

Arts & Entertainment

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Bressie Announces Irish Tour Jointly Promoted By Thurles' Lar Corbett

VOICE of Ireland coach Bressie has announced his first live date of 2012 for Tipperary which will kick off at the beginning of May and see him play a host of shows around the country.

Promoted by Lar Corbett & Kevin Coppinger the show will be live on Friday the 4th of May at the Premier Hall in Thurles - doors open at 7pm. Tickets for what is set to be a hugely popular event are on sale from Ticketmaster outlets and online at www.ticketmaster.ie.

Already a well-respected and talented musician from his time fronting The Blizzards, Bressie's debut solo album *Colourblind Stereo*, released last summer, reached #1 in the iTunes album chart.

From the LP he has released three singles including the airplay #1 smash *Can't Stay Young Forever* and the top three



Bressie - Niall Beslin.

hit *Good Intentions*. The fourth single *Breaking My Fall* was released on March 9th and is already a massive hit on radio stations all over the country. Bressie has been highly acclaimed and lauded as *The Voice of Ireland* coach, a role that he has expertly filled with charisma and professionalism.

For more see: www.bressiemusic.com - www.mcd.ie - www.ticketmaster.ie - www.coppingersbar.ie.

My Week With Marilyn Features At the NAC

THE Nenagh Film Club presents *My Week With Marilyn* which is directed by Simon Curtis and certified 18 on Thursday, May 3rd at 8pm - admission E7.

In 1956 Colin Clark (Eddie Redmayne) works on the set of *The Prince and the Showgirl*.

The film unites Laurence Olivier (Kenneth Branagh) and Marilyn Monroe (Michelle Williams), who is also on honeymoon with her husband the playwright Arthur Miller (Dougray Scott).

When Miller leaves England the coast is clear for Colin to introduce Marilyn to some of the pleasures of British life.

On Saturday, May 12th the Miriam Lambert Puppeteer presents *The Gingerbread Man and Peek and Boo* at the Nenagh Arts Centre.

In this rendition of the age-old tale, Miriam bakes the Gingerbreadman. But the freshly-baked biscuit makes a break for it, eluding the hungry grasp of everyone until he meets a very clever fox. Devised, written and performed by Miriam Lambert this gentle, yet captivating performance takes place on two levels where even though the puppeteer is visible, the magic, experienced by young and old, never fades.

The Gingerbread Man and Peek and Boo plays at the Nenagh Arts Centre on Saturday, May 12th - two shows at 2.30pm & 4pm (duration 45 minutes).

Admission: E5. For group rates please ring the Nenagh Arts Centre on 067 34400.

The Nenagh Arts Centre will host a Fiscal Treaty Referendum discussion on Monday, May 7th at 8pm - admission is E5 with all proceeds going towards the art's centre programme.

For the debate the Nenagh Arts Centre will bring together a panel to discuss the upcoming Fiscal Treaty Referendum.

What does the treaty entail and what changes will it mean for our constitution? Listen to the calls for and against from a panel from both sides!

Love And Misadventure At The Source, Thurles

SET in rural Ireland in the 1950s *The Love-Hungry Farmer* is a play about John Bosco McLane who, through a series of misfortunes and missed opportunities, has spectacularly failed to lose his virginity.

This 56-year-old desperate bachelor lives alone in his dilapidated, neglected tiny cottage and craves companionship.

John Bosco decides to make contact with a professional matchmaker Dicky Mick Dicky O'Connor to help him avail of the services, but finding someone in the isolated community of Bannabreena proves to be quite difficult.

The previous chances for love that have presented themselves have all culminated in hilarious and humiliating ends.

Highly acclaimed actor Des Keogh has taken John B Keane's Letters

from a love-hungry farmer and lovingly (pardon the pun!) adapted it into what is now a legendary one-man show.

It swings expertly from comedy to tragedy; outrageously funny while at the same time deeply moving. Keogh is renowned for his stellar performance in *The Love-Hungry Farmer* - a true John B Keane treat.

The Love-Hungry Farmer features at the Source Arts Centre in Thurles on Saturday, May 12th (8pm). Tickets E18 (E16 concession).

Why not make a night of it and come early to enjoy a meal or bar bites at the Source Café from 7pm? Ring Matt on 0504 58858 for more details.

The Source Bar will be open from 7pm.

For bookings go to www.thesourceartscentre.ie or ring the Box Office on 0504 90204.

