

"A spirit-raising concoction"
—The Irish Times

Danú

A Christmas Gathering: Féile Na Nollag

Wednesday, December 10, 2014
The Englert Theatre
Hancher
University of Iowa



HANCHER

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF IOWA

Danú

A Christmas Gathering: Féile Na Nollag

Muireann Nic Amhlaóibh *Lead Vocals, Flute & Whistles*

Benny McCarthy *Button Accordion*

Donal Clancy *Guitar & Vocals*

Oisín McAuley *Fiddle and Backing Vocals*

Éamon Doorley *The Irish Bouzouki and Backing Vocals*

Martin O'Neill *Bodhran (Irish Drum) and Piano*

Plus Guest Irish Step Dancers

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

The Wexford Carol (Song)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>
Miss Fogarty's Christmas Cake (Song)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>
Oíche Chúin/Silent Night (Song)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>
Christmas Eve Reel (Instrumental)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>
Le Coinnle na N'Aingeal/ The Candles of Angels (Song)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>
Slide/Reel Set (Instrumental)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>
The Boys of Barr na Stráide (Song)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>
Polka Selection (Instrumental)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>
The Parting Glass (Song)	<i>Traditional/Arranged by Danú</i>

Program is subject to change.

There will be an intermission.

PROGRAM NOTES

The Wexford Carol (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

This very old Christmas carol has been a favorite in Ireland for many years. It is in English and the song tells us about the holy story.

Miss Fogarty's Christmas Cake (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

This is a very funny song all about the traditional Irish Christmas cake. The Christmas cake is the centerpiece to every Irish gathering at this time of year. Danú encourages everybody to join in on the funny chorus to this song. Here are the lyrics of the chorus:

*There were plums and prunes and cherries,
There were citrons and raisins and cinnamon, too
There was nutmeg, cloves and berries
And a crust that was nailed on with glue
There were caraway seeds in abundance
Such that work up a fine stomach ache
That could kill a man twice after eating a slice
Of Miss Fogarty's Christmas cake.*

Oíche Chúín/Silent Night (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

Silent Night is a song that is known the world over. We perform it as “Oíche Chúín” in the Irish language and follow it into the English version where we encourage everybody to join in and sing along with us.

Christmas Eve Reel (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

Christmas Eve Reel is probably the most well known Christmas tune in Ireland. It would not be Christmas time for Irish musicians without “Christmas Eve” the reel.

Le Coinnle na N'Aingeal (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

This beautiful Irish song translates as “The Candles of Angels” and is a lovely song about the old Irish tradition of candle lighting in the people's windows as a sign of welcome.

Slide/Reel Set (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

This new instrumental piece by Danú is a lively set of dance tunes featuring some Slides from County Kerry and reels from County Donegal. A great set to dance or clap along to!

The Boys of Barr na Stráide (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

This is a great song from County Kerry which mentions “Hunting for the Wren” as sung in the last line of each verse. The wren hunt is an ancient tradition in Ireland which takes place on December 26th “St. Stephen's Day,” a great day of music, song and celebration.

Polka Selection (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

Irish Polkas are mostly associated with the Munster region in Southern Ireland. The Polka Set is a very well-known dance that happens in Ireland when a group of musicians and dancers meet up.

The Parting Glass (Traditional/Arranged by Danú)

This song is one of Ireland's greatest farewell songs and is always sung at the end of the evening.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The acclaimed Irish ensemble Danú celebrates a traditional Irish Christmas with *A Christmas Gathering: Féile Na Nollag*. Celtic music lovers around the globe have been thrilled by the ensemble's virtuoso players on fiddle, flutes, button accordion, and percussion and the gorgeous voice of Muireann Nic Amhlaóibh. Winner of major awards from the BBC and *Irish Music Magazine*, Danú returns to the US in December 2014, with special guests and a glorious celebration of Christmas from their homeland.

In Ireland, the festival of Christmas has for centuries been celebrated by traditional Irish music and song. There are many musical tributes that pay homage to early Irish traditions such as The Laden Table, placing a candle in a window, and touring from house to house on St. Stephen's Day. *A Christmas Gathering: Féile Na Nollag* is a Celtic music celebration that warms the heart.

"...a vibrant mix of virtuosity, energy, and empathy" - *The Washington Post*

"...(Danú) stirs the blood and lifts the heart." - *Irish Music Magazine*

"...fierce fiddle reels to pensive ballads." - *The New York Times*





Danú has seven 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

NEW DANÚ ALBUM TO BE RELEASED IN 2015
(visit www.danu.net for updates)

Visit Danú on the World Wide Web:

www.danu.net



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Kronos Quartet
Beyond Zero: 1914-1918
February 7 | The Englert Theatre

Terell Stafford Quintet
February 13 | The Mill

Roseneath Theatre, *La Maleta*
February 27 | The Englert Theatre

Pacifica Quartet
March 6 | Riverside Recital Hall

The Joffrey Ballet
March 7-8 | Space Place Theater




The Nile Project
March 11 | The Englert Theatre

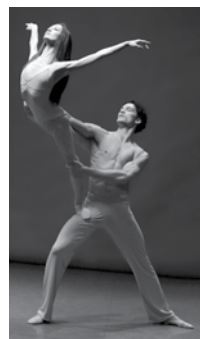
Howard Fishman
The Basement Tapes Project
April 10 | The Mill

Working Group Theatre
All Recipes Are Home
April 17-18 | Johnson County Fairgrounds

Cantus, *Anthems*
April 30 | St. Mary's Catholic Church

Inti-Illimani
May 15 | Iowa City Ped Mall, Fountain Stage

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Future Hancher

Arts & Minds: Building on Iowa's Creative Legacy is a \$30 million fundraising campaign to support replacement facilities for Hancher, the UI School of Music, and the UI School of Art and Art History. Our flood recovery is well underway—we've moved from reimagining to rebuilding—and when all the work is complete, the landscape of our campus will forever be changed.

SUPPORTER



"This campaign is a crucial step forward in providing state-of-the-art facilities for our arts campus."

-Jane Downer
Arts & Minds Campaign Co-chair

"Seldom can a gift to a campaign have such a profound and immediate effect on generations to come."

-Steve West
Arts & Minds Campaign Co-chair,
pictured with his wife, Victoria



SPOTLIGHT

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givetoioowa.org/ArtsAndMinds



Happy Holidays

*from the
Hancher Staff*



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