Music for Galway & Galway 2020 present SoundScapes
It gives us enormous pleasure and pride to unveil this exceptional series of concerts which Music for Galway has programmed as part of Galway 2020, European Capital of Culture. This once-in-a-generation opportunity for Galway city and county has allowed us to programme on a more ambitious scale than anyone would ever have thought possible.

In this brochure you will find details of all of our concert offerings throughout the calendar year 2020. Our year starts and ends with the magnificent music of Beethoven, a quarter of a millenium old. Between these milestones of the Midwinter Festival in January and the Ninth Symphony in December, we unveil the first edition of Cellissimo, our new triennial festival, in April / May, featuring a dazzling array of music and musicians.

In June we present Paper Boat, a newly-commissioned community opera celebrating 700 years of St Nicholas Collegiate Church. Throughout the year, and commencing on Good Friday, we present Abendmusik, a new series of Sunday concerts, also in St. Nicholas’ Church. We also include details of our Autumn 2019 series, acting as a kind of bookend or lead-up to the exciting events of 2020. We look forward to an unforgettable year of music!

Finghin Collins, Artistic Director
Mark Duley, Associate Artistic Director for 2020
2020 has become an important year not only for Galway, but also for Music for Galway. Being tasked with programming the main pillars of the classical music programme for Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture spurred a growth in our organisation. We are happy to have brought Suzanne Black on board to help us in the office and for 2020 we have the great pleasure of working with Mark Duley as associate artistic director.

We are proud to present the first edition of Cellissimo in 2020. We call it the first edition as we envisage this festival to become a triennial event in Galway and so I refer you to the inside back cover where you’ll find details of how you may support us. As every year, we hope that many of you will join as MfG Friends – you are our core, our sounding board. You may opt to join for our 39th Season Bookends, which covers concerts in Autumn of 2019 and then again in Spring of 2021 (details to be announced). For €100 you can join for our MfG Bookends Season and all of 2020. We continue to offer our MfG Friends many benefits and a special rate on our main concerts. You’ll find the MfG Friend form on the inside back cover.

A big thank you goes to all our funders and sponsors (do take a moment and see them listed on page 56) – thanks to their financial support we can bring you all the wonders you see in the following pages.

Creating these Soundscapes has been a challenge that we met thanks to the support of a highly skilled and dedicated Board of Directors who have been there throughout, to contribute, guide and steady us. And so now we are thrilled to invite you to come and explore with us. Happy listening.

Anna Lardi Fogarty, Executive Director
Music for Galway Board of Directors
Anne Ó Maille, Chair
Delia Breathnach, Cyril Briscoe, Claire Cuddy, Mark Gantly, Liz McConnell, Claire McLaughlin, Dan Shields, Ludmila Snigireva
Company Secretary: Terri Treacy

Executive Director: Anna Lardi Fogarty
Artistic Director: Finghin Collins
Associate Artistic Director for 2020: Mark Duley

Administrative Support: Suzanne Black
Publicist: Mary Folan
Art Direction: Ray McDonnell
Cellissimo visuals: Marshall/Light Studio

Music for Galway
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twitter.com/musicforgalway  instagram.com/musicforgalway

Alterations to the programme
MfG reserves the right to alter any advertised programme if necessary.

Latecomers
Please check starting times for individual concerts. Latecomers will only be admitted during a break in the programme.

Tickets
There are concessions for seniors (over 65), the unwaged and for full-time students for most concerts. Evidence will be requested at point of purchase. Student tickets are for full-time students only. Identification required. One ticket per person.

Booking
By phone: MfG Bookends: 091 705962 / Soundscapes: 091 569777
In person: MfG Bookends: Ó Maille, High Street, Galway / Soundscapes: Town Hall Theatre
Online: www.musicforgalway.ie
Lunchtime Series: Admission is free but booking is strongly advised: www.nuigalway.ie/artsinaction/

Buan-chairde
Music for Galway and Baboró International Arts Festival for Children are delighted to partner on the development and presentation of ‘Carnival of the Animals’ in Galway during Baboró 2019. The co-presentation of Saint-Saëns’ beloved work includes a newly commissioned child-friendly text written and performed by actor Helen Gregg. To continue the animal theme, Ficino Ensemble will perform Schubert’s beautiful Piano Quintet in A major, D 667, well known for its fourth movement in which the composer played with variations on the theme of his song ‘Die Forelle’ – the Trout. An arts-in-education outreach element will be provided by Adventures in Music, with teachers from Maoin Cheoil na Gaillimhe working in twelve schools in Galway city and county over five weeks in advance of the festival and one week after the festival in a post-engagement workshops.

Ficino Ensemble | Helen Gregg narrator
Marc Mac Lochlainn director

SAINT-SAËNS Carnival of the Animals
SCHUBERT Trout Quintet

Tuesday 15 October 7.00pm – 8.40pm
Town Hall Theatre

Tickets: €9
Family tickets (2 adults/2 children): €30

For extra performances of the Carnival on 14/16 October see www.baboro.ie

Sponsored by SAP
Finghin Collins

One of Ireland’s most successful musicians, Finghin Collins needs little introduction to Galway audiences, having performed regularly for Music for Galway since he was a child. This will be his first full solo recital for MfG since he became Artistic Director of the organisation in 2013 and is the last stop on an extensive tour of Ireland to mark 20 years since he took first prize at the Clara Haskil Competition in Switzerland.

