



Press Book

from 01.02.2013 to 28.02.2013

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GATHERING FIVE GREAT DAYS OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND A CELEBRATION OF IRISH CULTURE IN KILLARNEY

Pictures: Valerie O'Sullivan

A celebration of ceol, craic, céilís and Irish culture

GATHERING NOW LOOKS AHEAD TO ITS 15th

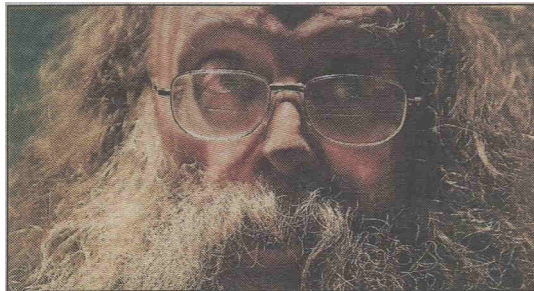
BRENDAN McCARTHY

IT has long established itself as a 'must-attend' event on the Irish cultural calendar and this year was no different in Killarney for 'The Gathering Festival' in the INEC.

Now in its fourteenth year, the original 'Gathering' offers its patrons an extensive programme of events which annually includes a mix of live concerts, set dance classes, instrument workshops and lectures, not to mention

a trip to the heart of traditional music, song and dance in Kerry, Sliabh Luachra, a musical excursion on the Lakes of Killarney and visits to local schools.

Once again, people travelled from all over the globe - Ireland, UK, the Continent, USA and further afield - to experience The Gathering Festival and organisers have declared themselves thrilled with this year's



■ Eddie Lenihan, storyteller, has a captive audience at 'The Gathering' 14th annual traditional Irish music festival in the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, at the weekend.

five-day event from February 20 to 24.

"It was great over the five days," said John O'Shea, "we went to Scartaglin on Wednesday night, visited the schools during the day and everything went according to plan."

"We were happy with the crowds that attended; things have changed but we were very happy with what we got and have no complaints on that score," continued John. "We

had story-telling this year for the first time and that was huge. Ray O'Sullivan and Eddie Lenihan were excellent."

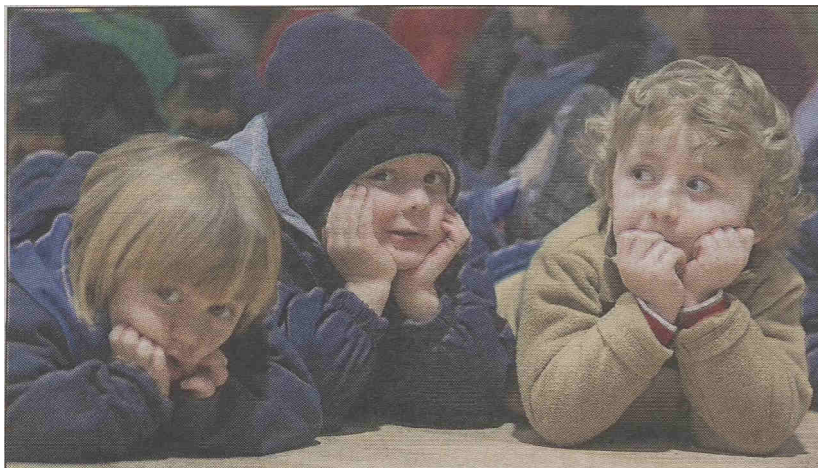
Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Jimmy Deenihan visited the festival on Saturday to witness the extensive programme of events on offer.

"The Minister saw first-hand what was going on and we were delighted that he took time from his very busy programme to attend," said John, "he saw the workshops in action and was impressed with what he saw. We are grateful to our sponsors Killarney Credit Union, Kate Kennelly in the Kerry Arts Office, Killarney Town Council and **IMRO**."

Next year will be the 15th anniversary of the very first festival and though almost 12 months away, patrons can be assured that it will be bigger and better than ever.



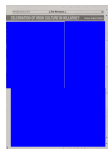
■ Eddie Lenihan, storyteller, doing what he does best as Minister for Arts Tourism and the Gaeltacht Jimmy Deenihan and local seanachai Ray O'Sullivan look on.



■ Jake Dunlea, left, Shayne McCormick and Mikey Morone, pupils at Fossa National School, Killarney, enjoy the traditional music outreach programme.



Timmy 'The Brit' McCarthy, giving set dancing classes at 'The Gathering' 14th annual traditional Irish music festival in the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, at the weekend.



■ Round the house . . . enjoying the Céili Mór at 'The Gathering' 14th annual traditional Irish music festival in the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, at the weekend.



■ Emmet Shanahan and Kieth O'Connor, Lixnaw, at Paudie O'Connor's accordion workshop at 'The Gathering' 14th annual traditional Irish music festival in the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, at the weekend.



■ Accordion player Mike Brosnan, Muckross, Killarney, and Seán Garvey, flute player, Cahersiveen, joining in a session at 'The Gathering' 14th annual traditional Irish music festival in the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, at the weekend.



