# LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

Bringing Liverpool and Ireland closer together through arts and culture

# 19-29 OCTOBER 2017

# LIVERPOOLIRISHFESTIVAL.COM

Storytelling, family events, theatre, céilís, music, talks, art, poetry and literature, seisiúns, heritage, film dancing, food and drink

it's liverpool















# LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

Fáilte (welcome) to the fifteenth annual *Liverpool Irish Festival*. This year we question: "what does it mean to be Irish today?"

As a concept, "Irishness" is striking for its multiple and layered meanings, inferences and diasporic nature. As well as shamrocks and leprechauns, Ireland is often recognised as an Emerald Isle, abundant with countryside and agrarian workers who till the land and play their fiddles in to the early hours. So what of the cities? Of the big business and digital futures projects? What of the mixed histories of its own settlers and the global influence on its music, literature, dances and character? What of its contemporary life as an island of 4 million, with a global diaspora of another 44+ million? What of its Peace Process (almost 20 years on) and its developing gender and sexual rights tolerance versus entrenched rights systems?

As Britain rolls towards 'Brexit' and the political and geographic conclusions that Article 50 will eventually bring, what can we learn from the Irish story about migration and generating divisions? How will an altered diaspora continue to share culture, history and art? How do the islanders and the diaspora combine to create 'Irishness'?

# 19-29 OCTOBER 2017

With more people than ever claiming their Irishness in order to remain a part of Europe, how will traditional Irish values alter to adapt to the contemporary world?

Liverpool voted to remain in the European Union. With so many Liverpudlians being of close Irish descent, how does Brexit affect them and the city? Having closer ties with Ireland than with neighbouring cities (arguably!) and a distinct and profoundly public belief in itself as a European – not a British – city, how do we engage in the debate? Will Liverpool become a migrant home for the international Irish on the move? Are these political tide-changes re-contextualising understandings of migration, unity and diaspora?

And so, aged 15, the Liverpool Irish Festival continues to provide a resonant platform to discuss 'Irishness' - new and old - within a context of deep familial, emotional and geographical connection that no other cities share with the island. Thus, we intend to voice stories that reflect upon multiple, complex and often juxtaposed histories that combined – build a picture of modern Irishness, helping to tell the story of the island and possibly a definition of what 'Irishness' means today. We're doing this through various strands of work and importantly these include In: Visible Women, our Family Days, The Lily and the Poppy, a Celtic Animation Film Festival and a vibrant,









multidisciplinary performance programme. By providing space for discussion, we open access to diverse responses and difficult discourse. By collaborating closely with our partners we will engage audiences, new and old, in a critical mass of energy and promotion, events, exhibits, talks, storytelling, Q&As, writing, workshops and more, which all form #LivIrishFest2017.

Again, we encourage you to become part of the conversation by using #LivIrishFest2017, #LIF2017, #madfortrad and #madfornew to celebrate all aspects of the programme, as well as more specialised handles such as #invisiblewomen. This is a dialogue so start connecting! Tell us your thoughts, experiences and ideas; help us welcome people to the city and join us in spreading a little áthas (joy)! Use our survey cards, subscribe to our enewsletter and tell all your friends!

Liverpool Irish Festival remains open to anyone of any heritage, of age or faith. As our name suggests, we draw our references from Liverpool, Ireland and the relationship between, celebrating them in the UK's only arts and culture led festival. We're proud to share it with you. So, once more faílte (welcome) agus go n-éirí an bothar leat (and may your journey be successful)!

### THE LIVERPOOL **IRISH FESTIVAL**

Liverpool Irish Festival is a registered charity (1100126, company number 04800736), supported by Liverpool City Council's cultural investment programme and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland's Emigrant Support Programme, for which we offer our unreserved thanks. Liverpool Irish Festival is led by a volunteer Board, chaired by founder John Chandler. To each of them, the remaining team offers their thanks for the contributions they make daily to the life, work and shape of the organisation and its work.

### TRAVEL WARNING

At the time of writing, the Liverpool Irish Festival are aware there are proposed works to Lime Street Station which could affect city visitors and their rail tickets through until 22 October 2017. The full extent of delays and possible strike action are not yet known. Please search for travel updates about Lime Street Station using Merseytravel's website to ensure you leave enough time for your journey and confirm you can get home. merseytravel.gov.uk

### **IMAGE CREDITS**

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### **EVENTS KEY**



Film, art and animation



Talks and tours



Performance and poetry



Food & drink



Music & song



Community, family & sport

### TRAIL STRANDS

Throughout the festival there are a lot of connections. We have created three trails, which are:

W - In:Visible Women

FD - Family Days

NC - 'Nook and cranny' events.

Trails don't mean you need any prior knowledge to enjoy the event. Events often cross trails and share connections with more than one, as indicated.

### **EVENTS**

The Liverpool Irish Festival brings Liverpool and Ireland closer together through arts and culture. It is the only arts and culture led festival of its kind, highlighting Liverpool, Liverpool Irish and Irish culture; its background, influence and impact.

All listings are right at the time of printing, but are subject to change or cancellation. Please keep checking our website, which will be kept up to date with any updates.

liverpoolirishfestival.com

**Bluecoat Display Centre** FD NC

### **CHRISTY KEENEY** - CERAMICS IN THE WINDOW

Sun 1-Tues 31 Oct 2017.

open Mon-Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm; Free to enter

Christy Keeney (Donegal, ROI) is a glass and ceramics artist, selected for the Bluecoat Display Centre's impressive and influential In The Window exhibition, a monthly exhibit celebrating 12 artists annually. Having studied at the Royal College of Art, Christy has developed his artistry from painting through to glass and ceramics.

His figurative ceramics explore the human condition and his forms incorporate and morph sculpture and draughtsmanship. Now based in his native Donegal, his sculpted, slab-built heads and figures feature details drawn into the wet clay surface.





### AN BÉAL BOCHT: **A REFLECTION**

Thurs 19 Oct-Fri 17 Nov 2017. open Mon-Fri 9am-9pm; Free, just turn up

An Béal Bocht/The Poor Mouth was released as a short book in 1941, by Irish writer Flann O'Brien, also known as Miles Na gCopaleen. Set in the fictitious Corca Dorcha, it is suspected this name is a play on the words Corca Dhuibhne meaning 'Dingle Peninsula', thus our bringing it to the Florrie, in the Dingle. Its strapline - "a bad story about the hard life" - is reflected on in both text and printed image, re-imagined by Irish artist Deirdre McKenna (Dingle, Co.Kerry). Highlighting some of the more farcical scenes from book - such as fishermen catching pigs in their nets; the man who went off to live with the seals and the shock a ray of sunshine brings in the midst of all the rain, this exhibit is an exercise in both printmaking and Irish language.













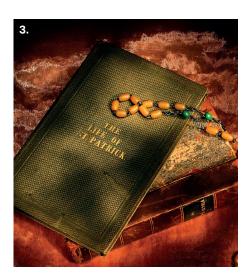
### **MATERIALS LIBRARY**

Thurs 19-Sun 29 Oct 2017,

8.30am-11pm (Mon-Sat only); Free, no booking required

Running Mon-Sat throughout the festival we are partnering with our friends at Everyman to provide a materials library and social space for festival visitors to drop-in, hold small discussion groups and impromptu seisiúns (sessions). Liverpool Irish Festival visitors are encouraged to enjoy the fully accessible space; free Wi-Fi; drinks and food menus and get talking to one another over Irish newspapers, texts, maps and children's books all of which have a focus on Liverpool or Ireland. Straddling Hope Street, between the Catholic and Protestant cathedrals, Everyman is the ideal cultural hot spot to find a festival brochure, pick up a bite to eat or encounter some of the city's performance artists.

This resource is supported by national partners Tourism Ireland and local partners Connected Irish.



### **Picture House at FACT**



### **COMING HOME** (DOCUMENTARY FILM)

Cert PG, 84 mins, Directed by Cathal Kenna (Dublin) Thurs 19 Oct 2017, 6pm; £7/£5 fact.co.uk

5 years in the making, Coming Home is a documentary that charts the dreams and histories of 5 Irish immigrants, from their locations on 4 continents. This début documentary comes from Cathal Kenna, who directed, edited, shot and sound recorded the production. With some Liverpool connections, too, this film echoes multiple diaspora stories, combining family stories, economic histories and the sort of nostalgic romanticism only the homesick can create.

@ComingHomeDoc



**Everyman Theatre, Street Café** and Theatre Bar

### LIVERPOOL IRISH **FESTIVAL LAUNCH**

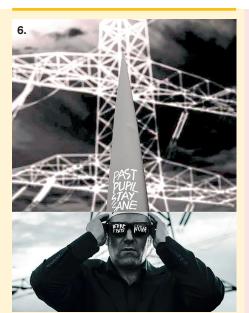
Thurs 19 Oct 2017, 7pm; Free, booking required: livirishfest. eventbrite.co.uk

15 years after it first began, the Liverpool Irish Festival reflects on its beginnings, its accomplishments and issues that continue to make it vibrant and resonant today. With illustrated contributions from long-standing Chair of the Liverpool Irish Festival, John Chandler and others, this is an evening for friends and family to spot themselves, hear their stories and raise a toast to what is yet to come.

