

RIAM Events Programme 2026/2027



2026/2027 At A Glance

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Director's Welcome

Every day, music-making in the Academy creates encounters: between student and teacher, artist and audience, tradition and innovation, Ireland and the wider world. These encounters lie at the heart of who we are and come to life in our events programme. Our 2026/2027 programme celebrates those encounters, bringing together exceptional artists, ambitious students and communities across Ireland in a year of remarkable musical experiences.

A focus this academic year is the 200th anniversary of Beethoven's death in 2027, a point of inspiration and reflection on his repertoire, his life and his legacy. This milestone year has resulted in a rounded programme that includes performances of his music across various forms, as well as a music appreciation series, stand-alone lectures and more.

Our students remain at the centre of RIAM's artistic life. Through competitions, concerts, masterclasses and festivals, they share their talent, commitment and authentic artistry with audiences throughout the year. Their performances reflect not only individual achievement but a collective and vibrant learning community that defines the Academy.

One of the highlights of the season is the Wigmore Series Dublin, now in its fourth year. Through our valued partnership with Wigmore Hall and the generous support of Clinch Wealth Management, six of the world's leading chamber musicians and ensembles will find their way to the RIAM Whyte Recital Hall. These landmark performances connect Dublin audiences directly with artists at the very highest level of international music-making while providing invaluable inspiration for our students. Alongside this series, our Dublin Piano Series continues to showcase the extraordinary artistry of RIAM's Keyboard Faculty, whose teaching and mentorship help shape the next generation of performers.

Across Ireland, thousands of musicians engage with RIAM examinations each year. Through the Spotlight Awards, generously sponsored by ACE Autobody, and our regional and Gala concerts, we celebrate their achievement and recognise the important role music plays in communities throughout the country. These events speak to RIAM's unique national reach and commitment to nurturing musical excellence at every stage of a learner's journey.

An expanded classical canon remains a cornerstone of our artistic programme. This season's opera production pairs Monteverdi's *Il ballo delle ingrate* with the first staging of Falvetti's *Il diluvio universale*, bringing two Baroque works into conversation with questions of compassion, the treatment of women and our relationship with the natural world, while RIAM Philharmonia continues its exciting artistic journey through ambitious repertoire, inspiring collaborations and outstanding guest conductors. ChamberFest Dublin, now firmly established as one of the city's most cherished festivals, once again invites audiences to experience chamber music at its most intimate, expressive and powerful.

Alongside tradition, we continue to explore new artistic possibilities. This year sees the premiere of a new co-creative inclusive work developed in collaboration with the Royal Hibernian Academy, bringing together RIAM students and people living with an intellectual disability in a project led by composer Karen Power. This marks the third such work in a series that now forms part of the Music Collections of the National Library of Ireland.

Our international partnerships continue to deepen and expand. This year, collaborations with the Liszt Academy, KUG Graz, Conservatorio di Milano and HMT Leipzig create opportunities for artistic exchange, performance and learning, while building friendships and professional networks that will accompany our students throughout their careers.

We also welcome the new RIAM/NSOI Orchestral Apprenticeship Side-by-Side Programme with National Symphony Orchestra Ireland and Bank of America, whose innovative partnership provides our students with invaluable experience alongside professional musicians, bridging the gap between conservatoire learning and professional orchestral careers.

My sincere thanks to Head of Artistic Programming Ciara Higgins and her colleagues for curating another exceptional season of music-making.

I invite you to join us throughout the year to live in music, to celebrate the artistry, imagination and human connections that make this art form a powerful force in our lives.

Deborah Kelleher, Director
Royal Irish Academy of Music

How to book

Box Office

Telephone

1800 77 2222 or +353 1 6325 350

Monday – Friday: 10.00 am – 5.00 pm

Online

riam.ie/whats-on

Email (enquiries only)

boxoffice@riam.ie

There is a non-refundable €1.50 administration charge for each ticket.

Tickets for Concessions

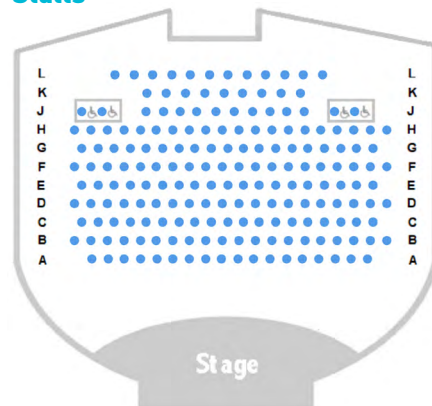
Where concession prices are listed, these are available to senior citizens and the unemployed. Students of any age can avail of student prices.

