

Check out the exciting events we have in store for you this March for the **Limerick Early Music Festival** and **Early Music Week!**



Lunchtime Concert: Faith and Fantasy in Troubled Times

Tuesday 18th March 1.15pm
Saint Mary's Cathedral
(presented as part of Early Music Week)
Leila Clarke-Carr (violin)
Yonit Kosovske (harpsichord)

Whether it is a balm for the troubled or an inspiration to the faithful, music's power is unmistakable—and this concert combines both sentiments in good measure. With a captivating performance provided by violinist Leila Clarke-Carr and harpsichordist Yonit Kosovske, be prepared for a remarkably beautiful recital that intertwines reflective works embodying faith and piety, with flights of fantasy and Baroque flourish. Featuring music by Isabella Leonarda, Heinrich Ignaz Biber, Johann Heinrich Schmelzer, and Matthias Weckmann. This event is free and open to the public.



TUESDAY 18th MARCH

LEMF LAUNCH: Contested (Hi)Stories in Media and Creative Art

Symposium, Music Performance, and Film Screening of Oksana Karpovych's *Intercepted* (2024)
Dance Limerick, St. John's Square

3.00pm Welcome & Introduction
3.30pm Performance
4:15pm–5.45pm Panel Discussion
5.45pm Reception
6.30–8.00pm Film Screening

Academics, arts practitioners and performers come together in this interdisciplinary symposium to explore the role of media and creative arts in the telling of (Hi)Stories that challenge dominant narratives about global conflict and forced migration. The symposium kicks off with a live, intimate performance of 'Migrating Musical Selves' which brings together Ukrainian sounds and stories. Vsevolod Sadovjy and Snizhana Rybal'ska intertwine these staged stories with melodies on unique historical instruments to illuminate the musical trajectories of forced migrants as they navigate new contexts. A panel of international artists and research project leaders will discuss forms of story-telling and how empowering arts can drive academic, political, and public discourse. Panellists include Prof. Florian Schneider (University of Trondheim/Galway); Prof. Monika Wolting (University of Wrocław); Dr. Ailbhe McDaid (MIC). The event concludes with a public screening of the award-winning Canadian-French-Ukrainian documentary *Intercepted*, by Oksana Karpovych. In this feature-length documentary sound and image merge as the film contrasts quiet compositions of everyday life of Ukrainians since the full-scale invasion with intercepted phone conversations between Russian soldiers and their families. The film raises key questions on fact and fiction, lived realities and media narratives. The event is free and open to the public. Participants and listeners are welcome to drop in throughout the day. For more information, click [HERE](#).



WEDNESDAY 19th MARCH

Tower Seminar & Performance: *New Music for Harpsichord*

Wednesday 19th March 4pm–5.30pm

Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, Theatre 2, University of Limerick
(presented as part of Early Music Week)

Justin Grounds (baroque violin)
Yonit Kosovske (harpsichord)
Vlad Smishkewych (hurdy gurdy)
Jack Grogan (hang drum)

Yonit Kosovske & Justin Grounds discuss their collaboration of *New Music for Harpsichord* as a solo and collaborative instrument. Performances of two new compositions will be premiered: "Seams in My Socks", a multi-media harpsichord piece exploring neurodiversity, including sensory issues, autism, stimming, and OCD, as well as "Litany", for harpsichord, hang drum, baroque violin, and hurdy gurdy, in homage to four animals that recently went extinct (Pinta Island Tortoise, Ivory Billed Woodpecker, Splendid Poison Frog, and Western Black Rhinoceros). This event is free and open to the public.



THURSDAY 20th MARCH

Lunchtime Concert: MA Classical String Performance

1.15pm–2pm

Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, Theatre 2
University of Limerick
(presented as part of Early Music Week)

University of Limerick students on the MA Classical String Performance programme at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance present a lunchtime concert of Baroque and Contemporary music in collaboration with MA Course Director André Swanepoel and Aoife Nic Athloaich, both of whom are members of the Irish Chamber Orchestra. This programme also welcomes from Sydney, Australia, Brooke Green (treble viol & composer). This concert is free and open to the public.