‘Music, instrument and player seemed in perfect concord.’ Irish Times

Finghin Collins piano

MOZART Sonata in A major K. 331 “Alla Turca”
PHILIP MARTIN Gothic Glory” from the Ros Tapestry Suite
MARIAN INGOLDSBY “Mingling at the Fair” from the Ros Tapestry Suite
SCHUBERT Sonata in A major, D. 959

Friday 8 November
8.00pm – 10.00pm

Emily Anderson
Concert Hall,
NUI Galway

Tickets: €20/€18
MfG Friends: €16
Unwaged & Students (full-time): €10
Trio Rodin

Trio Rodin, one of the most outstanding Spanish young ensembles of its generation, was founded in 2011 in Utrecht, with the aim of creating a common project out of three different personalities. They are focused on presenting the great works of chamber music literature in a diverse range of performing venues and programme styles from classical to contemporary music.

Make this concert a lovely after-work treat at the PorterShed.

Carles Puig violin | Esther García cello
Jorge Mengotti piano

Friday 29 November
6.30pm – 8.20pm
PorterShed,
Eyre Square

Tickets: €20/€18
MfG Friends: €16
Unwaged & Students
(full-time): €10

MOZART Piano trio K.442
ARVO PÄRT Mozart-Adagio
J. MALATS Piano trio in B flat major
DVORAK Piano trio No. 2 Op. 26 in G minor

Sponsored by
Anonymous
Irish Baroque Orchestra’s annual production of Handel’s masterpiece is a memorable and glorious affair. Joined by outstanding soloists and the wonderful Sestina choir, IBO’s performance tells the universal story of triumph over trial, where life’s sorrows and despairs are met by overriding hope and unbridled joy.

This year, we are pleased to return once more to the wonderful Galway Cathedral and present this festive and seasonal event.

Irish Baroque Orchestra | Chorus Sestina | Emma Morwood soprano | Rachel Kelly mezzo soprano
Anthony Gregory tenor | Edward Grint bass | Peter Whelan director

**Handel’s Messiah**
in *association with* Irish Baroque Orchestra

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**Saturday 7 December**
7.30pm – 10.10pm

**Galway Cathedral**

Tickets: €25/€22.50
MfG Friends: €21
Unwaged & Students (full time): €12.50
SAP Lunchtime Series

*in association with* Arts in Action, NUI Galway

_Last Wednesday of each month at 1.05 pm_
Andreea Banciu *viola* | Aileen Cahill *piano*
Andreea and Aileen celebrate female composers including Rebecca Clarke and Clara Schumann.

29 January
Emily Anderson Concert Hall
ADMISSION IS FREE

INO Studio Artists
In this lunchtime concert, singers from the 2019/20 intake of the INO Studio will perform a selection of arias and other operatic excerpts from across the canon. It's a fantastic opportunity to hear some of Ireland's most promising vocal talent.

26 February
O’Donoghue Centre, NUI Galway
ADMISSION IS FREE

Collegium with Mark Duley
As one of five choirs making up St Nicholas Schola Cantorum, Collegium, the principal artistic focus is music from the Renaissance period, and on presenting unusual programmes with a strong thematic and seasonal flavour. Collegium performs under the direction of founder-conductor Mark Duley.

25 March
TBC
ADMISSION IS FREE
Music for Galway & Galway 2020 present Midwinter Festival:

Beethoven

ConTempo Quartet in partnership with the Galway Music Residency

Alina Ibragimova violin | Cédric Tiberghien piano
Aisling Casey oboe | John Finucane clarinet | Amy Harman bassoon | Hervé Joulain horn | Dominic Dudley double bass | Richard Wigmore musicologist

Celebrating the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth, Music for Galway’s Midwinter Festival continues its long-standing tradition of presenting a three-day weekend of themed concerts with musicians from Galway, Ireland and beyond. We will focus primarily on Beethoven’s early solo piano and chamber music compositions, featuring violin sonatas, string quartets, the Quintet for piano and winds and the ever-popular Septet.

This year we are delighted to be joined by the internationally-celebrated duo team of Russian violinist Alina Ibragimova and French pianist Cédric Tiberghien. Their Sunday recital will culminate in a performance of Beethoven’s Kreutzer Sonata, straying into the master’s glorious middle period.

17-19 January 2020
Town Hall Theatre

Sponsored by MJ Conroy & NUI Galway
Tiberghien, no stranger to Galway audiences, takes centre-stage on Saturday night with an eclectic programme of variations for solo piano, while Galway’s own ConTempo Quartet will open proceedings on Friday night, joined by a stellar cast of colleagues from near and far.

**Richard Wigmore talk:**
Wooing the elite: Beethoven’s conquest of Vienna

**ConTempo Quartet and friends**
String Quartet Op. 18 no. 5 (1798-1800)
String Quartet Op. 18 no. 6 (1798-1800)
Septet Op. 20 (1799-1800)

**Friday**
4.00pm – 5.00pm
ADMISSION IS FREE

**Friday**
8.00pm – 10.00pm
Tickets: €25/€22.50
MfG Friends €21
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €12.50
In 2020 Galway will be the European Capital of Culture.