Disabled Access and Booking

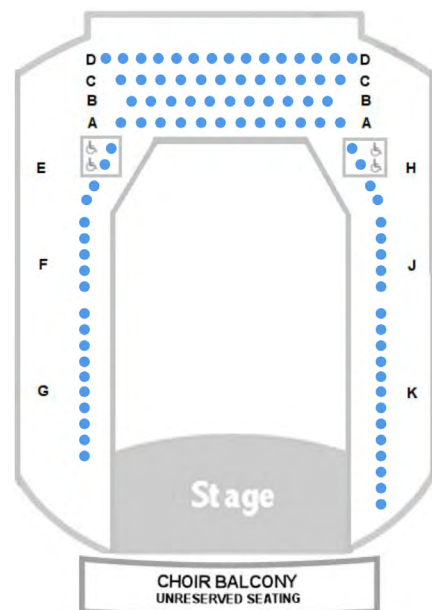
The Whyte Recital Hall at RIAM is fully accessible. For accessibility bookings, including wheelchair spaces, email boxoffice@riam.ie or call +353 1 6325 350.

Whyte Recital Hall Seating

Stalls



Balcony



Beethoven 2027

In 2027, the musical world marks the 200th anniversary of the death of one of the greatest composers of all time, Ludwig van Beethoven.

Joining the musical party, the Royal Irish Academy of Music celebrates the indomitable spirit of this musical powerhouse by presenting a rich tapestry of his musical output during the 2026/27 and 2027/28 seasons.

Audiences are invited to join our distinguished staff and students in marking this landmark anniversary year through a cornucopia of performances, talks, masterclasses, educational events and concert series saluting and celebrating the master throughout 2027.



Events featuring works by Beethoven will be highlighted throughout the programme with a Beethoven icon.



Wigmore Series Dublin

An exciting performance partnership with London's Wigmore Hall, one of the world's most revered concert halls specialising in chamber and instrumental music, early music and song.

The 2026/2027 Wigmore Series Dublin features a celebrated roster of artists including renowned pianists **Angela Hewitt** and **Paul Lewis**, the multi-award-winning **Pavel Haas Quartet**, the acclaimed duo partnerships of violinist **Alina Ibragimova** and **Cédric Tiberghien** and soprano **Nardus Williams** and lutenist **Elizabeth Kenny**, and recently appointed Wigmore Hall Associate Artists, **The Gesualdo Six**.

Over six concerts this season, audiences will enjoy a rich and engaging array of music performed by these distinguished artists in the intimate setting of the Whyte Recital Hall.

In addition to their performances, these highly acclaimed visiting artists will engage with RIAM students in a series of masterclasses, talks and open rehearsals.

Wigmore Series Dublin is devised by John Gilhooly CBE, Artistic and Executive Director of the iconic Wigmore Hall.

Presented in partnership with Clinch Wealth Management

Supported by **The Merrion Hotel**, Accommodation Partner for the 2026/2027 Series

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Photo © Keith Saunders

Alina Ibragimova, violin & Cédric Tiberghien, piano

Ludwig van Beethoven:

Violin Sonata No. 8 in G Op. 30 No. 3

Violin Sonata No. 10 in G Op. 96

Violin Sonata No. 9 in A Op. 47 'Kreutzer'



The 2026/27 Wigmore Series Dublin opens with long-term musical partners Alina Ibragimova and Cédric Tiberghien.

Since first meeting as members of BBC Radio 3's New Generation Artists scheme in 2005, the duo has performed throughout Europe and North America, appearing at venues including the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York, as well as undertaking major tours of Australia and Asia.

They are also regular guests at Wigmore Hall, where they first presented an acclaimed complete cycle of Beethoven's violin sonatas in the 2009/10 season, which was released on the Wigmore Hall Live label between 2010 and 2011.

Their Dublin programme returns to that repertoire with three contrasting sonatas: the spirited Op. 30 No. 3, Beethoven's final violin sonata, Op. 96, and the expansive 'Kreutzer' Sonata, one of the truly great works of the violin and piano repertoire.

Date: Sunday, 6th September 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €55 / €50

Public Masterclass: Saturday, 5th September 2026

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Photo © Eva Vermandel



Photo © Keith Saunders

Angela Hewitt, piano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:

Piano Sonata No. 17 in B flat K570

Johann Sebastian Bach:

Partita No. 2 in C minor BWV826

François Couperin:

Les moissonneurs (Sixième Ordre)

Les langueurs-tendres (Sixième Ordre)

Les baricades mystérieuses (Sixième Ordre)

Les bergeries (Sixième Ordre)

Le moucheron (Sixième Ordre)

Maurice Ravel:

Le tombeau de Couperin

Angela Hewitt occupies a unique position among today's leading pianists. With a wide-ranging repertoire and frequent appearances in recital and with major orchestras throughout Europe, the Americas and Asia, she is also an award-winning recording artist whose performances of Bach have established her as one of the composer's foremost interpreters.

