

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL





18–28
OCTOBER
2018

Bringing Liverpool and Ireland closer
together using arts and culture.



liverpoolirishfestival.com

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

    /LIVIRISHFEST



Liverpool
City Council

LIVERPOOL 2018



Government of Ireland
Department of Tourism





WELCOME/FÁILTE

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

Fáilte (welcome) to the sixteenth annual Liverpool Irish Festival. This year's theme is 'migration'.

Migration is a part of Ireland's history, life and future. It connects it to a vital network –physical and digital– and is reflected in the diversity of cultures at home. Migration contributes to the variety of its diaspora and Ireland's global influence on music, literature, dances and perceived character. **#LIF2018** asks how these migrations and immigrations contributed to its politics, its peace process, its developing gender and sexual rights movements and racial tolerance.

The *United Nation's International Migration Report* (Dec 2017) reports that global migration has increased by 49% since 2000. It calculates that 258 million people now live in a country different to their birth. The Irish Government recognises that 4m+ people live on the island of Ireland, with 44m registered Irish diaspora and a further estimated diasporic population of 26m. As international communities are forced to flee their homelands due to the ravages war, others provide shelter. Sadly, anti-immigrant, nationalist hate crime rises. But then, so too do stories of support and compassion. What can Ireland's migration stories tell us about finding acceptance abroad? As we celebrate 20 years of the Good Friday agreement, how does Ireland's diaspora relate to the agreement, to 'home' and to the Brexit conversations about hard borders?

As Europe changes and Brexit evolves, what can be extracted from Ireland's experiences to generate or evade division? How do diaspora communities continue to share culture, history and art? How do islanders and the diaspora combine to consolidate 'Irishness' and sustain a communal identity? Should they? With more people than ever claiming their Irishness in order to remain a part of Europe, how will traditional Irish values adapt to a contemporary world?

LIV
IRISH
FEST
2018

Liverpool is a home of migrants; 86 international communities at the last count! Each have strong and embedded bases here. It is a truly multi-cultural place built with the blood, sweat and tears of migrants. Liverpool sees and describes itself as a European city. As it develops, it nods to the street café culture of European cities, elevates culture amidst its commercialism and reveres its sporting stars as passionately as any Spanish or Italian city would. A home-from-home for many, Liverpool's polyglot streets and urban sprawl are committed to its diverse residents. What are the likely geosocial changes that will occur and what about the psychosocial impact of Brexit? Will these political tide-changes re-contextualise our understanding of migration, unity and diaspora?

#LIF2018's programme poses such questions using arts and culture projects. Its work and events provide a resonant platform to discuss 'Irishness' – new and old - within the context of Liverpool's deep familial, emotional and geographical connections with Ireland, demonstrated by its given epithets of both 'East Dublin' and 'the Seventh County'. Voicing stories from complex and juxtaposed histories we portray a picture of modern Ireland. By making space for discussion, we encourage diverse responses and difficult discourse. By collaborating closely with our partners we hope to engage you in energetic discussion, dynamic events, exhibits, talks, storytelling, Q&As, writing, workshops and more.

Use **#LivIrishFest**, **#LIF2018**, **#madfortrad**, **#madfornew** and **#invisiblewomen** to celebrate all aspects of the programme. Start connecting! *Tweet* us your thoughts, experiences and ideas; *Instagram* us your pictures; *Facebook* welcome people to the city and join us in spreading a little áthas (joy)! Subscribe to our newsletter at liverpoolirishfestival.com 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 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 fáilte (welcome) agus go n-éirí an bothar leat (and may your journey be successful)!

ABOUT LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

Liverpool Irish Festival is governed by a volunteer Board, chaired by founder John Chandler. To each of the Board Directors, the festival team offers their ongoing thanks.

Liverpool Irish Festival is a registered charity (1100126), 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. In 2018 we have also received project support from *Arts Council England's National Lottery Project Grants* and *Culture Ireland's GB2018* programme funds.

Dates for your diary: #LIF2019 will take place 17-27 Oct 2019. Add it to your diary now!



MIGRATION

Migration would be a suitable theme for almost any festival in Liverpool.

This is because of the importance of so many inward migrations for the city's history and formation. Even though those born abroad now number only around 10% of the population, a substantial majority of the population have a heritage beyond that of the city or England. People have migrated to Liverpool from: China, Wales, Jamaica, Ghana, Greece, Italy, Poland, Bolivia, Columbia, Brazil, Peru, Malaya, Somalia, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Yemen, Zimbabwe and Ireland and this is just to name sizeable migrations.

We are celebrating one such migration, that of the Irish. In the 2011 Census the population of Liverpool was 466,400 (estimated as having grown to 491,500 by 2017). 1.3 per cent had been born

in Ireland (North and South) while variously 50% (*Office of National Statistics*) or 75% (*Liverpool Echo*) of the population are estimated to have an Irish heritage. This is due to the size and longevity of Irish migration to Liverpool in the nineteenth century. That period was one of immense migration to Liverpool generally due to the city's prominence as a port, the vibrancy of the accompanying economy, and thus migrants were attracted to Liverpool from all over the world.

In histories of the nineteenth century Liverpool is frequently compared to New York as a cosmopolitan, outward-facing port with a sizeable immigrant population. In popular culture too the comparison is often made. In the *Illustrated London News* (15 May 1886) Liverpool is described as having '...become a wonder of the world. It is the New York of Europe, a world city rather than merely British provincial'. Just under a century later, John Lennon, after taking

up residence in New York, said 'My love of New York is something to do with Liverpool. There is the same quality of energy in both cities' (1971). Indeed both cities are regularly said to be different from the country they are located in. As the conductor Simon Rattle, born in Liverpool, once remarked 'Liverpool is off the side of the known universe, and it always was. New York is the only place comparable'. The importance of trans-Atlantic shipping of people and goods to both ports is central to their similarities. In each case many of the migrants, despite aspirations to move on, stayed and built the cities into what they are today.

What is it that migration brings in its tow? The ebb and flow of migrants always involves some permanent settlers. They help expand local supplies of labour power (albeit often in the most menial, poorly paid jobs, at least at first) and they become part of the rich culture of a place. Migrants change when they settle elsewhere, as they adapt to a new place; but so too do those already resident in a place, as the local culture takes on aspects of that of the new migrants. This is most evident in such cultural forms as food, music, language, literature and other creative endeavours. Many people focus on what are said to be the disadvantages of migration -overcrowding, pressure on public services, cultural conflicts- without stopping to consider the extent to which the historical presence of migrants have helped deliver what we most value in contemporary society.

The seeds of public health policies were laid down in response to the squalid living conditions and ill-health of Irish migrants in the mid-nineteenth century, especially in Liverpool and Manchester. Not only were the Irish in Britain enduring the worst circumstances, but it was also often Irish migrants who provided the solutions. For example, Kitty Wilkinson, an Irish migrant living in Liverpool, invited her neighbours who had infected clothes or linens during a cholera epidemic in 1832, to use her boiler, the only one in the area. Ten years later a combined washhouse and public baths was opened in Liverpool, the first in Britain, after a campaign by Kitty for public funds. There is now a statue of her in *St George's Hall* Liverpool

the only one of a woman, and she continues to provide fresh inspiration.

Earlier this year a not-for-profit business was launched seeking *Kickstarter* funding to establish a launderette providing washing and drying facilities for residents in the Everton/Anfield area. It was set up to provide an alternative to people having to pay over the odds at rent-to-buy electrical outlets for washing and drying machines. It will be called *Kitty's Launderette* in honour of Kitty Wilkinson and the work she did to open the first washhouse, which was in the same part of Liverpool. Remembering and retelling these stories is part of the fabric of a city and can result in new ventures adapted for contemporary times.

There are many other stories of the Irish in Liverpool and of Liverpool's connections to Ireland which will be explored in the Festival through a wide range of artistic and cultural events. In different and various ways they will explore how important migration has been and is for Liverpool.

Liverpool Irish Festival Board member and writer of this article, Professor Mary Hickman will chair a *Migration Panel*. It will consider the influence of Irish migration on Liverpool, Ireland and the world, with talks from migration experts Dr Johanne Devlin Trew, Dr Gillian O'Brien and Greg Quiry at the Family Day. See Sat 27 Oct listing for details.

Professor Mary Hickman is Professor Emeritus of Irish Studies and Sociology at *London Metropolitan University*. Former Professorial Research Fellow, *Centre for Irish Studies*, at *St Mary's University* (London, 2012-2016), Mary was pivotal in establishing the *Irish Studies Centre* at *London Metropolitan University* in 1988. Mary's research specialisms include Irish migration and diaspora evidenced by *Women and Irish Diaspora Identities* (edited with trustee J. MacPherson, 2014). Mary has extensive experience of community involvement, currently being a trustee of the *London Irish Centre* a member of the *Mayor of London's Community Advisory Committee* for the *St Patrick's Day Festival* and Chair of *Votes for Irish Citizens Abroad (VICA)*.

EVENTS KEY

FILM, ART AND ANIMATION

TALKS AND TOURS

PERFORMANCE AND POETRY

FOOD & DRINK

MUSIC & SONG

COMMUNITY, FAMILY & SPORT

TRAIL STRANDS

The festival has four trails:



**Migration/Diaspora/
work from Ireland**



In:Visible Women



Family Days



**Nook and Cranny
events and venues**

Many events cross more than one trail. Use the symbols above to find trails through the programme. More information is available in *Ways of Trailing* on page 28.

