



Philadelphia Ceili Group Seanachie ~ November 2015

Upcoming Concert Events Sponsored By the Philadelphia Ceili Group

PCG is proud to host the Philadelphia premier of "Kitty in the Lane" a one-woman play by Irish playwright and actor Áine Ryan

Saturday, December 12th, 8:00 pm at the Irish Center, 6815 Emlen St. Phila. PA 19119



The theatre production of *Kitty in the Lane*, written and performed by the Irish playwright and actor Áine Ryan.

Tickets: \$20.00 for PCG Members, \$23.00 for non-members. Seating is limited,

reserve your tickets now at:

http://www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org/philadelphia_ceili_group/concert-tickets.html

About the production

Kitty in the Lane is the debut production by Irish playwright and actor Áine Ryan. After rave reviews at the 2015 San Francisco International Arts Festival, Áine Ryan will be making her acting and playwriting debut in Philadelphia with this production.

When Kitty's boyfriend isn't showing up to escort her out the lane to a local beauty pageant, we jump into her tragic albeit often hilarious

existence on a rural farm with her cantankerous father.

Kitty in the Lane tells the story of a twenty year old girl living in an isolated cottage in rural south west Ireland with her elderly father. In conjunction to caring for her father, Kitty is managing the family farm alone, due to her brother's recent death. The action takes place on the eve of a local beauty pageant with Kitty waiting for her boyfriend to escort her to this event, escaping domestic duties. As Kitty waits for his arrival we get a glimpse into her world, and her relationship with family, friends and community. The play is a dark drama, unlocking Kitty's perspective of life as a young woman in a lonesome environment, but showered in comedy too through Kitty's world.

Here's what the critic's have to say about **Kitty in the Lane**:

'An intense, poetic study of loneliness, cruelty and rural isolation, *Kitty in the Lane* is a mesmeric continuation of the Irish literary tradition.' ★★★★★ (Broadway Baby)

'An extraordinary accomplishment as both playwright and actress.' ★★★★★ (TheatreStorm)

'*Kitty in the Lane* does some of the things Irish contemporary drama does best.' (Edinburgh Guide)

'Áine Ryan is a wondrous actor. A full-blooded, committed portrayal of a woman in lonely, mental decline. This is visceral monologue, in the

hands of a superb performer.
Highly recommended.' (Fringe Review)

'An Irish gem...Áine Ryan is a wonder to watch.'
(The Public Reviews)

'Ryan writes beautifully.' (The Stage)

'Ryan's writing has a lovely, authentic tone...the
people she speaks of and the places they go to
sparkle with life and truth.' (The Scotsman)

'An exceptionally promising first piece.' (San
Francisco Chronicle)

About Áine Ryan (Writer/Performer)

Áine holds a BA in Theatre and Performance
from Goldsmiths, University of London. She has
completed E20 Writers School with the BBC, a
programme for emerging scriptwriters. As well as
playing the title role in Kitty in the Lane, other
recent theatre credits include Sive in the Irish
premiere of Desolate Heaven by Ailís Ní Ríain,
directed by Tony McCleane Fay at the Everyman
Theatre, Cork. Also, May in Angel Dust and
Dallas by Paul Maher, directed by Amy Hill, a
touring comedy production. Film Credits include
Susan in short film Spellbound, directed by Sean
Breathnach and Rachel in Five Pillars, directed
by Jon Rosling.

The Crooked Road – A Ramble Through Irish History in Words & Music with DIARMUID JOHNSON,



**poet, musician and
Gaelic scholar**

**February 27, 2016 at the
Irish Center, 8:00pm
Tickets - \$20.00**

THE CROOKED ROAD is a
musical and poetic journey
through Irish history leading up
to the Easter Rebellion of 1916. Lyrics from the
earliest times are woven into the show, along
with music from a lost world that evokes the

many distinct and dramatic chapters in the history
of Ireland. The journey begins with pre-Christian
myth, and continues through the Golden Age of
Irish Civilisation to the coming of the Vikings,
the Normans, and the English. Relive the Flight
of the Earls, the events of 1798, the time of the
Fenians, The Famine, the trauma of exile, and the
Easter Rising of 1916 as described by W.B. Yeats
and epitomised by Cúchulainn, the hero of the
tribe.



