

Irish Heritage

Promoting the best of Irish and Anglo-Irish literature, music and young performers since 1974

NEWSLETTER

January 2012

Dear Friends,

Ethna Kennedy and the Committee members of Irish Heritage wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to your support in what should be a great programme of events for 2012.

On **Thursday 16th February 2012** we have our next **Young Musician Programme** with a great line up of young performers and an exciting musical programme. We are using an excellent new (to us) venue, the **Bolivar Hall** in Grafton Way, London W1T 5DL (just off Tottenham Court Road at the northern (Euston Road) end, and there will be a wine reception after the performance.

The first part of the Programme features **Jessica Grimes**, a young clarinettist from Dublin who graduated from the Royal College of Music in July 2011, having previously studied in Trinity College Dublin and the Royal Irish Academy of Music. Jessie is a founding member of the **Jacquin Trio (Jessie, Charis Cheung, piano, and Zoë Matthews, viola)**. The Jacquin Trio are winners of the Royal College of Music Douglas Whittaker Ensemble Prize. They have chosen a delightful programme of music:

Schumann - *Fantasiestücke* (for clarinet and piano)
Solfa Carlile - *Macalla* (for clarinet & bass clarinet, viola and piano)
Debussy - *Première Rhapsodie* (for clarinet and piano)
Francaix - *Trio* (for clarinet, viola and piano)

(In case you are not familiar with the name, **Solfa Carlile**, Solfa is a young composer from Fermoy, County Cork who, having won the Orchestra of St Paul's (Covent Garden) composition competition in 2011 was offered the post of composer in residence with the orchestra. Solfa recently wrote **Macalla** especially for the Jacquin Trio. Solfa is a first class honours graduate of the Royal College of Music, with assistance from the Bill Whelan/IMRO music bursary. It is a great privilege to have a young Irish composer as part of our Young Musician Programme.)

The second part of the Programme features an outstanding young pianist, **Hamish Dustagheer** who was born in Surrey in 1992. His Grandmother's family is of Irish origin. He was a student at Trinity College of Music's Junior Department, London, from the age of 7. He currently studies at the Royal College of Music with the concert pianist Gordon Fergus-Thompson. Hamish will play:

Prokofiev - *Sonata No. 1, Op. 1* (piano)
Satie - *Trois Gnossiennes* (piano)
Poulenc - *Les Soirées de Nazelles* (a suite of 11 movements) (piano)

You can learn more about the artists on our website www.irishheritage.co.uk

Tickets, to include a wine reception, are £12 (£10 for paid-up Friends) and £5 for students and can be obtained from Kathy O'Regan Tel: 0207 2264578. E-mail Kathy.oregan@hotmail.co.uk. The event is sponsored by **Cormac T. Cawley & Co, Solicitors**.

For your diary

Tuesday 24th April 2012: "Sixty Glorious Years. The Story of Wexford Festival Opera". Royal Over-Seas League, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR.

Past event

The Music of Ireland, St Patrick's Church, Soho Square

Michael O'Sullivan wrote the following summary review of the evening. The full version is now on our website www.irishheritage.co.uk

"The beautifully restored St Patrick's Church in Soho Square W1, long a cultural as well as spiritual link for the Irish émigré, hosted the major Irish Heritage musical event of the autumn on the 9th of November last. Devised and scripted by Ethna Kennedy and devoted entirely to Irish music from all ages and genres, in English and as Gaeilige, from O'Carolan and Moore through to O'Riada and Fleischmann, the well publicised event attracted a large and very appreciative audience. The diverse and carefully chosen repertoire included folk, classical and traditional forms as well as excerpts from opera and theatre. Performers for the evening were Nicola Mulligan (soprano), Gavan Ring (baritone) and Jean Kelly (Irish and concert harps). To them we extend our thanks and appreciation. The concert was a great success and very warmly received. Our kindest regards to all at St Patrick's for hosting the event".

News of Irish Heritage Artists

Michael McHale, who last appeared with Irish Heritage at the Wigmore Hall in June 2010, keeps us informed of his forthcoming major events and achievements. March 2012 sees the release of Michael's second album of clarinet and piano works for *Chandos* with the English clarinettist, Michael Collins, featuring sonatas by Bax, Ireland, Howells and one of Ireland's most noted composers, Charles Villiers Stanford. They will perform together live on BBC Radio 3's 'In Tune' programme on January 25th. Michael will also record his first solo album for RTE Lyric fm, to be released in autumn 2012, featuring a selection of works by Irish and Irish-influenced composers, as well as his own arrangements of Irish melodies and airs.

Reminder to other artists who receive this Newsletter: **Please** keep us informed of your events and achievements by e-mail: irish.heritage1@gmail.com for inclusion in future Newsletters.

With best wishes for 2012 and looking forward to seeing you at our events.

Niall Gallagher

Chairman

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Keep up to date by visiting our website www.irishheritage.co.uk