EXHIBITIONS

All dates relate to 2018 unless otherwise stated. All information provided here was correct at the time of going to print. End times are provided as a guide only, based on expected running times. We do all we can to ensure listings are correct, but changes do occur. We will make every endeavour, where possible, to forewarn ticket holders of changes, but to be absolutely certain please check our website liverpoolirishfestival.com

Bluecoat Display Centre

BERINA KELLY

GALWAY

Mon 1-Wed 31 Oct

Viewable during shop opening hours. Free, just turn up



The *Bluecoat Display Centre* present the jewellery of Berina Kelly for their monthly *In the Window* feature, which never fails to present high quality, original work. In Berina's pieces, we see fine detail and contemporary design using precious metals. Influenced by coastal walks, leaves and shells, her work is described as 'delicate, generous, yet imaginative', 'exaggerating the more conventional elements of jewellery design' and 'pushing the barriers of wearability with the use of strong shapes, in delicate applications'. This work is not to be missed; get there early in the run to ensure the best pieces have not been snapped up!



OUTPUT Gallery

REPEAL THE EIGHTH RESPONSE

LIVERPOOL

Thurs 18-Sun 28 Oct

Free just turn up. Private View to be announced. Check liverpoolirishfestival.com for updates



The Eighth Amendment of the Constitution Act (1983) amended Ireland's Constitution, giving an equal right to life to pregnant women and their unborn child. This led to conflicts in medical and social care, leading to loss of life and moral and legal arguments for and against body autonomy. It also drove women to seek abortions -sometimes unsafely- elsewhere. This created a divide between those who could afford to choose to travel and those who could not. It upheld the notion that foetal cells carry more importance than the person carrying them and condemned anyone, pregnant as the result of rape or abuse, to full term pregnancy and motherhood, irrespective of choice. This year's public referendum revoked the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution, permitting the government to legislate for abortion and grant new body autonomy for the people of Ireland. In a brand new partnership, *Liverpool Irish Festival* and *OUTPUT Gallery* invited artists to show their response to this. This is the resulting exhibit.

Supported by Arts Council England.



2018 images from the
Its The Travelling Life project

The Brink and George Henry Lee's Building
IT'S THE TRAVELLING LIFE
LIVERPOOL

**The Brink: Thurs 11 Oct 2018-Mon 7
Jan 2019 and George Henry Lee's
Building; Thurs 18-Sun 28 Oct 2018.**

Viewable during open hours.

Free, just turn up



Irish Travellers have been residents of the UK for centuries. Afforded distinct ethnic minority status in 2000, Irish Travellers have often been misrepresented and maligned in the media. Rarely is an authentic internal voice from within the community heard in its own right, and even more infrequently from women. This exhibit provides space for these voices to be heard beyond the usual confines.

Jona Frank's imagery, taken in Tallaght (near Dublin) in the 1990s, served as a catalyst to explore one of Liverpool's Irish

Traveller communities, providing an 'historic' backdrop to compare and contrast the visual representations the community make of themselves today, from a location they have occupied for over 40 years.

Focussing on the domestic, these images show what home life looks like and reveal some of the day-to-day preoccupations of contemporary Irish Travellers.

More information about this project will be available at liverpoolirishfestival.com/news

The exhibition will take place in two locations. The first opens at *The Brink* as part of *The Art of Falling Apart* as part of the *Liverpool Mental Health Festival*; the second at *George Henry Lee's Building* is part of **#LIF2018**. Check liverpoolirishfestival.com for updates.

The Brink private view will take place from 4pm-5.30pm, Thurs 11 Oct. The *George Henry Lee* private view is listed on page 10.

It's the Travelling Life is a collaboration between the Irish Traveller community, *Liverpool Irish Festival*, *Irish Community Care* and the *Liverpool Mental Health Consortium*. Delivered as part of the *Liverpool Mental Health Festival* and *Liverpool Irish Festival* it has received project funding from *Wellcome Trust*, *Arts Council England* and *Liverpool City Council*. It is presented in partnership with *The Brink*, *Art in Liverpool* and *IB18*.



Support and partnership funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



2018 images from the *Its The Travelling Life* project.

Irish Travellers are often viewed by others as living 'outside society' and are confused with Gypsies and/ or other nomadic peoples.

For some, Irish Travellers evoke memories of bow topped, painted, horse-led caravans, elaborate brocaded décor and landlessness. For others, travelling communities are cultureless, and lawless, living without concern for society; avoiding civic responsibilities and taking from the state. As with many assumptions, none resemble the truth for the majority and all are dangerous assumptions to make.

Liverpool is a polyglot city, providing a wealth of space for its 86 (at the last reckoning) global communities including Arabic, Black and Chinese;

as well as large faith communities. Liverpool's Irish Travelling community is well established and cares for itself; looking out for its citizens, keeping home and raising its next generation. Like most, they are concerned by Liverpool's gentrification and what it might mean for their neighbourhood. The families want to give their children the very best start in life and aim for them to be healthy and happy. However, external forces make being an Irish Traveller today very hard. Societal systems are increasingly inflexible and don't support "other culture" and particularly nomadic thinking. Bullying and violence within schools -and from individuals who see Irish Travellers as targets- frequently renders schooling for Irish Traveller children dangerous. Common intolerance of Irish Travellers, often strengthened by misrepresentation and lack of knowledge of the real lived issues, and thus the subsequent misconceptions of them 'living as vandals' is frequently to blame. Within the community,

and related to the hardships of life, concerns about mental health are on the increase; high suicide rates reflect poor wellbeing and the domino effect of this pain impacts on the physical and mental illness of those left behind...

It's August and for months *Liverpool Irish Festival*, *Irish Community Care* and *Liverpool Mental Health Festival* and have been talking about a photographic project based on Jona Frank's work. Jona is an American artist known to Liverpool through her work on *The Modern Kids* – a boxing/photography project, following Paul Butler's journey to become a pro-boxer (2015). Her 1990s images of Irish Travellers in Tallaght (near Dublin; see right) have just turned 25. Showing domestic life in a time just out of memory for today's young adults – a time millennials have never seen – they show a life 'before'. They are candid, beautiful images.

We battled with strings of questions: what do we want to ask or say; what are the ethics of looking at a community that respects distance; are we exotifying a potentially vulnerable group; who is the project for?

"Why don't we just ask the Irish Travelling community if they have something they would like to talk about?"

We did and what followed were conversations about the importance of family, space and safety. Of domestic life and sharing cups of tea with neighbours. Of the ability to cook and play. Frustrations with drains take on new meaning when 'outside' is an extension of your living room and them backfilling contaminates play. There were the stories of lost children; of bullying and abuse; of systematic ignorance and isolation; of murder and suicide, amidst others of uilleann pipe-playing, dancing and song; crafts and care.

We listened. We asked them to pick the stories they would most like to tell outside the community – if at all – and gave them cameras to translate them for us. Jona has selected images from these to help curate an exhibit to be taken seriously by an art-going public, but the images and stories they represent are 100% authentic to our Liverpool Irish



Traveller community. On seeing the new work, Jona recognised the women's deeper comprehension of the brief and how closely they were looking at and showing their world. She said: "Setting out to do that may sound simple at first, but [...] it is far from simple...it requires a person to stop their day-to-day tasks and think about what their story is, what their purpose is. It is celebrating the ordinary. It is celebrating a history and a course of life that others seem to quickly dismiss and disrespect. These women and children are taking a step back from being in their day-to-day to observe it, to look closely, to create a record and to share it with pride. That's courage".

The exhibit's title is taken from a specific image taken by one of the group. When asked to tell us about the picture she was showing us she said "It's the Travelling life, isn't it?" And so it is.

As with most families, the project shows us that Liverpool's Irish Travellers are 'getting on with it', doing what they know and trying to raise happy, healthy families. *It's the Travelling Life* shows us "we are far more united than the things that divides us" (Jo Cox, 2016). We hope this is the start of many more collaborations together.

See pages 7 and 10 for exhibition and event times and dates. *It's the Travelling Life* has received project funding from *Wellcome Trust*, *Arts Council England* and *Liverpool City Council*. It is presented in partnership with *The Brink, Art in Liverpool* and *IB18*.





Liverpool Everyman - Street Café and Theatre Bar

MATERIALS LIBRARY

Thurs 18-Sat 27 Oct Viewable during venue opening hours.

Free, no booking required



A drop-in space to hold discussions and impromptu seisiúns (sessions), the *Materials Library* invites you to enjoy the fully accessible space, free Wi-Fi and delicious bistro menu, whilst chatting over Irish newspapers, texts, maps and children's books all with a Liverpool or Ireland focus. Straddling Hope Street, between the Catholic and Protestant cathedrals, *Everyman* is the ideal cultural hotspot to browse a festival brochure, pick up a bite to eat and encounter some of the city's performance artists.

EVENTS

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George Henry Lee's Building
(Clayton Square entrance)

IT'S THE TRAVELLING LIFE

LIVERPOOL A PRIVATE VIEW

Thurs 18 Oct 12pm-2pm,

Free, just turn up



This private view gives you a first glimpse of this extraordinary exhibition, which offers a unique insight in to the domestic life of contemporary Liverpool Irish Travellers. It uses work made by the community, supported by work from internationally acclaimed, American photographer Jona Frank (*High School, Right, The Modern Kids*).

