

Fiárock Information Dossier

Introduction

Fiárock is a newly-formed band that celebrates the traditional music of Ireland with a new and refreshing sound. With a wide palette of colours from bright and driving to lush and intricate, the group's masterful arrangements reflect the depth and diversity of each of its members. Hailing from both sides of the Atlantic, the quartet brings together their combined experiences in several musical traditions to weave a rich tapestry that is both authentic and unique, bound together with a passion that can be felt in every tune and song.

Fiárock recently completed a one-week tour of Ireland during the Easter break of this year. They performed in venues such as *An Spáilpín Fánach* in Cork City and *The Cobblestone* in Dublin City.

The Band Members

Clíona Halley – Concertina

Clíona Halley is a concertina, fiddle and traditional piano player from Castlemartyr, Co. Cork. Besides Irish traditional music, Clíona is also fully trained on classical violin and piano. She is a regular performer at festivals around Ireland, including the renowned Cork Folk Festival. Clíona currently teaches music with Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and Music Generation Cork City. She has performed worldwide and was part of the Comhaltas Tour of Ireland, Britain and Canada in 2013/2014. Clíona has many accolades to her name, which includes being part of the 2019 Oireachtas na Samhna winning traditional music duet. Clíona completed her Masters in Irish Traditional Music Performance at the University of Limerick in 2019 and graduated with a First Class Honours. She was also part of a performance group who took part in the Irish pavilion during the World Expo in Dubai during the month of October 2021. Clíona is well-known for her social media page, 'Britches Full of Stitches', in which she displays her unique cross-stitched Irish traditional tunes. She is currently working as a primary school teacher and hopes to pass on her love of music to the children she teaches.



Nicolle Fig – Bodhrán, Singer

Nicolle Fig was born in Mexico City. Years later, she moved to Texas and then Ireland, where she developed a passion for Irish culture, its music, and its people. Nicolle specialises in Bodhrán and traditional singing and is an in-demand teacher with over ten years' experience in both children's music development and Irish music alike. Her success as a teacher is reflected by her large following on YouTube, where she has developed a strong professional reputation as a welcoming and skilful teacher. Her distinctive, lyrical style of playing has made her a highly sought-after musician and accompanist, both at home and abroad. Nicolle attended the University of Limerick, where she studied under renowned masters of music. She graduated with First-Class Honours in 2016 and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Irish Music and Dance. Nicolle was also part of a performance group who took part in the Irish pavilion during the World Expo in Dubai during the month of October 2021. She then returned to study a postgraduate degree in Irish Music Performance and graduated with honours in 2020. Apart from Irish music, Nicolle has studied classical singing at university level and has appeared in numerous musical theatre performances.



Evan Powell – Piano

Evan's love for the piano reaches back to his early years, but his journey into Irish traditional music began while studying for his Bachelor's degree in jazz performance at Florida State University. His style of accompaniment bears the subtle tracings of his jazz roots, where the intricate harmonies of artists such as Bill Evans and Keith Jarrett hold a strong influence. He is also a passionate educator, and has been a guest lecturer on the topics of harmony and improvisation both in the United States and



abroad. He currently resides in Austin, Texas where he works as a web developer.

Darragh Carey-Kennedy – Banjo

Darragh Carey-Kennedy is an Irish traditional banjo player from Roscrea, Co. Tipperary. He has won numerous All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil titles in a range of different instruments, including the mandolin and miscellaneous competitions. Darragh recently graduated with a First Class Honours Bachelor's degree in Irish Music from the University of Limerick. He was also a recipient of the FLCM from the London College of Music in Irish Traditional Music Performance. Darragh recently received his TTCT qualification from Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and achieved the high achiever's award in this course. He has been teaching Irish traditional music from a very young age and has given workshops on the banjo at various festivals, including Scoil Éigse at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann. Darragh is currently the Youth Officer of his local Comhaltas branch and loves promoting Irish traditional music to the younger generation.



Where you can find us?

Website: <https://www.fiarock.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fiarockmusic/>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/fiarockmusic?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcO9QpDE5qwjA3w-7loPnSw/featured>

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