- Save the Date - John Blake, Mairead Hurley and Nathan Gourley in Concert on March 12th, 2016

Nathan Gourley

A former member of Chulrua, the Doon Ceili
Band, the Two Tap Trio, and the Máirtín de
Cógáin Project, fiddler and guitarist Nathan
Gourley started playing music at age five. While
living in Minnesota he had the opportunity to
collaborate with such renowned players as Paddy
O'Brien of Chulrua, Daithi Sproule of Altan,
Brian Miller of Bua, and Norah Rendell of The
Outside Track. Now a resident of Boston, Nathan
was a finalist in the Seán Ó Riada fiddle
competition in Ireland in 2014 and winner of
Boston's Fiddler of Dooney competition in 2013.
Nathan can be seen playing at concerts, ceilis,
sessions and festivals in Boston and throughout
the United States and Ireland.

Mairead Hurley

Mairead is an inspiring concertina player from Ballymote, Co. Sligo, Ireland. Growing up in a musical family, she won the 2006 All-Ireland Concertina Senior Championships title at the Fleadh Cheoil in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, cementing her status as one of the up and coming talents in Irish concertina playing. A regular at music festivals throughout Ireland, she is also in high demand for concertina workshops worldwide. She has played on a number of Irish television music shows including TG4's 'Geantraí' and RTÉ's flagship 'The Late Late Show' to promote the 'Sligo Live' festival. She has recently spent 2 years living and playing music in Australia, and has made her mark on the folk scene there, performing at major festivals including the National Folk Festival, Port Fairy Folk Festival and Woodford folk festival.

John Blake

John Blake is a traditional Irish flute player, guitarist and pianist. An ex member of traditional group Téada, John has performed and recorded with the cream of Irish musicians including John Carty, Paddy Glackin, Noel Hill, Liam O'Flynn, Jesse Smith, Harry Bradley, Colm Gannon, The Kane Sisters and James Kelly. Brought up in London, John moved to Ireland in 1998 and developed a reputation as an accompanist of note, racking up several album credits. He joined traditional band 'Téada' in 2001 and toured with them for 3 years, at which point he got off the road and settled into a job in Na Píobairí Uilleann (The Pipers Club) in Dublin. In 2003 John was runner up in the Irish Echo's 'Irish Traditional Musician Of The Year' and in 2013 released his debut solo album 'The Narrow Edge'.

**Mick Maloney, Robbie O'Connell and
& James Keane in Concert on
April 16th, 2016 at the Irish Center
Tickets \$30 at the door
\$25 in Advance for Non-Members
\$20 in Advance for PCG Members**



Since 1984, Mick Moloney, Robbie O'Connell, and Jimmy Keane have been delighting audiences with their unique blend of Irish music and song, both traditional and contemporary. An evening with this trio is an experience that covers much musical ground and is not easily forgotten.

With each one regarded as the best in his field, the combination brings a great depth and range to their concerts. Virtuoso musicianship is underscored with humor, and a sense of history is tempered by the reality of today's social condition. Some of their songs will fill you with emotion, others will have you laughing outright; some of the melodies will haunt you for days, others will make you want to leap up dancing. However you react, one thing is certain, you will want more.



**Friday, November
27th at 8:00 pm
4th Friday Ceili
resumes on Black
Friday**

The Philadelphia Ceili Group Thanksgiving Ceili Co-sponsored by the Circle of Friends Set Dances. Music provided by the McDermott's Handy - Hosted by John Shields and Cass Tinney

Bring a dessert or dish to share, 50/50 raffle, prizes.

Admission: \$15, PCG Members & Students \$10, Children Free
The Commodore Barry Club, "The Irish Center",
6815 Emlen St., Philadelphia, PA 19119

A Message from the Philadelphia Ceili Group Board:

As of January 2015 the PCG has 460 people registered as members. 23 of these are life time members. In January, only 95 members' membership dues were current. PCG's has an on-going goal to increase the number of members who join or renew their memberships. The great majority of PCG's operating funds come from membership dues and in order to expand programming and event awareness we need to grow this number. Please make sure your membership dues are current. If you are unsure of the status of your membership contact phillyceiligroup@gmail.com.