■ Deirdre Vaughan, Sarah Cronin and Aisling McGillycuddy, Gneeveguilla, enjoying the Céili Mór at 'The Gathering' 14th annual traditional Irish music festival.



■ Timothy McClane and Caoimhe Lehane (above), pupils at Kilcummin National School, joining musicians from the Sliabh Luachra area as part of the 14th Annual Gathering Traditional Music Festival outreach programme while (left) Becci Fleming tries to get a closer look.



An bua ag Le do Thaobh

SA PHICTIÚR ar chlé, tá David Wilkinson agus é ag bronnadh seic €1,000 ar Áine Durkin agus Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh thar ceann **IMRO**.

D'éirigh le Seoirse agus le hÁine, an Comórtas Náisiúnta Amhránaíochta Pan Cheilteach a bhuanachan le gairid – comórtas a bhí urraithe ag **IMRO**. Ghlac 20 iomaítheoir éagsúla ó cheann ceann na tíre páirt sa chomórtas seo, a bhí ar siúl in Óstán an Seven Oaks i gCeatharlach.

Ba í Áine a chum an t-amhrán dar teideal *Le Do Thaobh* agus Seoirse a chas ar an stáitse é. Is é colúnaí *Foinse*, Dáithí Ó Sé, a bhí mar láithreoir ar an geomórtas. Beidh an t-amhrán seo a bhuaigh mar iontráil sa Chomórtas Idirnáisiúnta Pan Cheilteach a bheidh ar siúl i gCeatharlach ón 2-7 Aibreán.



An Poc Fada nominated for **IMRO** Live Music Venue of the Year 2012

Well known local venue An Poc Fada has reached the finals of this years annual **IMRO** "live music" venue of the year awards. The awards are presented by the Irish Music Rights Organisation (**IMRO**) in recognition of Irish music venues that provide the very highest standards in live music entertainment.

Qualifying venues include pubs, hotels, arts centres, theatres, purpose built music venues and many more. The awards acknowledge the central role that live music venues play

in developing and supporting the music community in Ireland. Live music venues provide superb, quality entertainment to the public and a platform for Irish artists across all genres of music. We have also included a Best Live Music Festival Category and a Best Small Live Music Festival Category in the awards programme.

Over 8,000 members of **IMRO** have been busy nominating their favourite Irish venues and festivals. The top 5 venues with the most nominations in each region have been short-listed for

an **IMRO** Live Music Venue of The Year Award. Venues were assessed by Ireland's songwriters, composers and publishers on a number of criteria including general ambience, staging, sound, lighting, diversity of music, artist relations and venue promotion. The Overall **IMRO** National Live Music Venue of the Year Award will be determined by an open public poll which is currently taking place at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/imrovenueawards>. The

winning venues, Best Live Music Festival of the Year and Best Small Live Music Festival will be announced at a special prize giving ceremony, which will take place on Tuesday 26th February. There will also be a special Hot Press Readers Award presented at the event for Hot Press Best Live Music Venue, as voted by the general public, and by readers of Hot Press Magazine. See ajoining flyer for details how to vote for your local venue... please support.



Arts Centre short-listed

WEXFORD ARTS Centre has been short-listed for a prestigious **IMRO** Best Music Venue for rest of Leinster award and could also be in the running for Best Music Venue award and Hot Press readers' choice Music Venue award, depending on how the public votes add up.

The awards will be announced at **IMRO** headquarters in Dublin today and hopefully, the Arts Centre will be among the winners.



Wexford PEOPLE

Arts Centre up for best Leinster venue award

WEXFORD Arts Centre will discover today (Tuesday) if they have won the prestigious **IMRO** Best Music Venue in Leinster award.

The Cornmarket venue's strong live programme earned a nomination for the awards which are presented by the Irish Music Rights Organisation in order to recognise Irish music venues which provide the very highest standards in live music entertainment, including quality of venue stage, lighting and sound, diversity of music programme, artist relations and promotion.

Wexford Arts Centre is shortlisted for the **IMRO** Best Music

Venue in Leinster award (outside Dublin) and is also in the running for the overall Best Music Venue award and Hot Press Readers Choice Music Venue award, depending on how the public votes add up.

Acknowledging the major role which live venues play in sustaining and developing the music community in Ireland, the awards will be announced at **IMRO** headquarters in Dublin today (Tuesday).

Elizabeth Whyte, Director of Wexford Arts Centre, noted, 'It is an honour that Wexford Arts Centre and the team are recognised nationally for its vibrant music

programme and the professional delivery of service to both the artist and the audience.'

Upcoming live music events at Wexford Arts Centre include: Satori Stream's EP Launch on Friday, March 15; Limerick singer/songwriter Johnny Duhan on Friday, April 5; a Miles Davis tribute with Kevin Lawlor on Saturday, April 6; the Caca Milis New Moon Cabaret on Friday, April 12; and Vladmir and Olga Jablovsk's Music for Violin & Piano on Saturday April 13.