Places at this event will be limited to the space, so be sure to arrive early to ensure you get a place. After this event, people will be encouraged to have drinks in the adjoining bar.

This event is supported by national partners Tourism Ireland and local partners Connected Irish.





**Everyman Theatre, Street Café** and Theatre Bar

# JINX LENNON – A CONCERT

**Thurs 19 Oct 2017**, 9pm; £7/£5 + Eventbrite booking fee: livirishfest.eventbrite.co.uk

### Over 18s event

Anti-commercial, irrepressible punk poet, hip-hop influenced, folk-singer Jinx Lennon (Dundalk, Co. Louth) returns to the Liverpool Irish Festival 3 years after his gig with Rarely Seen Above Ground (RSAG), 2 albums down and a slew of accolades later. As Bernard O'Rourke (headstuff.org) states: "At heart, his music is a raw unpolished yell against the small-scale mundanity of day-to-day working class life in a largish Irish town. Far from attempting to elevate the intimacy of his subject matter to a kind of poetic universality, Lennon positively wallows in the unimpressive nature of the reality he depicts in his songs". Limited tickets mean this will be a high demand event, so get your tickets quickly.

**Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room** 

### FESTIVAL CLUB — THE AFTERSHOW

**Thurs 19, Fri 20 and Sat 21 Oct 2017**, 11pm 'til late; £5 on the door each night

The only social space to carry on the party, the *Music Room*'s stage will be taken over by various artists, both local to the city and those playing in the festival. Ranging from amateur strummers to professional recording artists, this is a chance to see musicians and artists playing together, testing ideas, mingling with the audience and letting their hair down. Informal, chatty and with a full bar open, this is a wind down space for festival goers, staff, volunteers and late-nighters! These events will be cúpla focal friendly and *Pop-Up Gaeltachts* may yet be scheduled.

### Handyman Supermarket NC

### HANDYMAN SUPERMARKET IRISH CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

There are 3 sessions over 2 days: Fri 20 Oct 2017, 6pm - 11pm; Sat 21 Oct 2017, 12pm-4pm and 5pm-9pm; £5 at the bar (include promotional glass) per session. Over18s event

Does what it says on the pump-clip! This 2 day Irish Craft Beer Festival, run by well-loved owners of *Kelly's Dispensary*, will see a number of small Irish brewers represented, along with some traditional soft drinks (*Cidona*, Club Orange) and foods (Irish stew, potato and leek soup, crisp sandwiches with proper Irish bread). Also look out for 'Meet the Brewer' sessions, which will be publicised nearer the time.

@handymanbrewery

The People's Lounge, The Sir Philip Carter Park Stand, Goodison Park

### **IRISH TOFFEES AND GREEN SHOOTS**

**Fri 20 Oct 2017**, 7.30pm; *Free, but booking required.* See liverpoolirishfestival.com for booking details

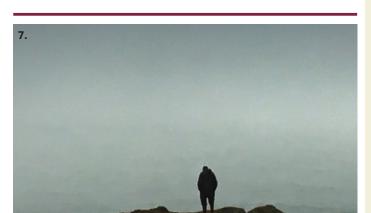
The Everton Fans' Forum will be hosting an evening as part of the Liverpool Irish Festival in October that will celebrate the history between Everton Football Club and Ireland, with guest speakers including former players and author, Michael Walker (deCoubertin, The Guardian). The evening will also consist of quizzes and giveaways. Keep an eye on evertonfc.com/fansforum and @EFC\_FansForum for more details.

This event is held in partnership with the *Everton Fans' Forum* and *deCoubertin Books*. It is a special collaboration developed as part of the *Liverpool Irish Festival*.









Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Crypt FD NC



### **SONG OF LOVE**

Fri 20 and Sat 21 Oct 2017, 12pm-5pm with 20min performances on the hour (last performance 4pm), followed by Q&A; Free, just turn up to the Chapel entrance of the Crypt

Artists Sheena Graham-George (Orkney, Scotland) and Angelica Kroeger (Ullapool, Scotland) have created a soundscape woven from the sounds of Mount Brandon (Dingle, Co.Kerry), the voices of Bríd Ní Mhóráin, Muiris Ó Muircheartaigh and the vocals of Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh and Breandán Ó Beaglaoich. Song of Love was inspired by Muiris Muircheartaigh, a local farmer whose family has farmed the slopes of Mount Brandon for centuries. Intimate knowledge of the land was passed down from one generation to the next, through walking the land and maintaining oral traditions. Each field, wall, stream and cliff of Muiris's land is named and mapped as conscientiously as any urban street map.

This soundscape celebrates our ability to commune with nature; its heavenly effects on our souls, bodies and voice and our love and connectivity with and for the land. The acoustics and reflective properties of the Chapel should provide clarity for sound, mindfulness and solitude, just as nature can.

Song of Love takes place in the Crypt's Chapel, accessed from Brownlow Hill. Please allow yourself time to find the access point ahead of the onthe-hour showings.



The Vines, Lime Street NC

### **SEAFOAM GREEN PRESENTED** BY MELLOWTONE

Fri 20 Oct 2017, 8pm; £10 skiddle.com

Soulful psych-folk meets Americana. Festival favourite Dave O'Grady (Dublin) returns to the Liverpool Irish Festival with his band Seafoam *Green* in this impressive, yet underused city venue. O'Grady has honed his craft over years of solo tours on either side of the Atlantic. Now his latest ensemble, Seafoam Green present their debut LP, Topanga Mansion, available on Mellowtone Records.

The above poster, designed by One Thousand Eyes, and is being produced with funding from Arts Council England. It was the winner of a joint competition organised by the Liverpool Irish Festival in partnership with Mellowtone, whose latest releases and stories can be found on

mellowtonerecords.com

### **Liverpool Irish Centre**

### THE WHISTLIN' DONKEYS

Fri 20 Oct 2017, 8pm; £10 from Liverpool Irish Centre: liverpoolirishcentre.org

The Whistlin' Donkeys are a County Tyrone based folk/trad/ rock super group. A six piece band they bring a raw energy and freshness with their music. Having shared stages with the likes of The Beachboys, The Dubliners and Bagatelle, these seasoned pros are not to be missed! @thewhistlindonkeys

This event is organised by the Liverpool Irish Centre for the Liverpool Irish Festival.



**Bluecoat FD NC** 

### **IRISH HERITAGE WALK**

Sat 21 Oct 2017, 10am-12pm;

£6/£4 conc/£0 under 16s, prebooking required. Call walk leader on +44 (0)785 441 5721.

### This walk starts at the Bluecoat. Gather at Door F

This local history walk features Irish journalists, Italian craftsmen, Lancashire slavers, Polish Impressionists and Liverpool pirates in an exploration of arts and politics, taking in *Bluecoat* and the surrounding district. For strong walkers also see the Scotland Road walk taking place later the same day.

### PictureHouse at FACT W



### AFTER THE DANCE

Cert PG, 75 mins **Sat 21 Oct 2017**, 12pm; £7/£5 fact.co.uk

Daisy Asquith's (BBC 4 documentary maker and Goldsmith's Senior Lecturer) documentary follows her mother's story of adoption, tracing her genealogical line back to Kilkee (Co Clare) in rural Ireland. At a time when pregnancy out of wedlock could result in social reprisal, familial rejection and potential death, Daisy's film shows her mother finding identity through unknown relatives and demonstrates the impact entrenched views can have on communities and the bravery required today to unravel the transformational decisions of yesteryear. The film inevitably considers social and sexual morality, Catholicism and institutional processes.

**Scotland Road meeting point** L3 3BB FD NC

### SCOTLAND ROAD WALK

Sat 21 Oct 2017, 2pm-4pm;

£6/£4 conc/£0 under 16s, pre-booking required. Call walk leader on +44 (0)785 441 5721. Meet on Juvenal-Grosvenor Street corners.

Following the Irish Heritage Walk (for those with a bit of walking stamina), the Scotland Road walk will be led by local historians, exploring Liverpool's world famous dockland district, its Irish traditions, connections to the Easter Rising and forgotten graveyards and tunnels.

