Danú
St. Patrick’s Celebration
Saturday, March 16, 2019, 7:30 PM

These Advance Program Notes are provided online for our patrons who like to read about performances ahead of time. Printed programs will be provided to patrons at the performances. Programs are subject to change.

TRADITIONAL MUSIC OF IRELAND

Nell Ní Chróinín, lead vocals, flute, and whistles
Benny McCarthy, button accordion
Oisin McAuley, fiddle and backing vocals
Éamon Doorley, Irish bouzouki
Ivan Goff, Uilleann pipes, flute, and whistles
Tony Byrne, guitar and backing vocals
Amy Richter, bodhrán (Irish drum)

Repertoire will be selected from the following and announced from the stage:

Selection of Irish Slides (instrumental)
All traditional tunes; arranged by Danú

The New House/Brown-Eyed Bridget/The Humours of Holliston (instrumental)
Composed by Paddy O’Brien/O. McAuley/O. McAuley; arranged by Danú

The Foggy Dew (song)
Composed by Canon Charles O’Neill; arranged by Danú

Hornpipes: The Connemara Hornpipe/The Leverette (instrumental)
Composed by Vincent Broderick and Mairtin O’Connor; arranged by Danú

Reels—The Poor Mans Fortune/The Long Strand/Reel Gan Ainm (instrumental)
Composed by P. O’Brien/traditional/traditional; arranged by Danú

Ten Thousand Miles (song)
Traditional; arranged by Danú

Tuamgraney Castle/The Broken Pledge/The Braes of Busby (instrumental)
All traditional tunes; arranged by Danú

Mo Ghile Mear (song)
Composed by Seán Cláirach Mac Domhnaill; arranged by Danú

Program is subject to change
There will be an intermission.

This performance is supported in part by a gift from Erv and Betsy Blythe and Larry and Lindsey Bowman.
**Program Notes**

**SLIDES**  
*She Hasn’t the Thing She Thought She Had* (trad)//*Denis Murphy’s* (trad)//*Abbey’s Green Isle* (trad)  
Arranged by Danú

Nell’s aunt, Eileen O’Riordan, was the source of the first two slides in this set. The last tune comes from the great Sliabh Luachra box player Denis Doody.

**JIGS**  
*The New House* (Paddy O’Brien)//*Brown-Eyed Bridget* (Oisín McAuley)//*The Humours of Holliston* (McAuley)  
Arranged by Danú

The first jig of this set is composed by the great accordion player Paddy O’Brien from Nenagh, County Tipperary. Our own Oisín McAuley composed the second and third jigs.

**SONG**  
*Foggy Dew* (Canon Charles O’Neill)  
Arranged by Danú

This is a well known and loved song in Ireland written by Canon Charles O’Neill in 1922 from County Down. It pays homage to all those who fought in the Irish Civil War, as well as those Irish people who went to fight for Great Britain in World War I.

**HORNPIPES**  
*The Connemara Hornpipe* (Vincent Broderick)//*The Leverette* (Mairtin O’Connor)  
Arranged by Danú

The first hornpipe is called *The Connemara Hornpipe*. It’s one of Vincent Broderick’s. The music can be found in his book of tunes *The Turoe Stone Vol. 2*; in the book the description reads, “This tune came to Vincent while on a visit to Carraroe, County Galway. The sound of the waves crashing onto the beach had a strange musical tone.” The key of the tune in the book is D major. We’ve transposed it to G major for this recording. The second tune is a bouncy composition by the great Galway accordion maestro Mairtin O’Connor.

**REELS**  
*The Poor Mans Fortune* (O’Brien)//*The Long Strand* (traditional)//*Reel Gan Ainm* (traditional)  
Arranged by Danú

The first of these lovely reels was composed by the great Offaly accordionist Paddy O’Brien. The second reel was sourced in the book *O’Neills 1001 Collection of Irish Music*. The last tune we heard from the Dublin piper Mick O’Brien.

