

Finding a **VOICE**

Unforgettable music by remarkable women

4 – 8 March 2022

Clonmel

findingavoice.ie



Welcome to the fifth edition of **Finding a Voice** and we're delighted to be back in front of live audiences after moving online last year. Once again, the festival will focus on **unforgettable music by remarkable women** through the ages and around the world. It's hard to believe that it has been five years since the first concert in Clonmel, still less that over the course of those five years we have managed to programme music by more than one hundred exceptional women composers.

This year, we continue to broaden the genres we cover to include musical theatre in the concert **Broadway Babes & West End Girls!** We are also delighted to have a concert by contemporary/ traditional genre-defying singer-songwriter **Pauline Scanlon** who will be airing some of the songs from her brand-new album, *The Unquiet*.

The theme for 2022 is **#Relationships** and several concerts will explore the concept of "relationships", whether in the interaction between performers, the connection between performers and the music they perform, or the relationship between words and music.

We're delighted to welcome for the first time to Finding a Voice, the wonderful **Cassiopeia Winds** who will perform music for wind quintet by French and American composers and who will be joined by pianist **Fiachra Garvey** for Louise Farrenc's virtuosic Sextet for piano and winds. We're equally delighted to welcome back **Darragh Morgan** and **Mary Dullea** who return to the festival for a second time for a concert of gorgeous music by Deirdre McKay, as well as Clara Schumann, Lili Boulanger, Ruth Crawford Seeger and Florence Price.

Music by American composer Florence Price will also feature in one of the festival highlights, the first visit to Ireland of celebrated pianist **Samantha Ege**. Ege who has recorded and performed Price's music around the world will give the Irish premières of works by Price alongside those of her student and friend Margaret Bonds, and Czech composer Vítězslava Kaprálová.

Once again, there is a strong emphasis on Irish women composers, who have been a highlight of the festival since the very start. 2022's closing concert, featuring pianist **Yonit Ksovskse**, singer **Julie Comparini** and poet **Jessica Brown** will include a new song-cycle by Ailís Ní Riain and over the weekend, there will be a free screening of Amanda Feery's video opera for Irish National Opera, *A Thing I Cannot Name*.

As the only concert series of its kind in Ireland and the British Isles Finding a Voice offers a unique opportunity to hear unforgettable music by remarkable women. We have a fantastic line-up of musicians and events that will make for a weekend of wonderful music making in Clonmel. We're looking forward to having you join us!




Róisín Maher
Artistic Director



Spirituals to Sonatas

Samantha Ege (piano)

"Ege is our trusted guide through lesser-known piano works both dynamic and beautiful."

BBC Music Magazine

 13.00  Old St Mary's Church, Clonmel  10.00

Award-winning researcher, internationally recognised concert pianist, and renowned public speaker Dr Samantha Ege belongs to a new generation of practitioners who are redefining classical music and illuminating the diversity of its past, present, and future. In this eagerly-anticipated concert, Ege visits Ireland for the first time to perform the spiritual-infused works of the pioneering Florence Price and Margaret Bonds and closes with the sole sonata composed by the prodigious Czech composer Vítězslava Kaprálová.

Florence Price Fantasia Nègre No. 1 [Irish première]

Margaret Bonds Spiritual Suite [Irish première]

Vítězslava Kaprálová Sonata Appassionata [Irish première]

[Book Here](#)



Broadway Babes & West End Girls!

David Hayes (musical director) Sinéad O'Donovan (voice) CSM Musical Theatre Ensemble

Experience Broadway & West End magic in Clonmel with this musical theatre extravaganza by David Hayes featuring singer Sinead O'Donovan

 19.30  Old St Mary's Church, Clonmel  15.00

Experience a bit of Broadway & West End magic in Clonmel. Acclaimed musical director David Hayes is bringing the music of Broadway legends including award-winning Jeanine Tessori (Thoroughly Modern Mille, Shrek The Musical), Grammy winner Sara Bareilles (Waitress), Kristen Anderson Lopez (Frozen II), Nell Benjamin (Legally Blonde), Zina Goldrich & Marcy Heisler, and many more to the stage for the first time for Finding a Voice. Featuring an ensemble from the CSM BA in Musical Theatre, as well as guest performances from Clonmel-born rising star Sinéad O'Donovan and a live band, this will be a fun night out.

Multi-award winning Musical Director David Hayes has been MD for over 50 musicals and is recognised as one of Ireland's foremost musical directors. His recording credits include work with Irish luminaries such as Donal Lunny, Davy Spillane, Sinead O Connor, Phil Coulter, Brian Kennedy, Van Morrison, Kate Bush, Sharon Shannon, Gavin James, Tommy Fleming, Paul Walsh (Royseven) and Bressie.

[Book Here](#)



‘a quarter million miles from the moon’

Darragh Morgan (violin) & Mary Dullea (piano)

Music for violin and piano from the nineteenth century to the present day

 13.00  Old St Mary's Church, Clonmel  10.00

Go on a musical journey through the centuries with these two exceptional performers in a lunchtime concert of sublime music for violin and piano from romantic gems such as Clara Schumann's Three Romances and Lili Boulanger's Nocturne to stunning pieces by iconic American composers Ruth Crawford Seeger and Florence Price. The duo are renowned for their passionate championing of music by Irish composers and the concert will also include two beautiful recent works by Deirdre McKay.