The Canadian pianist, recipient of the Wigmore Hall Gold Medal, made her début at the Hall over 40 years ago and has given well over 80 performances since.

On the occasion of her Wigmore Series Dublin début, this charismatic pianist performs Ravel's luminous *Le tombeau de Couperin* alongside works by François Couperin, Mozart and the composer with whom she is most synonymous – JS Bach.

Date: Wednesday, 4th November 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €65 / €60

Public Masterclass: Thursday, 5th November 2026

In partnership with

CLINCH

Nardus Williams, soprano & Elizabeth Kenny, lute

*From Suir to Shore: A Journey in Song
from Ireland to Venice*

Full programme available at riam.ie

The compelling partnership of soprano Nardus Williams and lutenist Elizabeth Kenny comes to Wigmore Series Dublin with *From Suir to Shore: A Journey in Song from Ireland to Venice*, an evocative programme with a nod to Ireland.

Individually, both artists enjoy flourishing international careers. Williams is admired for the warmth and clarity of her singing across opera, concert and recital repertoire, while Kenny is one of today's leading lutenists, known for her work as a soloist, chamber musician and artistic director.

Together, they have performed at Wigmore Hall, Leeds Song, Brighton Early Music Festival, Banbury Early Music Festival, LIFE Victoria Barcelona, Spitalfields Music at the Tower of London, and Cambridge Music Festival.

Their Wigmore Series Dublin programme moves from Ireland and England through Spain, France and Germany before arriving in Venice, with works by William Byrd, John Dowland, Henry Purcell, Claudio Monteverdi, Maddalena Casulana and Barbara Strozzi.

Date: Sunday, 6th December 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €45 / €40

Public Masterclass (Lute): Saturday, 5th December 2026

In partnership with
CLINCH



Photo © Camilla Greenwell



Paul Lewis, piano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:	Piano Sonata No. 17 in B flat K570
Franz Schubert:	3 Klavierstücke D946
Fryderyk Chopin:	Polonaise No. 1 in C sharp minor, Op. 26 No. 1
Fryderyk Chopin:	Nocturnes Op. 32
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:	Piano Sonata No. 13 in B flat K333

No stranger to Irish audiences, Paul Lewis is internationally regarded as one of the leading pianists of his generation. His cycles of core piano works by Beethoven and Schubert have received critical and public acclaim worldwide, securing his reputation as one of the foremost interpreters of the central European classical repertoire and earning him a devoted international following.

Often focusing on specific composers in projects that allow him to take audiences deep inside the works, throughout 2026 and 2027 this acclaimed artist will tour his Mozart+ series around the world juxtaposing Mozart with composers such as Poulenc, Chopin and Weber.

For Wigmore Series Dublin, Lewis places two Mozart sonatas alongside works by Schubert and Chopin. The programme draws attention to Mozart's influence on later generations, while also setting his music beside works that share its clarity, lyricism and expressive depth.

Date: Monday, 25th January 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €65 / €60

Public Masterclass: Tuesday, 26th January 2027

In partnership with

CLINCH

Pavel Haas Quartet

Ludwig van Beethoven: String Quartet No. 7 in F Op. 59 No. 1 'Razumovsky'
Antonín Dvořák: String Quartet No. 14 in A flat Op. 105



The Czech Pavel Haas Quartet is revered across the globe for its richness of timbre, intensity and intuitive rapport. The quartet performs at many of the world's leading concert halls and has received numerous major awards for its recordings, firmly establishing it as one of the world's foremost string quartets.

Renowned in particular for its interpretations of Czech and Eastern European chamber music, the quartet has received Gramophone Magazine's *Recording of the Year* for its recording of Dvořák string quartets.

At Wigmore Series Dublin, this thrilling ensemble performs their compatriot Antonín Dvořák's expansive final string quartet, with the first of Beethoven's three remarkable string quartets commissioned by Count Andreas Razumovsky in 1805.

Date: Tuesday, 9th February 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €55 / €50

Public Masterclass: Tuesday, 9th February 2027

In partnership with
CLINCH





Photo © Andrew Wilkinson

The Gesualdo Six

Wishing Tree

Full programme available at riam.ie

The 2026/27 Wigmore Series Dublin closes with The Gesualdo Six, the award-winning British vocal ensemble directed by Owain Park.