See listing on page 7 and essay on page 8 for more details.



81 Renshaw Street

FRIELING THE MUSIC

Thurs 18 Oct 3pm-4.15pm, £6

liverpoolirishfestival.com



Taking inspiration from Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *LJMU* Masters student, Corey Harbinson, presents music and songs he has written to tell Friel's story, using hymn, folk and a capella styles. Showcasing Friel's characters -five sisters- audiences witness the expectations placed on Irish women alongside the factors that influence and shape their circumstances, revealing the fight between family loyalty, tradition and the oppression of 'modern' life. Friel's work suggests that for Ireland to progress it must modernise and become more like the UK. Harbinson likens this to Ireland within Brexit, though in 2018 perhaps Ireland's passport and free movement gives them the upper hand?

Liverpool Irish Centre
LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL LAUNCH FT. BILL BOOTH AND CATHERINE COOK

Thurs 18 Oct 6pm-8pm
 Free, booking required 
liverpoolirishfestival.com



Opening the festival with a taste of home (Irish stew), a glass of the black stuff and migration stories told by poets and performers with songs by and from Bill Booth and followed by Catherine Cook.

The launch shares plenty of new beginnings (such as *TG4's Gaeil UK*), stories that cross the globe and a broad sampler of what **#LIF2018** has to offer.

Meet the team, bring your friends and family and start as you mean to go on!



Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room

YE VAGABONDS CARLOW/DUBLIN

Thurs 18 Oct 8.30pm-11pm. £14 + 7.5%
liverpoolphil.com



Ye Vagabonds -brothers Brían and Diarmuid Mac Gloinn- grew up playing music together. Moving to Dublin in 2012, they quickly became known for playing original songs and folk songs from Ireland, Scotland, England and America. Expect harmony rich folk music, influenced by Irish traditional music, Appalachian singing and the 1960's folk revival. *Ye Vagabonds'* songs are comprised of mellow sounds weaved with thoughtful lyrics, thickly layered with strings and droning harmonium. Presented by the *Liverpool Philharmonic* for **#LIF2018**.

Cunard Suite at the Cunard Building

IRISH BUILDERS OF MODERN BRITAIN:
 CALLING ALL IRISH NAVVIES AND NURSES

Fri 19 Oct 12pm. Free, just come along



Earlier this year, Chris Ruane MP began the *Irish Builders of Modern Britain* project to help communicate the value Irish workers have brought to Britain. By considering Irish navvies and nurses, the project will recognise and celebrate Ireland's contribution to Britain without "neglecting the sacrifices and isolation experienced by many". Using these distinct career paths in to the Irish diaspora of Britain, the project hopes to reflect the bad times and the good, unravelling and discovering legacies across British employment, in LGBT+ and multi-ethnic communities, arts and culture and business. It will question when and why people left Ireland, where they reside now and what aspirations they have for 'home'.

This is an invitation to Irish navvies and nurses -or their connections- to discuss the shape and role of an Irish legacy project in the making. It is an opportunity to speak with the project team, share ideas, respond to change and build support. This is an informal session led by Project Coordinator Martin Collins. More information can be found at liverpoolirishfestival.com.

81 Renshaw Street
FRIELING THE MUSIC

Fri 19 Oct 2018

3pm-4.15pm, £6 📺
 liverpoolirishfestival.com



See 18 Oct 2018 listing

Handyman's
 Supermarket

IRISH CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

Fri 19 Oct 2018

6pm-10pm. Free, just turn up. Suitable for over 18s only



Does what it says on the pump-clip! This *Irish Craft Beer Festival*, run by well-loved owners of *Kelly's Dispensary* in their sister hostelry, will see a number of small Irish brewers represented. Served alongside traditional soft drinks -such as *Cidona* and *Club Orange* - and a menu including Irish stew, potato and leek soup and crisp sandwiches (with proper Irish bread).



Royal Court - Downstairs
EGGSISTENTIALISM
 LIMERICK

Fri 19 Oct 2018

7pm-8.15pm. £10
 royalcourtliverpool.co.uk



Joanne Ryan's acclaimed, multi-award winning show is a funny, tender and moving exploration of reproduction in 21st century Ireland. Mixed animation with stand-up, monologue and hilarious recorded interjections from Ryan's mother, *Eggsistentialism* takes a light-hearted but unflinching look at one of life's most compelling dilemmas: should making a life for oneself involve making another?

Eggsistentialism is presented with support from the *Culture Ireland GB18* programme and *Arts Council England*.



Arts Club

KILA DUBLIN

Fri 19 Oct 2018 7pm-10pm. £21.50 📺
 liverpoolirishfestival.com



Kila have played in over 30 countries on 5 continents, even playing at *Possibilities*, the event that welcomed the Dalai Lama to Ireland. *Kila's* eight members come from the differing musical backgrounds of trad, classical and rock, resulting in a fresh blend of freewheeling instrumentals, furious jigs and primal rhythms transcending traditional boundaries of Irish music. Bristling with passion and energy, their nineteenth album *Alive Beo* is an exciting trip into the universe of a *Kila* gig, with Rónán, Rossa & Colm Ó Snodaigh, Dee Armstrong, Brian Hogan, Dave Hingerty, James Mahon & Seanan Brennan.


Having collaborated with renowned artists including *U2*, *The Dubliners*, Shane MacGowan, Sinead O'Connor, Glen Hansard, *The Corrs*, Christy Moore, Damien Dempsey and a host of others, *Kila* have worked extensively in TV and film, most notably on the soundtracks for animations *The Secret of Kells* (screened at #LIF2015) and *Song of the Sea*.

Doors 7pm. Bill Booth at 7.30pm. *Kila* c.8.15pm.

Kila are presented by *Liverpool Irish Festival* and funded by *Liverpool City Council's Festival Enhancement Fund*.

Central Library

IN:VISIBLE WOMEN 2018

Sat 20 Oct 2018 10am-1.30pm. £8/£5, with free bursary places 
available on application* liverpoolirishfestival.com



In:Visible Women is a concept and annual platform within the *Liverpool Irish Festival*, generated by conversations with artists, academics, activists, audiences and communities about the role of women in Irish society and creativity – today and historically. *In:Visible Women* is both an event and a trail through the #LIF2018 programme, embedded in to the very fabric of the *Liverpool Irish Festival*.

Reflecting the difficulties still presented to women – particularly those in Ireland or of Irish descent – and the space gained in the last 12 months, contributions come from women progressing women's rights, incredible artists and the hottest emerging performers, including (but not limited to)

Jude Kelly (Liverpool/London)

Director of *Women of the World Festival*

Carrie Barrett (Limerick)

rising playwright and performer


Julie McNamara (Limerick)

established artist, Director and live performer

Afrah Qassim (Liverpool)

Founder and Director of *Savera UK*, a leading organisation in preventing domestic abuse.

With discussion, engaging presentations and a positive, welcoming atmosphere, this event is open to all, but will be of particular interest to fourth wave feminists, those who supported repealing the eighth and any one keen to meet like-minded, spirited women.

For linked events, please follow the  trail. The event is ideally paired with *The Guilty Feminist* later the same day.

* A select number of bursaries are available to those who apply direct to **info@liverpoolirishfestival.com** stating their interest. This is to enable barrierless access.

This event has been supported by the *Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust*. *Peeled Pomello Fruit* has been used courtesy of Charles Deluvio (Montreal) via *unsplash*.



Victoria Gallery and Museum

NEW VOICES WITH ALEX CLARK

Sat 20 Oct 10am-11.15am.

£8/£6 liv.ac.uk/literary-festival



Sally Rooney (Castlebar), Lisa McLnerney (Galway) and Anthony Joseph (Trinidad) have already enjoyed considerable critical success and are clearly writers to watch in future. Alex Clark (first female editor of *Granta*) presents them here as part of *New Voices*. These three exciting figures - from a new generation of writers - will be talking about and reading from their work with distinguished *Guardian* and *Observer* critic and *Bath Literature Festival* Director, Alex Clark.

The *Liverpool Irish Festival* is proud to support this event, which is sponsored by *The Institute of Irish Studies* at *University of Liverpool* as part of the *Liverpool Literary Festival*.

Handyman's Supermarket

IRISH CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

Sat 20 Oct 12pm-4pm and 6pm-10pm. Free, just turn up. Suitable for over 18s only



See Fri 19 Oct listing.

Scotland Road meeting point

SCOTLAND ROAD WALK

Sat 20 Oct 1pm-3pm. £6/£4

liverpoolirishfestival.com



A perfect companion to the *Irish Heritage* and *South Liverpool Heritage* walks this tour is led by local historians, exploring Liverpool's world famous dockland district, its Irish traditions, connections to the Easter Rising and forgotten graveyards and tunnels.



Liverpool Playhouse

THE GUILTY FEMINIST

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL SPECIAL

Sat 20 Oct 2pm-5pm. £15/£10 everymanplayhouse.com



SOLD OUT

Ever felt like you should be better at feminism? Join comedian Deborah Frances-White for her comedy podcast, recorded in front of a live audience. Each episode Deborah and her guests discuss their noble goals and the paradoxes and insecurities which undermine them. The podcast has been a huge success with over 30million downloads since 2016.

Presented in partnership with *Everyman Playhouse* as part of the *Liverpool Irish Festival's In:Visible Women* programme. A production from *The Spontaneity Shop*. Presented by the *Liverpool Irish Festival* and funded by *Liverpool City Council's Festival Enhancement Fund*.