Saturday tours start at The Casa (Hope Street); Sunday tours begin in the Philharmonic **Dining Rooms NC** 

### LIVERPOOL MUSIC **TOURS: WALKS**

Sat 21, Sun 22, Sat 28 and Sun 29 Oct 2017, 4pm-7pm; £10 with promo code "LIF2017" liverpoolmusictours.co.uk

Sat 21 and 28: Liverpool, Ireland and the luck of the Irish Beatles! -Hope St to the City Centre

Sun 22 and 29: Liverpool, Ireland in our Bones -The Georgian Quarter

Liverpool Music Tours are offering two cultural walking tours. The first Liverpool, Ireland and the luck of the Irish Beatles starts in The Casa (Hope St) and takes you into the city centre. The second Liverpool, Ireland in our Bones starts in the Philharmonic Dining Rooms (pub on Hope St) and takes you through the glorious bohemian Georgian Quarter. These are tours with a difference. The theme is drawn around music, performed live at each destination. Each includes visits to three pubs of important historical significance to the city. Your ticket covers you for the walk, the history knowledge of your guides and their performances along the way. You buy a refreshment of your choice in each pub - should you wish to to enjoy as Alan Burke and Debbi Stanistreet take you on a magical musical history tour. Roll up!









### **Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room**

### THE ESKIES

Sat 21 Oct 2017, 8pm;

£12 (+7.5% booking fee) liverpoolphil.com

Cast out, blacklisted, rejected and ejected from gentlemen's clubs far and wide, five dejected cast asides joined forces in what was to be their own celebration of commonality. Described as folk noir, gypsy jazz, sea shanty swaggerers, The Eskies (Dublin) are sure to have you clappin', hollerin' and maybe even reelin' in no time!

Supported by Hop the Sea, this is set to be a powerhouse of an evening! Mikey Kenney, fiddler in the Liverpool Céilí band and The Saltcutters frontman, started discussing a cross-the-sea band with fellow Saltcutter Evelyn Broderick and Co. Down piper Sean Donnelly and a number of others to form a big band that would regularly cross the Irish Sea to meet and perform. This is them!

@Hopthesea

### South Liverpool meeting point L1 2TR FD NC

### **SOUTH LIVERPOOL HERITAGE WALK**

Sun 22 Oct 2017, 10am-12pm; £6/£4 conc/£0 under 16s, pre-booking required. Call walk leader on +44 (0)785 441 5721

Take this walk though Liverpool's historic Rodney and Hope Street areas, discovering colourful characters and long-lost histories. Who was the White Angel and where is she now? Who came for the weekend and stayed for 20 years? And, did a Bishop really get stoned?

### **Liverpool Irish Centre**

### STRENGTH NIA

**Sat 21 Oct 2017**, 8.30pm; £5 from Liverpool Irish Centre liverpoolirishcentre.org

This Derry four-piece describe their song-writing as "Primal architecture with Pop sensibility. Put simply 'Werewolf pop'". Unorthodox, edgy and political, Strength NIA's music carries strong, lyrical messages, but with attitude enough to make you leap! This is the debut event of their new album tour, so a 'don't miss' for new music buffs.

### strengthnia.com

This is a partnership event between the *Liverpool* Irish Centre and the Liverpool Irish Festival.





81 Renshaw Street NC

### **CELTIC ANIMATION FILM FESTIVAL**

Sun 22 Oct 2017, 1pm-9pm; £5 + booking fee: eventbrite.com

Our first festival-in-a-festival, the Celtic Animation Film Festival showcases animated films from those submitted to this year's inaugural competition. At the time of writing, more than 250 international entries have been received. Resulting in an industry awards event, the aim is to encourage new and emerging Celtic and international animators to forge an ongoing global community to celebrate and share their practice, whilst telling or reflecting Celtic stories and concerns. Awards are to be given for Best Professional Short Film, Best International Short

Film and Best Student Short Film, judged by panellists, including Matthew Gravelle (award winning animator and lecturer, *University of South Wales*) and Jared Taylor (Programme Director Animation, Director of Undergraduate Studies of the *School of Design*, *Edinburgh College of Art*) and festival directors Kate Corbin and Eleonora Asparuhova.

### @cafcompetition

The competition, day and venue have been organised by Kate Corbin and Eleonora Asparuhova, with support from and in partnership with the *Liverpool Irish Festival*.





**Liverpool Irish Centre** 

### **COMMITTED**

**Sun 22 Oct 2017**, 3pm; £9/£7 from Liverpool Irish Centre: liverpoolirishcentre.org

Following its festival success in 2014, Stephen Smith's Committed is back in full force with Falling Doors Theatre. Set in 1993 in a Catholic ghetto in Belfast, Dan McCrory (Republican ex-prisoner) has been sent to organise the people against a plague of petty crime. Where the police are not welcome, the "Concerned Resident's Committee" become be judge and jury. However, as Dan finds to his cost - justice must wield a double-edged sword.

Playwright Stephen Smith is a published poet and was a political activist and teacher around the time of the troubles in Ireland. Committed was written in Liverpool, following Smith's experiences as a concerned Belfast resident, during the aftermath of the ceasefire. Directed by Sarah Van Parys, a LJMU and Young Everyman Playhouse Director's Course graduate, this is a compelling and intense play, fraught with the difficulties of the Troubles.

@fallingdoorstheatre









**Eleanor Rathbone Lecture Theatre** 

### IN HARDSHIP AND IN HOPE: A HISTORY OF THE LIVERPOOL IRISH

Book launch of In Hardship and In Hope by Greg Quiery; talk with Q&A

Mon 23 Oct 2017, 6pm; Free entry, booking required. Space limited. RSVP to dorothy@liv.ac.uk or +44(0)151 794 3837.

First-come first-served thereafter

A revealing history of the Irish in Liverpool, Greg's book is written for the general reader covering the 1700s to 1960s via a variety of topics, including employment, education, revolutionaries, sectarianism, Irish Nationalism, the break-up of the Irish districts after the 1920s, a timeline and a hundred potted biographies. Linked to the festival's heritage walks, this will be an informative event with a Q&A session. Books will be available for £10.

Organised by the Institute of Irish Studies, in partnership with the Liverpool Irish Festival, this event takes place in the Lesley Hearnshaw Theatre within the Eleanor Rathbone Building and will be followed by a reception in the foyer.



**PictureHouse at FACT** 

### **INDIECORK PRESENTS BEST NEW IRISH SHORT FILMS 2017**

Mon 23 Oct 2017, 6.30pm;

£7/£5 conc and members. Tickets from fact.co.uk

Hot off the sceen from the recent IndieCork Festival, the world of Irish short cinema unreels with exciting new productions. This event, held in partnership with returning festival contributors, IndieCork and PictureHouse is a must for contemporary filmmakers, film lovers and those interested in the Irish zeitgeist.

### The Capstone Theatre IW

### **BODY AND BLOOD**

Mon 23, Tues 24 Oct 2017, 7.30pm; £12/£10 ticketquarter.co.uk

Body and Blood is a new play exploring a buried cultural history - arranged marriages in Ireland. Inspired by writer Lorraine Mullaney's grandmother who had an arranged marriage, Body and Blood is a dark comedy that tackles a tough subject with humour and live music.

It's 1956, and young Aileen comes to London looking for her sister, who fled Ireland to escape an arranged marriage to an elderly farmer "with a face like the Turin shroud". Instead of finding her sister, Aileen finds a new life of freedom and possibilities. Will Aileen choose this new life or return to Ireland and make the sacrifices required to stay true to her roots? And will she discover why her Uncle Colm refuses to return home? Body and Blood explores the conflicts and culture clashes resulting from migration and the pull of traditional Irish values, highlighting how far Ireland has come since the 1950s.



The Caledonia NC

### ANITA ROCHFORD AND MIKEY KENNEY

**Mon 23 Oct 2017**, 9pm; Free, just turn up

Anita Rochford (box) and Mikey Kenney (fiddle and member of *The Saltcutters* and *Hop the Sea*) are both powerful players from the *Liverpool Céilí Band*. In this special performance the pair come together for a duet of bouncy and intricate dance tunes from the West and South of Ireland.



### The Edinburgh NC

# TRAD AT THE EDDIE

Mon 23 Oct 2017, 9pm; Free, just turn up

This is one of the best known and highly regarded trad sessions in town! Transporting guests to Ireland every Monday, we advise arriving early to secure a seat in this cosy, two roomed, Grade II listed pub, where visitors can expect skilful music in close quarters!



### PictureHouse at FACT IW

# INDIECORK CONSIDERS IN:VISIBLE WOMEN

Tues 24 Oct 2017, 6.30pm;

£7/£5 conc and members. Tickets from fact.co.uk

Thousands of films are sent to *IndieCork Festival* each year, not least those by, for and about women. See some of the most compelling new productions all selected for their links to this year's *In:visble Women* strand, in a programme curated just for the *Liverpool Irish Festival*.

Screened in partnership with *IndieCork* and *PictureHouse*.