Punters can book in advance for all shows. See www.wexfordartscentre.ie for more details.



■ Jack L and Eleanor McEvoy duetting at the Caca Milis Cabaret in Wexford Arts Centre last year.



David Wilkinson thar cheann **IMRO** ag bronnadh €1,000 ar Áine agus Seoirse

Comórtas Pan Cheilteach buaite ag Áine agus Seoirse

Comhghárdeachas le Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh agus Áine Durkin ó Dhún na nGall as an Comórtas Náisiúnta Amhránaíochta Pan Cheilteach a bhuaich. Ghlac 20 iomaitheoir éagsúla ó cheann ceann na tíre pairt sa chomórtas a bhí ar siúl in Ostán an Seven Oaks, Ceatharlach coicís ó shin. Ba í Áine a chum an t-amhrán dar teideal "Le Do Thaobh" agus Seoirse a chas ar an stáitse é. As Conamara ó dhúchas d'Áine ach tá sí ag cur fuithi in Inis Eoghain le blianta. Is scríbhneoir aitheanta í. Tá



Seoirse ag gabháil den cheol le fada an lá agus tá soláthar céirnín agus dlúthdhiosca eisithe aige. Bronnadh €1,000 orthu urraithe ag **IMRO** agus chuir Gael Linn duaiseanna ar fáil do na hamhráin a tháinig sa dara agus sa tríú háit. Seán Ó Sé, Colm Mac Séalaigh agus agus Traic Ó Braonáin a bhí ar an bpainéal moltóireachta.

Bhí caighdeán an-ard agus rogha leathan i measc na n-amhrán a bhí páirteach sa chomórtas agus bhí an pearsa Daithí Ó Sé thar barr mar láitheoir. Ollie Hennessy a bhí ina léitheoir ceoil. Beidh an t-amhrán "Le Do Thaobh" in iomaíocht ar son na hÉireann ag an gComórtas Idirnáisiúnta Pan Cheilteach a bheidh ar siúl i gCeatharlach ó 2ú go 7ú Aibreán. Guíonn Glór Cheatharlach gach rath ar Áine agus Seoirse.

Gluais:
comhghárdeachas
iomaitheoir
comórtas
scríbhneoir
aitheanta
eisithe
ceirnín
in iomaíocht

Glossary:
congratulations
contestant
competition
writer
recognised
issued
record
competing



Comórtas Pan-Cheilteach buaite ag Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh

BHUAIGH Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh ó Dhún na nGall an Comórtas Náisiúnta Amhránaíochta don Fhéile Phan-Cheilteach Déardaoin seo caite.

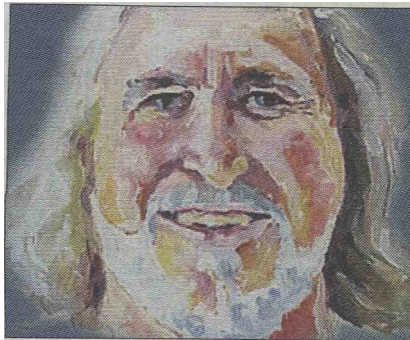
Bhí 20 iomaitheoir éagsúla páirteach sa chomórtas a bhí ar siúl in Óstán an Seven Oaks i mBaile Cheatharlach.

Tháinig Enda Reilly sa dara háit agus bhí an banna The Dirty 9s sa tríú háit.

Ba í Áine Durkin, ó Chonamara ó dhúchas, a scríobh an t-amhrán 'Le Do Thaobh' a chas Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh ar an stáitse. Tá Áine ag cur fúithi in Inis Eoghain le 30 bliain anuas agus tá sí aitheanta mar scríbhneoir an bhlag 'Rámhaille'.

Tá Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh ag ceol le fada an lá agus tá iliomad ceirnín agus dlúthdhiosca eisithe aige.