PCG Board of Directors

Officers

Mary Lou McGurk	President
Courtney Malley	Vice President
Anne McNiff	Secretary
Beth Ann Bailey	Treasurer

Directors

Jim McGill, Rosaleen McGill, Lori Lander
Murphy, Marybeth Phillips and Matt Griendling

A Reminder:

The PCG Board meetings are normally held the 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2:00 p.m. at the Commodore Barry Club aka "The Irish Center." The remaining Board Meeting dates for 2015 are as follows:

November 15th, December 13th.

Annual Meeting and Election of board members:
Jan 17th, 2016.

Monthly Events Sponsored By the Philadelphia Ceili Group

Singers Session: Every 1st Wednesday of the Month at 7:30 pm the Singers Session is run by Terry Kane. Join local Irish Singers both of English and Irish tunes. All levels of singers welcome. For More information check website: www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org or call 215-704-5982. Bring a snack or dessert to share "It will be great craic!" The Singer's Session remaining for 2015 will be on December 2nd, stay tuned for the 2016 schedule!

Irish Traditional Music Sessions:

Every 1st Friday of the Month from 8:00 -9:00 there is a **slow session** hosted by Hollis Payer. This is a traditional Irish session in all ways except one: the tempo. Common session tunes will be played at a slower than normal pace, so that beginning and intermediate players can more easily learn the tunes and join in the session. Also great for experienced players who are picking up another instrument! A **regular session** sponsored by the Irish Center will run after that from 9:00 - On. For more information contact Courtney Malley at courtney@starlinx.com or 215-704-5982

Ceili Dance: Every 4th Friday of the Month at 8:00 p.m. there is a Ceili at the Commodore Barry Club. A Ceili (kay-lee) is a traditional Irish gathering for fun, fellowship, and laughs (or craic as the Irish might say). Traditional Ceili dances were enjoyed at house parties and crossroads gatherings in the rural country sides. There are several dances which are easy for beginners to learn, such as, Haymaker's jig, Siege

of Ennis, Fairy Reel, etc. Many of these traditional dances have a follow the leader pattern that new dancers can easily pickup on their 1st attempt. Our dance caller will teach the basic 3's, 7s, jig step, and Ceili swing at the start of the event. Come early (7:30 ish) and learn the basic steps while meeting new friends! You'll never learn if you don't try. Cost is \$12.00 when there is live music, \$10 when its recorded music unless otherwise noted.

Upcoming PCG Event Dates

Monthly Ceili Dance- Friday November 27th

Monthly Singers Session- Wednesday, December 2nd

Monthly Music Sessions- Friday, December 4th

Monthly Ceili Dance- CHRISTMAS CEILI
Friday December 11th

Friends of the Ceili Group

The Commodore Barry Club



The Philadelphia Ceili Group has called the Commodore Barry Club aka "The Irish Center" its home since 1958. The Irish Center has always supported all the events, concerts and Festivals the PCG has held there. Here are some upcoming events that we hope you will support and enjoy!

The Irish Center is located at 6815 Emlen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119. Please check www.theirishcenter.com for additional events.

Fall Events at the Irish Center

Monthly Set Dance Lessons: 7:30pm, with John Shields are held in the Fireside Room.

Tickets are available for the annual Christmas Basket raffle. Tickets are available for \$5 from any Board member, the Irish Center, or the Glenside Dairy Queen. The drawing will be held December 20. For several years, sales of tickets from the annual Christmas Basket raffle covered the expense of our real estate taxes, but no more. That is why greater support of this event is so important. The basket contains hundreds of dollars of Irish foods, snacks and gifts donated entirely by the Glenside Dairy Queen.