### The Caledonia NC

# THE SALTCUTTERS: GIG AND SEISIÚN AT THE CALI

**Tues 24 Oct 2017**, Gig 7pm-9pm, followed by a free seisiún; All free, just turn up

The Saltcutters are a Scouse Irish dance band, based in Liverpool, facing West. They're not easily forgotten. A lively traditional Irish dance band from Liverpool, known for their speedy playing and endless energy, The Saltcutters feature Mikey Kenney (fiddle), Susie Howlin (flute), Lizzy Allen (fiddle) and Chris Roche (piano). They're a familiar bunch around Liverpool, with three of them also being members of the famous Liverpool Ceili Band, responsible for curating many traditional music events across the city and can often be found travelling around Ireland and Europe, too.

Come along for a guaranteed knees-up!

Cali sessions provide a place to meet for players and listeners to explore a wealth of Irish and Liverpool traditional songs. All musicians of any age are welcome at this weekly seisiún attended by locals, bar staff and strangers each Tuesday. Under 18s welcome.

Blackwell's Liverpool
W NC

# COLLAGE WORKSHOP: SPREAD THE WORD AND REPEAL THE 8TH

Weds 25 Oct 2017.

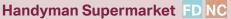
1pm-4pm; £1 on arrival for materials; donations accepted for Abortion Support Network

How can we use our creativity to influence others and affect change? Blackwell's Liverpool will host a workshop looking at zines and posters as activism. Through the medium of collage, attendees will make handmade booklets and posters to photocopy and distribute amongst friends, whilst discussing what UK citizens can do to help people seeking abortions in Ireland. Everybody is welcome. Some materials will be provided, but please bring along anything you would like to use.

# CINEMA AT THE HANDYMAN SUPERMARKET

Join *Empty Spaces Cinema* at *The Handyman Supermarket* for a pop-up film festival celebrating Irish cinema with a mixture of movies that look at Irish life.





# THE SECRET OF KELLS: EMPTY SPACES

Cert PG, 78mins

**Wed 25 Oct 2017**, 2pm; £4/£3 emptyspacescinema.com

The Secret of Kells is an animated fantasy film in which magic and Celtic mythology come together in a riot of colour and detail that dazzle the eyes. It is a sweeping story about the power of imagination and faith to carry humanity through dark times.

Directed by Tomm Moore (Newry, NI) and Nora Twomey (Cork, ROI)



Handyman Supermarket NC

# THE IRISH PUB: EMPTY SPACES

Cert 15, 76mins

Wed 25 Oct 2017, 6pm; £4/£3

emptyspacescinema.com

The Irish Pub takes a loving look at traditional Irish pubs and the people who run them, highlighting the friendships they share with loyal customers.

Directed by Alex Fegan (city of birth or residence unknown).

Handyman Supermarket NC

### I AM BELFAST: EMPTY SPACES

Cert 15, 84mins

**Wed 25 Oct 2017**, 8pm; £4/£3 emptyspacescinema.com

I Am Belfast is a visual, poetic depiction of Belfast and its citizens. It's told with the love and passion of someone who has left the city many years ago, but is still fascinated by it.

Directed by Mark Cousins (Belfast, NI).



The Crown (Hotel) NC

### TWO PLAYS: SETTLED SCORE/ AFTERMATH

**Wed 25 Oct 2017**, 7pm; Pay by donation on the night

Script Shop are a local group of writers and performers, who have developed two plays linking Liverpool and Ireland. Settled Score (written by Graham Scott) considers the position of a nurse accused of murdering of a former British soldier whilst serving in Derry, whist Aftermath (by Alex May) explores James Larkin's (formerly of Liverpool) role in the 1913 Dublin Lock Out. Telling a story of resistance in the face of great odds, Aftermath won the Most Original Play Award at the Leverhulme Drama Festival.

Each play will also be performed at the *Museum of Liverpool* as part of the *Family Day* on Sat 28 Oct 2017. Please see full event listing for updates and schedules closer to the time.

The Liverpool Irish Festival are pleased to support Script Shop.

# SUPPER CÉILÍ

**Wed 25 Oct 2017**, 8.30pm; £3 from Liverpool Irish Centre: liverpoolirishcentre.org

A regular feature on the Liverpool Irish Centre's calendar, the Supper Céilí provides a night of céilí dancing, with live music from Michael Coyne.

The Magnet NC



# THE MAGNET OPEN MIC IN ASSOCIATION WITH MELLOWTONE

**Wed 25 Oct 2017**, 9pm 'til late; *Free, just turn up* 

Returning once again, Alan O'Hare (*Only Child*) hosts a night of music, slam poetry and beats from the best of open mic contributors at *The Magnet*, the bar Noel Gallagher called the "the best club in the UK for future Rock and Roll stars"

Eleanor Rathbone Building L69 7ZA W

### ORLA GUERIN — FRONT LINES, FAULT LINES AND DEADLINES — 30 YEARS OF CHASING THE STORY

**Thurs 26 Oct 2017**, 6pm; Free entry, booking required. Space limited. RSVP to dorothy@liv.ac.uk or +44(0)151 794 3837. First-come first-served thereafter

Orla Guerin (Dublin) became the BBC's Egypt Correspondent in 2013. Since then she has reported Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Israel, Tunisia, and Libya. She has reported on the first democratic transition of power in Cairo, suicide bombings, sectarian violence, the Taliban shooting of Malala Yousufzai and the battle for female education. In total, Orla has reported from over 60 countries, and her work has been recognised with awards and nominations in the UK, USA, and her native Ireland. In this talk, Orla discusses her work and life. Organised by the Institute of Irish Studies, in partnership with the Liverpool Irish Festival, this event also contributes to the festival's new strand of work In: Visible Women, an important body of work considering women, particularly those with Irish connections, today.









**The Capstone Theatre** 

### THE BREATH

Thurs 26 Oct 2017, 7.30pm; £11.50 + booking fee: ticketquarter.co.uk

The Breath is Stuart McCallum (ex-guitarist of The Cinematic Orchestra), Irish singer Rioghnach Connolly, fellow Cinematic alumnus pianist John Ellis and drummer Elliot Bennett. Mixing Irish folk influences with mesmerizing guitar riffs, anthemic themes and powerful hooks, Connolly's soulful vocals are interwoven into the electronic fabric of McCallum's distinctive sound-world. In turns hypnotic, lush, powerfully raw and raucously punchy, their songs enter, uplift and break your heart as The Breath conjure a kaleidoscope of sound that perfectly frames Connolly's raw songs and soulcleansing vocals. While original lyrics pour forth from her in a torrent of meaning, she sings songs of birth and death, woman's rights, first love, the call of motherhood, the death of men at sea and post-colonial wrongs.



**Liverpool Irish Centre COMMITTED** 

Thurs 26 Oct 2017, 8pm; £9/£7 from Liverpool Irish Centre: liverpoolirishcentre.org

For description see Sun 22 Oct 2017 entry on Page 10.

**Central Library IW** 

# IN:VISIBLE WOMEN — ILLUMINATING DEBATES

**Fri 27 Oct 2017**, 9am-5pm; £5/£4 + Eventbrite booking fee: livirishfest.eventbrite.co.uk

25.



Unveiling a number of discrete, yet important case histories of Liverpool, Liverpool Irish and/or Irish women, *In:Visible Women's* morning sessions set the scene for exploring the issues women still face today, particularly in certain Irish communities. By recognising their influence and impact we aim to redress their abilities and attributes. Discussions move to more difficult issues in the afternoon and could include discussion around shamed pregnancies, arranged marriages, faith crises, institutional abuse, secret adoptions and illegal abortions; many of which retain influence and impact on families and communities today and are highlighted elsewhere in the festival programme. Whilst the laws in the Irish Republic, Northern Ireland and mainland Great Britain still allow 11 women per day to travel to England to have their 'shame dealt with' these issues are not just a matter for women, but for society, legislature and reconciliation and so the late afternoon sessions will consider this.

In: Visible Women builds relationships with artists, academics and organisations to deliver illuminating talks, films, performances, artworks and written features to start making 'invisible' women's issues, visible. Piloting this year is our In:Visible Women day at Central Library. Artists and academics will highlight individual, historic case studies, bringing to light diminished or overlooked histories and stories. After an enlightening day of discussion, imagery, installations and film, we have an evening of Liverpool, Liverpool Irish and Irish female singer songwriters at the Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room, showcasing a raft of contemporary talent.

This is the tip of the iceberg. As *In:Visible Women* has developed, more striking stories, histories and opportunities have presented themselves and we expect to expand the programme in future years. Our inaugural year already has much to offer. Having received interest from press, artists, academics and

activists, we advise getting your tickets early and engaging now. A full day schedule will follow online, but artists Casey Orr and Alison Little are already involved as well as speakers from the London-Irish Abortion Rights Campaign and Abortion Support Network. #InVisibleWomen

We also recommend booking for the **Visible Women: New and powerful women in music**.