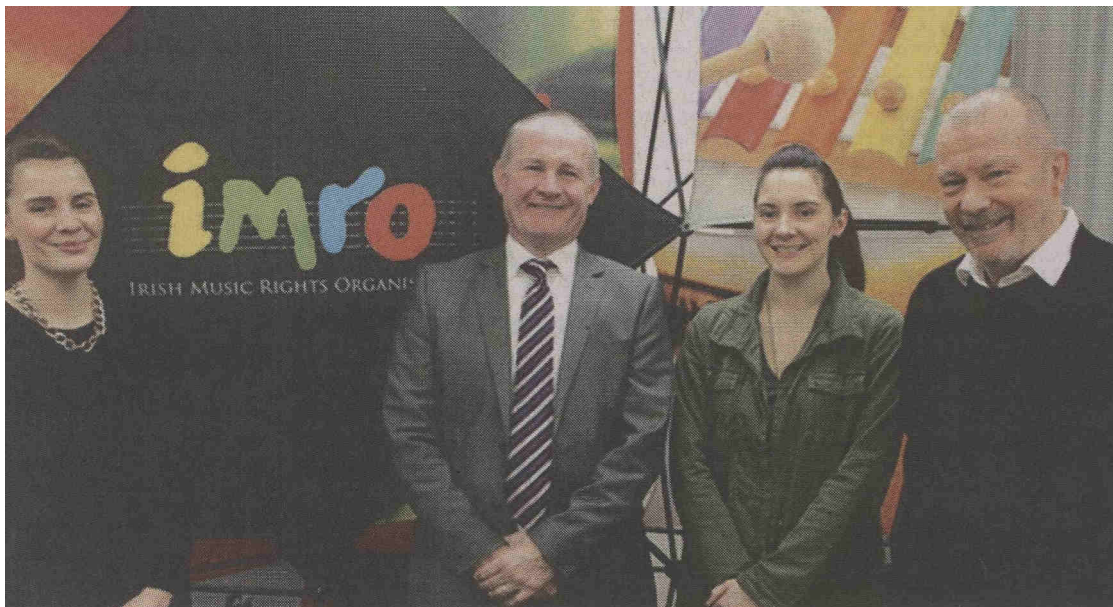
D'fhoilsigh sé leabhar, Logainmneacha Inis Eoghain, le déanaí, chomh maith. Bhuaigh siad €1,000 urraithe ag **IMRO** agus beidh an t-amhrán in iomaíocht ar son na hÉireann ag an gComórtas Idirnáisiúnta Pan-Cheilteach a bheidh ar siúl i gCeatharlach um Cháisc.



Péinteáil de Sheoirse Ó Dochartaigh



Connacht venues shortlisted for Best Venue of the Year



Keith Donald and Victor Finn of IMRO, along with members of Dublin band Heathers, at the announcement of the **IMRO** Live Music Venue of the Year Awards.

The Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar is one of five venues in Connacht that have been shortlisted for the fifth **IMRO** Live Music Venue of the Year Awards, writes David Dwane.

The annual awards celebrate the dedication and passion of those who work in Ireland's live music venues, providing the public with an exceptional live music experience, week in, week out.

More than 8,000 **IMRO** members considered hundreds of venues across the country for the shortlist.

Venues were judged on their commitment to providing the core elements that make for a great

live music venue – atmosphere, sound and lighting, staging, diversity of programming and, most importantly, the staff and management of each venue.

IMRO members also voted on Ireland's music festivals, delivering a shortlist of their top ten festivals.

Live music venues and festivals play a pivotal role in the music industry in Ireland, giving international and homegrown artists a platform to engage with fans and build new audiences.

They also play a central role in communities across the country, providing a social gathering space for varied audiences, and contributing hugely to the domestic economy.

Awards will be presented to the

leading live music venue in each of the following regions: Dublin, Leinster (excluding Dublin), Connacht, Munster and Ulster (Donegal, Monaghan, Cavan).

Four other Connacht venues are on the shortlist, including Roscommon Arts Centre, Monroes and Roisin Dubh, both in Galway City, and The Dock Theatre, Carrick on Shannon.

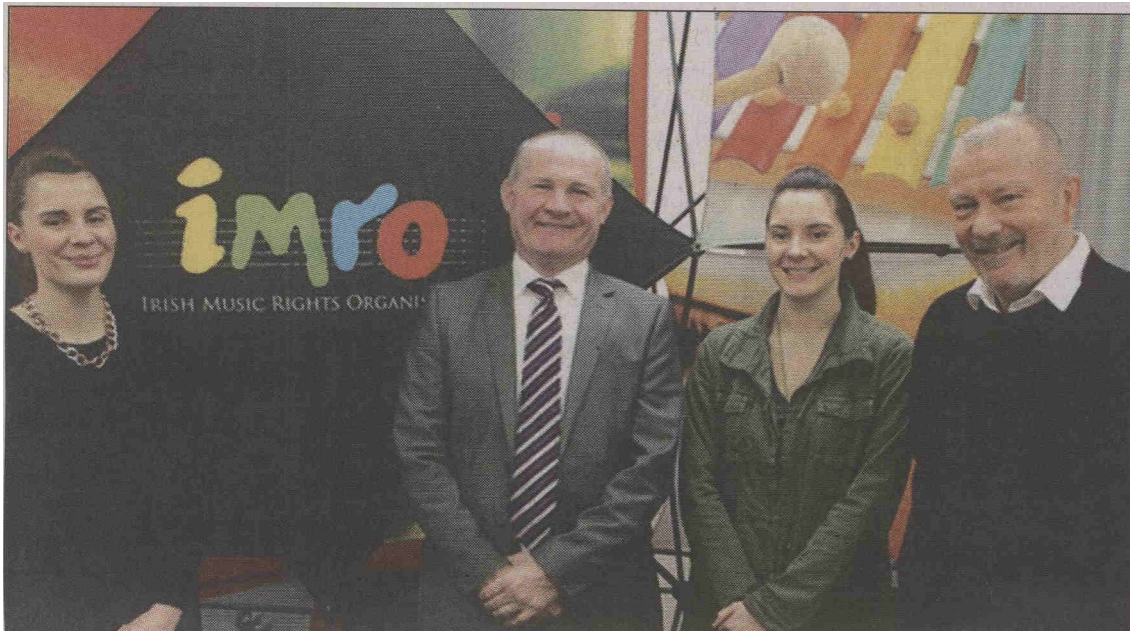
One overall award will be presented for the **IMRO** National Live Music Venue of the Year.