Limerick Early Music Festival event information continues on the following pages.



FRIDAY 21st MARCH

LEMF Concert: Consolation and Confidence

8pm–9.30pm Saint Mary's Cathedral

[TICKETS](#)

Ancór, Sagittarius Hiberniensis, Saint Mary's Cathedral Choir, Limerick School of Music Senior Choir
Limerick Early Music Festival Chamber Orchestra

Directed by Peter Barley and Cecilia Madden

Soloists:

Aisling Kenny (soprano)
Sarah Thursfield (alto)
Christopher Bowen (tenor)
William Gaunt (bass)

Emerging Artist Award Winner, Kevin Meehan II (baroque violin)

Featuring choral music by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), Isabella Leonarda (1620–1704), and Giovanni Gabrieli (c.1554/1557–1612), and instrumental chamber music by Dieterich Buxtehude (1637–1707), this annual choral concert of sacred music brings together multiple local choirs under the direction of Peter Barley and Cecilia Madden, including Ancór, Saint Mary's Cathedral Choir, Sagittarius Hiberniensis, and Limerick School of Music Senior Choir, along with the LEMF Chamber Orchestra. This year marks the launch of the new *McCullagh-Ó Bríain Emerging Artist Award*, recognising an outstanding instrumentalist playing with historically informed style, and named in memory of Bertha McCullagh-Ó Bríain — educator and longtime supporter of arts, literature, and culture. The first winner of the award, Kevin Meehan, will be featured in a Buxtehude trio sonata during the evening's concert.



SATURDAY 22nd MARCH

LEMF: Music in the Milk Market

9am–12pm

LEMF musicians in historical costumes roam the Milk Market, accompanied by Rose Minnema's dancing marionettes!



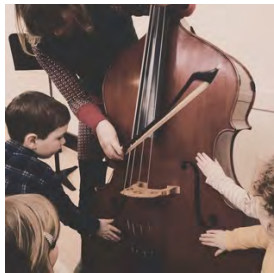
SATURDAY 22nd MARCH

LEMF Puppet-making Workshop (ages 7–12)

12.30pm–1.45pm Belltable

[TICKETS](#)

LEMF welcomes puppeteer Rose Minnema who brings medieval puppets and marionettes to the festival this year. Fresh from the market, Rose and company will guide festival guests in a puppet-making workshop for this family-friendly event. Everyone will leave with their very own puppet or marionette!



SATURDAY 22nd MARCH

LEMF Interactive Family Concert: Baroque n Roll

(ages 4–8 and carers)

2pm–3pm Belltable

[TICKETS](#)

Aura Stone (double bass)

Leonie Curtin (baroque violin)

Ada Witczyk (baroque violin)

Classicalkids brings "Baroque N'Roll" to Limerick, offering a fun and interactive learning experience for families with pre-schoolers and children up to 8 years old. Hear and see Early Music from the 1700s performed live on stage. Meet the instruments, play musical games, sing, dance, and learn about musical concepts such as pitch, rhythm, dynamics and tempo. All are welcome to come and have a closer look at the instruments at the end of the concert.



SATURDAY 22nd MARCH

LEMF Presentation: Sounds, Spaces, Stories

4pm–5pm Belltable

Dr Eoin Callery

Join Dr Eoin Callery for a fascinating presentation exploring relationships and interplay between architecture and acoustics, past and present. Dr Callery is an Irish artist and researcher developing interactive virtual acoustic technologies. His creative and research practices focus on electro-acoustic systems relating to chamber music, performance space augmentation, and sound installation. Much of this work is focused on utilizing virtual acoustics as a method for exploring the possibilities of audio virtual/augmented reality. Previously, he lectured at CCRMA (Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics) at Stanford University and is currently directing the MA Composition and Creative Music Practice programme in the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick. FREE ADMISSION. [RESERVE YOUR PLACE](#)



SATURDAY 22nd MARCH

LEMF Concert: The Tale of Igor

8pm–9pm Belltable (Introductory talk 7pm)

[TICKETS](#)

Wolodymyr Smishkewych (voice, lyre)

Vsevolod Sadovjy (early percussion and winds)