From the opening ceremony on February 8, 2020 to the end of the year Galway 2020 will deliver a year of thrilling, life-enhancing experiences through culture and the arts that will live long in the memory and best of all the majority of events will be free to attend.

Beidh Gaillimh mar Phríomhchathair Chultúir na hEorpa in 2020.

Ón searmanas oscailte ar an 8 Feabhra, 2020 go deireadh na bliana, cuirfidh Gaillimh bliain iontach d’imeachtaí cultúrtha agus ealaíon ar siúl, a fhianfaidh sa chuimhne ar feadh i bhfad. Beidh saorchead isteach chuig formhór na n-imeachtaí.

www.galway2020.ie  #Galway2020
Richard Wigmore pre-concert talk:
‘I will strike out on a new path’: entering Beethoven’s heroic decade

Cédric Tiberghien piano and friends
12 Variations on “Minuet à la Vigano”
by Haibel WoO 68 (1795)
Quintet with winds Op. 16 (1796)
Variations in F major Op. 34 (1802)
Eroica Variations Op. 35 (1802)

Celebrity Concert
Alina Ibramigova violin | Cédric Tiberghien piano
Variations on „Se vuol ballare” WoO 40 (1792-93)
Violin Sonata No. 2 Op. 12 no. 2 (1797-98)
Violin Sonata No. 3 Op. 12 no. 3 (1798)
Violin Sonata No. 9 Op. 47 ‘Kreutzer’ (1804)

Saturday
7.00pm – 7.45pm
ADMISSION IS FREE

Saturday
8.00pm – 10.00pm
Tickets: €25/€22.50
MfG Friends €21
Unwaged & Students
(full-time) €12.50

Sunday
3.00pm – 5.00pm
Tickets: €30/€27
MfG Friends €26
Unwaged & Students
(full-time) €15
A golden age of music in the heart of the city
Celebrating musical migration
Sacred meets secular, old meets new

This new concert series for Galway takes its name (meaning “evening music”) from the famous concerts that took place on Sunday afternoons in St Mary’s Church, Lübeck, in northern Germany. Begun in the seventeenth century, these concerts were notable for various reasons, not least that they offered the Lübeck townspeople the opportunity to hear vocal music on religious themes but in a non-liturgical context.

The new series takes more than its name from seventeenth century Germany. This was an extraordinary period in music history, in which musical migration and looking beyond borders was the key to what is now considered a golden age in music. Galway’s new Abendmusik celebrates the first truly European musical epoch in the heart of the city.
The 2020 series consist of six concerts of 1 ¼ hours duration (without interval), on Sunday afternoons at 5pm and spread throughout the year. Innovative and imaginative programming for the concerts will explore the seasons and themes through a broad spread of styles, periods, and forces. A feature will be a short newly-commissioned choral work in five of the programmes from a wide range of Irish composers.

Some of Ireland’s finest ensembles and performers are taking part, including Irish Baroque Orchestra, Resurgam, Chamber Choir Ireland and pianist Finghin Collins, alongside those from further afield – the English Cornett and Sackbut Ensemble, and German baritone Jochen Kupfer.

10 April
26 April
24 May
28 June
27 September
22 November
5.00pm – 6.15pm

Tickets: €20/€18
MfG Friends €16
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €10
Pärt’s setting of the St. John Passion is perhaps one of the best-known choral works of the late twentieth-century. The gospel narrative speaks with direct intimacy, through a small piquantly-voiced instrumental and vocal ensemble and rigorous patterning of simple ideas. Despite the economical means, the work has a breathtaking nobility equal to its subject matter, and offers us a chance to follow the via dolorosa in a new and powerfully immediate way.

The lineup of performers includes Galway’s most well-known players alongside some of the brightest young Irish singers emerging on the European scene.

Brian McAlea bass (Christus) | Ciarán Kelly Pilatus Aisling Kenny soprano (evangelist) | Laura Lamph alto (evangelist) | Chris Lombard tenor (evangelist) Malachy Frame bass (evangelist) | Bogdan Sofei violin | Adrian Mantu cello | Matthew Manning oboe | Mariana Paras bassoon | Ronan De Burca organ | Collegium | Mark Duley director

**Abendmusik #1 | Music for Good Friday**

**The Way of Sorrow**

10 April – Good Friday
5.00pm – 6.15pm
St. Nicholas’ Collegiate Church

Tickets: €20/€18
MfG Friends €16
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €10

Sponsored by Anonymous
This exhibition will highlight the Galway Cello, a cello fashioned of timber grown in Co. Galway (concept Philip Fogarty) for Cellissimo as part of the Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture programme and commissioned by Music for Galway from luthier Kuros Torkzadeh.

A specially commissioned cellist’s chair, designed and made by students of the Centre for Creative Arts and Media GMIT, will also be displayed.

Other highlights of the exhibition include:
- a new short film featuring Adrian Mantu, playing *Lamentatio* by Giovanni Sollima on the Galway Cello
- a live performance by Berlin based electronic cellist Lucy Railton
- individual photographic portraits of Galway cellists playing the new cello
- pop-up performances by visiting cellists
- a lecture on the making of the Galway cello by Kuros Torkzadeh
- a short documentary film on the making of the cello
We proudly introduce the first edition of Cellissimo - a major new international triennial cello festival. Join us as we celebrate one of the world’s most beloved and versatile instruments in all its diversity. Meet the Galway Cello, an instrument made of locally grown trees.