**SONG**  
*Ten Thousand Miles* (traditional)  
Arranged by Danú

This is an 18th-century folk ballad and is also known as *The Turtle Dove* or *Fare Thee Well*. We learnt it from the great folk singer Nic Jones. It tells the tale of a lover bidding farewell before setting off on a big journey.
HORNPIPE, REELS
*Tuamgraney Castle* (traditional)/*The Broken Pledge* (traditional)/*The Braes of Busby* (traditional)
Arranged by Danú

The hornpipe *Tuamgraney Castle* is from East Clare. This unusual version of *The Broken Pledge* came from master piper Liam O’Flynn. We heard this particular version of *The Braes of Busby* from the playing of another great piper, Ronan Browne.

SONG
*Mo Ghile Mear* (Seán Clárach Mac Domhnaill)
Arranged by Danú

Another great song in the Irish language. This lament was written in the 18th century and was composed in the convention of Aisling poetry.
Biographies

DANÚ

Hailing from counties Waterford, Dublin, Donegal, and Cork, Danú is one of the leading traditional Irish ensembles of today. Their standing room only concerts throughout Ireland are true events featuring high-energy performances and a glorious mix of ancient Irish music and new repertoire.

For over two decades, Danú’s virtuosi players on flute, tin whistle, fiddle, button accordion, bouzouki, and vocals (Irish and English) have performed around the globe and recorded seven critically acclaimed albums. Their live DVD, One Night Stand, was filmed at Vicar St. Dublin. Winners of numerous awards from the BBC and Irish Music Magazine, Danú has toured throughout Europe, the Middle East, and North America with stops at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles, Symphony Space in New York City, and major concert engagements in the United Kingdom, India, Israel, and across Europe. Danú takes its audiences on a musical journey to their native Ireland, offering a moving and memorable concert experience. Danú’s popular recordings are available on the Shanachie label and live performances are often broadcast on NPR, the CBC, and the BBC.

Danú has nine CDs and a DVD, which are all available in stores or online:

DANÚ DEBUT (CD) 1997
THINK BEFORE YOU THINK (CD) 2000
ALL THINGS CONSIDERED (CD) 2002
THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED (CD) 2003
UP IN THE AIR (CD) 2004
WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE (CD) 2005
ONE NIGHT STAND (DVD) 2005
SEANCHAS (CD) 2010
BUAN (CD) 2015
TEN THOUSAND MILES (CD) 2018

For more information, please visit danu.net.
Engagement Events

Saturday, March 16, 2019
MUSIC IN THE LOBBY: JIM SHARKEY
Prior to the performance by Danú, local singer-songwriter Jim Sharkey performed contemporary Irish music. Sharkey is an Irish and Americana folk musician who grew up in County Roscommon, Ireland, and came to the U.S. in 1982 when he joined the U.S. Navy in London, England.

Special thanks to Jim Sharkey

Go Beyond

How would you describe the dynamics of the performance? How do you imagine the folk roots of traditional Irish music influenced the development of those characteristic dynamics?
ARBOREAL
Thursday, January 24-Saturday, March 23, 2019
All galleries

Majestic, sustaining, enduring, but increasingly vulnerable—these words only begin to describe one of Earth’s most critical life forms: trees. This stunning selection of works by artists from Australia, Spain, Israel, Japan, and the United States explores the imagery of trees and their symbolic resonance. Arboreal features photography, video, painting, works on paper, and ceramic, wood, and stainless steel sculpture.

JOIN US!
GALLERY TALKS

Micro to Macro—All About Trees
Join us for a series of gallery talks presented by Virginia Tech faculty that explores a broad variety of topics relating to the world of trees, from sustainability and conservation to dendrochronology and invasive species. Each talk is approximately 30 minutes each and is free and open to the public. Talks will be held in the Ruth C. Horton Gallery.

Tuesday, March 19, 2019, 6:30 PM
Invasive Species—Trees as Victim and Victor: Jacob Barney, Ph.D.

GALLERY HOURS
Monday-Friday, 10 AM-5:30 PM
Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM

To arrange a group tour or class visit, please contact Meggin Hicklin, exhibitions program manager, at megh79@vt.edu.