Whilst the Liverpool Irish Festival does provide free events, this is an all-day event that will require refreshments. The ticket price is to cover visitor beverages for the day. Although we will not provide a lunch, we do recommend the cafe at the library and people are welcome to bring a packed lunch which can be eaten outside. In order to provide barrierless access, we have with-held a small allocation of tickets for those who do not feel they are able to pay the ticket price. To apply for one of these tickets, please send your request to info@liverpoolirishfestival.com with the subject header "IW Bursary".

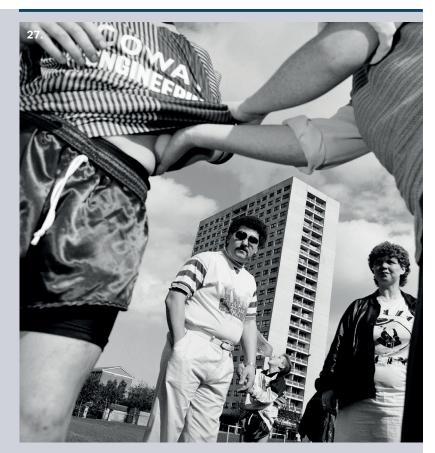
Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room IW

# VISIBLE WOMEN: NEW AND POWERFUL WOMEN IN MUSIC

**Fri 27 Oct 2017**, 8pm; £14 +7.5% booking fee liverpoolphil.com

Further to a day of illustrated talks, installations and debate, we present an evening of exceptional female talent, from Liverpool and Ireland. Including four acts, this evening celebrates contemporary music and the women making it. With modern takes on traditional songs, self-penned tracks and exceptional instrumental talent, the night is hosted by Gerry Ffrench, a popular local radio star and touring musical artist in her own right. The line-up includes sets increasing in length from Emma Lusby (Limavady, Co Londonderry), *Mamatung* (Liverpool), Sue Rynhart and headliner Ailbhe Reddy (both from Dublin). Delve deeper on our website.





### **Everyman Theatre Street Café and Theatre Bar**

### "NO, THAT'S MY UNCLE"

Fri 27 Oct 2017, 6pm; Free, just turn up

Whilst Ken Grant was showing his photographs to a community group in Dublin in the early 1990s. A woman became convinced that she knew the people in the picture as close relatives. She was wrong. The picture was made in Liverpool, but it started a conversation about shared cultures, family connections and the cultural histories shared between Liverpool and Ireland. In this illustrated presentation, Ken discusses his experiences on both sides of the Irish Sea, exploring the rich and deep traits in photography and culture shared by Liverpool, Belfast and wider Ireland.

Ken Grant has photographed Liverpool since the 1980s, with his pictures of the city widely published and exhibited. Whilst better known for books *The Close Season* and *No pain whatsoever*, he has also worked and taught widely in Ireland and for more than a decade ran the Documentary Photography Course in Newport, Wales. He now works in Belfast, running the MFA Photography Course at the *School of Art*. In this illustrated presentation, he discusses his experiences of photography in Liverpool and Ireland, and explores the new wave of contemporary photography and the rich and deep connections emerging in Belfast and wider Ireland.

### St Brides Church NC

# MELLOWTONE PRESENTS ONLY CHILD

Fri 27 Oct 2017, 8pm; £7 adv skiddle.com

Festival favourites, *Only Child* appear with String Quartet and special guests *Limerance* and Rachael Jean Harris. *Only Child* have released two albums and two EPs since 2012 and have headlined Liverpool's *The Music Room, View Two Gallery, Zanzibar Club and The Magnet,* among others. For this special concert *Only Child* will be accompanied by a string quartet to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the group's debut gig. 'Violin, voices and electric piano echo one another, both playful and mournfully. It's beautifully haunting, as the band falls away leaving just strings' *- Liverpool Acoustic* 

### **Liverpool Irish Centre**

# TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC SESSION

Fri 27 Oct 2017, 8.30pm; Free, just turn up

Join the resident musicians from *Liverpool Branch* of *Comhaltas* - and friends - to start the celebrations that mark the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of *Comhaltas* in Liverpool. All musicians and singers welcome. **@Comhaltas.Liverpool** 

This event is organised by Liverpool Comhaltas and the Liverpool Irish Centre in partnership with the Liverpool Irish Festival and forms part of a wider family weekend, which includes the Family Day at the Museum and a Family Céilí. Please see individual event listings for details.







Kelly's Dispensary, Smithdown Road NC

### SAMHAIN AT **KELLY'S FT. THE JESSE JANES AND CONLEATH MCGEARY**

Fri 27 Oct 2017, 8.30pm; Free, just turn up

Two great Liverpool based acts -Conleath McGeary and headliners The Jesse Janes – set up what is sure to be a great night of Irish folk, bluegrass, skiffle and rock and roll. Expect a party atmosphere and lots of dancing!

According to Irish mythology, Samhain (like Beltane) was a time when the 'doorways' to the Otherworld opened, allowing supernatural beings and the souls of the dead to come into our world; but while Beltane was a summer festival for the living, Samhain "was essentially a festival for the dead".

### Peter Kavanagh's NC

### TRAD AT PK'S

Fri 27 Oct 2017, 9pm; Free, no booking required

Named Peter Kavanagh's after its original owner, locals affectionately know this place as PK's. Come along to this unique, Grade II listed pub, full of curios and character to join in the weekly toe-tapping music session. Famed for its collection of artefacts, murals and ship's tables (front lounge), this pub is a must see!

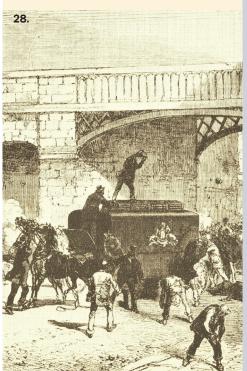
**The Unity Theatre** 

### **EDWARD AND ELIZA** AND THE SMASHING OF THE VAN

Sat 28 Oct 2017, 7.30pm; £12/£10 + booking fee: unitytheatreliverpool.co.uk

The year is 1867. Edward Brett and his Irish wife, Eliza are struggling to make a living from their small shop. Edward's brother, a popular policeman, is shot dead during the rescue of two Irish Republican prisoners in Manchester. A huge upsurge of anti-Irish feeling sweeps the country and three Irishmen are publicly hanged. Edward and Eliza struggle to cope with their personal loss, their loyalty to each other and their different cultural backgrounds. Written to coincide with the 150th anniversary of real events, the play explores dilemmas that are still very relevant today. Written by Eileen Murphy, directed by Chris Honer and performed by Straightforward Theatre.

@sftheatre



**Liverpool Irish Centre** 

### **LIVERPOOL COMHALTAS AND** LIVERPOOL CÉILÍ **BAND EVENING**

Sat 28 Oct 2017, Doors 7,30pm with music from 8pm; Free, just turn up

Join Liverpool Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and the Liverpool Céilí Band in celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of Comhaltas in Liverpool. Entertainment by Liverpool Comhaltas musicians - past and present - as well as some special guests.

For more information about Liverpool Comhaltas's sixtieth anniversary celebrations please read the Family Céilí event entry.

@Liverpool.Comhaltas



Museum of Liverpool IW FD

# FAMILY DAY AT THE MUSEUM

Sat 28 Oct 2017, 10am-5pm; Free, just turn up



Celebrate the Liverpool Irish Festival with family and friends in a day incorporating music, talks and activities for everyone to enjoy, across the day. Delivered in partnership with National Museums Liverpool, with contributions from *Liverpool* Comhaltas (celebrating their 60th anniversary) Melody Makers and the Institute of Irish Studies at University of Liverpool this is a true highlight of the festival, where culture sharing, enjoyment and conviviality are at the centre of all we do. Across the day, there will be various activities, including:

This daylong event is delivered in partnership with *National Museums Liverpool, Liverpool Comhaltas* and *Melody Makers* with support from the *Institute of Irish Studies* at *University of Liverpool* and sponsored by *Tourism Ireland*.

It forms part of a wider Family Days programme, which includes a Children's Hour with Carmel Kelly and a Family Céilí. Please see the other events listings for details.

### CARMEL UÍ CHEALLAIGH/KELLY

(Galway, ROI) reading from her Gaelic and English children's books in the morning

### **ALISON LITTLE**

will run mask making workshops throughout the day

### **SCRIPT SHOP**

...help pass the afternoon, performing two plays linking Liverpool and Ireland; Settled Score (Graham Scott) about a nurse accused of killing a former British soldier and Aftermath (Alex May), exploring James Larkin's role in the 1913 Dublin Lock Out. An evening performance of these productions is also being shown on Wed 25 Oct 2017 at the Crown Hotel (see full event listing for details)

### POP-UP GAELTACHT

An bhfuil cúpla focail agat? There's a good chance that if you understand that question, the answer is 'Tá'. Pop-Up Gaeltacht is an informal affair, where an Irish language speaker will be present in order that anyone wishing to share a few words (cúpla focal) of Gaelic can and is welcomed to do so.