Liverpool Irish Centre

YOUR WORLD WORKSHOP

Sat 20 Oct 2.30pm. £5

liverpoolirishfestival.com



Marian Brophy (*Director of The Corner Boys*) facilitates a workshop encouraging participants to reflect on their world -past, present and future. Using games, play, story-telling and shared experience, whilst focussing on identity, the workshop will explore how individuals have adapted from one way of life to another; what it is like to long to belong to a new place and how to achieve this without losing your roots. Suitable for all generations of Irish descent, from those who left home at a young age, as well as second, third, fourth... generations.

This workshop is delivered in association with *Ladies Who Punch and Mend and Make do* and is a forerunner to the production of *The Corner Boys*, featuring at #LIF2018. See Sun 21 and Mon 22 Oct 2018 listings.



Victoria Gallery and Museum

SEBASTIAN BARRY IN CONVERSATION WITH PROF. ROY FOSTER

Sat 20 Oct 6pm-7.15pm. £10/£8

liv.ac.uk/literary-festival



Author and playwright Sebastian Barry (Dublin) has won numerous awards including the *Costa Book of the Year* award, the *Kerry Group Irish Fiction Prize*, the *Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year*, the *Independent Booksellers Prize*, the *Walter Scott Prize* for historical fiction and the *James Tait Black Memorial Prize*, as well as being shortlisted for the *Man Booker Prize*.

Professor Roy Foster (Waterford) is a Fellow of the British Academy and Emeritus Professor of Irish History at Oxford. A renowned critic and broadcaster, his publications cover many topics about Irish history, and figures such as Charles Stewart Parnell, Lord Randolph Churchill and W.B. Yeats, reaping him many awards, including the 1998 *James Tait Black Prize* for biography and the 2016 *Frokosch Prize* from the *American Historical Association*.

The *Liverpool Irish Festival* is proud to support this event, which is sponsored by *The Institute of Irish Studies at University of Liverpool* as part of the *Liverpool Literary Festival*.

Royal Court - Downstairs

BAGGAGE

Sat 20 Oct 7pm-8.15pm. £10

royalcourtiverpool.co.uk



Sandra is doing her Christmas shopping. She is loaded with bags and waiting for the bus. Exhausted and stressed she faints on the bench and when she wakes a bag-lady is leaning over her. Convinced she is being robbed, Sandra turns on her but then realises the scruffy woman was trying to help. The women find a common place where they can come together as friends and Sandra offers Annie a hope for the future.

For a perfect evening of theatre, also book for *The Morning After the Life Before* at 9pm.

Written by Bev Clark and produced by *Hand In Hand Theatre*.



Royal Court - Downstairs

THE MORNING AFTER THE LIFE BEFORE LIMERICK

Sat 20 Oct 9pm-10.15pm. £10

royalcourtliverpool.co.uk



A groggy Sunday morning. It's 24 May 2015 and 62% of Ireland is #hungoverforequality. Ann gets a text from her brother, which brings the image of a new Ireland into sharp focus: "How's the morning after the life before?". A personal, entertaining tale of weddings, 'coming out' and arguments over who takes out the bins, this play is a celebration of a unique historical moment when Ireland became the first country, in the world, to support marriage equality by popular vote. Be prepared for music, cake and equality.

For a perfect evening of theatre, also book for *Baggage* at 7pm.

Gúna Nua presents the internationally acclaimed and multi award-winning *The Morning After The Life Before*, with 'Best of Fringe' awards from London Ontario and Montreal. The event is presented with support from the *Culture Ireland GB18* programme and *Arts Council England*.

gúna
nua



Liverpool Philharmonic
Music Room

THE HOT SPROCKETS DUBLIN

Sat 20 Oct 8.00pm onwards.

£13/£10 + 7.5%

liverpoolphil.com



Take some good-time revolutionary spirit, add a pinch of psychedelic flavour, simmer it down with some indie soul and you get close to the cosmic vibe of *The Hot Sprockets*, five blood brothers drawn together by a mutual love of Rock 'n' Roll.

Performing live, the *Sprockets* take no prisoners. An inherent ability to 'get the party started' has captivated audiences in the USA, Canada, UK, and Europe. With two critically acclaimed albums under their belt, *Honeyskippin'*, and *Brother Nature* (which shot straight into the top 10 of the national Irish charts) the *Sprockets* recently released their third album *Dream Mover*. Listeners can expect to hear an earthier soulful psychedelic side, whilst sonically, it marks a huge leap forward for these independent rockers!

Presented by the *Liverpool Philharmonic* for **#LIF2018**.

Kelly's Dispensary THE JESSE JANES

Sat 20 Oct

9pm-onwards.

Free, just turn up



The Jesse Janes

- Helen Seymour, Kate McCusker, Mary Rose McCusker and Treva Goldup - are a Blues, Americana, Skiffle, Rock, Country, Bluegrass and Irish Trad band hailing from Omagh, Bristol and Liverpool. A great band to spend the evening with, *The Jesse Janes* will wow you with powerful harmonies and sheer range of instruments!



O'Neill's
HOOLEY

Sat 20 Oct 10pm-1.30am. Free, just turn up



As well as a gale or an argument, a 'hooley' is a big old Irish party with music, dancing and – most importantly – oodles of fun. With live music, a warm Irish welcome and that Saturday Night vibe only a city centre location can bring, this is the best way of wrapping up a day at the festival, in the company of like-minded party animals!

Priorland headline.

This event is delivered in partnership with *O'Neill's* (Wood Street) with support from the *Culture Ireland GB18* programme.



Bluecoat (gather in courtyard at Door F)

IRISH HERITAGE WALK

Sun 21 Oct 10am-12pm. £6/£4 liverpoolirishfestival.com



This local history walk, (led by historian Greg Quiery (County Down)), features Irish journalists, Italian craftsmen, Lancashire slavers, Polish Impressionists and Liverpool pirates in an exploration of arts and politics. The walk starts at *Bluecoat* and covers the surrounding district taking 2 hours.

Walkers may also be interested in other history walks on Sat 20 and 27 Oct 2018.

Handyman's Supermarket
IRISH CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

Sun 21 Oct 2pm- 6pm.

Free, just turn up. Suitable for over 18s only



See Fri 19 Oct listing.

Empty Spaces Cinema
at George Henry Lee's Building
(use Houghton Street entrance)

LAMB CERT 15, 110MINS

Sun 21 Oct 3pm. £4/£3

liverpoolirishfestival.com



Michael Lamb (Liam Neeson) is an idealistic young Brother, living in a brutal, west Ireland reformatory. The recent death of his father and growing anger at the mistreatment of a resident boy (Hugh O'Connor) prompts Lamb to take dramatic action; cash in his inheritance and flee with the boy to England. Depicting an unconventional relationship between a naive young cleric and a troubled child, the film

is vivid and unsettling. Unlikely to have been made later -as scandals of clerical abuse became rife- it features Neeson in his first lead film role plus the remarkable debut of Hugh O'Connor (four years before his Oscar nomination for *My Left Foot*).

This is an adaptation of Bernard MacLaverty's acclaimed novel, directed by Colin Gregg.

Delivered in partnership with *Empty Spaces Cinema* and *Irish Film Institute*.

Victoria Gallery and Museum

EAMONN HUGHES - 'THE TRAIN AND THE RIVER' - VAN MORRISON'S BELFAST

Sun 21 Oct 5.15pm-6.30pm. £8/£6 liv.ac.uk/literary-festival



Drawing on his experience of working with Van Morrison, Hughes examines the ways in which Morrison's representation of Belfast offers a different view of the city from ubiquitous images of it as a city of conflict. In turn, you are offered an insight into the originality and innovation Morrison brings to the art of song writing.

Eamonn Hughes teaches at the School of English at *Queen's University Belfast*. Specialising in Irish literary and cultural studies, his history of Irish literature was broadcast by *BBCNI* in 2009. He worked with Van Morrison on his selected lyrics *Lit Up Inside* (2014).

This is a joint event between *Liverpool Literary Festival* and *Liverpool Irish Festival*, sponsored by *The Institute of Irish Studies*.

Liverpool Irish Centre

THE CORNER BOYS CASTLEDERMOT

Sun 21 Oct 7.30pm-9.15pm. £12/£10

liverpoolirishfestival.com



Ladies Who Punch in association with *Mend & MakeDo Theatre Company* are proud to present the UK tour of stage production *Corner Boys* by award-winning writer John MacKenna.

The time is 1963. The place is a small village in Ireland. For the two young women working in the local drapery shop, the visit of American President John F Kennedy to the country is all important. But for the corner boys, who spend their days on the village square, the concerns are different – women, money, devilment and darker doings fill their empty lives.

Also showing at *The Crown Hotel* on Mon 22 Oct and linked to the *Your World* workshop on Sat 20 Oct.



RIBA North

ARCHITECTURAL MIGRATIONS

CASTLEDERMOT

Mon 22 Oct

1pm-2.15pm. £5

liverpoolirishfestival.com



Dr Claire Kinsella
(*Staffordshire University*)

considers the tensions and contradictions between Irish identity, migration and the high-rise built form. Often viewed as a rural backwater, Ireland's connectivity with low and high-rise regeneration, global corporations and digital futures seems at odds with this potentially outdated reputation.


Dr Kinsella posits the idea that urban, high-rise living did not migrate to the imaginations of most Irish politicians or even the urban fabric as Ireland currently struggles with urban sprawl.