The 2012 Bealtaine Festival In Tipperary

ORGANISERS of Bealtaine are delighted to announce the line-up for May 2012 which will see hundreds of theatrical, cinematic, craft, photographic, choral, dance and other events taking place across Ireland and give people a chance to celebrate creativity as we age.

Here are details of some of the events taking place in Tipperary.

North & South Tipperary Arts Services and Tipperary Libraries are organising their own Tipperary Bealtaine Festival which feature over sixty arts events throughout the county across art forms and offering a wide-ranging opportunity for participation and enjoyment of the arts during May. For details contact Melanie Scott,

Sally O'Leary or Emer O'Brien. Telephone: 067 44 860.

The libraries will be home to everything from Spanish classes to classical music programmes to story-telling.

For example on May 18th in Cashel Library there will be a telling of *The Three Fat Women of Antibes* - a story about three best friends who diet. Julie Sharkey returns with this hilarious one woman show, an adaptation of the short story by W Somerset Maugham. For details on this particular event contact Suzanne Brosnan on 062 63 825.

Translunar Paradise, an award-winning show told in music and mime about life, death and enduring love, presented by Theatre Ad In-

finium, will be performed at White Memorial Theatre, Clonmel on May 23rd. For details contact the venue on 052 23 333.

Active Retirement and Community Groups are organising various events. Rathkeevin ICA will be having drama classes May 1st-31st in Rathkeevin Hall, and on May 16th, also at the hall, Deirbhile Dromey is giving a talk on creative writing and will read extracts from, and sign copies of her book *The Pink Cage*. Lower Ormond Active Retirement will be holding an afternoon tea dance, a social occasion for the group to enjoy on May 14th at Borrisokane Church of Ireland Hall. For details contact Patricia O'Donnell on 086 854 8770.

Amongst events at day care centres, St Vincent's Day Care Centre at St Vincent's Health Centre, Tipperary Town, will be having an African drumming event, a magic show, traditional music and dance.

County libraries and the Arts Office have organised large Bealtaine programmes - for more information contact your local library or Arts Officer.

Bealtaine is Ireland's unique festival, celebrating creativity as we age, and is coordinated by Age & Opportunity - 2011 saw Bealtaine brokering and supporting nearly 600 organisers, producing over 3,000 events nationwide - that is over 100 events a day!

Approximately 125,000 people participated in the festi-

val, which is inspiring similar events across the globe in Australia, as well as closer to home in Scotland and Wales.

In 2012 the festival is asking "What kind of old do YOU want to be?" and "What kind of world do you want to grow older in?" Bealtaine 2012 will see hundreds of theatrical, cinematic, craft, photographic, choral, dance and other events taking place across Ireland, giving people a chance to explore these issues and celebrate creativity as we age.

Age & Opportunity is a not-for-profit organisation that promotes opportunities for greater participation by older people in society through partnerships and collaborative programmes. Age & Opportunity

is developing the model established by the Bealtaine festival in global settings, following invitations from Age Cymru in Wales, with Creative Scotland and Arts and Health Australia. To get involved or for more information on Bealtaine - www.bealtaine.com, Bealtaine@ageandopportunity.ie or 01 805 7709. Post: Bealtaine at Age & Opportunity, Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9.

The Bealtaine Newspaper, giving an overview and details of all festival activities is available to pick up for free from Centra stores nationwide. Also check out Bealtaine on Facebook and Twitter - and Mary's Bealtaine blog on www.bealtaine.com.



AN exciting news arts venue opened in Killenure Castle when OAK (Open Art Killenure) was opened to the public on Saturday, April 28th.

Over 30 visual artists will participate in the new exhibition and sculpture walk in the grounds of the medieval castle situated just five miles from the Rock of Cashel.

The private castle and its grounds have never before been opened to the public.

The owners hope to see many other arts events take place in this striking building. For OAK 2012 many of the invited artists have made work specifically for this exhibition and sited it in the ruins of the Elizabethan castle and in the Georgian courtyard outhouses.

The OAK exhibition was opened by Jimmy Deenihan TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. OAK comprises a contem-

porary art exhibition in the Georgian outbuildings, studio gallery and sculpture walk around the grounds.

Over 30 artists have made over 70 artworks for the 2012 exhibition. According to the smart booklet about Killenure launched by the Minister, 'OAK is the brainchild of the owners, a sculptor and an industrial designer. They are assisted in the inaugural OAK 2012 by co-curator and friend to Killenure, artist Eamon Colman (member of Aosdána)'.