### **BASIL ABBOTT**

...will perform his self-researched and penned 17 character court room drama The Flush Hall Murder presenting the real life case of a young man, attacked and left for dead on his way home from a Masonic meeting over 100 years ago. His stepfather stood trial three times, but the jury could not agree and he was set free. To this day the people of Newtownards, County Down, argue about how he got off. Basil has investigated the case notes and developed a court drama, presenting 17 different characters, presenting his findings and the possible truth to close the mystery. Basil's greatuncle was a close friend of the murdered man, which is how the story came to be developed. First performed at The Lyric (Belfast) this is a unique piece of case law performance. Vignettes across the day will support a full run through in the afternoon.

VICA DEBATE AND THE LILY AND THE POPPY (READ ON FOR DETAILS).



# **VOTES FOR IRISH CITIZENS ABROAD (VICA): A DEBATE**

**Sat 28 Oct 2017**, 11.30am; *Free, booking required: livirishfest.eventbrite.co.uk* 

Professor Mary Hickman chairs a Votes for Irish Citizens Abroad panel in the morning. The discussion and Q&A highlights the rights held by the Irish diaspora currently, what future referenda are considering and what Irish citizenship means/could mean – today and in future.

Professor Mary Hickman is Professor Emeritus of Irish Studies and Sociology at London Metropolitan University. Pivotal in establishing the Irish Studies Centre at London Metropolitan University in 1988, Mary is a Liverpool Irish Festival Director, trustee of the London Irish Centre; member of the Mayor of London's Community Advisory Committee for the St Patrick's Day Festival and Chair of the campaign Votes for Irish Citizens Abroad (VICA).

Part of the Family Day in partnership with VICA.

### THE LILY AND THE POPPY

**Sat 28 Oct 2017**, 3pm-4.30; Free entry, booking required. Space limited. RSVP to dorothy@liv.ac.uk or +44(0)151 794 3837.

First-come first-served thereafter

This strand of work between the *Liverpool Irish Festival* and the *Institute of Irish Studies*, features two high profile Irish women, speaking about reconciliation and living peacefully in conflict. Linked with *In:Visible Women*, these women represent monumental shifts In social positioning, and progressive reform. The discussion will be chaired by Professor Peter Shirlow, Director of the *Institute of Irish Studies*.

Elisha McCallion was the first Mayor of the new Derry City and Strabane District Council, on its formation in 2015. She brought together statutory and community agencies in Derry to advance proposals for *Crisis Intervention Services*, to address the gap that exists for those feeling isolated and in crisis due to mental health issues. Elisha was elected to the Northern Island Assembly in March 2017, holding the seat previously held by the late Martin McGuinness. In June 2017 Elisha made history by winning the Foyle seat in the Westminster election, from the SDLP who had held it since 1983.

Dawn Purvis was a Member of the NI Assembly from March 2007-May 2011, representing East Belfast. She was appointed as head of the *Progressive Unionist Party* in 2007. In 2011, Dawn left politics and became NI Programme Director with *Marie Stopes International (MSI)*, opening the first integrated sexual and reproductive healthcare centre in Belfast. She is currently CEO of a housing charity.

Part of the Family Day in partnership with the *Institute of Irish Studies*, *University of Liverpool*.



7

The Caledonia NC

# BURNING WHEEL: ALBUM LAUNCH

**Sat 28 Oct 2017**, 9pm; *Free, just turn up* 

Promising to be a very special occasion, we welcome Burning Wheel home just as they release their debut album Remembrance Songs, recorded with renowned producer Gerry Diver. Band Members Eoin Quiery (vocals/guitar), Nessan Quiery (banjo) and Liam Crosby (fiddle) were born and raised in the Liverpool Irish community and have frequently played at the festival since it began. The band's musical and lyrical themes explore the unique links between Liverpool and Ireland in a thrilling, high-octane blend of Irish folk, Mersey-melodica and psychedelic post-rock noise. Their intense live shows move from plaintive Dylan-folk to hypnotic and danceable country-soul, accompanied by Flaming Lips style pyrotechnics.



Central Library IW FD

# CHILDREN'S HOUR WITH CARMEL KELLY

**Sun 29 Oct 2017**, 10.30am; *Free, Just turn up* 

Carmel Uí Cheallaigh/Kelly (Galway, ROI) is a children's author and picture book creator, writing in Gaelic and English. Her motto is "Picture books are for everyone". A librarian herself, Carmel's early works are an introduction to Gaelic for the young. Working with inspiring illustrators, they brings words to life on the page. This is an opportunity to hear her breathe life in to the words of books such as *Goldilocks and the Three Pigs* to Hallowe'en favourite *Spidey*.

### carmelsbooks.com





**Liverpool Irish Centre FD NC** 

## **FAMILY CÉILÍ AND COMHALTAS'S 60TH CELEBRATIONS**

Sun 29 Oct 2017, 2pm-5pm; £5/£2 children. Liverpool Irish Centre: liverpoolirishcentre.org

A time to unwind, be with friends and family and celebrate the breadth of Irish culture in this afternoon of music, song, dance, food and drink. A perfect time to reconnect with your loved ones, your (or another) culture and plan your next trip to the Island of Ireland!

The Family Céilí is one of the most popular family events at the Liverpool Irish Festival and this year returns, at a new location which welcomes families to join Liverpool Comhaltas, in the spiritual home of the Irish community on Merseyside, the Liverpool Irish Centre (6 Boundary Lane, Liverpool L6 5JG). Bring family, friends and your dancing feet to join the fun and have a go a learning some Irish céilí dances, complete with live music from Liverpool Comhaltas. No previous experience is necessary as full instructions will be given by a great dance caller.

This event also celebrates 60 years since the establishment of the Liverpool Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. For those in our readership who don't know, Comhaltas is a cultural movement concerned with the promotion and preservation of the music, dance and language of Ireland. As the world grows more complex, it is more important than ever to take a strong stand in maintaining a living folk tradition. Thus, celebrating 60 years of the Liverpool Branch, which has been instrumental in maintaining the tradition of Irish music teaching, playing and appreciation here and away from the city, is incredibly important and we welcome you to join in.

To find out more about Liverpool Comhaltas and its bunreacht (constitution) visit its Facebook page

### @Comhaltas.Liverpool

This event is organised by Liverpool Comhaltas and the Liverpool Irish Centre in partnership with the Liverpool Irish Festival and forms part of a wider family weekend, which includes the Family Day at the Museum.

Kelly's Dispensary, Smithdown Road NC

### **KELLY'S IRISH TRAD SESSION**

Sun 29 Oct 2017, 7.30pm; Free, just turn ир

Kelly's Dispensary is a home-fromhome for many Irish people now living in Liverpool. Involved in the community, sponsoring local Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) teams, the trad session has been a great addition to Kelly's (and the festival), where performers receive free food and drink.

Ullet Road Unitarian Church NC



### **FINNS HOTEL CEILIDH BAND: FUNDRAISING DANCE**

Fri 3 Nov 2017, 7pm; £5 from Irish Community Care iccm.org.uk

Finns Hotel Ceilidh Band will play - for one night only - fundraising for *Irish* Community Care. Finns Hotel is a long established, but recently dormant, ceilidh band which started during the miner's strike in the 1980s.

Irish Community Care works across the Liverpool City Region; in Cheshire and Wigan and Greater Manchester, too. Irish Community Care supports Irish and Irish Traveller people through times of uncertainty, trouble, hardship or isolation. They make sure people have a decent place to live and are safe and well and ensure that they settle well in the community, whether as new arrivals in the country/area or from prison release, maximising their income through training, employment and welfare benefit entitlement and helping them to feel part of and connected to local communities. All money raised will contribute to this much needed work.

### POP-UP GAELTACHT

An bhfuil cúpla focal agat? There's a good chance that if you understand that question, the answer is 'Tá'. According to the 2016 Irish Census, 1,761,420, or 39.8%, of the Irish population who have the ability to speak Irish.

The Irish language (known by various names including *Gaeilge* and Gaelic, but referred to in Ireland simply as 'Irish') is an integral part of Irish cultural history. Irish is the oldest written vernacular language in Western Europe and it is closely associated with other Celtic languages including Welsh, Manx, Breton and Scots-Gaelic.





Ogham stones, as the one featured here, offer the first evidence of Irish writing as early as the fourth century. During the sixth century, the writing of Irish in Roman script is widespread, especially in manuscripts by monks such as The Book of Kells. Irish was the dominant language for many centuries in Ireland and the rich and multicultural heritage of the language is demonstrated by the presence of many Viking and Anglo-Norman words in Irish. The beginning of the decline of the Irish language coincides with the fall of the native Irish Gaelic Ascendancy. By the beginning of the nineteenth century there were still approximately 4 million Irish speakers, but by then Irish had no political, legal or commercial standing in Ireland. This massive language shift from Irish to English did so due to many factors which include the Great Famine and mass emigration.