Challenging perceptions about Irish ruralism and shining a light on international examples, this talk reveals where Irish people have actively built such structures.

Delivered in partnership with
RIBA North.

Bluecoat

FÉILE VOICES : 30 YEARS OF FÉILE AN PHOBAIL WEST BELFAST

Mon 22 Oct 6pm-7.30pm. £5 
liverpoolirishfestival.com




Dr Feargal Mac Ionnrachtaigh (*Language, Resistance and Revival*), Dr Michael Piece (*Writing Ireland's Working Class*) and Professor Phil Scraton (*Hillsborough: The Truth*) celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of Belfast's *Féile an Phobail* and the publication of *Féile Voices at 30*; an unprecedented book of community memoirs uncovering the fascinating story of a nationally and internationally significant cultural and political festival. Drawing on the personal written accounts over three decades of many of *Féile's* key activists, advocates and supporters, *Féile Voices* explores the myriad ways the West Belfast community organised, campaigned and struggled for recognition, in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds.

Presented by *Writing on the Wall* in partnership with *Liverpool Irish Festival*.

The Crown Hotel

THE CORNER BOYS CASTLEDERMOT

Mon 22 Oct 7.30pm-9.15pm.
£8/£5 
liverpoolirishfestival.com



See Sun 21 Oct listing.

Picture House at FACT

INDIECORK: NEW IRISH SHORTS CORK

Mon 22 Oct 6pm. £7/£5 liverpoolirishfestival.com



IndieCork Film Festival is a platform for new and emerging filmmaking talent and these programmes are a useful showcase of emerging Irish voices. In the first of two curated programmes, each direct from *IndieCork 2018*, this night of shorts shows a wealth of talented filmmakers and their current preoccupations, covering a range of genres; drama, comedy, documentary, animation and experimental film. There's even a charming pop promo for *Fan Liom (Wait With Me)* sung by Lasairfhiona de Brún. *IndieCork* Director Mick Hannigan will host the evening and introduce a new filmmaker to talk about their work.

We recommend booking the following feature and *IndieCork: New Irish Shorts from Women* on Tues 23 Oct. Supported by the *Culture Ireland GB18* programme and *Arts Council England*.

Picture House at FACT

INDIECORK FEATURE: MAKING THE GRADE 85 MINS

Mon 22 Oct 8pm-9.30pm. £7/£5 liverpoolirishfestival.com



Making The Grade invites us into the world of the piano lesson. Every year teachers and students throughout Ireland prepare for graded musical exams. These exams can be pleasing for some but daunting for others. Each student has a goal, but Grade Eight is the pinnacle. Endearing and uplifting, this documentary explores the bond between piano teacher and pupil as they struggle through these grades. This is a story of the transformative power of music and the pride and happiness it provides both the students and teachers. It may inspire us all to keep making the grade.

We're delighted that this film's award-winning director Ken Wardrop will be with us to introduce his latest film. Supported by the *Culture Ireland GB18* programme and *Arts Council England*.





Liverpool Philharmonic
Music Room

LANKUM DUBLIN

Mon 22 Oct 8pm-10.30pm.

£15 + 7.5 booking fee

liverpoolphil.com



Lankum return to the *Liverpool Irish Festival* having played as *Lynched* in 2016. A four-piece traditional folk group from Dublin, *Lankum* combine distinctive four-part vocal harmonies with arrangements of uilleann pipes, concertina, Russian accordion, fiddle and guitar. Their repertoire spans humorous Dublin music-hall ditties and street-songs; classic ballads from the Traveller tradition; traditional Irish and American dance tunes and their own original material.

Presented by the *Liverpool Philharmonic* for **#LIF2018**.

The Florence Institute

THE JAMES CONNOLLY READER

PUB. HAYMARKET BOOKS; CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Tue 23 Oct 1pm-2.15pm. £5

(redeemable against the purchase of

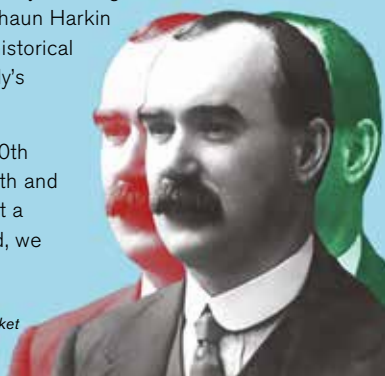
The James Connolly Reader on the day) liverpoolirishfestival.com



Dedicated "to everyone struggling for a world free from exploitation, injustice, and oppression" *The James Connolly Reader* chronicles one of the leading figures in Ireland's 1916 Easter Rising against British rule. Widely recognised as one of the most significant and innovative thinkers and activists in the socialist tradition, Connolly played a significant role in the Irish independence movement, which is recognised across the political spectrum, and internationally, due to Connolly's unparalleled contribution to working class politics in Scotland and the United States. This is the most extensive collection of Connolly's writings and speeches available, which Shaun Harkin (Editor) places within their historical context to draw out Connolly's contemporary relevance.

5 June 2018 marked the 150th anniversary of Connolly's birth and so, as a migrant who has left a continued mark on the world, we honour him with this event.

Delivered in partnership with *Haymarket Books* and *The Forence Institute*.



Picture House at FACT

INDIECORK: NEW IRISH SHORTS FROM WOMEN CORK

Tue 23 Oct 6pm-7.45pm. £7/£5 liverpoolirishfestival.com



Following on from *IndieCork: New Irish Shorts*, this evening's programme represents the best of the female led shorts at *IndieCork Film Festival 2018*. Comprising mostly of work by new female directors, the selection also features *Augenblick* by Vivienne Dick, arguably Ireland's best known director working in experimental film.

IndieCork Director Mick Hannigan will host the evening and introduce a new filmmaker to talk about their work.

The filmmakers presented at this event were supported by the *Culture Ireland GB18* programme and *Arts Council England*.



The Crown Hotel

TWO PLAYS LIVERPOOL

Tue 23 Oct 7pm-9.30pm. £10/£8 liverpoolirishfestival.com



Baggage written by Bev Clark and produced by *Hand In Hand Theatre*.

See listing at *Royal Court - Downstairs* for Sat 20 Oct.

When Nora Met Jim

written by Tom McLennan and produced by *Scriptshop*

Dublin, June 1904. The great Irish writer, James Joyce, is contemplating his future, certain only that it lies outside Ireland. His financial resources are limited and his writing career has barely lifted off. His family and friends look on with concern at his dissolute behaviour. Then, in steps Nora Barnacle, a young Galway girl, who fled her home and works as a hotel chambermaid in Dublin. At first sight they seem an ill-matched pair- Joyce, a middle-class intellectual obsessed by bookish lore; Barnacle, working-class with little formal education. But their mutual hatred of convention sparks a fire in them that will last a lifetime.

Scriptshop will also perform a pay-as-you-feel version of this piece at 8pm on Sun 14 Oct at *81 Renshaw Street*.

Liverpool Medical Institution RESPONDING TO ROBERT TRESSSELL: A PANEL

Wed 24 Oct 2pm-4pm. £5
liverpoolirishfestival.com



Featuring artists David Jacques and Patricia Mackinnon-Day (*LJMU* academic) this panel is led by Patricia's colleague and fellow academic Deaglan O Donghaile, to consider Robert Tressell's *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists*, lorded internationally as a seminal text for socialists. Tressell (aka Robert Croker and, occasionally, by his mother's maiden name Noonan; b.1870, Dublin; d.1911, Liverpool) had various professions and aspirations, but this book reveals him as a radical émigré. Join the speakers to find out more. Taking place on the set of *Kitty* and centred on social welfare in the 1800s, bookers may also be interested in *The James Connolly Reader* event on Tues 23 Oct 2018. Why not book all three?

Held in partnership with *Liverpool John Moores University*.

Liverpool Medical Institution KITTY

Wed 24 Oct 5pm-6.30pm. £5
liverpoolirishfestival.com



Liverpool author Carol Maginn (*Daniel Taylor, Ruin*) and *Falling Doors Theatre* turn their sights to the 1830s and Derry woman Kitty Wilkinson, commemorating the significant influence she played in Liverpool by helping to turn the tide on an epidemic spreading through the city: cholera. Echoing many of the class and gentrification issues still at large today, Kitty's indefatigable work to help the poor of Liverpool in the face of terrific adversity continues to show how migrants help their destination cities, sometimes in unimaginable ways.

Following *Responding to Robert Tressell* (Wed 24 Oct), we recommend booking for both.



Liverpool Everyman - Theatre
**DAVID O'DOHERTY:
 YOU HAVE TO LAUGH**

Wed 24 Oct 8pm. £10-£19

everymanplayhouse.com



Unhook your mindbras. David O'Doherty is back on tour with a brand-new show made up of talking and songs played on a crappy keyboard from 1986. As seen on *BBC2's Live At The Apollo* and Channel 4's *8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown*.

This event is presented by *Liverpool Everyman* as part of the *Liverpool Irish Festival*.