Comprising some of the UK's finest consort singers, the ensemble has been selected as one of Wigmore Hall's new Associate Artists, with a five-year tenure from September 2026.

The group is known for imaginative programming, finely balanced vocal blend and performances that move easily between Renaissance polyphony, contemporary choral writing and new arrangements.

Wishing Tree invites audiences to embark on a captivating vocal journey as these artists trace choral singing from its roots to the flowering of a tradition. Lyrical Renaissance works by William Byrd, Orlando Gibbons and Josquin des Prez are heard alongside contemporary pieces by David Bednall, Alison Willis, Joby Talbot, Sarah Rimkus and Owain Park, with traditional songs in new arrangements woven through the sequence.

Date: Tuesday, 9th March 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €45 / €40

Public Masterclass: Wednesday, 10th March 2027

In partnership with

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RIAM/NSOI

Orchestral Apprenticeship Side-by-Side Programme

The RIAM/NSOI Orchestral Apprenticeship Side-by-Side Programme is a new partnership between the Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM), National Symphony Orchestra Ireland (NSOI) and Bank of America, created to prepare outstanding young musicians for professional orchestral careers.

Through auditions, one-to-one mentoring with NSOI musicians, repertoire and performance classes, rehearsal observations and professional skills sessions, participants gain first-hand experience of the demands, discipline and collaborative practice of professional orchestral life.

Each year, the programme culminates in side-by-side rehearsals and performances with NSOI, giving Academy Artists the opportunity to work alongside professional orchestral musicians and make the transition from conservatoire training to the professional stage.

This new programme comes to the concert platform in April 2027, when Academy Artists join NSOI musicians for a powerful and expressive programme under conductor Hans Graf, featuring the acclaimed American violinist Randall Goosby.

Presented in partnership with National Symphony Orchestra Ireland and Bank of America

NSOI Ceolthoiriann Shiansach
Náisiúnta Éireann
National Symphony
Orchestra Ireland

BANK OF AMERICA

NSOI: Randall Goosby plays Brahms' Violin Concerto

National Symphony Orchestra Ireland

Hans Graf, conductor

Randall Goosby, violin

Richard Strauss: *Don Juan*

Franz Schubert: Symphony No. 8 in B minor,
D759, "Unfinished"

Johannes Brahms: Violin Concerto in D, Op. 77

Date: Friday, 16th April 2027

Time: 7.30 pm

Location: National Concert Hall Main Stage

Admission: €15 / €25 / €30 / €35 / €39 at nch.ie



Photo © Jeremy Mitchell

RIAM Philharmonia

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Three rousing programmes highlighting the music of composers from Scandinavia and Greece, alongside masterworks by Beethoven, Schubert, Sibelius and Tchaikovsky, are on the musical menu for the RIAM Philharmonia this season.

Bringing together some of Ireland's finest musicians, joined by a growing body of international students making the Academy their musical home, these spirited musicians have welcomed such distinguished maestri as Brian Byrne, Kerem Hasan, Chloé van Soeterstède and Peter Whelan in recent years.

The dynamic British/Irish conductor **Olivia Clarke** opens the 2026/2027 season with Swedish composer Helena Munktel's evocative *Bränningar* (*Breaking Waves*). Her fascinating programme also includes Jean Sibelius' majestic Second Symphony and introduces Irish audiences to his Finnish compatriot, Cecilia Damström's *Tundo*, dedicated to "all the refugees in the world".

Assistant conductor at Greek National Opera and the conductor of the El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra, **Kyriaki Kountouri** is a passionate force in music education in Southern Europe. Making her Irish début with the RIAM Philharmonia in December, she leads two of the orchestral repertoire's most-loved works, Schubert's dramatic "*Unfinished*" and Tchaikovsky's enchanting *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy Overture. Completing the programme are Nikos Skalkottas' 5 Greek Dances, a vibrant work by one of the most important Greek composers of the 20th century.

Working at the frontiers of several musical genres, and bringing together jazz, symphonic music and traditional music, Franco-Irish violinist and conductor **Fiona Monbet** pairs Beethoven's iconic Fifth Symphony with an electrifying new work by this innovative artist in quasi-rhapsodic symphonic form for orchestra, violin, accordion and double bass. A triumphant end to the RIAM Philharmonia 2026/2027 season under the artistic leadership of one of the conducting world's most exciting and engaging musicians.