The **IMRO** Music Festival of the Year and **IMRO** Best Small Festival of the Year Award will also be presented on the night.

The winners will be announced on 26th February at **IMRO** HQ, Dublin.



Connacht venues shortlisted for Best Venue of the Year



Keith Donald and Victor Finn of **IMRO**, along with members of Dublin band Heathers, at the announcement of the **IMRO** Live Music Venue of the Year Awards.

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Daithí is on song at Pan Celtic contest

By Mairead Wilmot

THE delightful Daithí Ó Sé arrived in Carlow last week to preside over the all-important Pan Celtic Song Contest. The highly-anticipated competition took place in the Seven Oaks Hotel last Thursday, with 20 performers taking to the stage hoping to become the Irish entry for the Pan Celtic International Song Contest, which runs during the 42nd annual International Pan Celtic Festival in Carlow from 2-7 April.

Despite three local entries, the overall winners were Áine Durkin and Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh with their song *Le Do Thaobh*.

Any one of at least eight entries could have won the contest and scooped the IMRO-sponsored €1,000 prize in the competition such was the quality of songs, according to cathaoirleach of the organising committee Bríde de Róiste.

"The standard was incredible and we had entries from several counties, among them Kerry, Cork and Galway, Donegal, Derry, Leitrim, Tipperary, Clare, Carlow, Wicklow and Dublin. *Le do Thaobh* now goes on to represent Ireland in the international final, which features entries from the six participating regions. The other competitors, coming from Wales, Scotland, Brittany, Cornwall and the Isle of Man, will all select their own entries for the grand final."

The 2013 Pan Celtic National Song Contest organisers are very grateful to their expert judging panel, which included Seán Ó Sé, Colm Mac Séalaigh and Traic Ó Braonáin. Ireland holds the presidency for this year's Pan Celtic International Festival, with Seán Ó Sé officiating as president throughout the six-day event in April.



Presenter Daithí Ó Sé pictured with Áine Durkin and Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh, winners of the Pan Celtic Song Contest 2013



Deane's song for Simon

DEANE James Connaghan from Mountcharles was announced the winner of 'A song for Simon', singer-songwriter competition on February 2 at the Sheraton hotel in Athlone.

Deane submitted an original song to the national competition and was announced as one of the ten finalists in January. Deane, who is currently living in London, returned home for the weekend and was joined on the night of the final by friends and family from Donegal.

Deane performed his song 'Bright Lights' and it was judged the winning song by a panel of four judges including; June Carley, Midlands 103; Keith Johnson, director of membership and marketing **IMRO**; Fiona Killeen, marketing and event production Grouse Lodge Studios and Tom Keady, Midlands Simon Community.

Deane will receive an impressive prize package to further his music career. This includes-

a one day recording in Grouse Lodge Studios, Moate, Mastering of the winning song by RMC Recording Studios, CD duplication (100 jewel en-



■ Deane James at the Sheraton Hotel in Athlone.

crusted CDs) by MD Online, Full music video production by Big Idea Films, A photo-shoot by RUA Photography, Graphic design and artwork by SNAP Printing Athlone, Guaranteed promotion, air-play, and interviews with Midlands 103.

Deane was not the only Donegal man to perform on the night. Mickey Joe Harte was the special guest singer-songwriter at the event and he entertained the crowd during the deliberations by performing songs from his new album 'Forward to Reality'. Mickey Joe also generously donated half of his album sales on the night to

the Midlands Simon Community and their efforts to combat homeless in the region.

This is the second National songwriter competition Deane has won. Last year he won the online 'Spread Your Wings' competition for his song 'Goodbye Miss Jane'. Deane intends to put the prize to good use and is excited to record his song at Grouse Lodge Studios where one of his idols Michael Jackson recorded before his death. Deane's winning song will be released with the other finalist's songs on A Song for Simon Album and also on his own E.P later this year.



Draiocht nominated for best live venue

LAURA WEBB

DRAIOCHT Theatre has been nominated for one of the best Dublin music venues in the **IMRO** Live Music Venue of the Year 2012.

The Dublin 15 theatre is up against four other venues, which include Bord Gais Energy Theatre, the O2, the Grand Social and the Olympia Theatre, for the award.

The awards celebrate those who work in Ireland's live music venues and who provide the public with an exceptional live music experience.

This year, the awards take place on Tuesday, February 26, at the **IMRO**

HQ in Dublin.

The local venue has been nominated with some major players in the music venue business, but locals can help Draiocht take home the award by voting before February 19.

Dublin 15 people can log on to www.surveymonkey.com/s/imrovenueawards and participate in the voting process.