Venue TBC

**THE BIGGEST SHOW
 IN THE COUNTRY**

Thurs 25 Oct 3pm. £3

liverpoolirishfestival.com



It's 2018. Stormont is down. The *Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)* are tied up in government with the Tories. GB is about to crash out of the EU. Polls show London and Dublin would rather the other deal with Northern Ireland, whilst international headlines scream 'medieval province'. Hardly great craic! So, when an unexpected discovery changes the fortunes of Ulster, will people be ready for the emergence of Northern Ireland as a global superpower? Inspired by the infamous daily radio phone-in, *The Nolan Show*, *The Biggest Show in The Country* is a dark musical comedy that swaps guns, bombs and bullets for glitter, banter and ballads, whilst exploring what it means to be Northern Irish in 2018, 20 years after the Good Friday Agreement.

This is a rehearsed reading of the script, not a full production. It is an opportunity to see artists at work and get an early insight in to the theatre making process. See liverpoolirishfestival.com for venue announcement.



St George's Hall

**RAT IN
 THE SKULL**

Wed 24 Oct

8pm. £15/£12

liverpoolirishfestival.com



Set in the midst of 'The Troubles', *Rat in the Skull* centres on an interview between a *Royal Ulster Constabulary* inspector and a young Catholic man in London detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. Told from the point of view of an Ulster Protestant, it casts a new perspective on the struggle. Their sectarian differences fall away when confronted with 'casual loathing' of their English counterparts.

The production is a partnership between *Bardic Theatre* (County Tyrone, NI) and the *Liverpool Irish Festival* and helps us to mark 20 years of the Good Friday Agreement, signed in 1998.


Supported by the *Mid Ulster Council* and *Arts Council England* and is delivered in partnership with *St George's Hall*.



Liverpool Everyman - Theatre

TO HAVE TO SHOOT IRISHMEN

Thurs 25 Oct 7.30pm. £10-£20
everymanplayhouse.com



Could peace come after? After what? Who will we be? Easter morning, 1916. Gunshots ring out in the Dublin streets. In her suburban sitting room Hannah prepares for revolution. While Frank walks through the crowds calling for peace, John walks through his nightmares of the trenches, sees a city soaked in blood. 18-year-old William fearfully reports to the barracks for duty, determined to serve the British army with honour. But can honour survive the chaos of conflict, and once unleashed can violence ever be contained?

Inspired by true events, this absorbing production weaves movement and live folk song in to a stirring tale of militarism, corruption and the power of rebellion.

Also showing on Fri 26 and Sat 27 Oct, the latter with post-show Q&A session.

To Have to Shoot Irishmen is supported by Arts Council England, Oppenheim-John Downes Memorial Trust and Unity Theatre Trust.



Liverpool Irish Centre

A BRIDGE OF TUNES: BERNADETTE NIC GABHANN AND MIKEY KENNEY

Thurs 25 Oct 7pm. £10
wegottickets.com



Two traditional fiddlers come together to celebrate the musical links between Ireland, Liverpool and Lancashire and a history of shared tunes and dances.



Liverpool Everyman - Downstairs bar

CELTIC ANIMATION FILM FESTIVAL

Fri 26 Oct 11am-6pm. £5 
iverpoolirishfestival.com



Returning for the second year, the *Celtic Animation Film Festival* celebrates and encourages new and emerging Celtic and international animators to forge an ongoing global community to share practice, tell stories and reflect on Celtic culture and concerns. Awards are offered for Best Professional Short Film, Best International Short Film and Best Student Short Film, judged by an elite industry panel. Curated by CAFF Directors Kate Corbin and Eleanora Asparuhova this is an incredible event in which to witness diaspora stories, contemporary approaches to animation and the preoccupations of the industry.



International Slavery Museum,
the Anthony Walker Centre

COUNTESS MARKIEVICZ AND THE VOTES FOR WOMEN CAMPAIGN IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Fri 26 Oct 2.30pm. Free, just turn up



The first wave of the feminist movement was based on a single issue – securing votes for women. This may seem like a straightforward feminist campaign in modern times. However, this talk demonstrates that in Ireland this was a complex political issue tied to ideologies of nationalism and unionism. Tracing the story of Countess Markievicz, the first woman elected to both the House of Commons and Dail Eireann (government of Ireland), we will see the complex and intriguing connections between the suffrage movements in Ireland and England. Sonja Tiernan is an Associate Professor of Modern History and the Head of History and Politics at *Liverpool Hope University*. She has published widely on the histories of gender and sexuality in Modern Ireland and Britain.

Delivered in partnership with *National Museums Liverpool*.

Liverpool Everyman (Theatre)

TO HAVE TO SHOOT IRISHMEN

Fri 26 Oct 7.30pm. £10-£20

everymanplayhouse.com



See Thurs 25 and Sat 27 Oct listings.

Liverpool Irish Centre

SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN

COUNTY CLARE

Fri 26 Oct 8pm. £15

liverpoolirishfestival.com



Having gained a fan-base gigging around the west of Ireland, this exciting threesome –Shane Hayes, Aodán Coyne and Fiachra Hayes- have recently started touring further afield and have been well received for their modern traditional style and energetic approach to music. This, combined with an acoustic musical interplay, three-part harmony and an obvious love for live performance, compliments the traditional essence of both tune and songs in a fresh and entertaining way.



Kelly's Dispensary

SAMHAIN WITH CONLETH MCGEARY

DUNGANNON, COUNTY TYRONE

Fri 26 Oct 9pm. Free, just turn up



Fresh from his Irish tour in summer 2018, Conleth is a *Kelly's* and *Festival* regular. This year has seen some incredible success, with almost 600k views of his YouTube version of *Grace*.

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. Whilst Beltane was a summer festival for the living, Samhain exists as a festival for the dead.



Museum of Liverpool,
National Museums Liverpool (NML)

FAMILY DAY

Sat 27 Oct 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*, various artists and organisations, this is a true highlight of the festival, where culture sharing, enjoyment and conviviality are at the centre of all we do.

With craft activities, plays, monologues, music and dance; tours of Irish artefacts; talks and Irish language drop-ins; storytelling and a raft of fun things to engage in across the Museum, the day is fun, entertaining and informative.

With something for everyone, from niche to popular, this is a core event we hope you will share with us. Do check our events pages for a full listing of the day but expect:

- A *Migration Panel* discussing the influence of Irish migration on Liverpool, Ireland and the world. Hear from migration experts Dr Johanne Devlin Trew, Dr Gillian O'Brien and Greg Quiry, chaired by Prof Mary Hickman (also see essay on *Migration* on page 4)
- enigm making workshops
- dancing and traditional music
- screenings and previews
- Liverbird origami challenge
- and much more besides.

Visit liverpoolirishfestival.com for more details.

The Family Day forms part of a wider *Family Days* programme, including the *Family Céilí* at the *Liverpool Irish Centre* (Sun 28 Oct, see listing). This event is held in partnership with *National Museums Liverpool* and sponsored by *Tourism Ireland*.



St Luke's Garden meeting point

SOUTH LIVERPOOL HERITAGE WALK

Sat 27 Oct 10am-12pm. £6/£4

liverpoolirishfestival.com



Walk through 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? These ever popular tours are led by historian, author and former Headmaster Greg Quiry (Newtownards, County Down).

Liverpool Everyman (Theatre)

TO HAVE TO SHOOT IRISHMEN

Sat 27 Oct 7.30pm. £10-£20

everymanplayhouse.com



See Thurs 25 an Fri 26 Oct listing. There will be a post-show Q&A session at this event only.

Handyman's Supermarket

THE JESSE JANES

Sat 27 Oct 9pm-onwards.

Free, just turn up



As per their *Kelly's* gig on Sat 20 Oct *The Jesse Janes* are a great band to spend the evening with. Perky, energy filled and upbeat this is a fun way to round off your day.

Liverpool Irish Centre

FAMILY CÉILÍ

Sun 28 Oct

2pm-5.30pm. £5/£2

liverpoolirishfestival.com



A céilí is a time to unwind, be with friends and family and celebrate. With us, it means an afternoon of music, song, dance, food and drink. A perfect time to reconnect with your loved ones, your (or another) culture and plan your trip to Ireland! *The Family Céilí* is one of our most popular family events and returns to its spiritual home, at the heart of the Irish community on Merseyside, the *Liverpool Irish Centre*. Bring family, friends and your dancing feet to join the fun, learn some Irish céilí dances and witness live music and dance. No previous experience is necessary as full instructions are given by an exceptional dance caller. Food and drink will be available.

The *Family Céilí* forms part of a wider *Family Days* programme, including the *Family Day* at the *Museum of Liverpool* (Sat 27 Oct, see listing). It is organised by the *Liverpool Irish Centre* in partnership with the *Liverpool Irish Festival*.



Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room

STEPHEN JAMES SMITH DUBLIN

Sun 28 Oct 8pm.

£12-£15 + 7.5% booking fee

liverpoolphil.com



Stephen James Smith is a Dublin poet and playwright central to the rise of the vibrant spoken word scene in Ireland today, with poetry videos amassing over 2.5 million views. He has been commissioned by national organisations (i.e, Ireland's *St Patrick's Day Festival* and Dublin stadium sponsor *Aviva*) to produce work and tours internationally. He also teaches and has had his work translated into multiple languages.

Stephen will be supported by Liverpool based, Irish poet and author, Ciarán Hodgers, for whom Stephen wrote the foreword to *Cosmocartography*, due for release in Oct 2018.

Presented in partnership with the *Liverpool Philharmonic*.