The Next Generation

A group of musicians of all ages that meet every second Sunday of the month from 1-3pm at the Irish Center in Mt. Airy for a session. The Next Generation is led by Chris Brennan-Hagy, Kathy DeAngelo and Dennis Gormley, who spend the first hour teaching a tune and leading the session in the second hour. Participants should already know how to play their instruments. All tunes are taught by ear. Free. The session meets monthly September through June. Website: <http://www.hslc.org/~gormley/mcdh/nextgen.htm>

Circle of Friends Irish Set Dancers

John Shields offers Irish Set Dance classes at the Commodore Barry Club in Mt Airy. Please see below schedule:

Advanced Class: Wednesday, 7:30 pm -9:30 pm
Please contact John Shields for more information: 215-722-1674

johngshields@aol.com

Second Friday Sets - All sets - CD's or live music sponsored by John & Cass on most 2nd Fridays of the month. Call for information. 215-722- 1674.

Fourth Friday Ceili - sponsored by the Ceili Group on the 4th Friday of each month, dances are Ceili, set, waltzes, quick step - live music - call for information (215) 704-5982.

Philadelphia Area Irish Cyber News: JUST A FEW FUN AND INTERESTING SITES TO CHECK OUT ON THE WEB:

www.Philadelphiaceiligroup.org The Philadelphia Ceili Group is devoted to the promotion and perpetuation of Irish music, dance and culture in Philadelphia and throughout the Greater Delaware Valley. Offering information about great concert series, ceilis and other activities.

www.irishphiladelphia.com Irish Philadelphia brings together all aspects of *Irishness* in the Delaware Valley under one roof. More than that, they give you the tools to become a full participant in this wonderfully rich culture.

www.Ctims2.org The Coatesville Traditional Irish Music Series, a little bit outside of Philadelphia, but offering a great concert series of Irish traditional music.

www.irishmemorial.org Website devoted to information about the conception and history of the Irish Memorial. The Memorial stands prominently at the southeast corner of Front and Chestnut Streets in Philadelphia. The Irish Memorial is dedicated to the memory of more than one million innocent men, women and children who perished during the years 1845 to 1850 and to the millions of Irish immigrants who found here in the United States of America the freedom, liberty and prosperity denied to their ancestors in Ireland.

PHILADELPHIA CEILI GROUP. JOIN TODAY!

The Philadelphia Ceili Group is a non-profit, volunteer, educational organization (governed by a nine member Board of Directors), which is dedicated to the support of Irish Culture through a variety of activities. The Ceili Group (pronounced Kale-lee.) was founded in 1958 to preserve traditional Irish ceili, or set dancing.

From our beginning as a group of precision dancers, the Ceili Group has grown to encompass a wide range of activities, centered on Irish music and dance. In addition to our popular Annual Festival, members can take advantage of discounted prices for: Special Dance Events, Musical and Dance Lessons, Concerts by world-renowned performers, Concerts featuring talented new-comers, Cultural and Craft activities, Music workshops taught by first class musicians, Music Sessions. Bring along your instrument, or just sit back and enjoy!

Annual Membership Dues

Individual \$15.00, Family \$25.00, Lifetime membership \$500.00, (Lifetime members receive FREE ADMISSION to all Ceili Group Events) You can join on-line by going to www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org and going to the membership page, **or** Send your check or money order with the following information: Name, Address, Phone #, and Email Address to:

The Philadelphia Ceili Group
6815 Emlen Street
Philadelphia, PA 19119

Help Support the PCG:

Support the Philadelphia Ceili Group by making a donation on-line! Just go to www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org. There is a "donate now" button in the left hand corner. We are very grateful for all of your support. If you have any questions or require a letter for tax purposes please contact us at phillyceiligroup@gmail.com.

SUPPORT LOCAL IRISH RADIO SHOWS!



Saturday: Noon-2:00 on 740 AM:
The Irish Hours with Mike Concannon

Sunday: 11-Noon on WTMR 800 AM and at
www.wtmrradio.com:
Vincent Gallagher Irish Hour

Sunday: Noon-1:00 on WTMR 800 AM,
www.wtmrradio.com
"Come West Along the Road" with Marianne
MacDonald.

**Congratulations to Ceili Group
Members
Kathy DeAngelo & Dennis
Gormley**



on being 2015 inductees into the
Delaware Valley Irish Hall of Fame



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