Friday, 30th October 2026

Olivia Clarke, conductor

Helena Munktel: *Bränningar* Op. 19

Cecilia Damström: *Tundo* Op. 49 (Irish première)

Jean Sibelius: Symphony No. 2 in D Op. 43

Friday, 11th December 2026

Kyriaki Kountouri, conductor

P. I. Tchaikovsky: *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy Overture

Nikos Skalkottas: 5 Greek Dances for String Orchestra, AK 11b

Franz Schubert: Symphony No. 8 in B minor, D759, "*Unfinished*"

Friday, 26th February 2027

Fiona Monbet, conductor/violin

Dermot Dunne, accordion

Malachy Robinson, double bass

Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67

Fiona Monbet: New Work for Violin, Accordion, Double Bass and Orchestra

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €12 / €10 / €5

RIAM

Chamber Orchestra

Led and directed by RIAM's dynamic Head of Strings, Diane Daly, the RIAMCO brings a freshness and vibrancy to the repertoire, incorporating elements of memorisation, movement, improvisation, lighting and creative expression to enhance audience and performer experiences alike, making their performances "must-see" events.

Their November concert opens with the joyous and energetic *Juba* from Florence Price's String Quartet No. 2, arranged for strings. Richard Strauss's extraordinary *Metamorphosen* was written for 23 solo strings in the closing months of World War II, as the composer mourned the fact that "2,000 years of cultural evolution had met its doom, and irreplaceable monuments of architecture and works of art were destroyed." While a version for string septet offers a more practical option for smaller ensembles, RIAMCO is particularly excited to present the work in its original scoring. This stirring epitaph to German culture, in which we hear the principal theme from the *Marcia funebre* of Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony, is performed alongside Beethoven's sublime *Cavatina*, arranged for strings.

The programme closes with a new arrangement for string orchestra of

Rhiannon Giddens' *At the Purchaser's Option*. Her original song is a response to a 19th-century advertisement she saw in which a young woman was offered for sale with her nine-month-old baby 'at the purchaser's option'. This new arrangement, by Boris Hunka, features eight intertwining lines, and reflects the roots-infused passion and anger of Giddens' original. The work will be performed from memory, and improvisation and movement will be used as a way to powerfully embody this impactful song.

In January RIAMCO delve into the worlds of improvisation, composition, movement, storytelling and new approaches to performance. Through workshops, creative challenges and collaborative projects, participants will be encouraged to experiment, take artistic risks and discover new ways of communicating through music.

This ambitious week-long music project culminates in the return of the hugely enjoyable **The Creative Cabaret**. More than a concert, it is a celebration of imagination and collaboration, where newly created works sit alongside reimagined repertoire in an evening of music, movement and unexpected artistic encounters.



Photo © Chris Dowdall



Friday, 27th November 2026

Diane Daly, director

Florence Price: *Juba* for String Orchestra from Quartet No. 2

Ludwig van Beethoven: *Cavatina* from String Quartet No. 13 in B flat Op. 130

Richard Strauss: *Metamorphosen*

Rhiannon Giddens: *At the Purchaser's Option*

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 1.05 pm

Admission: €12 / €10 / €5

Thursday, 14th January 2027

Diane Daly, director

The Creative Cabaret

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €12 / €10 / €5

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RIAM Opera & Vocal Studies

Claudio Monteverdi: *Il ballo delle ingrato* (1608)
Michelangelo Falvetti: *Il diluvio universale* (1682)

Chris Moran, director

David Adams and **Andrew Synnott**, conductors

Owen Gilhooly-Miles, artistic producer

In 2027, RIAM Opera presents a double bill of Baroque works wrestling with questions that define our century: climate collapse, the repression of women, and the need for us all to “*apprendete pietà*”, to learn compassion.

Il ballo delle ingrato (*The Dance of the Ungrateful Women*) is an all-too-familiar portrait of the misogyny at the core of power. Summoned by Pluto and Venus, a chorus of “ingrates” – unmarried women – return from the Underworld to plead for pity. Commissioned by the Duke of Mantua as a warning to the women of his court, Monteverdi’s music finds amid this cruelty a humanity that sings to us across the centuries.

Il diluvio universale (*The Great Flood*) is the Biblical story of the Flood, reimagined with characters including Divine Justice, Human Nature and a delightful Death. Rediscovered in Sicily after 300 years and nearly destroyed by natural disasters, Falvetti’s oratorio is here given its first-ever staging as an opera.

Sung in Italian with English surtitles.

Presented in collaboration with IADT Dún Laoghaire

Date: 12th, 13th, 15th and 16th January 2027

Location: Samuel Beckett Theatre, TCD

Times: 7.30 pm (12th, 13th, 15th) and 3.00 pm (16th)

Admission: €24 / €20 conc / €12.50 students / €8 child

**Institute of
Art, Design +
Technology
Dún Laoghaire**

Opera Snapshots

Regular Visiting Artist to the Academy, alumna Brenda Hurley works with Vocal Studies students on a charming programme of opera scenes, directed by Héléne Montague, on 16th April.