OTHER EVENTS OUR AUDIENCES MAY LIKE

REGULAR SEISIÚNS/SESSIONS ALSO OCCURRING DURING #LIF2018

8pm, Thurs 18 and 25 Oct,

The Old Bank seisiún

10pm Fri 19 Oct, Trad session

at *PK's (Peter Kavanagh's)*

9pm, Mon 22, Trad at

The Eddie (The Edinburgh)

10pm, Fri 26 Oct, Trad session

at the *Liverpool Irish Centre*

7pm, Sun 28 Oct, Trad session

at *Kelly's Dispensary*.

Royal Court – Main house

MAGGIE MAY

12 Oct-10 Nov £14-£28 depending on ticket

option. Matinee and evening performances

royalcourtiverpool.co.uk

An innocent Irish girl with her heart set on New York is waylaid in Liverpool when she loses her bag and all her worldly goods. To earn a crust she goes into domestic service and, seduced by her employer, discovers that when a girl falls for the wrong man she stands to lose more than just her possessions.

Age advisory 12+

Bluecoat

NICK LAIRD: READINGS AND CONVERSATION

Wed 17 20 £14-£28 6.30pm-8pm, £4/£3

bluecoat.org.uk

Acclaimed Northern Irish poet and novelist, Nick Laird, will be at *Bluecoat* to speak about his new poetry collection *Feel Free*. Described by *The Guardian* as an 'outstanding collection', it concerns patterns of freedom and constraint; the family, the impress of history, the body itself - and how we might transcend them. He will also be in conversation discussing some of his previous works, including *Modern Gods* (2017). Join in an evening of poetry, debate and insight as Laird makes his Liverpool literary debut.

Naked Lunch

MELLOWTONE PRESENTS

SIMON HERRON AND KATE O'DEMPSEY

Wed 17 Oct 8pm, £5

skiddle.com

A lovely way to warm up for **#LIF2018**...Simon Herron's songs are poignant, wistful and delicate. The creaky melodies and sparse fingerpicked guitar of these songs make use of the quiet spaces in between, as much as the notes and words themselves. The Derry born songwriter's first releases garnered success with over 4 million *Spotify* streams and *BBC* radio play.

Ullet Road Unitarian Church

CHILDREN'S PORTRAITURE WITH WHITEBOX PHOTOGRAPHY *

Sun 14 Oct 9.30am throughout the day, £25

Email iccfrevents@gmail.com to book your place

Irish Community Care's Liam Walsh provides photographic portraits of your children, including 16 copyright free digital images and one complimentary A4 print. For more details whiteboxphotography.co.uk

West Kirby Arts Centre

CREAM OF THE BARLEY CONCERT WITH HUGHIE JONES

Sat 20 Oct 6pm, £10 westkirbyartscentre.org.uk

An evening of folk music with John Walsh and Keith Price (*Cream of the Barley*) and special guest Hughie Jones (*The Spinners*).

Ullet Road Unitarian Church

IRISH COMMUNITY CARE FUNDRAISING CÉILÍ

Fri 23 Nov 7pm, £5 iccm.org.uk

Enjoy a fabulous evening of music, song and dance, whilst supporting the vital work this local, Irish led charity. *Irish Community Care* works across the Liverpool City Region and north west, supporting Irish and Irish Traveller people through times of uncertainty, trouble, hardship or isolation. All money raised contributes to this much needed work. Need more info: +44(0)151 237 3987 admin@iccm.org.uk



WAYS OF TRAILING

Each year, Liverpool Irish Festival chooses a theme to explore.

Used to help select work and unify the programme, themes helps us to think about contemporary issues, explore the identity of the Festival and think about Irishness. Thus, we have looked at Irish conviviality, what it is to be Irish and now migration. Professor Hickman's essay (page 4) and our opening statement outline the reasons behind this theme choice.

Migration reveals individual histories and stories and shows how philosophies have migrated in to and out from Ireland. Examples include the Countess Markievicz's role in feminism and politics; the impact of Irish writers and activists on global social welfare movements; Irish cinema and drama's focus on Celtic ancestry through to today's refugees, gender politics, rising nationalism and diaspora stories.

Today Migration is a matter that concerns us all. It sits as part of our world view and our individual role within it. How we accept, support and understand migration affects how we treat our neighbours, respond to the news and what we tell our children. Thus, its impacts are far reaching. **#LIF2018** has not pursued a single line of enquiry nor have we exhausted the abundance of stories. Interestingly, Ireland's largest migration has not been talked about as much as other aspects of the diaspora story. The Potato Famine of the 1840s, which drove so many Irish people around the world, is part of a wider set of journeys going back to beyond the Jacobite rebellion through to the present day. Perhaps the bicentenary of this global plight will be a chance to revisit this mass movement of people.

We have provided two main ways to break down the programme. Colours for

FILM, ART AND ANIMATION
TALKS AND TOURS
PERFORMANCE AND POETRY
FOOD & DRINK
MUSIC & SONG
COMMUNITY, FAMILY & SPORT

...and four subject trails, which are



**MIGRATION/DIASPORA/
 WORK FROM IRELAND**



IN:VISIBLE WOMEN



FAMILY DAYS



**NOOK AND CRANNY
 EVENTS AND VENUES.**

Working beneath *Migration*, *In:Visible Women*, *Family Days* and *Nook and Cranny Events and Venues* allow you to follow the work in different ways, crossing over and knitting the programme together.

In:Visible Women is a body of work, begun to ensure Irish women –of today and yesteryear- are acknowledged. Ireland has a difficult history when it comes to gender politics, some of which is still being unravelled. The Magdalen Laundries, body autonomy and forced marriage practices, combined with large-scale, institutional secrecy can make it difficult to remember there are plenty of forces for good that come from Irish women. From Delia Larkin and Kitty Wilkinson's huge social welfare developments through to this year's historic **#YesTogether** referendum, it is clear that some of Ireland's women have shown immense fortitude and bravery to change things. *In:Visible Women* pays homage to this. With talks about Countess Markievicz (the first female Irish MP); *The Guilty Feminist*; plays about female freedoms (*The Morning After the Life Before* and *Eggsisentialism*) and a morning of incredible female movers and shakers from today's world (*In:Visible Women* at *Central Library*), we have a bounty of interesting, dynamic and resonant female

voices, all supported by the *Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Foundation* to whom we say thank you.

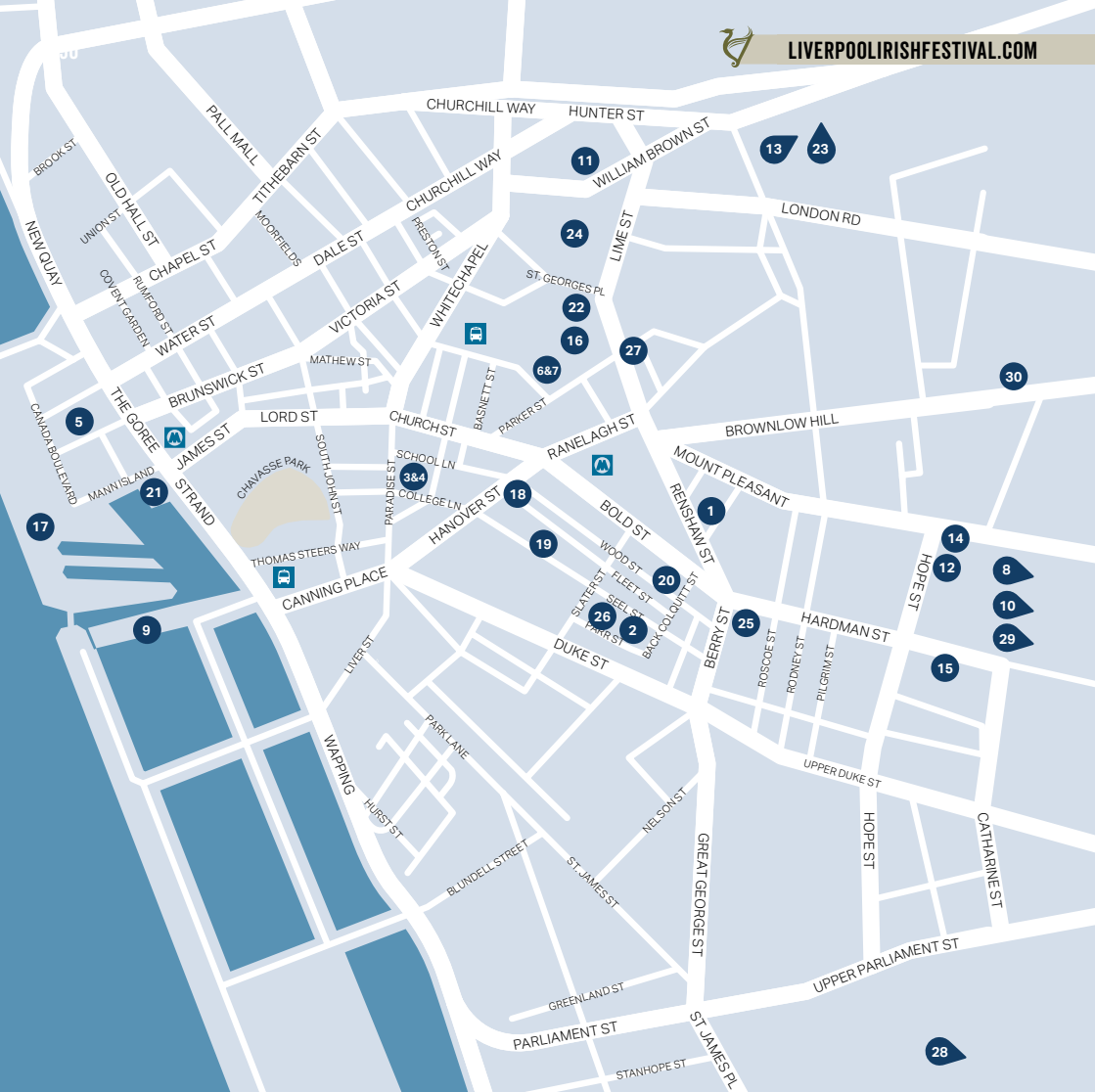
Intergenerational social activity -eating, drinking, live music and dance- seems so heavily rooted in Irishness we have peppered **#LIF2018** with them, using the *Family Days* trail. Often centred at the spiritual home of Liverpool's Irish community –the Liverpool Irish Centre- we hope this provides an annual highlight. Key events are the *Family Day* and *Family Céilí*.