Star cellists from all over the world will gather in Galway including Mischa Maisky (Russia), Giovanni Sollima (Italy), Nicolas Altstaedt (France/Germany), István Várdai (Hungary), Tatjana Vassiljeva (Russia), Marc Coppey (France), Laura van her Heijden (UK), Hannah Roberts (UK), Natalie Haas (Canada), Jakob Koranyi (Sweden), and Naomi Berrill (Ireland/Italy).

Experience the core artistic programme, which features three major orchestral concerts - the opening concert includes the Irish premiere of the Crouching Tiger Concerto by Tan Dun performed by the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra and conducted by the composer, while the Zagreb Soloists and the RTÉ Concert Orchestra present
cello concertos by Haydn, Vivaldi and Elgar. There will be premieres of new cello concertos by Gerald Barry and Julia Wolfe, co-commissioned with the Amsterdam Cello Biennale. Beethoven’s 250th anniversary will be marked by a performance of all five cello sonatas.

Get your Bach fix every morning at Bach Plus concerts featuring the six Bach cello suites, repeated in six different locations in County Galway. Hear Bill Whelan’s new piece for the Galway Cello, lovingly made by luthier Kuros Torkzadeh.

Go on a cello trail on Inishbofin with Cello Ireland, explore the cello in traditional music, bring a child to our children’s show, discover all about the Galway Cello at the exhibition – and there are also talks and a movie. Oh, and are you a cellist? Bring your instrument and join for the cello extravaganza closing concert.
At the very start of the festival, we unveil the Galway Cello, fashioned out of the Galway landscape by luthier Kuros Torkzadeh, for many years resident in Galway. The very first music we hear will be that of Grammy-winning composer and Galway resident Bill Whelan, who has written a new piece for the cello. Our opening concert then presents the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra under the direction of the Oscar-winning composer Tan Dun, making his Irish début and performing music from the movie “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” with the unrivalled Italian cellist Giovanni Sollima.

RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra | Giovanni Sollima
cello | Tan Dun conductor | Naomi Berrill the Galway Cello

Programme includes: Bill Whelan: Newly commissioned piece for cello and voice, written for the Galway Cello - World premiere
Tan Dun: Crouching Tiger Cello Concerto

Saturday 25 April
8.00pm – 10.00pm
Bailey Allen Hall, NUI Galway

Tickets: €30/€27
MfG Friends €26
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €15

The Galway Cello is sponsored by MJ Conroy
Giovanni Sollima’s appearance in Cellissimo is kindly sponsored by Techrete
Catch Tan Dun in interview on Sunday at the Town Hall Theatre.

[Tan Dun’s] music – which at one moment is as tonal as Beethoven and as melodic as Gershwin and the next delves into sounds that, before Cage, were considered mere noise — reveals a remarkable range of influences, from Chinese folk song to the Internet. – UT San Diego, 2012
Travel from Galway to Cleggan by coach, and to Inishbofin by ferry. In small groups you will be led on a cello trail around the island. Along the 2.4km walk there will be four stops with short performances. After a lunch break everyone will gather in the Church for a cello octet concert of about 45 minutes. The ferry will be ready to take everyone back to the bus for the return to Galway.

Experience breath-taking scenery and magical music in stunning locations.

**Sunday 26 April**
**9.00am – 8.00pm**

**Inishbofin**

- €50 – travel from Galway + event (€40 with free travel pass)
- €40 – boat + event (€25 with free travel pass) Meeting point
  Cleggan pier: 10:45 am
- €25 – event only ticket. Meeting point Inishbofin pier: 12:15pm

Places are limited so book early!
This concert takes us on a journey from the brightness of day into the shadows of evening. The unique sonority of solo cello with chamber choir is explored through a varied programme contrasting the lush romantic textures of Arensky and Rheinberger with the startling contemporary innovations of Giovanni Sollima and Sam Perkin (new commission).

In Nystedt’s Stabat Mater the journey into darkness concludes with a glimpse of glory, the cello acting as expressive commentary on the ancient text.

Adrian Mantu cello | Collegium | Mark Duley director

JOHN TAVENER Svyati
ANTON ARENSKY Three Vocal Quartets
SAM PERKIN Abendlied – world premiere
GIOVANNI SOLLIMA Lamentatio
JOSEF RHEINBERGER Abendlied
TOBY YOUNG A song of enchantment
KNUT NYSTEDT Stabat Mater

Sunday 26 April
5.00pm – 6.15pm
St. Nicholas’ Collegiate Church

Tickets: €20/€18
MfG Friends €16
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €10
International Student Programme

One of our legacy ambitions is to give a new generation of cellists the opportunity to learn and develop their skills. As we gather the top cellists in the world in Galway for Cellissimo, we therefore decided to invite a small group of twelve budding cellists to come and take part in the festival. They will have the chance to perform in pop up concerts around the city, they will have their own showcase concert at the end of the festival and last but not least, they will take part in a series of twelve master classes given by our visiting master cellists.

These classes are open to the public and will take place daily. The students will get the chance to work with their role models while audiences will be able to take a look behind the scenes. Check the schedule at the back for details.