The following Friday, RIAM’s new Head of Opera and Vocal Studies, Owen Gilhooly-Miles, and mezzo-soprano Imelda Drumm bring their wealth of wide-ranging performance experience, both on and off stage, to aspiring opera singers. Together with director Héléne Montague and pianist Annalisa Monticelli, they present another lunchtime programme of much-loved opera scenes.

Date: 16th and 23rd April 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 1.05 pm

Admission: €12 / €10 / €5 (Students)

The Golden Age of Broadway

In February a galaxy of starry singers invite audiences to experience the fun, elegance, charm and emotional breadth of Broadway’s Golden Age in a captivating concert led by industry leaders Héléne Montague, Annalisa Monticelli and Ross Scanlon.

Producing some of the most treasured and enduring musicals that transformed the genre, the Golden Age of Broadway was a significant period of creativity and innovation. RIAM’s own celebration of this remarkable era will see an energetic and exciting collective of emerging artists perform much-loved showstoppers from iconic musicals including *Oklahoma!*, *Guys and Dolls*, *My Fair Lady* and *Kiss Me, Kate*, alongside a selection of more modern smash hits inspired by this golden era.

Date: Sunday, 28th February 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 4.00 pm

Admission: €12 / €10 / €5 (Students)

Dublin Piano Series



Now firmly rooted in the city's musical calendar, the **Dublin Piano Series** returns this season to proudly shine the spotlight on the life-affirming music of **Ludwig van Beethoven**. Over this year's five-concert series, audiences can look forward to delving into a treasure trove of music for solo piano, piano duet and two pianos by the composer and other musical giants who have both inspired and taken inspiration from this iconic artist.

Season highlights include his "Pathétique", "Moonlight", "Waldstein" and "Appassionata" piano sonatas beloved of audiences the world over; concerts underpinning the breadth of his output for the instrument featuring bagatelles, variations, fantasies and some lesser-known gems for piano duet, and a programme featuring late sonatas by Haydn, Prokofiev and Beethoven.

The Dublin Piano Series culminates in a spectacular season end with Liszt's virtuosic two-piano transcription of Beethoven's final symphony, his gargantuan "Choral".

Dublin Piano Series 2027 brings together members of RIAM's renowned Keyboard Faculty whose artistry and mentorship shape the next generation of performers. A very special musical pilgrimage in the company of an array of exceptional pianists who are as celebrated on the concert stage as they are in music education in Ireland.

Passionate Variations

Alexander Bernstein,
Anthony Byrne, Márta Erdei
& Conor Linehan

Ludwig van Beethoven: 15 Variations and a Fugue on an Original Theme in E flat, Op. 35, "Eroica Variations"

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 23 in F minor, Op. 57, "Appassionata"

Ludwig van Beethoven: 32 Variations in C minor, WoO 80

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 30 in E, Op. 109

Date: Sunday, 24th January 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 4.00 pm

Admission: €20 / €15 / €8

Early Bird: €15 / €12 Tickets available until 30th November 2026

Threads

David Adams, Lance Coburn,
Éadaoin Copeland,
Réamonn Keary & Hugh Tinney

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 24 in F sharp, Op. 78

Ludwig van Beethoven: 6 Variations on Ich denke dein in D, WoO 74

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 18 in E flat, Op. 31 No. 3, "La Chasse"

Camille Saint-Saëns: Variations on a Theme of Beethoven, Op. 35

Ludwig van Beethoven: 8 Variations on a Theme by Count Waldstein in C, WoO 67

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 21 in C, Op. 53, "Waldstein"

Date: Sunday, 7th February 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 4.00 pm

Admission: €20 / €15 / €8

Early Bird: €15 / €12 Tickets available until 30th November 2026

After Moonlight

Alexander Bernstein, Márta Erdei,
Conor Linehan, Tamara Niek ludow
& Peter Tuite

Jane O'Leary: Bagatelles (selection)

Carl Vine: Bagatelles

Ludwig van Beethoven: Bagatelles, Op. 126

Johannes Brahms: 7 Fantasien, Op. 116
(selection)

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 14
in C sharp minor, Op. 27, No. 2, "Moonlight"

Franz Liszt: Après une lecture du Dante
'Fantasia quasi Sonata' from Années de
pèlerinage, deuxième année, Italie S161

Date: Sunday, 21st February 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 4.00 pm