Liverpool Irish Festival aims to bring something new or unexpected, through our work and venue choices, selecting venues you might not ordinarily visit and other cities do not have, such the *Liverpool Medical Institution* (1830s) or *St George's Hall* (1840s). **#LIF2018**'s spread of venues is unparalleled. We hope you will take the chance to see unusual parts of the city. Often, we link work to the venue. Thus, the talk on James Connolly is in The Florence Institute, a building recognised for its social welfare and enrichment practices. *Kitty* -focused on solving the cholera epidemic- is at the *Liverpool Medical Institution* (currently celebrating 500 years of the *Royal College of Physicians*) and the 30 year anniversary talk on establishing the Féile an Phobail (AKA the West Belfast Festival) is at Liverpool's cultural hub, *Bluecoat*.

Each **#LIF2018** trail will take you to different sorts of events and subject matter, but there is a thread. You need no prior knowledge of the subject area, but access to a map is advised!

Next year, the **#LIF2019** theme will revolve around perspectives and storytelling. We don't have the title yet, but we will look at new ways of expressing ideas; interesting cross-disciplinary forms and futureproofing stories for generations to come. We hope to look at how digital media is changing how we communicate and what this will mean to identity. If you have ideas for getting involved in this, email info@liverpoolirishfestival.com The dates for **#LIF2019** are 17-27 Oct 2019.

Enjoy finding your way through **#LIF2018**. We've enjoyed building it for you!



1: 81 RENSHAW STREET

81 Renshaw Street, L1 2SJ
T +44 (0) 151 707 1805
E info@81renshaw.co.uk
W renshaw81.co.uk

2: ARTS CLUB

90 Seel Street, L1 4BH
+44 (0) 151 5394110
E info@artsclubliverpool.com
W academymusicgroup.com

3: BLUECOAT

School Lane, L1 3BX
T +44 (0) 151 702 5324
E info@thebluecoat.org.uk
W thebluecoat.org.uk

4: BLUECOAT DISPLAY CENTRE

50-51 College Lane, L1 3BZ
+44 (0) 709 4014
E crafts@bluecoatdisplaycentre.com
W bluecoatdisplaycentre.com

5: CUNARD SUITE, CUNARD BUILDING

Brunswick Street,
Pier Head L3 1ES
T +44 (0) 151 233 0000
W liverpool.gov.uk

**6: EMPTY SPACES CINEMA
AT GEORGE HENRY LEE'S BUILDING**

Williamson Square, L1 1AD
E christopher@emptyspacescinema.com
W emptyspacescinema.com

7: GEORGE HENRY LEE'S BUILDING

Williamson Square, L1 1AD
E info@liverpoolirishfestival.com
W liverpoolirishfestival.com/events/venues

8: HANDYMAN'S SUPERMARKET

461 Smithdown Road, L15 3JL
T +44 (0) 151 222 7422
E admin@handmansupermarket.co.uk
W handymansupermarket.co.uk

**9: INTERNATIONAL SLAVERY MUSEUM,
THE ANTHONY WALKER CENTRE (NML)**

Merseyside Maritime Museum,
Albert Dock, L3 4AX
T +44 (0) 151 478 4499
W liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ism

10: KELLY'S DISPENSARY

154-158 Smithdown Road, L15 3JR
 T +44 (0) 151 222 4693
 E kellysdispensary@hotmail.com
 W whatpub.com Search:"Kelly's"

11: LIVERPOOL CENTRAL LIBRARY

William Brown Street, L3 8EW
 T +44 (0) 151 233 3069
 W liverpool.gov.uk/libraries

12: LIVERPOOL EVERYMAN

Hope Street, L1 9BH
 T +44 (0) 151 709 4776
 E boxoffice@everymanplayhouse.com
 T everymanplayhouse.com

13: LIVERPOOL IRISH CENTRE

Boundary Lane, L6 5JG
 T +44 (0) 151 263 1808
 E info@liverpoolirishcentre.org
 W liverpoolirishcentre.org

14: LIVERPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION

Mount Pleasant, L3 5SR
 T +44 (0) 151 709 9125
 E admin@lmi.org.uk
 W lmi.org.uk

15: LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC MUSIC ROOM

Hope Street, L1 9BP
 T +44 (0) 151 709 3789
 E customerservices@liverpoolphil.com
 W liverpoolphil.com

16: LIVERPOOL PLAYHOUSE

Williamson Square, L1 1EL
 T +44 (0) 151 709 4776
 E boxoffice@everymanplayhouse.com
 W everymanplayhouse.com

17: MUSEUM OF LIVERPOOL, NATIONAL MUSEUMS LIVERPOOL (NML)

Pier Head, L3 1DG
 T +44 (0) 151 487 4545
 W liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol

18: O'NEILL'S

Hanover Street, L1 4AG
 T +44 (0) 151 709 7360
 E liverpool-woodst@oneills.co.uk
 W oneills.co.uk

19: OUTPUT GALLERY

32 Seel Street, L1 4BE
 T +44 (0) 777 069 1652
 E output@thekazimier.co.uk
 W thekazimier.co.uk

20: PICTUREHOUSE AT FACT

Wood Street, L1 4DQ
 T +44 (0) 151 707 4444
 E liverpool@picturehouses.co.uk
 W fact.co.uk

21: RIBA NORTH

21 Mann Island, L3 1BP
 T +44 (0) 151 703 0107
 E ribanorth@riba.org
 W architecture.com

22: ROYAL COURT - DOWNSTAIRS

Roe Street, L1 1HL
 T +44 (0) 151 709 4321
 E boxoffice@royalcourtiverpool.com
 W royalcourtiverpool.co.uk

23: SCOTLAND ROAD MEETING POINT

L3 3BB
 T +44 (0) 785 441 5721 - guide's mobile number
 E info@liverpoolirishfestival.com
 W liverpoolirishfestival.com

24: ST GEORGE'S HALL

St George's Place, L1 1JJ
 T +44 (0) 151 233 3020
 W liverpoolcityhalls.co.uk/st-georges-hall

25: ST LUKE'S GARDEN MEETING POINT

Leece Street, L1 2TR
 T +44 (0) 771 432 8415
 E ambrosereynolds@bombedoutchurch.com
 W bombedoutchurch.com

26: THE BRINK

Parr Street, L1 4JN
 W +44 (0) 151 703 0582
 E info@thebrinkliverpool.co.uk
 W thebrinkliverpool.co.uk

27: THE CROWN HOTEL

Lime Street, L1 1JQ
 T +44 (0) 151 707 6027
 W thecrownliverpool.co.uk

28: THE FLORENCE INSTITUTE (AKA THE FLORRIE)

Mill Street, L8 4RF
 T +44 (0) 151 728 2323
 E info@theflorrie.org
 W theflorrie.org

29: ULLET ROAD UNITARIAN CHURCH

Ullet Road, L17 2AA
 T +44 (0) 151 237 3987
 E admin@iccm.org.uk
 W ukunitarians.org.uk (venue) or iccm.org.uk (tickets)


30: VICTORIA GALLERY AND MUSEUM

Ashton Street, L69 3DR
 T +44 (0) 151 794 2348
 E vgm.liverpool.ac.uk
 W vgm@liv.ac.uk



Have you noticed venues have started adding up to 15% of the ticket price in fees? Rising costs and different ticketing systems (etickets, fully serviced systems and/or account linked payment security) means costs are passed to consumers.

After *Liverpool City Council* opened the *Arena Conference Centre* in 2008, it went on to open a serviced ticketing agency, called *Ticket Quarter*. This year, *Liverpool Irish Festival* is working with *Ticket Quarter* to sell tickets for 20+ of its events.

We have used some of our public funding to subsidise tickets, removing the administration/fulfilment charge. Thus, when buying for events with the  you will pay just the ticket price (+P&P if you decide to have your tickets posted to you). *Liverpool Irish Festival* is committed to minimising any barriers affecting access to arts and culture. We'd like to thank all of our sponsors for enabling us to work towards providing barrierless access.

Anyone struggling to attend events, based on ticket costs alone, should contact us at **info@liverpoolirishfestivals.com**. Where time and resources permit, we will do what we can to support community members access our events.



FESTIVAL FUNDERS



LIVERPOOL 2018



PROJECT FUNDERS



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EMPTY SPACES
CINEMA



Museum of
Liverpool



GO RAIBH MAITH AGAIBH! MAY YOU HAVE GOODNESS!

The *Liverpool Irish Festival* is supported by an incredible community of sponsors, venues, partners, artists, writers, performers, speakers, contributors and friends. We thank you all.