Site-specific installations and collector's pieces are placed in areas around the property - the Georgian outbuildings that surround the elegant courtyard with its vast Sycamore, have been transformed into mini-galleries. Local Thurles artist Aisling Ely has taken over the old 'buttery' and has made an installation based on old photographs of Killenure entitled

Mnemonic Layer series.

There are more discoveries to be made in the kitchen garden, the castle itself and in the wooded area called the 'fairy forest'. It is here that you will encounter 'Favela' a large constructed shanty-town or series of treehouses made on site by Cashel artist Aoife Barrett (kindly sponsored by Dundrum Saw Mills).

Lian Callaghan from Cloughjordan has made a number of willow pieces and sited them at the base of the castle - 'Millie' the willow dog peeps out to say hello!

In the gallery area, which is a converted artists studio, there are works in ceramic, painting, sculpture and bronze. Abdul Ghofur's stunning teak tree roof sculptures are represented by Epona Artworks from nearby Golden.

The artists participating in the exhibition: Saturio Alonso, Steven Aylin, Jackie Ball,

Aoife Barrett, Cormac Boydell, Mary Butler, Lian Callaghan, John Cash, Andrea Cleary, Eamon Colman, Sarah Corner, Mona Croom Carroll, Remco de Fauw, Aisling Ely, Abdul Ghofur/Epona Artworks, Inga Hamilton, Richard Healy, Sonja Landwehr, Andrew Ludick, Padraig McGoran, Liz Nilsson, Niall O'Neill, Pauline O'Connell, Geraldine O'Neill, Tony O'Malley, David Quinn, Philip Quinn, Paul Roche, Caroline Schofield, Una Sealy, Beatrice Stewart and Gwen Wilkinsson.

Visit Open Art Killenure in May and June. Admission to Open Art Killenure E5 (concession E2). Family ticket is available for E12 (two adults, three children). The outdoor sculpture walk will take approx one hour. Open 10.30am-2.30pm. Last entry for OAK is 1pm. Contact: 062 71498. Online: www.killenure.com.

At The Simon Ryan Theatre

Dig Where You Stand (South Tipperary Arts Residency) - May 9th @ 7pm.

Dig where you stand will gather at the Simon Ryan Theatre, Excel Arts & Cultural Centre, to host the third in their series of reading groups.

During this gathering they will be exploring short texts, which relate

to the use of utopias in the visual arts.

As a way to expand upon this discussion a 20-minute film by the Swiss-born artist Uriel Orlov will be screened.

Remnants of the Future is a contemplative sci-fi documentary about Mush, a housing project just outside of the north Armenian town of Gyumri. Admission: Free.

Triuir - May 17th @ 8pm. Featuring three wondrous voices the second

trad tour from Music Network this year is a celebration of the shared musical traditions of the native-language communities in Ireland, Wales and Scotland.

The whole gamut of the human condition is here: from achingly beautiful lullabies and heart-rending love songs to humorous tongue-twisters and macaronic mash-ups. Seosaimhín Ní Bheaglaóich, voice; Sián James, harp, voice; Mary McMaster, harp, voice

Admission: E15 (concession E10).

The Three Fat Ladies of Antibes (Bealtaine Festival) - May 18th @ 11am.

Dressed as a giant snowman to attract customers to a Toy Store sale an out-of-work actor passes the time reading W. Somerset Maugham's celebrated short story about three best friends who diet.

Dreaming of a better life on a real stage Julie the snowman brings

the words of The Three Fat Women of Antibes to life while Somerset Maugham describes the action.

Admission: Free.

Gay Byrne - Live on Stage - May 24th @ 8pm.

A unique opportunity to hear some of the greatest show-biz stories never told in this hilarious evening's entertainment, described as "a master-class in comedy".

Admission: E20 (concession E18).

Thomas MacDonagh Festival Programme

THE following is the programme of events for this year's Thomas MacDonagh Weekend:

Friday, May 4th - 10am-4pm: Painting Workshop. An opportunity to paint under the guidance of Jock Nichol who is highly skilled in both drawing and painting. His work appears in several collections in the UK, Ireland, USA and Canada. Booking is essential for this workshop - 087 648239.

6.30pm: Opening of Charity Art Exhibition and Sale.

Doors of the MacDonagh Schoolhouse open at 6.30pm for the official launch at 7 pm. Professional artists Mary Pickering, Grainne Watts, Thomas Wollen, Siobhan Bulfin, Hazel Green, Lean Callaghan and other invited artists will have work on display.

