed its centenary celebrations only a short few years back, one could easily forgive the musicians of **THE KILFENORA CÉILÍ BAND** for deciding to take smaller steps. However, bearing the mantle of doyen of Ireland's Céilí Bands brings with it certain challenges and responsibilities. A willingness to innovate and to adapt to changing tastes and times has always been the hallmark of the Kilfenora and has enabled it to retain its relevance to the present day. Over the years Fleadh Nua has proved to be an ideal testing ground in the development of the Band's dual rôles of working Céilí Band and accomplished Concert Ensemble. The Band has recently emerged from the recording studios having completed their CD which is entitled: "*Chapter Eight*". This latest addition to the Band's canon of work was produced by acclaimed flute player, Kevin Crawford.

On Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> May the Band will be joined on stage in Glór by singer, **DON STIFFE** who also features on their CD. Ennis' own dance master sans pareil, **MICHAEL DONNELLAN** will also be on hand to prove – as if any proof were



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needed – that the Kilfenora Céilí Band can indeed play for dancers and concert patrons alike. Tickets cost €20.00 and are available from the Glór box office at [www.glor.ie](http://www.glor.ie)

#### ❖ **RICHES OF CLARE FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES** **The County Museum – 1.00 p.m. Monday, 21st to Friday, 25th May**

The County Clare Arts Office has long been a friend to the Traditional Arts Community in the county and to Fleadh Nua in particular. For not only does the Arts Office provide much needed financial assistance, it also devises the superb Riches of Clare Series of Free Lunchtime Concerts. Invariably featuring a veritable who's who of Traditional Musicians, these concerts prove that the best things in life are indeed free. A word of advice, come early as seating is always at a premium.

Monday	Siobhán Peoples, Tola Custy, Patricia Clark and Dessie Kelliher
Tuesday	Tommy Hayes, Christy Barry, Terry Bingham and Brendan Hearty
Wednesday	Andrew MacNamara, Mary MacNamara, Geraldine Cotter and Kate Purcell
Thursday	The Brock McGuire Band
Friday	Kieran Hehir, Kieran Kissane, James Duddy and Tommy Carew

Further information will be available on [www.richesofclare.com](http://www.richesofclare.com)

#### ❖ **AOS ÓG CONCERT** **Glór – 8.00 p.m. on Friday, 25th May**

The intergenerational transmission of oral expressions and performing arts defines our intangible cultural heritage. In an Irish context, this concept is exemplified by the Aos Óg Concert. The artistes are drawn from the Premier League of our younger musicians, singers, dancers and storytellers. Their talent is undoubted and their mettle has been proven in the heat of battle at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann - such is the standard required for participation. The Aos Óg Concert invariably features prominently among visitors' highlights of the Festival and should not be missed. Tickets cost €10.00 and are available from the Box Office in Glór and online at [www.glor.ie](http://www.glor.ie)

#### ❖ **OÍCHE GHAELACH** **Brogan's – 9.30 p.m. Dé Déardaoin, 24 Bealtaine**

Tuigtear go maith gur beatha teanga í a labhairt. Faraoir, ceapann alán daoine nach mbaineann an Ghaeilge leis an ngnáthsaoil taobh amuigh den seomra scoile. Ní ghlacann Comhaltas leis an meon aigne seo ar chur ar bith. Tabharfaidh an Oíche Ghaelach a reachtáilfear 'san teach tábhairne cáiliúil Brogan's ar an nDéardaoin, 24 Bealtaine deis iontach do dhaoine triail a bhaint as a gcuid Gaeilge. Agus 2012 ainmnithe mar Bhliain na Gaeilge ag an gComhaltas, is cúis mhór áthais dúinn go mbeidh Treasa Ní Cheannabháin ó Chill Chiaráin ó dhúchas i láthair



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ar an oíche. Ní h-amháin go bhfuil bua na h-amhránaíochta ar an sean-nós ag Treasa ach cumadóir amhrán is ea í freisin. Leagfar béim ar shiamsaíocht agus comhlúadar ar an oíche.

### ❖ FLEADH NUA FESTIVAL CLUB

*Old Ground Hotel – 12 Midnight Friday, 25th May Beoga and Special Guests*

*Old Ground Hotel – 12 Midnight Saturday, 26th May Tola Custy, Siobhán Peoples, John Kelly, Murty Ryan, and The David Stone Quartet*

Fleadh Nua is running a Festival Club where all proceeds go to Sergio O'Connor <http://www.helpsergio.com> in the Old Ground Hotel. Donal O'Connor, Sergio's father comes from a well-known Dublin family of traditional musicians who have a long and proud association with the Festival. The Festival Club commences on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> May with **BEOGA** – “the most exciting new traditional band to emerge from Ireland this century” in the eyes of Earl Hitchner of the Wall Street Journal – and special guests. The spotlight focuses on Local Musicians on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> May when the line-up includes **TOLA CUSTY, SIOBHÁN PEOPLES, JOHN KELLY, MURTY RYAN, and THE DAVID STONE QUARTET**. The Festival Club will run from 12 Midnight until Late both nights and admission is €15.00.

### ❖ THE CAFÉ SESSIONS PRESENT DONAL LUNNY, PADRAIG RYNNE AND SYLVAIN BAROU

*Temple Gate Hotel – 6.00 p.m. Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> May*

The development of the Fleadh Fringe while of relatively recent origin has greatly enhanced the breadth and depth of the official programme. ‘A stellar line-up’ is the phrase which immediately comes to mind when ones hears that Donal Lunny, Padraig Rynne and Sylvain Barou are performing together. Fleadh Nua is delighted to welcome such world-renowned musicians to Ennis for The Café Session at The Temple Gate Hotel on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> May starting at 6.00 p.m. For further information see [www.facebook.com/thecafesessions](http://www.facebook.com/thecafesessions)

See full event details at [www.fleadhnua.com](http://www.fleadhnua.com)

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