Commenting on their nomination, Emer McGowan, director at Draiocht, said: "Draiocht is thrilled to be shortlisted for the second time for the **IMRO** Live Music Venue of the Year award.

"Nominations are from

IMRO's 8,000 members and are based on general ambience, staging, sound, lighting, diversity of music programmed, artist relations and venue promotion.

"It is great to know that the artists we programme enjoy their experience here so much that they would nominate us alongside some very well-known and established music venues.

"Draiocht has always been committed to providing the best experience for all artists that we work with and wish to thank them for giving Draiocht audiences so many brilliant and memorable nights. We will continue

to programme artists of the highest calibre facilitating our audiences see the best in their local venue," she added.

Venues were judged the core elements that make for a great live music venue, and most importantly, the staff and management of each venue.

Victor Finn, chief executive of **IMRO**, said: "A strong live music circuit is the lifeblood of a vibrant music industry. It's important that we acknowledge those venue owners and festival promoters whose commitment, passion and support for live music enables music creators to continue making the music we all enjoy."



The Dublin 15 theatre is up against four other venues for the award



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PAN CELTIC FINAL IN CARLOW IN APRIL Duo will carry our hopes in contest

A MULTI-TALENTED duo who've already won individual acclaim as accomplished authors, song-writers, poets, musicians, bloggers and producers have teamed up to win the Pan Celtic National Song Contest and represent Ireland on a global stage in early April.

Áine Durkin and Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh, both of whom live in Donegal, beat off stiff competition in the Seven Oaks in Carlow to book their place in the Pan Celtic International Song Contest which runs during the 42nd annual International Pan Celtic Festival in Carlow from April 2 to 7.

Over 50 Irish-language entries were received and just 20 shortlisted performers took to the stage in a gala competition hosted by RTE's Daithí Ó Sé. The winning song 'Le do Thaobh' was jointly composed by the duo and sung by Seoirse.

'Any one of at least eight entries could have won the contest and scooped the IMRO-sponsored €1,000 prize in the competition, such was the quality of songs,' said Cathaoirleach of the organising committee Bríde de Róiste.

'The standard was incredible and we had entries from several counties, among them Kerry, Cork and Galway, Donegal, Derry, Leitrim, Tipperary, Clare, Carlow, Wicklow and Dublin. 'Le do Thaobh' now goes on to represent Ireland in the international final which features entries from the six participating countries. The other competing 'countries'- Wales, Scotland, Brittany, Cornwall and Isle of Man, will all select their own entries for the grand final.'

The rules of the contest are very simple, every entry has to be in the country's own language, it has to be newly composed but can be in any genre.

'Our own final showed just how diverse entries can be, we had everything from sean-nós to rock, solos to group performances, trad to pop,' she added.

Among the youngest composers in the Irish final was 16 year-old Áine Ní Bhrólaigh from Dungiven in Derry and niece of GAA analyst Joe Brolly. Áine performed her song 'Oileán Beag Glas' on the night, along with her aunt and a host of young harpists from the Ruaidhrí Dall Harp School.

'The winning Irish entry is very different to last year when we were represented by a band. This year the



■ Daith Ó Sé with the winners of Pan Celtic National Song Contest Áine Durkin and Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh.

judges were blown away by this amazing performance by Seoirse who captivated his audience with his silky voice and some fine guitar playing.'

The 2013 Pan Celtic National Song Contest organisers are very thankful to their expert judging panel which included Seán Ó Sé, Colm Mac Séalaigh and Traic Ó Braonáin. Ireland holds the presidency this year of the Pan Celtic International Festival with Seán Ó Sé officiating as president throughout the 6 day event in April.

For more on the Pan Celtic Festival visit www.panceltic.ie



Get ready for Other Voices

Popular event makes its way to the North West and we have tickets to give away

Other Voices spreads its wings and migrates to Derry / Londonderry this week from February 8-10 for the City of Culture 2013 celebrations with the support of The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure Northern Ireland, the British Council and Arts Council England.

The popular music programme moves North from Dingle to the singing city of Derry this year, but the story doesn't end there for the world-renowned music show.

The East End of London will host a special recording at Wilton's Music Hall in April, produced in association with the Barbican, completing the triangle and underlining the strong music and cultural links North, South, East and West across these islands.

Like Dingle in December, Derry will be seen and heard across the world via Social Media and Online Streaming supported by BT Infinity.

Exciting line-up additions for The Glassworks have just been announced and the Other Voices team are delighted to welcome James Yorkston, Daughter and Beth Orton to the Derry stage.

The full list is now confirmed: Friday, February 8 - Damien Dempsey, Neil Hannon, Savages, Soak. Saturday, February 9 - Bronagh Gallagher, Jesca Hoop, Little Green Cars, Marina and the Diamonds, and Sunday, February 10 - Beth Orton, Daughter, James Yorkston, Two Door Cinema Club. And don't forget, Other Voices is a spontaneous affair conducive to creative collaborations, songs and tunes can and do happen at the drop of a hat. The Derry/Londonderry leg of the Other Voices event will form an exciting part of the musical element of the City of Culture celebrations 2013, which kicked off recently with the BBC Sons and Daughters concert. The eclectic programme will go on to include musical takeovers such as the Music City which will include a Sky Orchestra of music playing from hot air balloons and Céltronic, Ireland's premier electronic music festival.