8pm: Book Launch, Cloughjordan Heritage Volume VII: The seventh and largest book in the Cloughjordan Heritage series contains a compilation of material relating to the parish and surrounding areas. It includes articles of historical interest, profiles of personalities, local heritage including families of Kyle, and a variety of reports and photos. The launch takes place in GAA Complex.

Saturday, May 5 - 9am-1pm: Cloughjordan Street Market. Come early for best selection of home-baking - bread, scones, tarts and cakes, jams and chutney, vegetables and plants, fancy goods, books and lots more are available at the market. Enjoy the art work by pupils of the local schools, based on a poem by Thomas MacDonagh, on display along the entrance to Cloughjordan's eco Pproject.

11am-6pm: Opening of Heritage Flower Display. Working on a heritage theme, floral displays will be arranged throughout the Methodist Church which opens with a Service of Dedication. There is also an art exhibition and tea and coffee is available all day.

Admission E8. There will be two other events during the day: 11.30 am: Demonstration of Portrait Painting by renowned artist, Julian Friers; 3pm: Musical interlude with violin and tenor.

11am-6pm: Charity Art Exhibition and Sale. This is an extensive collection of artworks, by professional and amateur artists. All works in this exhibition are available for sale, with proceeds going to local charities.

3pm: Guided Tour of Cloughjordan's Eco Project. Residents of Ireland's first eco-village will bring visitors on a walk through the site. The ideology and technology behind the development will be discussed on the tour.

4pm: Poetry Hour. Leo Cullen, writer, poet and regular contributor to RTE Radio programme, Sunday Miscellany, will present poems to reflect upon in Sheelagh na Gig Bookshop.

8.15pm: Rambling House. The Rambling House in the Parochial Hall is presented by the popular Fear an Tí, Seamus Costello, who encourages all to join in

sharing music, songs and stories. There's tea with home-bakes and a fáilte isteach. This year, in celebrating the centenary of the birth of Donagh MacDonagh, his short work, An Easter Christening, will be performed by Cloughjordan Drama Group.

Sunday, May 6 - Noon-6pm: Charity Art Exhibition and Sale. The exhibition and sale continues in the MacDonagh Schoolhouse.

2pm-6pm: Heritage Flower Display. The Methodist Church hosts this event which continues today. Admission E8.

3pm: Mary O'Meara and friends presents musical entertainment.

3pm: Guided Tour of Cloughjordan's Eco Project. A resident of the eco-village will be your guide and meet you at The Village office.

4pm: Cloughjordan Writers Group. Writings of Leo Cullen. On a return visit to the Thomas MacDonagh Weekend, Leo Cullen, author of *Clocking Ninety on the Road to Cloughjordan*, will read a selection of his own writings with musical interludes and inimitable wit. Visitors are welcome to bring their writings along to Sheelagh na Gig Bookshop.

3pm: Family Fun at Django's Hostel. Join in the fun in the eco project with lots of treats for all ages and a barbecue, rain or shine.

4.30pm MacDonagh Pipe Band. Thomas MacDonagh Pipe Band will march along Main Street and join in the Family Fun with a recital at Django's Hostel. This year the band is especially welcome as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

8pm: Sunday Lecture. John O'Callaghan, History Department, University of Limerick, is guest speaker.

His talk will focus on social history from 1913 to 1923, covering the Woman's Suffragette Movement, the Great Lockout, recruitment for WW1 and a general look at society pre and post-1916.

Monday, May 7 - 11am-6pm: The Heritage Flower Display.

The flower display and art exhibition continues, admission E8, with two special events: 11.30am: Flower Arranging Demonstration with Maura Lovelock, professional florist at Leeds Castle, Kent; 3pm: Recital by Patrick Rowley Brooke on Trumpet.

2.30pm: Knocknecree Wood. This will be a guided walk with a visiting expert on woodland vegetation.

4.30pm: Countess Caitlín. The Cine Club presents Patrick Bergin's adaptation of the WB Yeats dramatic story, set in famine times. It was filmed locally and many Cloughjordan residents appear in the film.

7pm: Kilruane MacDonagh Hurling Club. Final of U14 Hurling for the Billy O'Meara Trophy.

9pm: Oíche Ghaelach. Under the stewardship of Roche Williams and Seamus Costello, musicians, seanachai and an assortment of artists will provide entertainment - all culminating with the traditional 'cupán tae' at Grace's pub.

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