### **REVIVAL**

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, Irish underwent a resurgence during the period of cultural nationalism that involved literature, music, language and folklore as well as a wider movement towards political independence. Organisations dedicated to the revival of the language were established, including *Conradh na nGaeilge* which sought to re-establish Irish as a spoken language. When Ireland became independent, Irish became the first official

language of the State and was made compulsory in schools, although this failed to halt the further decline of the language for much of the twentieth century. However, renewed interest in Irish towards the end of the century saw the establishment of a national television station, Teilifís na nGaeilge, as well as huge increases in the numbers of students undertaking primary and secondary education through the medium of Irish, in Gaelscoileanna and Gaelcholaistí. In the fields of film. music, art and literature, Irish is similarly revitalised - for a taste, take a look at the Irish Film Board's website

**www.thisisirishfilm.ie** – under *gearrscannáin* and watch some recent short films in Irish.

It is for this reason this year's Liverpool Irish Festival includes a number of Irish language related events, including Pop-Up Gaeltachts, an Irish language related exhibit and a children's author, writing in Gaelic and English, Carmel Uí Cheallaigh/Kelly. We encourage you to come along – whatever your level of use and understanding, just to have a go!

### POP-UP GAELTACHT

The Pop-Up Gaeltacht phenomenon is a simple grass-roots movement to provide a social space where lrish speakers of all abilities, from basic beginners to native speakers, can meet and converse together in Irish.

There is no minimum standard, other than enthusiasm and a willingness to speak the Irish you have with other Pop-Up Gaeilgeoirí. The Pop-Up Gaeltacht is designed to bring together the hidden community of Irish speakers in any given place - there have been similar events in Dublin, New York, Dubai, Minnesota and Melbourne, to name just a few! Liverpool Irish Festival 2017 is delighted to be able to facilitate a Pop-Up Gaeltacht space as part of its Family Day at the Museum of Liverpool, where Irish speakers can gather and speak in a lively atmosphere of music, entertainment and family fun.

### Dr Ailbhe McDaid

is Busteed Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the *Institute* of *Irish Studies*, *University* of *Liverpool*, where she works on representations of women in Irish conflict literature.

Her book *The Poetics of Migration in Contemporary Irish Poetry* is published by *Palgrave Macmillan* in 2017

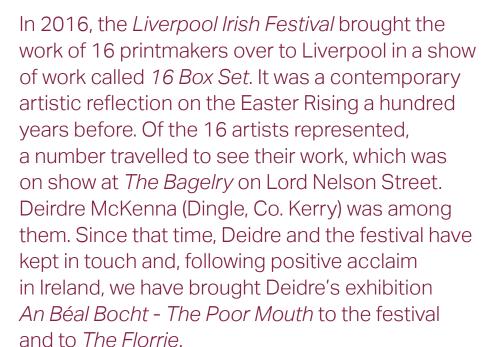
Between 11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm on Sat 28 Oct 2017, the *Pop-Up Gaeltacht* will be in action! Please come along and brush up your *cúpla focal – beidh ceol, craic agus fáilte romhat*!













In 2016, the Liverpool Irish Festival brought the work of 16 printmakers over to Liverpool in a show of work called 16 Box Set. Organised via Cork Printmakers, it was a contemporary artistic reflection on the Easter Rising a hundred years before. Of the 16 artists represented, a number travelled to see their work, which was on show at The Bagelry on Lord Nelson Street, bringing friends and other members of Cork Printmakers with them. Deirdre McKenna (Dingle, Co. Kerry) was among them. Since that time, Deirdre and the festival have kept in touch and, following positive acclaim in Ireland, we have brought Deidre's exhibition An Béal Bocht - The Poor Mouth to the festival and to The Florrie.

Released as a short book in 1941, by Irish writer Flann O'Brien, also known as Miles Na gCopaleen, the text is set in the fictitious Corca Dorcha. It is suspected this name is a play on the words Corca Dhuibhne meaning 'Dingle Peninsula', thus our bringing it to The Florrie in the Dingle. Taking a particular "us" and "them" stance (not wholly at odds with Liverpool's stance about its relationship with England vs Europe) talking about "home", "the other side" (England/Scotland/Wales) and "abroad" (the Americas and beyond) smacks of the kind of exceptionalism Liverpool is known for.

Its strapline - "a bad story about the hard life" - is reflected on in both text and printed image, reimagined by Deirdre to highlight some of the more farcical scenes from the book - such as fishermen catching pigs in their nets: the man who went off to live with the seals and the shock a ray of sunshine brings in the midst of all the rain. This exhibit is an exercise in both printmaking,

comedy and Irish language and a delight to all that come to see it (Gaelic/English translations are available throughout).

Linked with our intention to promote female artists, support cúpla focal (Gaelic for 'few words') and unpick Irishness, An Béal Bocht serves as an entry to all three. Not only this, but as a 'nook and cranny' venue, it helps to take people out of the city centre to see alternative and fascinating sites.

This exhibition and supporting material is supported by Arts Council England. All images courtesy of the artist.

### Deirdre will host a launch on Thurs 19 Oct 2017.

Search online event listings for full details and times liverpoolirishfestival.com/ events

# VENUE & BOOKING DETAILS

Liverpool Irish Festival strives to use venues which offer unimpeded access to all. We hope to offer single level access at all our venues. However, it is not always possible and - as you would expect - street tours can only provide the services local to their area. If you have any concerns about access, toilets, hearing loops or other Deaf aids; connections to local services or additional and/or alternative amenities, please contact the venue directly.

### 81 RENSHAW STREET

81 Renshaw Street, L1 2SJ Open Tues - Sun 12pm -11pm +44 (0)151 707 1805 info@81Renshaw.co.uk

w: 81Renshaw.co.uk

f: 81Renshaw

t: 81renshaw

# BLACKWELL'S/LIVERPOOL BLACKWELL'S (BOOKSHOP)

Unit 2-3, Crown Place, Peach Street, L3 5UH Open Mon-Fri 9.30am-6pm liverpool@blackwell.co.uk +44 (0)151 709 8146

w: blackwell.co.uk

f: blackwellsliverpool

t: BlackwellLiv

### **BLUECOAT**

School Lane, L1 3BX
Open Mon-Sat 9am-6pm, Sun
11am-6pm
info@thebluecoat.org.uk
+44 (0)151 702 5324

w: thebluecoat.org.uk

f: theBluecoat

t: theBluecoat

### **BLUECOAT DISPLAY CENTRE**

50-51 College Lane, L1 3BZ Open Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 12am-5pm crafts@bluecoatdisplaycentre. com

+44 (0)151 709 4014

w: bluecoatdisplaycentre.com

f: Bluecoat-Display-Centre

t: BluecoatDisplay

### ELEANOR RATHBONE BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

74 Bedford Street, L69 7ZA Event venue only, not open publicly.

To book tickets email Dorothy Lynch, Development Manager; School of Histories, Languages and Cultures dorothy@liv.ac.uk

+44 (0)151 794 3837

w: liv.ac.uk/irish-studies

f: UniversityofLiverpool

t: IrishInstitute

# EVERTON: THE PEOPLE'S LOUNGE, THE SIR PHILIP CARTER PARK STAND

Goodison Park, Goodison Road, L4 4EL

Open for specific events only hospitality@evertonfc.com +44 (0)151 530 5300

w: evertonfc.com

f: Everton

t: Everton

### EVERYMAN THEATRE, STREET CAFÉ AND THEATRE BAR

Hope Street, L1 9BH Open Mon-Sat 8.30am-11pm boxoffice@everymanplayhouse. com

+44 (0)151 733 7838

w: everymanplayhouse.com f: everymanplayhouse

t: liveveryplay

### HANDYMAN SUPERMARKET

461 Smithdown Road, Liverpool L15 3JL

Open for specific events admin@handymansupermarket. co.uk

+44 (0)151 222 7422

w: handymansupermarket.

co.uk

f: handymanbrewery t: handymanbrewery

### **KELLY'S DISPENSARY**

154-158 Smithdown Road, L15 3JR

Open Mon-Sun 12pm-12am kellysdispensary@hotmail.com +44 (0)151 222 4693

w: whatpub.com, search "Kellys"

f: kellysdispensary

t: kellyssmithdown

### LIVERPOOL CENTRAL LIBRARY

William Brown Street, L3 8EW Open Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-5pm +44 (0)151 233 3069

w: liverpool.gov.uk/libraries

f: itsliverpool

t: Ipoolcouncil

# LIVERPOOL IRISH CENTRE (FORMERLY ST MICHAEL'S)

6 Boundary Lane, L6 5JG Open [Requested] info@stmichaelsirishcentre.org +44 (0)151 263 1808

liverpoolirishcentre.org

f: LiverpoollrishCentre

t: LiverpoollrishCentre

# LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL

Mount Pleasant, L3 5TQ (with access to the Crypt gained from Brownlow Hill)

Open Mon-Sun 7.30am-6pm enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk +44 (0)151 709 9222

W: liverpoolmetrocathedral. org.uk

f: liverpoolmetrocathedral

t: LiverpoolMet

### LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC, THE MUSIC ROOM

Hope Street, L1 9BP (with the Music Room accessed from Sugnall Street at the rear of the main building)

Box office open Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 12-5pm

customerservices@liverpoolphil.