Admission: €20 / €15 / €8

Early Bird: €15 / €12 Tickets available until
30th November 2026

Late Journeys

Lance Coburn, Maria McGarry
& Peter Tuite

Franz Joseph Haydn: Sonata No. 60 in C,
Hob.XVI:50

Sergey Prokofiev: Piano Sonata No. 8 in B
flat major, Op. 84

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Sonata
No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111

Date: Sunday, 7th March 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 4.00 pm

Admission: €20 / €15 / €8

Early Bird: €15 / €12 Tickets available
until 30th November 2026

Towards a Symphony

Dearbhla Brosnan, Anthony Byrne,
Réamonn Keary & Peter Tuite

CPE Bach: Fantasia from Sonata Wq: 63/6

CPE Bach: Presto from Sonata in E minor, H 281

CPE Bach: Andante con Tenerezza from
Sonata in A, H 135

CPE Bach: Rondo in C minor, H 283

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 8
in C minor, Op. 13, "Pathétique"

Franz Liszt: Beethoven - Symphony No. 9
in D minor, S657/R376, "Choral"

Date: Sunday, 21st March 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 4.00 pm

Admission: €20 / €15 / €8

Early Bird: €15 / €12 Tickets available
until 30th November 2026

ChamberFest Dublin

Echoes of Beethoven



One of the Royal Irish Academy of Music's flagship events, ChamberFest Dublin returns for its eighth edition of performances and events across the Academy's state-of-the-art campus from Sunday, 25th April to Friday, 7th May.

Beethoven takes centre stage with an ambitious and stimulating two-week event celebrating his enduring legacy and radical impact on the chamber music genre. 'Echoes of Beethoven' presents the composer's own revolutionary works alongside music he inspired, tracing a direct line from his era through music history to contemporary works of the present day.

The highly acclaimed **Chiaroscuro Quartet** opens **ChamberFest Dublin 2027** performing one of the pinnacles of the string quartet repertoire, Beethoven's profound Op. 132 String Quartet alongside movements from JS Bach's towering *Die Kunst der Fuge*, and a sublime work by a youthful Felix Mendelssohn, his Op. 13 String Quartet written in 1827, the year of Beethoven's death.

Written in the shadows of Haydn and Mozart, Beethoven's six quartets in Op. 18 were composed between 1796 and 1800 and dedicated to Prince Lobkowitz, one of Beethoven's earliest patrons. Throughout ChamberFest Dublin this year, chamber music enthusiasts can also look forward to hearing some of Ireland's finest emerging string quartets perform these magnificent quartets, a major focus of their immersive work throughout the 2026/2027 academic year.

Founded in 2019 by RIAM's Head of Chamber Music, Sarah Sew, ChamberFest Dublin is rooted in RIAM's commitment to providing meaningful, high-quality performance experiences for students.

Chiaroscuro Quartet

JS Bach: Contrapunctus I, IV, IX from *Die Kunst der Fuge* (Art of Fugue), BWV1080

Felix Mendelssohn: String Quartet No. 2 in A minor, Op. 13

Ludwig van Beethoven: String Quartet No. 15 in A minor, Op. 132

Date: Sunday, 25th April 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €45 / €40

(€10 students, unwaged and freelance artists and arts workers)

ChamberFest Dublin

Programme announced March 2027.
Check riam.ie for details.

Date: Sunday, 25th April to Friday, 7th May 2027

Admission: €5 / Students go free



Photo © Jess McKinley

RIAM Partnerships: International Peers

International opportunities are vital to the development of emerging artists, offering them a chance to experience diverse musical cultures, connect with global audiences and build relationships with fellow performers and conservatoires. Performing and collaborating abroad helps young musicians refine their artistry and broaden their perspective, supporting sustainable and outward-looking careers.

Ensembles from the Academy have proudly represented Irish classical music across the United Kingdom, Europe, North America, China, Korea and Japan, performing in some of the world's leading concert halls, such as Symphony Hall in Birmingham, Carnegie Hall in New York, the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center and the Seoul Arts Center.

This season, the Academy will deepen its international presence with further performance collaborations with leading peer conservatoires, including Hochschule für Musik und Theater »Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy«, Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music, and the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz.

HOCHSCHULE
FÜR MUSIK UND THEATER
»FELIX MENDELSSOHN
BARTHOLDY«
LEIPZIG



LISZT ACADEMY
FOUNDED 1875



Open Your Eyes And Tell Me What You See

Devised by Iain Burnside and featuring singers and pianists from the Royal Irish Academy of Music, Hochschule für Musik und Theater »Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy«, Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music, and the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz

An outstanding array of young singers and pianists, under the expert stewardship of pianist Iain Burnside, once again shine a spotlight on the climate crisis through the powerful combination of words and music.