Cellists giving classes are: Giovanni Sollima, Naomi Berrill, Adrian Mantu, Christopher Marwood, Laura van der Heijden, István Várdai, Natalie Haas, Nicolas Altstaedt, Jakob Koranyi, Hannah Roberts, Mischa Maisky, Marc Coppey

Sponsored by SAP
Two unique cellists, two unique voices. One from Sicily, the other from Headford; both resident in Italy. Witness their very first public collaboration, where anything might happen.

Giovanni Sollima *cello* | Naomi Berrill *cello*

**Sunday 26 April**  
8.30pm – 9.50pm  
**Town Hall Theatre – main stage**

Tickets: €20/€18  
MfG Friends €16  
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €10
Bach Plus Series

Giovanni Sollima opens our Bach Plus Series – get your Bach Cello Suite fix here every morning, as each cellist chooses a companion piece to go along with the suite they perform.

There will also be tea/coffee and a nibble.

On Wednesday 29 April musicologist Richard Wigmore will give a talk about this iconic body of work.

These concerts repeat daily in a different venue in Galway County: Headford, Ballynahinch, Oughterard, Gort, Athenry and Clonfert (see pages 54 & 55 for details).

**Monday 27 April – Saturday 2 May**
**11.00am – 11.45am**

**St. Nicholas’ Collegiate Church**

Tickets: €12
MfG Friends €12
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €6

Sponsored by
Tigh Neachtain
Cello Ireland is a collective of diverse cellists from across Ireland. Expect music for different combinations of cellos, from two to eight cellos, with well-known favourites and some unexpected departures.

The programme will include traditional Irish airs, classical duos by David Popper, a tango by Piazzolla, pieces by Arvo Pärt and Messaien and a movement from Villa-Lobos’ Bachianas Brasileras No. 1.

Cello Ireland
With this workshop Canadian Natalie Haas starts her exploration of the cello within traditional music. Natalie has worked with the best of Irish and international traditional musicians and she and her guests will debate, workshop and demonstrate in three lunchtime slots and two late night concerts what this instrument can and can’t bring to that genre of music.

Further dates are 29 and 30 April at lunchtime, plus late night concerts at 10.15 pm on each of those evenings.

This strand of Cellissimo will take place at the Mick Lally Theatre

**Tuesday 28 April**
**1.00pm – 2.00pm**
**Mick Lally Theatre**

LUNCHTIME EVENTS
ADMISSION IS FREE
LATE NIGHT CONCERTS
Tickets: €15/€13
MfG Friends: €13
Unwaged & Students (full time) €7.50

Pictured right:
Caitlin Nic Gabhann
and Ciarán Ó Maonaigh
A further celebration of Beethoven’s 250 years, this will be a feast for the senses. Five cellists from different corners of Europe join artistic director of Cellissimo Finghin Collins for a marathon performance of the master’s five sonatas, spanning his entire career.

Richard Wigmore provides insights on the composer, the context and the music. There will be two intervals.

Christopher Ellis | Laura van der Heijden
Christopher Marwood | Tatjana Vassiljeva
István Várdai *cello | Finghin Collins *piano
Richard Wigmore *musicologist

**BEETHOVEN The Five Sonatas for Cello and Piano**
- Sonata No. 1 in F major Op. 5 no. 1
- Sonata No. 2 in G minor Op. 5 no. 2
- Sonata No. 3 in A major Op. 69
- Sonata No. 4 in C major Op. 102 no. 1
- Sonata No. 5 in D major Op. 102 no. 2

**Tuesday 28 April**
7.00pm – 10.30pm
**Town Hall Theatre – main stage**

Tickets: €25/€22.50
MfG Friends: €21
Unwaged & Students (full-time): €12.50

Pictured:
Tatjana Vassiljeva and Christopher Ellis

Sponsored by
Optique Opticians
Everyone can make music. To prove that, Micha Wertheim was instructed by the Ministry for Education to learn to play the cello. For two years he has had the opportunity to practice on a Stradivarius specially made available to him for this performance. He is about to perform one of the masterpieces in cello music: The Swan by Camille Saint-Saëns.

Great plan, don’t you think?
Until Micha comes on stage, his hand is bleeding, there is a life-threatening saw on the loose and everything runs differently than expected...

The Decibel Family is based on the picture book of the same name that Micha Wertheim wrote with illustrations by Cristina Garcia Martin.

This funny and entertaining show is very much geared towards the young and young at heart and we recommend it for people age 6 and up. We are delighted to present it every morning from Wednesday to Saturday.
Music for Galway has co-commissioned two new cello concertos with the Cello Biennale Amsterdam. The first, Julia Wolfe’s Wind in my Hair, received its premiere at the CBA 2018 and we are proud to present its second performance as part of Cellissimo.

Gerald Barry’s piece, which gets its world premiere during this festival, will be performed again later in the year at the CBA 2020. Elgar’s cello concerto, a favourite in the repertoire, finishes off this remarkable concert featuring the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, three outstanding international cellists led by the leading Irish conductor of his generation, David Brophy.

RTÉ Concert Orchestra | David Brophy conductor
Tatjana Vassiljeva cello | Jakob Koranyi cello
Nicolas Altstaedt cello

GERALD BARRY Cello Concerto world premiere
JULIA WOLFE Wind in my hair - second performance, Irish premiere
ELGAR Cello Concerto
From Prussia with Love

A chamber music concert with particular emphasis on the cello. Two quintets by the extravagantly gifted Boccherini and the sublime Schubert frame one of Mozart’s Prussian Quartets, written for the King of Prussia, himself a keen cellist.

