

TRADITIONAL

GET READY FOR TRADFEST

DUBLIN'S PREMIERE CELEBRATION OF TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC AND CULTURE IN THE HEART OF THE CITY RUNS FROM WED 26TH TO SUNDAY 30TH JANUARY 2011

Now in its sixth year, Temple Bar TradFest is a firm fixture on the Irish music calendar and in 2011 will present five days and nights of some of the best of Irish music in Dublin City. Winner of Ireland's best traditional music festival in 2008 and 2009, TradFest is organised by Temple Bar Traders and programmed by RTE's Kieran Hanrahan, and features a rich line up of performances, showcase concerts, workshops and much more.

This year TradFest will include anniversary performances from both Altan and Clannad, performances from Beoga and upcoming performers Ciorras and some very special duets.

It will host performances in the historic Christ Church Cathedral and many free events, live music and family entertainment on the streets of Temple Bar.

The Festival Programme Kieran Hanrahan said, 'This year's TradFest features a mixture of world renowned performers, established national artists as well as up and coming acts, again this year we will have showcase performances, workshops, family fun, outdoor concerts, pub sessions, singers clubs and lots more to tempt you'

The Festival kicks off on Wed 26th Jan as Altan celebrate their 25th Anniversary with a very special performance 'Altan and Friends' in the historic surrounds of Christ Church Cathedral. This performance is part of Altan's world tour of Asia, the US and Europe. Clannad have now added extra dates due to phenomenal demand so they will be playing on the 27th and 28th as well as the 29th of

January.

Alongside legendary names TradFest showcases great up and coming groups who are adding a modern twist to traditional trad and exploring Irish traditional music and song in their own special way. Already very established in the Irish music scene BEOGA will take to the stage in the Button Factory (Thurs 27th Jan) as part of a double bill with emerging Irish performers Cirroas.

Continuing its role to provide a platform to showcase the best in up-coming Irish talent, as on that same night TradFest will play host to Ciorras. Hailed as 'a modern Bothy band', Ciorras bring a contemporary approach to traditional music and were formed as a band earlier this year when the individual members featured in the hit TG4 series, Lorg Lunny. These 8 young musicians were invited by Irish music legend Dónal Lunny to create a new band with a fresh, new unique sound in traditional music.

Friday 28th Jan will bring together the best in established trad music talent as four soloists come together as two duets creating an exceptional night of Irish music.

The first of the duets sees harmonica player

Brendan Power join multi instrumentalist Tim Edey and then Jackie Daly (accordion) and Matt Cranitch (fiddle) fuse their talents together.

Over the course of the festival, The Irish Music Rights Organisation (IMRO) in association with Temple Bar Traders will present a series of traditional-music showcases and master classes in the New Theatre, Temple Bar.

The music showcases will feature performances by some of Ireland's emerging talents. Master classes will also take place where renowned musicians will host music seminars.

2011 will also include

the very popular Irish Cultural Workshops with Gael Cultur. In two hours explore Irish culture through sean nos singing and sean nos dancing and learn a cupla focal too! The various pubs in Temple Bar will feature live Irish music over the five days and nights as part of the music pub trail featuring performances ranging from solo balladeers to traditional Irish music sessions to contemporary Irish and folk.

Temple Bar TradFest is also delighted to welcome back the Singers Club, which this year will take place in the Temple Bar Hotel. The Singers Club gives people a unique opportunity to hear tradi-

tional singers in an informal setting.

To share a song, learn a new tune or simply listen in - just drop in.

This year TradFest will also burst out onto the streets of Temple Bar with three outdoor stages bringing music to Temple Bar for all the family.

The 2011 programme will feature an extended family programme of free and ticketed events with storytellers, pipe bands and lots more - full details are coming soon!

For more information log onto: www.templebar-trad.com <http://www.facebook.com/tradfest>.



A blast from the past



After a long hard week of it, among a round of Christmas parties and visitors, on Friday, sick of the kitchen, we headed to The Ugly Duckling Restaurant in Wembley Park

where we had a fine feed in very comfortable surroundings. It was busy and very enjoyable..

Afterwards we headed to The Office in Northolt. The place was heaving with people in party mood, many having finished up work for the Christmas and were heading home over the weekend. On Saturday night, with the weather having taken a turn for the worse, we decided to stay fairly

local and we joined the Christmas party at The Swan in Sudbury where Stil On the Brew provided the entertainment.

Sunday saw us head for The Garryowen in Twickenham for the Sunday roast which was second to none before heading back to Jono's in Ealing on the way home. Again,

with a heaving pub, there is no sign of a recession in these parts and home for an early night before the dreaded Monday morning alarm clock went off.....

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Josie Kiernan is back!