



Center for Irish Music Newsletter - March 2008

Dedicated to Handing Down the Tradition

THE CENTER IS OFFICIALLY A NON-PROFIT, 501c3 ORGANIZATION!

On January 28, 2008 the Center received 501c3 designation from the IRS. That means that DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE! Visit our website to make a quick, simple donation and support the work that we do.

WE ARE THE CENTER FOR IRISH MUSIC



Pictured left to right: Brian Miller, Jode Dowling, Todd Menton, Kate Dowling, Sean Egan, Fintan Moore (back row), Tom Juenemann (front row), Daithi Sproule (in between!), Nathan Gourley, Shawn McBurnie (back row), Norah Rendell (front row), Maeve O'Mara and Pat McCormick. Instructors not pictured: Laura MacKenzie, Chad McAnally, and Mag McDermott. *Photo by board member, Susanna Gibbons.*

WHO WE ARE: CIM is a community of like-minded artists who have been sharing our love of Irish Music together since 2004. A full-fledged 501c3 as of January 2008, The Center for Irish Music is more than just a music school. We provide cultural education and context for the music. Through our activities the Center is invigorating the Twin Cities community with direct links to our student's heritage or areas of interest.

WHAT WE DO: CIM has all the things that other music schools have, but we offer so much more! We are dedicated to handing down traditional music and song in various ways including weekly instruction, monthly group sessions, recitals, master classes and concerts with visiting and regional musicians, and student performance opportunities. We offer a community with the singular focus of bringing the worldwide Irish music scene to Minnesota. With everything we do, we are helping make Minnesota into an even stronger center for Irish music and cultural activities.

Class Notes:

Welcome to March! This month is busy and FUN for people actively involved in the Irish culture. I am so glad that you are working with us and delving deeper into your culture and interests - being an active musician brings a lot more meaning to your St. Patrick's Day. We have a lot of performances coming up in March for our students and for CIM Instructors. Please come out and support the students and instructors at various events around town. STOP BY THE CIM BOOTH AT THE LANDMARK CENTER, ST. PAUL, MARCH 15 & 16. We'll be there spreading the good word about Irish music. Anyone who has time to volunteer at the Landmark Booth will receive free entrance to the event (normally \$5). Thanks! And Happy St. Patrick's Day!

SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE: FAMILY SESSION WILL MEET MARCH 4 from 7-8pm in room 98!

Spring Catalog Now Online!

The Spring Semester will be starting soon and our catalog is online. Singing Sweeties is in full-swing again. And Daithi Sproule will be honoring us with another very popular installment of Songs & Poetry in English & Irish. In case you missed this last time – we have HARP, ACCORDION and UILLEANN PIPE lessons available at the Center. We can also arrange instruments to loan you, if you'd like to try one of those instruments but don't yet own one. Just let us know!

February Fiddle Week featuring Denis Liddy



The February Fiddle Week was a great success. We had a number of participants in the various workshops and a standing-room-only concert at Kieran's Irish Pub. Thanks to Denis and Elvie for braving cold Minnesota and for sharing their beautiful music with us. It is at events like these, surrounded by our community, that I think we can all feel the vitality and joy that IS Irish traditional music. We hope to be able to offer such opportunities with visiting artists on a regular basis. Thanks to CIM Member Ben Crowe, we have a couple recordings of Denis & Elvie's tunes up on the website in the Music Download area. The login is CIM and the password is student. Enjoy!

The February Fiddle Week was made possible in part by a generous grant for the Irish Fair of Minnesota's Legacy Fund. Thank you for your support.

Financial Aid Policies and Application

The Center is pleased to announce that through generous grants and donations we are able to offer Financial Aid for both our regular programming and the Young Irish Musicians Weekend (YIM). Due dates for applications are May 15 for the 2008/2009 school year and April 15 for the YIM. Policies and applications are available through our website or contact The Center to have a print copy sent to you.

St. Patrick's Day and Other CIM Instructor & Student Performances

For all Landmark Center events, please visit www.irishmusicanddanceassociation.org for more information.