The city is delighted to see a host of homegrown talent returning to Derry for Other Voices, including Neil Hannon, Two Door Cinema Club and Soak.

Neil Hannon said: "As an alumni of Other Voices Dingle, it was lovely to receive an invite to appear at Other Voices Derry.

"Not least because Derry / London-



Derry's rising star Soak.

derry (the city that dare not speak its name) is the city of my birth! It is also the UK City of Culture this year which I am keen to show my support for."

For those who don't make it to the Glassworks to see the live Other Voices gigs, fret not, because courtesy of BT Infinity there will be access to live streaming to a number of venues around the City of Derry including: An Cultúrlann / Nerve Centre / Grand Central Bar / Derby / Tinney's / Gweedore / Masons / Bound For Boston / Icon Bar & Grill / Sandinos / Bennignos / Live Screen in Waterloo Place.

The Other Voices Music Trail will also follow on from Dingle. Over 40 bands will play across city venues including the streaming venues above plus Café del Mondo / Foyleside Shopping Centre / Verbal Arts Centre / Apprentice Boys of Derry Memorial Hall / St. Augustine's / Ebrington Sq / Legenderry Cafe / Craft Village.

So, no matter where you are in the city, you will only be a stones-throw away from the action and the unique events that make up the over-all Other Voices experience.

The **IMRO** Other Room will be filmed at Memorial Hall and some of the first acts to be announced are Riptide Movement, George Erza, Katharine Philippa, Ryan Vail and Best Boy Grip.

The Banter Salon at Other Voices made its debut in Dingle with great success and will travel to Derry. Banter, hosted by Jim Carroll, will feature a number of discussions (some heated!), conversations, performances and talks on the Saturday and Sunday.

Admission is free, see www.thisisbanter.com for more details.

A number of tickets for The Glassworks will be made available through competitions on Other Voices social media (Twitter: @OtherVoicesLive & Facebook: 'Other Voices') as well as on national radio shows.

Other Voices is supported by Derry-Londonderry 2013/Culture Company 2013 Ltd, The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure Northern Ireland, the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Ireland, Arts Council England, British Council, BT, RTÉ, Tourism Ireland, and **IMRO**.

GIVEAWAY

The Donegal News is delighted to be able to give away a pair of tickets for both the Friday show and the Saturday show of Other Voices in Derry. All you have to do to enter the draw is send an email to s.feeny@donegalnews.com with the day you are applying for in the subject matter, i.e 'FRIDAY' or 'SATURDAY'. Please don't forget to send us your contact details.

The draw will be made on Tuesday afternoon.

www.othervoices.ie



Two Door Cinema Club are appearing at Other Voices on Sunday.

Clare Champion-Living

Friday, 1 February 2013

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Glór makes live venue shortlist

GLÓR Irish Music Centre has been shortlisted for the Irish Music Rights Organisation (IMRO) Munster Live Music Venue of the Year 2012 awards.

The Clare theatre is one of five shortlisted venues, along with Crane Lane Theatre, Cork; Cork Opera House, Cork; DeBarras, Clonakilty and University Concert Hall, Limerick.

It is the fifth year running that the Clare venue has been shortlisted but it has yet to scoop an award. Glór is appealing to the public to get voting and back them as Munster's live music venue of the year.

Gemma Carcaterra, Glór director, noted, "We've been selected for the past number of years. We have always been shortlisted, which shows that the work we do is being acknowledged on a national level, as well as on a local level. Fingers crossed this will be the year.

"It is also recognition of the standard of excellence we aim for in everything that we do and the dedication of the team within Glór to provide the best programme for Munster and County Clare and the people of Ennis. We work with the local community organisations and groups to ensure that they have a platform within Glór, as well as the more commercial events and cultural events.

"We try to bring as varied and as exciting a programme as we can every year. We have some super events coming up in the spring time and our brochure will be going out very shortly. The fact that we are nominated year on year is a reflection of how well we are doing and obviously we are supported by the audiences in Clare," she said.

More than 8,000 IMRO members considered hundreds of venues across the country for the shortlist. Venues were judged on their commitment to providing the core elements that make for a great live music venue – atmosphere, sound and lighting, staging, diversity of programming and, most importantly, the staff and management of each venue.

Live music fans can get involved by logging onto <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/jmrovenueawards> and registering their vote by February 19.

The winners will be announced on Tuesday, February 26 at IMRO headquarters in Dublin.



Great line-up for Vantastival

THE HEADLINE acts for this year's Vantastival Festival which takes place at Bellurgan Park over the May Bank Holiday weekend have been announced.

Damien Dempsey, Altan, Tupelo, and Mark Geary are among the acts confirmed for the family-friendly camping festival which takes place from May 3rd to 5th. Many more acts will be confirmed over the coming weeks and the festival, now in its fourth year, will feature a host of other attractions including VW campervans and the Cully & Scully cook-off.