ConTempo Quartet | Hannah Roberts cello

BOCCHERINI Cello Quintet in C major, Op. 28 no. 4
MOZART String Quartet K. 575
SCHUBERT Cello Quintet in C major, D. 956

Presented in partnership with Shorelines Arts Festival

Wednesday 29 April
8.00pm – 10.00pm
Church of Ireland, Portumna

Tickets: €20
MfG Friends €16
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €10
MUSIC for GALWAY/CELLISSIMO acknowledges the support and friendship of the CELLO BIËNNALE AMSTERDAM, with whom we are proud to have co-commissioned two new works for cello and orchestra.

We feel sure it is but the start of a long and fruitful partnership.

Thank you.
We are delighted to present Mischa Maisky, one of the world’s truly legendary artists, in recital with his daughter Lily. The programme could scarcely be more dynamic, more diverse, more appealing. This will be a very popular concert, so do book early!

Mischa Maisky cello | Lily Maisky piano

BEETHOVEN Seven Variations in E flat major on Mozart’s Magic Flute in E flat major, WoO 46
RACHMANINOV Sonata for Cello and Piano in G minor, Op. 19
BRITTEN Sonata for Cello and Piano in C, Op. 65
PIAZZOLLA Le Grand Tango

Thursday 30 April
8.00pm – 10.00pm

Town Hall Theatre – main stage

Tickets:
€48.50/€38.50/€25.00
MfG Friends:
€44.50/€34.50/ €21.00
More Maisky at the Town Hall Theatre:
On Friday 1st May, Mischa Maisky will work with students taking part in the International Student Programme in an open masterclass at the Town Hall Theatre from 3.00pm to 6.00pm.

On Saturday 2nd May, Ludmila Snigireva will present a talk about the legendary Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich, and will be joined in conversation by his former student Mischa Maisky. This talk will be followed by “The Cellist” - a movie by Murray Grigor about Gregor Piatigorsky, in which Maisky also appears.
Another cracking programme, this time featuring the Zagreb Soloists from ECOC partner country Croatia (Rijeka is also European Capital of Culture in 2020), directed by their former artistic director, the charismatic French cellist Marc Coppey. To open the programme, Coppey will be joined by one of his students at the Paris Conservatoire and a true rising star: the young Dublin cellist Christopher Ellis.

**Marc Coppey cello/director | Christopher Ellis cello**

**Friday 1 May**  
7.30pm – 9.30pm  
**Town Hall Theatre – main stage**  
Tickets: €25/€22.50  
MfG Friends: €21  
Unwaged & Students (full-time): €12.50

**Saturday 2 May**  
7.30pm – 9.30pm  
**Clifden– Church of Ireland, in partnership with the Clifden Arts Society**  
Tickets: €20/€15  
MfG Friends: €15

*VIVALDI Concerto for Two Cellos and Orchestra in G minor*  
*HAYDN Concerto in C major*  
*BARBER Adagio for Strings*  
*BARTÓK Divertimento for Strings*
Round off your day with a late-night concert in the beautiful surroundings of Claregalway Castle with outstanding Hungarian cellist István Várdai and pianist Finghin Collins. A shuttle bus will run from outside the Town Hall Theatre after the Zagreb Soloists concert.

István Várdai cello | Finghin Collins piano

Programme to include
DE FALLA Seven Popular Spanish Folksongs
DORA PEJACEVIC Cello Sonata in E minor – Irish premiere

*in partnership with Claregalway Castle*

**Friday 1 May**
**10.15pm – 11.15pm**

**Claregalway Castle**

Tickets: €15/€13
MfG Friends: €13
Unwaged & Students (full-time): €7.50

Sponsored by Anonymous
We can safely say that Galway will never have seen the like of it before. A spectacular finale to end the week of all weeks, cellistically speaking. Never will so many cellos have been seen west of the Shannon. To join them, we welcome star Irish soprano Claudia Boyle to sing Villa-Lobos’ haunting Bachianas Brasileiras. Expect to be moved, exhilarated, transported, dazzled!

Claudia Boyle soprano | István Várdai cello | Adrian Mantu cello | Hannah Roberts cello | Cello Ireland
12 International Cello Students | Cello students from all over Co. Galway | Amateur cellists from all over the world

Programme to include
SOLLIMA Violoncelles, Vibrez!
VILLA-LOBOS Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5
TCHAIKOVSKY Andante Cantabile
BRUCH Kol Nidrei

**Saturday 2 May**
7:30pm - 9:45pm

**Bailey Allen Hall, NUI Galway**

Tickets: €25/€22.50
MfG Friends €21
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €12.50
Family ticket: €60

Are you an amateur cellist (grade 5 or higher) and would you like to join in the performance?

Get in touch through the website or send an email to info@musicforgalway.ie before March 1.
Our twelve cello students from all over Europe will have spent the week taking part in masterclasses with our visiting cellists and performing short pop-up concerts throughout Galway city.

To help you wind down after last night’s extravaganza, come and hear them in their very own showcase concert, accompanied by pianist Dearbhla Brosnan.

And then it really will be all over, until we return in 2023!