CIM Adult Ensemble Performances:

- Saturday, March 15, 10:45-11:20am Landmark Center, Tea Room, 75 5th St W, St Paul 55102
- Sunday, March 16, 2:30-3:10pm Landmark Center, Tea Room, 75 5th St W, St Paul 55102

CIM Student Ensemble Performances:

- Saturday, March 15, 10:20-10:45am Landmark Center, Tea Room, 75 5th St W, St Paul 55102
- Sunday, March 16, 2pm with St Paul Irish Dancers, College of St. Catherine, O'Shaughnessy Auditorium 2400 Randolph Ave St. Paul 55105 see www.stpaulirishdancers.com for tickets and information.





The Two Tap Trio

photo credit: Nick Lethert

The Two Tap Trio: Norah Rendell (vocals, flute, whistles), Nathan Gourley (fiddle) Brian Miller (guitar, vocals, flute) The Two Tap Trio & Rince na Chroi: We accompany the wonderful Rince na Chroi Irish Dancers with a different lineup: Nathan Gourley (fiddle), Brian Miller (guitar, vocals), Eric Carlson (bodhran, vocals) www.Smilechase.com

- Sat. Mar 15, 10:40am-11:10am, Two Tap Trio, Landmark Center Main Stage, 75 5th St W, St Paul 55102
- Sat. Mar 15, 11:20am-12:10pm, Two Tap Trio & Rince na Chroi, Landmark Center Weyerhauser Auditorium, 75 5th St W, St Paul 55102

- Sat. Mar 15, 12:50am-1:30pm, Two Tap Trio & Rince na Chroi, Landmark Center Main Stage, 75 5th St W, St Paul, 55102
- Sat. Mar 15, 4:00pm-8:00pm, Kips Irish Pub, Two Tap Trio, 9970 Wayzata Boulevard St. Louis Park, MN 55426
- Sat. Mar 15, 9:00pm-1:00am, McGarry's Irish Pub, Two Tap Trio, 5189 East Main Street Maple Plain MN 55359
- Sun. Mar 16, 1:55pm-2:45pm, Two Tap Trio & Rince na Chroi, Landmark Center Main Stage, 75 5th St W, St Paul, 55102
- Mon, Mar 17, 4:00pm-6:00pm, Two Tap Trio, Dubliner, 2162 University Ave W, St Paul 55114
- Mon. Mar 17, 9:30pm-1:30am, Two Tap Trio, Bennigan's, 6475 Wayzata Blvd, St Louis Park, MN 55426



Laura and the Lads

design: Nick Lethert

Laura MacKenzie performs with many different groups including: Laura and the Lads, Piper's Crowe, Willow Brae and as a Laura MacKenzie. www.lauramackenzie.com

- Friday, March 7, 2008 6:15 and 7:30, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church (in St. Anthony Park) "Music in the Park Series" Family program by Willow Brae (with harpist Andrea Stern) and Irish step dancers Casey and Kelly Pearson. "Magical Celtic Music and Dance". 2136 Carter Ave, at Chelmsford St. Paul, MN 651-645-5699 www.musicintheparkseries.org
- Wednesday, March 12, 2008 7:30pm St. Olaf College Willow Brae in concert, with percussionist Michael Bissonnette Buntrock Commons Northfield, MN

- Saturday, March 15, 2008 8pm The Riverview Cafe & Wine Bar IN CONCERT WITH DAITHI SPROULE, "Riverview Showcase Series" \$15 day of show, \$13 advance. Doors open at 7:30. Seating is limited! Advance sales at the Riverview cafe or online at tickets@theriverview.net 3753 42nd Ave S. Minneapolis, MN 612-722-7234 www.theriverview.net
- Sunday, March 16, 2008 1pm & 3pm Landmark Center with Ross Sutter (family program, 1 PM) and Northern Gael (concert set, 3 PM) Weyerhauser Auditorium, lower level of the Landmark Center. Irish Music and Dance Association's "Day of Dance" in celebration of St. Patrick. 75 W. 5th St. St. Paul, MN www.irishmusicanddance.org
- Sunday, March 16, 2008 7:30pm The Cedar Piper's Crow in concert 416 Cedar Ave S. Minneapolis, MN 612-333-2561 www.thecedar.org
- Monday, March 17, 2008 7:30pm A Center for the Arts Piper's Crow in concert 124 W. Lincoln Ave Fergus Falls, MN 218-998-2787
- Saturday, March 29, 2008 6pm Four Seasons Community Center 14th Annual Scottish Heritage Celebration. Dinner, programs, music. Caledonia, MN www.caledoniamn.gov