Vantastival was a winner at the recent Irish Festival Awards and is shortlisted for the **IMRO** Music Festival of the Year Award. Earlybird tickets are now on sale at just €70 for three nights camping, available from www.vantastival.com until Friday February 22nd only.

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Hit right notes in showbusiness at song writing convention

[Online article](#)



IMRO Live Music Venue of the Year Awards 2012

TODAY (Tuesday, February 19) offers music aficionados the last chance to vote for their favourite venue in the fifth Irish Music Rights Organisation (IMRO) Live Music Venue of the Year Awards.

The annual awards celebrate the dedication and passion of those who work in Ireland's live music venues, providing the public with an exceptional live music experience week in, week out.

More than 8,000 IMRO members considered hundreds of venues across the country for the shortlist. Venues were judged on their commitment to providing the core elements that make for a great live music venue - atmosphere, sound and lighting, staging, diversity of programming and, most importantly,

the staff and management of each venue. IMRO members also voted on Ireland's music festivals, delivering a shortlist of their top 10 festivals.

Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar, is in the running for the IMRO Connaught Live Music Venue of the Year 2012, vying for the prize against neighbouring Galway venues Monroe's and Roisin Dubh as well as The Dock Theatre in Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim, and Roscommon Arts Centre. The Westport Music & Performing Arts Festival is in the IMRO Live Music Festival of the Year 2012 shortlist alongside such stiff competition as Castlepalooza, Electric Picnic, Live @ The Marquee Cork, Forbidden Fruit, Vantastival, Templebar Trad Festival, Festival of the Fires, Galway Arts

Festival and Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann Cavan.

At the awards ceremony in IMRO HQ in Dublin next Tuesday, February 26, awards will be presented to the leading live music venue in Dublin, Leinster (excluding Dublin), Connaught, Munster and Ulster (Donegal, Monaghan, Cavan). The IMRO Music Festival of the Year and IMRO Best Small Festival of the Year Award will also be presented on the night. One overall award will be presented with the IMRO National Live Music Venue of the Year. This award is decided upon by the public, who vote for their live music venue of the year from the combined shortlist of all the regions.

Live music fans should simply log on to www.surveymonkey.com/s/imrovenueawards

and choose their favourite from the shortlist provided, today being the last day to cast your vote. One lucky voter will win an iPod Touch digital music player.

The Hot Press Live Music Venue of the Year Readers Poll will also be part of the awards and Hot Press fans can vote at www.hotpress.com/readerspoll.

Delighted with the Linenhall's nomination, director Marie Farrell said: "Our mission is to make arts accessible to as wide an audience as possible and part of that is to offer a variety of live music experiences, ranging from traditional to classical, jazz to folk, and world music to contemporary, performed by national and international musicians and also local talents."



International song contest hopes for Donegal artists

A new song written by Seoirse Ó Dochartaigh, Kinnegoe Bay artist, musician and singer, and Bunrana writer Áine Durkin will represent Ireland in the Pan Celtic Song Contest in April.

Their song, "Le Do Thaobh", was the only Donegal entry in the Pan Celtic National Song Contest, held in Carlow last week and hosted by television personality Daithí Ó Sé. They topped a group of 20 finalists who had been selected from a total of 55 entries.

The contest is sponsored by **IMRO** in association with Gael Linn.

Seoirse said the song

came about last summer, when he was playing, singing and telling stories weekly at the Red Door restaurant in Fahan. One night he was approached by Áine, originally from Connemara, who lives in Bunrana.

"She said to me, 'I've got a poem I'd like you to set to music,'" Seoirse recalled. "I arrange a lot of music, but I had never sat down much and composed a tune."

"It was my first outing as a songwriter," he said.

The song "Le Do Thaobh" is based on a poem Áine wrote about her sister Ciara, who died tragically in Afghanistan in 2007. Áine wrote the words shortly af-

ter Ciara's first memorial.

"It is kind of a lament for her, in the style of the old Irish caoineadh," Seoirse said. "Áine wrote this very touching poem about how much she missed her and I came up with a suitable melody, quite melancholic, but it's got a nice lift to it, I think."

It was Seoirse alone, playing his guitar and singing, in the national competition last Thursday, as Áine watched from the wings. "It was about getting good lyrics and a good tune and something that sounds Celtic, and I think we delivered on that," he said.

Seoirse will perform "Le

Do Thaobh", representing Ireland, in the International Pan Celtic Song Contest in Carlow on April 4th, where the song will be up against entries from the other participating Celtic nations of Wales, Scotland, Brittany, Cornwall and The Isle of Man.

Seoirse is currently working on the release of his new CD, "Windmills of the Mind". The songs range from Leonard Cohen and Bob Dylan, to traditional songs from Donegal. The Henry Girls perform on all 18 tracks on the CD and Seoirse's daughter, Neassa, also sings on two of the songs. The CD is due for release in the next few weeks.