Student Showcase Concert

Sunday 3 May
1.00pm – 3.00pm
Town Hall Theatre – main stage

Tickets: €10
MfG Friends €8
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €5

Image detail of the scroll of The Galway Cello

Sponsored by SAP
Abendmusik #3
Over the Alps

in association with Resurgam and Galway Early Music Festival

In his lifetime, Rosenmüller was considered one of Europe’s greatest and most well-travelled musicians, and a key figure in bringing Italian musical ideas to Germany. Thus his music looks both ways across the Alps: grandiloquent Venetian splendour meeting Teutonic contrapuntal discipline. Resurgam brings the colourful and virtuosic beauty of his concerted vocal music to Ireland for the first time, with a collation of Latin psalm-concerti, each a mini-cantata. The splendidly sonorous C minor Magnificat in eight parts caps a Vespers setting in the grand Venetian style.

Sean Doherty’s new work, setting an ancient Vesper hymn, forms a contrast in the centre of the programme.

Resurgam | English Cornett & Sackbut Ensemble | Mark Duley director

JOHANN ROSENMÜLLER (1619-1684) Vespers
SEAN DOHERTY Hail! Gladdening Light – world premiere

Sunday 24 May
5.00pm – 6.15pm
St.Nicholas’ Collegiate Church

Tickets: €20/€18
MfG Friends €16
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €10
A new community opera for Galway, to celebrate 700 years of St. Nicholas’ Collegiate Church

On midsummer’s eve, a young homeless man, and a mysterious mother and a child arrive in St. Nicholas’ Church to claim sanctuary from very different threats. But an army from the past is gathering outside the doors, threatening to repeat the destruction of Galway perpetrated by Cromwell’s army centuries ago. Now the people of Galway are being asked to risk their own safety to protect the strangers who have come seeking their aid, and the leaders of the fourteen tribes must decide.
Join a professional cast of singers and musicians enhanced by children and singers of Galway and find out what the tribes decide.

Elaine Agnew music  
Jessica Traynor libretto  
Conor Hanratty director  
Sinead Hayes conductor  
Paul Keogan Set and Lighting Designer

11 – 13 June  
St. Nicholas’ Collegiate Church

Thursday 11 June  
7.30pm – 8.45pm

Friday 12 June  
7.30pm – 8.45pm

Saturday 13 June  
2.00pm – 3.15pm &  
6.00pm – 7.15pm

Tickets: €25/€22.50  
MfG Friends: €21  
Unwaged & Students (full-time): €12.50  
Family: €60
Abendmusik #4

Journey of the Spirit

The journey in our fourth Abendmusik programme is of a more metaphysical nature, from human despair to transcendent love. This journey is traced in parallel, with baritone and piano taking the more earthly view through Lieder whilst the choral contributions mark the same emotional voyage with biblical texts. At the centre is Brahms’ setting of four passages of scripture which bring sacred and secular together, with the fourth song (the famous description of love from Paul’s letter to the Corinthians) forming the turning point in the programme, and also providing the text for Ann Cleare’s new work for choir.

Lieder by WOLF, SCHUBERT, SCHÖNBERG, BRAHMS, STRAUSS and MAHLER
BRAHMS Four Serious Songs
HEINRICH SCHÜTZ Aus der Tiefe
J.S. BACH Komm Jesu komm
ANN CLEARE Now we see through a glass – world premiere

Jochen Kupfer baritone | Finghin Collins piano
Collegium | Mark Duley director

Sunday 28 June
5.00pm – 6.15pm
St. Nicholas’ Collegiate Church

Tickets: €20/€18
MfG Friends €16
Unwaged & Students (full-time) €10
This programme begins with the disconsolate darkness of the Salve Regina prayer, but in Grigorjeva’s setting, suffused with hope through long arching Byzantine-inspired melodic lines. Pärt’s Wallfahrtslied (pilgrims’ song) bridges the ravine between the two worlds of time and eternity, using the words of psalm 121. The dynamism of the string parts set against the static vocal lines gives the work a transfigured serenity. Tavener’s Ikon of Light, becomes suffused with the soundscape of Orthodox liturgy, sets St Symeon’s ecstatic text, bringing us fully into the Divine Light which is its central theme.

The text of Ed Bennett’s new work is seventeenth century metaphysicist John Donne’s resonant prayer challenging death with a vision of heavenly infinitude.

Con Tempo Quartet | Chamber Choir Ireland | Paul Hillier director

GALINA GRIGORJEVA Salve Regina
ARVO PÄRT Wallfahrtslied
ED BENNETT - world premiere
JOHN TAVENER Ikon of Light
A day of celebration of one of Galway’s finest daughters, Emily Anderson. Music for Galway has honoured her each year and this year is no different. Given her close connections to Beethoven, it is even more important that we remember her in 2020.

Find out more about this extraordinary woman who is only starting to get the recognition she deserves. Immerse yourself in late Beethoven as John O’Conor tackles his final three piano sonatas.