Clara Schumann Three Romances Op 22 (1853)

Ruth Crawford Seeger Violin Sonata (1926)

Florence Price Fantasy No. 2 (1940)

Lili Boulanger Nocturne (1911)

Deirdre Mc Kay Secundum (2001)

Deirdre Mc Kay 'a quarter million miles from the moon' (2016)

[Book Here](#)



Trans-Atlantique

Cassiopeia Winds & Fiachra Garvey

Music for wind quintet and piano sextet by French and American composers performed by Ireland's foremost wind quintet

 19.30  Old St Mary's Church, Clonmel  15.00

Experience some trans-Atlantic magic with this concert of music for wind quintet and piano sextet by French and American composers performed by Ireland's foremost wind quintet. In their first appearance at Finding a Voice Cassiopeia Winds will feature a vibrant selection of works spanning centuries and continents, including the Irish première of Autumn Winds by Grammy and Pulitzer Prize winning American composer Jennifer Higdon, in celebration of her 60th birthday in 2022. Critics describe the ensemble's performances as 'marked by sensitivity and virtuosity'. Cassiopeia Winds say that their passion, humour, and sheer joy of performing together are shared by the audience!

The ensemble will be joined by celebrated pianist Fiachra Garvey whose playing has been described as 'fiery and tempestuous' (Seen and Heard) for nineteenth-century French composer Louise Farrenc's stunning sextet for piano and winds.

Amy Beach Pastorale (1942)

Claude Arrieu Quintette en Ut (1955)

Jennifer Higdon Autumn Music [Irish première] (1995)

Louise Farrenc Sextet for Piano and Winds (1852)

tickets can be booked via eventbrite | finding a voice concert series

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A Thing I Cannot Name

Amanda Feery & Megan Nolan

Screening of Amanda Feery and Megan Nolan's video opera A Thing I Cannot Name in association with Irish National Opera

🕒 13.00 📍 Old St Mary's Church, Clonmel 💶 Free

Three women. All different. Connected only by the intensity of their wildly dissimilar desires. Unrequited love for an aloof, narcissistic older woman . . . an obsession with a partner's former lover, intense enough to verge into the erotic . . . a yearning to bear a child, to create a companion and break out of a painful seclusion. Through their letters, their voices join each other across time, in an attempt to give name to their desires.

SUNG IN ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SUITABLE FOR AGES 14 PLUS

DURATION: 20 MINS

#ATHINGICANNOTNAME

Filed in June 2021, the world premiere of A Thing I Cannot Name was streamed by Irish National Opera at the West Cork Literary Festival in July 2021.

[Book Here](#)

tickets can be booked via eventbrite | finding a voice concert series



The Unquiet

Pauline Scanlon & band

Singer-songwriter Pauline Scanlon brings her unique voice and emotionally charged material from her new album *The Unquiet*

 16.00  Old St Mary's Church, Clonmel  15.00

Pauline Scanlon's unique voice, described as "a superb mix of china cup fragility and steely strength" (Irish Times) comes from an ancient place yet is always fresh. Her music is both Irish and universal, traditional yet subversive at every turn. The 'steely strength' comes to the fore in both her activism and her determination to constantly evolve as an artist.

As a founding member of FairPlé, the role of women in the arts is central to Pauline's creative path and something she is very vocal about. Her new album, *The Unquiet* (March 2022), reimagines what it is to be an Irish woman in the context of music and song. It is an album that will shift expectations and defy genre.

About *The Unquiet*, Pauline says: 'All my life as a singer, I have been drawn to old songs. In them I find a solidarity with the ghosts of people I have never met and yet share fragments of feelings with. This album is based on the life of my late mother, Eileen Scanlon and her contemporaries in Irish society. The songs have a resonance and a purpose in reflecting her lived experience and that of modern-era women in Ireland, through my perspective.'

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tickets can be booked via [eventbrite](#) | finding a voice concert series

Tuesday | March 8



Reflections

Yonit Kosovske, Julie Comparini & Jessica Brown

Song recital of music by Ailís Ní Ríain and Lili Boulanger alongside poetry by Jessica Brown with Yonit Kosovske and Julie Comparini

 13.00  Old St Mary's Church, Clonmel  Free

Join us for this final concert of Finding a Voice 2022 and celebrate creativity on International Women's Day. With music by Lili Boulanger (1893–1919) and a newly commissioned song cycle by Ailís Ní Ríain (b.1974), singer Julie Comparini, pianist Yonit Kosovske, and poet Jessica Brown bring to life the words of poets in the beautiful song recital Reflections, where songs and poetry intermingle.

Like the hills of Clare and Tipperary mirrored in the waters of Lough Derg on a placid day, the emotions expressed in this music and poetry embody the theme of 'reflection'. Nature traces an outline that is echoed in the soul and the heart by poets Jessica Brown, Maurice Maeterlinck, Georges Delaquys, and Bertha Galeron de Calonne. These poems, rich in colour, though often elusive in their descriptions of reality, life, and death, are transformed by the music of Ní Riain and Boulanger.

[Book Here](#)

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Friday | March 4

- 13.00 **Spirituals to Sonatas** Samantha Ege (piano)
- 19.30 **Broadway Babes & West End Girls!** David Hayes, Sinéad O'Donovan & CSM Musical Theatre Ensemble

Saturday | March 5

- 13.00 **'a quarter million miles from the moon'** Darragh Morgan & Mary Dullea
- 19.30 **Trans-Atlantique** Cassiopeia Winds & Fiachra Garvey

Sunday | March 6

- 13.00 **A Thing I Cannot Name** Amanda Feery & Megan Nolan
- 16.00 **The Unquiet** Pauline Scanlon & band

Tuesday | March 8

- 13.00 **Reflections** Yonit Ksovskse, Julie Comparini & Jessica Brown

Find out more about this years festival

findingavoice.ie

[festival pass](#)

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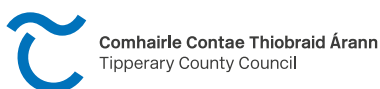
 **Festival Venue** Old Saint Marys Church, Clonmel

● Day time event ● Evening event

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