IRISH STUDIES PROGRAM

A Concert of Music, Dance, and Verse to Commemorate
The Easter Rising of 1916

EASTER MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2016
6:30 – 8:45 PM
GASSON HALL 100

KIERAN JORDAN
Kieran Jordan BC ’96 is an internationally recognized performer, teacher, and choreographer of Irish dance. Winner of an Artist Fellowship from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Philadelphia native holds a bachelor’s degree from Boston College, a master’s in contemporary dance performance from the University of Limerick, and certification for teaching Irish dance.

CHARLIE LENNON
Charlie Lennon is one of the most prolific living Irish tune composers and has written some large-scale works with orchestras as well. In 2006, he was named TG4 Composer of the Year. In 1993, Lennon published a book of tunes titled Musical Memories. Some of his most played and recorded tunes include “The Twelve Pins,” “Lennon’s No.4,” “The Smiling Bride,” “The Road to Cashel,” and “The Handsome Young Maidens.” Charlie has also been piano accompanist on over 25 albums. Among them, Omos do Joe Cooley with Paul Brock and Frankie Gavin and The Bucks of Oramore with Joe Burke.

THE MURPHY BEDS: JEFFERSON HAMER & EAMON O’LEARY
The Murphy Beds present traditional and original folk songs with close harmonies and deft instrumental arrangements on bouzouki, guitar, and mandolin. They have performed and collaborated with artists across the folk spectrum including Beth Orton, Bonnie “Prince” Billy, Anais Mitchell, and Sam Amidon.

JIMMY NOONAN
A two-time US Western champion on both the tin whistle and concert flute, Jimmy Noonan has played Irish traditional music for over 35 years and has taught Irish music in the US and Canada for over 15 years, teaching at Boston College since 1996. Noonan has participated in both the Gaelic Roots Festival at Boston College and the Catskills Irish Arts Week and is known as a popular leader of the best Irish music sessions to be found in and around New England. He has performed for Irish Presidents Mary McAleese and Michael D. Higgins, and for Taoiseach Enda Kenny. In 2005, he was elected to the Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Hall of Fame Northeast Region.

CAHAL STEPHENS
Cahal (Cathal) Stephens is an architect, actor, and executive coach with a long association with Boston College. As an architect he was responsible for leading the design teams for the Merkert Chemistry Center, the expansion of Campion Hall, and, later, for Stayer Hall. As an actor, he has collaborated with the Irish Studies Program on many productions related to the work of James Joyce, most recently the symposium, Fundamentally Theosophagusted in April 2015. He is a founding member of the Here Comes Everybody Players.

UNIVERSITY CHORALE OF BOSTON COLLEGE
JOHN FINNEY, DIRECTOR
The University Chorale is a mixed chorus of 140–150 singers and performs a wide variety of both classical and contemporary pieces. In addition to presenting several exciting concerts throughout the school year, the Chorale has the honor of performing with the Boston Pops Orchestra during BC Parents Weekend and traveling to a unique European destination every spring break. This year, the Chorale will be traveling to Budapest, Hungary, and Vienna, Austria, to perform and explore on a week-long tour.
1. Opening: Members of the Boston College Chorale sing the Irish National Anthem in Gaelic
2. The Proclamation of Independence, read by Cahal Stephens*
3. The Chorale sings The Foggy Dew
4. Ryan Duns, S.J., solo performance for 5 minutes
5. The Murphy Beds play for 15 minutes
6. Irish dancing for 10 minutes (led by Kieran Jordan)
7. Cahal Stephens reads W.B. Yeats’ ‘Easter, 1916
8. Regina Delaney plays the harp for 15 minutes
9. A break for 15 minutes
10. Cahal Stephens reads Patrick Pearse’s ‘Mise Éire’ in Irish and in English
11. Charlie Lennon and ensemble play for 20 minutes
12. Cahal Stephens recites the Joseph Mary Plunkett poem ‘I See His Blood Upon the Rose’ and Yeats’s ‘16 Dead Men
13. Seamus Connolly, Jimmy Noonan, and Sheila Falls Keohane play for 15 minutes
14. The Boston College Chamber Music Society plays for 20 minutes
15. Boston College Chorale sings The Fields of France and A Nation Once Again

*Cahal Stephens will act as the Master of Ceremonies for the occasion.

Performer profiles

BOSTON COLLEGE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY
SANDRA HEBERT, DIRECTOR
The BC Chamber Music Society is the umbrella organization for most small ensembles based in the Music Department and includes instrumentalists, pianists, and vocalists. They put on numerous performances throughout the semester and provide music at various University functions. Groups of instrumentalists ranging in size from duos through eight or more players make up Instrumental Chamber Music. All orchestral instruments as well as classical guitar and piano are included. Vocal chamber music encompasses a number of different ensembles that involve singers, both a cappella and with instrumental accompaniment.

SEAMUS CONNOLLY
Musician, teacher, and scholar, Séamus Connolly has attained worldwide recognition as a master traditional Irish musician. In 2002, he was named Traditional Musician of the Year by The Irish Echo and was inducted into the Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Hall of Fame. From 1993–2003, Connolly directed BC’s highly acclaimed Gaelic Roots Summer School and Festival and continued, through 2015, to coordinate the Gaelic Roots Series of concerts and lectures by visiting artists throughout the academic year. Connolly held the Sullivan Artist in Residence Chair at Boston College’s Center for Irish Programs from 2004–2015. In 2013, he was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations in recognition of his distinguished career. That same year, he was also named a National Heritage Fellow by the National Endowment for the Arts. The nation’s highest honor in the folk and traditional arts, the NEA National Heritage Fellowships recognize folk and traditional artists for their artistic excellence and efforts to conserve America’s culture for future generations.

REGINA DELANEY
Regina is a harper, singer, and dancer, specializing in traditional Irish music. In 2005, she founded the New England Irish Harp Orchestra, which she continues to direct. As an artist on the NH State Council on the Arts and the Maine Arts Commission, Regina performs and teaches in schools throughout both states. In the classroom, she introduces students to Irish poetry, music, song, dance, history, and literature. From her home, Regina teaches the harp to students of all ages for the Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Music School and Phillips Exeter Academy. Regina is also a member of NH Arts in Healthcare, bringing her music into hospitals, hospices, and other institutions.

RYAN DUNS, S.J.
Ryan Duns, S.J., is a Jesuit priest and a well-known tin whistle player. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in theology at Boston College.

SHEILA FALLS KEOHANE
Sheila Falls Keohane is a classical Irish violinist, fiddler, composer, recording artist, and music teacher. Her appearances have extended from London to Japan, including performances for two Irish presidents and Prince Albert of Monaco. In addition to her extensive classical music training, including a Tanglewood Music Center Fellowship, Sheila is an accomplished Irish fiddler who captured the All-Ireland Fiddle Championship at age 15. She currently serves as Gaelic Roots Director at Boston College.
RUNNING ORDER, EASTER MONDAY CONCERT

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