BEETHOVEN
Piano Sonata no. 30 in E major Op. 109
Piano Sonata no. 31 in A flat major Op. 110
Piano Sonata no. 32 in C minor Op. 111

Thursday 15 October
Emily Anderson
Concert Hall, NUIG
2.00pm – 2.45pm
John O’Conor: A Life Performing Beethoven
3.00pm – 3.45pm
Professor Mark Everist (University of Southampton): Music and the Epistolary Word: Emily Anderson and Musicology
ADMISSION TO TALKS IS FREE
8.00pm – 10.00pm
concert
John O’Conor piano
Tickets: €20/€18
MfG Friends: €16
Unwaged & Students (full-time): €10
Music for Galway & NUI Galway present Celebrating Emily Anderson in the Beethoven Year Symposium & Concert
Music for Galway is funded by the Arts Council as a Strategic Partner.
Serendipitously, our final Abendmusik of the season falls on the feast day of St Cecilia, patron saint of musicians. Purcell’s ode in honour of the Roman martyr sets a text by Irishman Nicholas Brady in which a wide array of musical instruments are extolled both as human characters and voices of nature itself. Heaven and earth are brought together, and the “jarring seeds of matter” into agreement, in Purcell’s grand choruses and intimate arias and duets. These themes are the inspiration for the programme’s “curtain-raiser”: Rhona Clarke’s new setting of Hildegard’s extraordinary O vis eternitatis, a celebration of the divinity of the created order.

Resurgam | Irish Baroque Orchestra | Peter Whelan director

RHONA CLARKE O vis eternitatis – world premiere
HENRY PURCELL Hail! Bright Cecilia
Joy, beautiful spark of the Gods,
Daughter of Elysium,
We enter, drunk with fire,
Heavenly One, thy sanctuary!
Your magic binds again
What custom strictly divided;
All people become brothers,
Where your gentle wing abides.

- Friedrich Schiller
With joy, the spark of the gods, Music for Galway ends its programme for Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture. Beethoven’s 9th Symphony, including the EU hymn Ode to Joy, will resound throughout the Galway Cathedral to celebrate 250 years since Beethoven’s birth, to celebrate this fantastic year for Galway and to celebrate its cultural connections with Europe. Choirs from all over Galway City and County will join the RTÉ Concert Orchestra and a star studded cast of soloists led by distinguished Irish conductor Kenneth Montgomery.

RTÉ Concert Orchestra | Kenneth Montgomery
conductor | Anna Devin soprano | Sharon Carty mezzo-soprano | Dean Power tenor | André Morsch baritone

Saturday 12 December
7.30pm – 8.45pm
Galway Cathedral

Tickets: €25/€22.50
MfG Friends: €21
Unwaged & Students (full-time): €12.50
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<td>O'Donoghue Centre</td>
<td>Patrick Rafter</td>
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<td>15/10/2019</td>
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<td>Carnival of the Animals &amp; Trout Quintet</td>
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<td>Andreae Banciu</td>
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<td>O'Donoghue Centre</td>
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<td>Abendmusik 1 – The Way of Sorrow</td>
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<td>Bach Plus 1 – Giovanni Sollima</td>
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<td>Masterclass 3 – Adrian Mantu</td>
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<td>6pm – 7pm</td>
<td>Campbell’s Tavern, Headford*</td>
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<td>Mick Lally Theatre</td>
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<td>Ballynahinch Castle Hotel*</td>
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<td>Bach Plus 3 – Laura van der Heijden</td>
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<td>Gallery 126</td>
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<td>Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort*</td>
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<td>Zagreb Cellissimo Finale</td>
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<td>13/06/2020</td>
<td>2pm – 3.15pm</td>
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<td>13/06/2020</td>
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<td>15/10/2020</td>
<td>2pm – 2.45pm</td>
<td>Emily Anderson Concert Hall, NUIG</td>
<td>John O’Conor: A Life Performing Beethoven</td>
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<tr>
<td>3pm – 3.45pm</td>
<td>Emily Anderson Concert Hall, NUIG</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Everist: Music and the Epistolary Word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8pm – 10pm</td>
<td>Emily Anderson Concert Hall, NUIG</td>
<td></td>
<td>John O’Conor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22/11/2020</td>
<td>5pm – 6.15pm</td>
<td>St. Nicholas’ Collegiate Church</td>
<td>Abendmusik 6 : Resounding Landscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/12/2020</td>
<td>7.30pm – 8.45pm</td>
<td>Galway Cathedral</td>
<td>Beethoven 9th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Booking**

By phone: MfG Bookends: 091 705962 / Soundscapes: 091 569777
In person: MfG Bookends: Ó Máille, High Street, Galway / Soundscapes: Town Hall Theatre
Online: www.musicforgalway.ie

Lunchtime Series: Admission is free but booking is strongly advised: www.nuigalway.ie/artsinaction/

*Booking: Bach Plus in the County*

Headford: €10/€5 (unwaged and students) available at door
Ballynahinch Castle Hotel: €10 from coreilly@ballynahinch-castle.com / 095 31006
Church of Ireland, Oughterard: €10 from leslielyons@eircom.net / 086 3981572
Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort: €10/€8 from 091 632333 / Eventbrite
Community Hall Athenry: €10/€5 available at door
Clonfert Cathedral: Price TBC - Tickets available at door
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• Invitation to the MfG Friends’ Concert (Three Cello Concertos 29th April 2020)
• Listing on the MfG Friends’ Concert Programme
• Regular newsletters with advance information on all programmes and listings of other music events in Galway
• Concession rate on music events promoted by MfG partners
• Priority Booking

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