Daithi Sproule

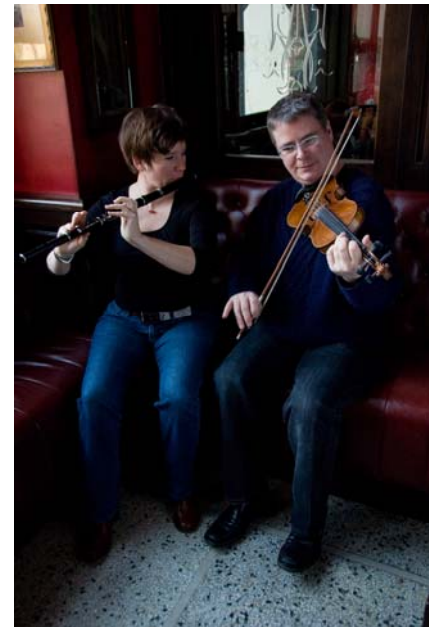
Daithi Sproule

Friday, April 4. 8pm. CD Launch: *The Crow in the Sun*. Cedar Cultural Center 416 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis 612-338-2674 for tickets. www.daithisproule.com

Center Instructor and longtime guitarist for *Altan*, Daithi Sproule has made his home in the Twin Cities for some years now, but his live performances are all too rare. His latest musical offering is a collection of stunning instrumental guitar tunes, gentle presentations of people and places and the feelings they inspire, and telling the stories that cannot be put into words. Joint CD launch with The HiBs (see below).

The HiBs: Kate Dowling (flute & whistles) & Jode Dowling (fiddle). The HiBs are releasing their debut CD in a joint-CD launch with friend and fellow CIM Instructor Daithi Sproule. The HiBs album is *The 40 Acre Notch*

In the 40 Acre Notch, on the west side just southeast of the city, there is a kitchen filled with the music of Kate and Jode Dowling. It is a place meant for sharing music with fellow musicians, dancers and discerning convivializers. The heart of the music springs from a relationship dating back to 1992, when Kate and Jode eyes first met across a smoky session. Since 2005, Kate and Jode have been performing as duet or with an assortment of talented friends as The HiBs. This recording captures those moments with a mixture of old favorites and new infatuations. Exponents of Irish traditional dance music, this couple were founding members of the Doon Ceili Band and other influential bands. They are founders of the Center for Irish Music. Kate and Jode have played in kitchens from Munich to Cork to Tokyo to Belfast and back. Love for Irish dance music, for rhythmically inspiring music, is what shapes the HiBs sound. We hope that same energy inspires both the dancer and listener within you! www.myspace.com/thehibs



The HiBs photo credit: Nick Lethert

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- Friday, April 4, CD Launch, Cedar Cultural Center 416 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis 612-338-2674.

Young Irish Musicians Weekend 2008



Tara and Dermot Diamond

June 20-22, 2008

- **Liz Carroll, fiddle (Chicago)**
- **Dermot Diamond, fiddle (Dublin)**
- **Tara Bingham-Diamond, flute & tin whistle (Dublin)**
- **Tommy Martin, uilleann pipes, flute & tin whistle (Dublin via St. Louis)**
- **Daithi Sproule, guitar & song in English & Irish (Derry via St. Paul)**

Financial Aid applications due April 15. Register prior to May 1 for discounted tuition. 2008's events take place at McNally-Smith College of Music, downtown St. Paul.