Snezhana Rybalska (early bowed strings and winds)

In the year 1185, as the Kievan-Rus' empire was beginning to crumble, a little-known prince on its eastern borders led his outnumbered band into battle against the Kumans, a host of Mongolian invaders. This battle and its aftermath would become the Slavic literary epic known as The Song of Igor's Campaign. Its conclusion was not what one would expect; the hero was not a fearless Beowulf, a mighty Roland, nor even a betrayed Siegfried. Igor Sviatoslavich's only claim to fame resulted from a bad military decision stemming from cockiness, pride, or stupidity. Yet, its outcome remained true to the great epics; the ending was not an overwhelmingly happy victory or love affair. Rather, it was a stark lesson to be learned against making war for war's sake, subdued with a ray of hope that things would be better in the future. With a tapestry of sound on voice and the husli (lyre), this retelling of Prince Igor's story brings to the stage images and sounds that might shock operagoers more familiar with Borodin's version of the tale. 7:00pm Preconcert talk with Dr Sabine Egger (Mary Immaculate College) on the impact of the creative arts on historical narratives (Preconcert talk is FREE for concert ticket-holders.)



photo © Lawrence Crane

SUNDAY 23rd MARCH

LEMF Concert: Still, She Rises!

Belltable

2pm–3pm concert

3.15pm–3.45pm panel discussion with Q&A

[TICKETS](#)

Róisín Ní Gallóglai (voice)

Ada Witczyk (baroque violin)

Brooke Green (treble viol, composer)

Sarah Groser (bass viol)

Vlad Smishkewych (hurdy gurdy, percussion)

Xenia Pestova Bennett (toy piano, composer)

Yonit Kosovske (harpsichord, clavichord, artistic director)

This concert on period instruments celebrates chamber music by contemporary female composers from Ireland and around the world. Featured are several works by Australian composer & viol player Brooke Green, including the Limerick premiere of *Fuming: Johanna Fitzgibbon of Limerick*. This programme also features the world premiere of *Baile* by Xenia Pestova Bennett, whose new work for amplified clavichord, toy piano, viola da gamba, and recorded voices reflecting on the universal themes of home, migration, and (be)longing. Other repertoire includes Jean Ahn's duo *Archimedes' Principle*, Tal Arbel's *Alchemy*, and the multi-media piece *Seams In My Socks*, co-created by Yonit Kosovske and Justin Grounds, exploring autism, stimming, sensory issues, and OCD. Stay around for a panel discussion and Q&A with: Ada Witczyk, who has inspired over 200 contemporary compositions for baroque violin; Brooke Green, whose compositions often draw inspiration from human stories and social justice; and Xenia Pestova Bennett, who enjoys a career as a composer and performer on modern piano, magnetic resonator piano, and toy piano. This panel will be chaired by Yonit Kosovske.



SUNDAY 23rd MARCH

LEMF CONCERT FINALE: Carlos Núñez Band: Celtic Stories of the Cantigas

Sunday, 23 March 8pm–9.30pm
Saint John's Cathedral V94 H521

TICKETS

Carlos Núñez (bagpipes, recorders)
Pancho Álvarez (guitars, gitterns, vielles, lyre)
Xurxo Núñez (percussion)
María Sánchez García (vielle, fiddle, voice)
Vlad Smishkewych (organistrum, sinfonia, voice)

Renowned the world over for his energetic concerts of traditional Galician music, global emissary of the bagpipe Carlos Núñez is also a keen researcher of Celtic history and equally passionate about early music. In his programme exploring the Cantigas de Santa Maria—the 12th century Iberian collection of over 400 songs—Núñez and his ensemble bring together medieval bagpipes, fiddles, gitterns, harps, and hurdy-gurdies to delve into this repertoire, which sounds convincingly related to the traditional music of the Celtic nations. Stories of Merlin, seafaring monks, and sea monsters are just a few of the themes in the tales told by the miracles of Saint Mary from the medieval song collection of King Alfonso X "The Learned" of Castile.

For more information about the **Limerick Early Music Festival**

E-mail: info@nowandthenmedia.com

and be sure to visit our [website](#).