+44 (0)151 709 3789

w: liverpoolphil.com/ music-room

f: LiverpoolPhilharmonic

t: Liverpoolphil

### **MUSEUMS LIVERPOOL**

Pier Head, L3 1DG Open Mon-Sun 10am-5pm Email using online form: www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ about/contact

+44 (0)151 478 4545

w: liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/

f: museumofliverpool t: MuseumLiverpool

### PETER KAVANAGH'S

2-6 Egerton Street, L8 7LY Open 12pm-12am (as minimum) +44 (0)151 709 3443

w: independent-liverpool. co.uk/peter-kavanaghs f: peterkavanaghs t: peterkavanaghs

### PICTURE HOUSE AT FACT

88 Wood Street, L1 4DQ Open Mon-Sun 11am-6pm liverpool@picturehouses.co.uk +44 (0)151 707 4444

w: fact.co.uk f: factliverpool t: fact\_liverpool

### **SCOTLAND ROAD WALK MEETING POINT**

Meet on the corner of Juvenal and Grosvenor Street, L3 3BB This is a public junction, so be sure to understand its location ahead of arrival

Greg Quiery is the walk host info@liverpoolirishfestival.com +44 (0)785 441 5721 to book in advance. Pay host on arrival

f: greg.quiery t: gregquiery

### **MEETING POINT**

Meet on the Leece Street side of St Luke's Church and Gardens, also known locally as the Bombed Out Church. This is a public junction, so be sure to understand its location ahead of arrival

info@liverpoolirishfestival.com Greg Quiery is the walk host +44 (0)785 441 5721 to book in advance. Pay host on arrival

f: greg.quiery t: gregquiery

### ST BRIDE'S CHURCH

Percy Street, L8 7LT Open for events only stbridesliv@gmail.com +44 (0)7804 030 006

w: stbridesliverpool.org.uk f: stbridesliverpool t: StBridesLpool

### THE CALEDONIA

22 Caledonia Street (corner of Catherine Street), L7 7DX

Open Mon-Fri 5pm-9pm, Sat-Sun 12pm-6pm, with exceptional event extensions

thecaledonia@hotmail.co.uk +44 (0)151 306 2496

thecaledonialiverpool.com f: caledonialiverpool t: thecaledonia

### THE CAPSTONE THEATRE

Liverpool Hope University Creative Campus. 17 Shaw Street, L6 1HP. Open at event times only, with doors opening 40 mins before scheduled performance time

capstone@hope.ac.uk +44 (0)151 291 3578

thecapstonetheatre.com f: capstonetheatre t: capstonetheatre

### THE CROWN (HOTEL)

43 Lime Street, L1 1JQ

Open Mon-Sat 8am-11pm

(midnight Fri-Sun), Sun 10am-midnight

media.centre@mbplc.com (press enquiries only)

+44 (0) 151 707 6027

w: thecrownliverpool.co.uk f: crownliverpool t: CrownLiverpool

### THE EDINBURGH

4 Sandown Lane, L15 8HY Open Mon-Sun 2pm-12am, as a minimum No email +44 (0)151 733 3533

w: whatpub.com, search

"Edinburgh" f: The Edinburgh Pub t: -

### THE FLORRIE

377 Mill Street L8 4RF Open Mon-Fri 9am-9pm info@theflorrie.org +44 (0)151 728 2323

w: theflorrie.org f: TheFlorrie t: TheFlorrie

### THE MAGNET

45 Hardman Street, L1 9AS Open: Sun-Tues 4pm-1am, Wed 12pm-1am, Thurs 12pm-4am, Fri 12pm-5am, Sat 12pm-6am liverpoolmagnet@gmail.com +44 (0)151 363 6623

w: magnet-liverpool.co.uk f: magnetliverpool t: magnetliverpool

### THE UNITY THEATRE

1 Hope Place, L1 9BG Open according to events info@unitytheatre.co.uk +44 (0)151 709 4988

w: unitytheatreliverpool.co.uk f: unitytheatre t: unitytheatre

### THE VINES (AKA THE **BIG HOUSE)**

81 Lime Street, L1 1JQ

Open: 8.30am-12.30am most days

+44 (0)778 11 2097

w: -

f: The-Vines-the-Big-House

t: -

### **ULLET ROAD UNITARIAN CHURCH**

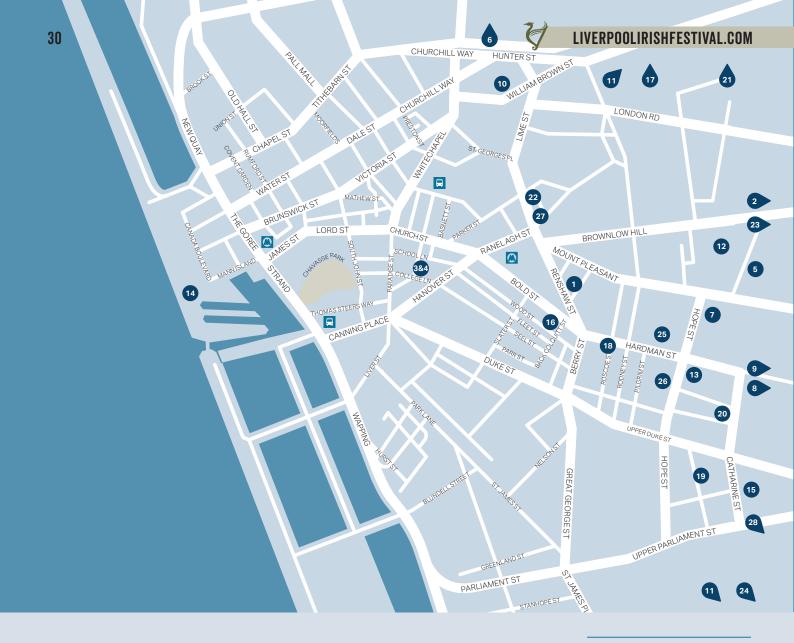
57 Ullet Road, L17 2AA Open for specific events only For event info email admin@ iccm.org.uk

For event info call ICCM on +44(0) 151 237 3987

w: ukunitarians.org.uk (venue) or iccm.org.uk (tickets) f: UlletRoadUnitarianChurch

t: UlletRoadChurch

**SOUTH LIVERPOOL HERITAGE WALK** 



### **1** 81 RENSHAW STREET

81 Renshaw Street, L1 2SJ

### ② BLACKWELL'S/LIVERPOOL BLACKWELL'S (BOOKSHOP)

Unit 2-3, Crown Place, Peach Street, L3 5UH

### **3** BLUECOAT

School Lane, L1 3BX

### BLUECOAT DISPLAY CENTRE

50-51 College Lane, L1 3BZ

### **5** ELEANOR RATHBONE BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

74 Bedford Street, L69 7ZA

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Goodison Park, Goodison Road, L4 4EL

### **O** EVERYMAN THEATRE, STREET CAFÉ AND THEATRE BAR

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461 Smithdown Road, Liverpool L15 3JL

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Hope Street, L1 9BP Music Room accessed from Sugnall Street

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Pier Head, L3 1DG

### **®** PETER KAVANAGH'S

2-6 Egerton Street, L8 7LY

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### **4** THE CAPSTONE THEATRE

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### THE CROWN (HOTEL)

43 Lime Street, L1 1JQ

### **23** THE EDINBURGH

4 Sandown Lane, L15 8HY

### **29** THE FLORRIE

377 Mill Street L8 4RF

### **25** THE MAGNET

45 Hardman Street, L1 9AS

### **20 THE UNITY THEATRE**

1 Hope Place, L1 9BG

### THE VINES (AKA THE BIG HOUSE)

81 Lime Street, L1 1JQ

### **49 ULLET ROAD UNITARIAN** CHURCH

57 Ullet Road, L17 2AA

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### ARTISTS. WRITERS. PERFORMERS, SPEAKERS

AND CONTRIBUTORS Ailbhe Reddy Alan Burke Alan O'Hare and Only Child Alex Fegan Alex May Alison Little Angelica Kroeger Anita Rochford Basil Abbott Becky Tavernor **Bob Edwards** Boys of the Thatch Burning Wheel Carmel Uí Cheallaigh/Kelly Casey Orr Cathal Kenna Chris Kelly Chris Roche Christopher Brown Christy Keeney Conleath McGeary Daisy Asquith Dan Bodwell Dave O'Grady and Seafoam Green David Na Dawn Purvis Debbi Stanistreet Dr Peter Shirlow Deidre McKenna Dr Ailbhe McDaid

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