Interweaving roles as pianist and award-winning broadcaster with equal aplomb, Iain Burnside is also a master programmer with an instinct for the telling juxtaposition. His previous work for the Academy, *Ten Thousand Miles Away*, *Drums and Guns*, and *The Seven Deadly Sins* has been described as "a triumph of ambition" (The Sunday Business Post) and "a stirring program outside of the usual" (Voce di meche).

Having previously toured *Open Your Eyes And Tell Me What You See* overland to London, Paris and Salzburg, Burnside returns with his devised performance piece to connect performers and audience with the profound changes happening in our world.

A preview concert with Academy students in October 2026 will give audiences a chance to see this performance project develop in real time, before the collective talents of students from four European conservatoires, RIAM, HMT Leipzig, Liszt Academy of Music, and the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz join forces. Vivid contemporary work casts new light on familiar songs by Schubert and Schumann, challenging students and audience alike to open their eyes.

Date: Friday, 23rd October 2026 and Friday, 5th March 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 1.05 pm (October) and 7.30 pm (March)

Admission: €10 / €8 / €5 (October) & €12 / €10 / €5 (March)

Peter Moore Project

Having shared the podium with the vibrant musicians of RIAM Philharmonia last season, RIAM International Visiting Artist Peter Moore returns for another year of performances, collaborative projects and education work.

In November, Moore joins forces with Irish pianist Éadaoin Copeland for a special recital featuring a programme of transcriptions, including César Franck's monumental Violin Sonata and Medtner's magical Vocalise Suite, reimagined for an instrument renowned for its vocal qualities. Described by BBC Music Magazine as a musician who "displays an eloquence and nobility that one might have thought impossible except by the human voice", Moore will also be joined for a special collaboration by members of the RIAM Brass Department.

In January, he brings together musicians from conservatoires in Barcelona, Dublin, Helsinki and London for a week-long international brass project at RIAM, culminating in a showcase concert in the Whyte Recital Hall.

Peter Moore in Concert

Peter Moore, trombone
Éadaoin Copeland, piano

Date: Friday, 20th November 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €20 / €15 / €8

International Brass Project

Date: Friday, 8th January 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €12 / €10 / €5

ECMA at RIAM

Over the last 20 years, ECMA – the European Chamber Music Academy – has established itself as the leading European collaborative project for the ongoing support of chamber music and young professional ensembles. Characterised by experimental openness and artistic independence, ECMA is active in shaping the future world of music, based on the great European chamber music traditions. RIAM joins top European educational institutions and leading festivals as ECMA's newest partner and hosts ECMA's first Dublin session during ChamberFest Dublin at RIAM in April 2027.

ECMA's programme provides much scope for reflection on art and society in historico-cultural, philosophical and transdisciplinary lectures and workshops. ECMA also places emphasis on practice-oriented research and on connecting the arts and the sciences with one another. In addition, it engages in an increasing number of regular collaborations with prestigious venues, including Wigmore Hall and high-ranking festivals such as Grafenegg Festival and Ghent Festival.

Date: Monday, 26th April to Friday, 30th April 2027

Admission: €5 / Students Go Free

Programme announced March 2027. Check riam.ie for details

RIAM Historical Performance

Trevor Pinnock at 80 with The English Concert

We are proud to join forces with The English Concert to celebrate the 80th birthday of Trevor Pinnock, the world-renowned harpsichordist, conductor and founder of this pioneering ensemble. We are equally proud to present the Irish début of The English Concert whose trademark dynamism and ground-breaking performances on period instruments have led to a global reputation for highly compelling performances and artistic partnerships.

The trumpets and drums of JS Bach's Third Orchestral Suite supply the final festive flourish to an evening of musical and personal delights given in honour of one of Britain's finest musicians in the company of his infectious musical colleagues and cellist Nicolas Altstaedt, one of the most versatile and sought-after artists today.

Presented in partnership with The English Concert

The English Concert

Trevor Pinnock, harpsichord/director

Nicolas Altstaedt, cello

JS Bach: Orchestral Suite No. 1 in C, BWV1066

CPE Bach: Cello Concerto in A minor, H432

CPE Bach: Symphony in G major, Wq. 182/1

JS Bach: Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D, BWV1068

Date: Tuesday, 1st December 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €30 / €10 / €5

Café Zimmermann at the Academy

Taking its name and inspiration from the legendary Zimmermannsche Kaffeehaus in Leipzig, this new three-concert series at RIAM places a special focus on the music of JS Bach.

Gottfried Zimmermann's fashionable coffee house was a cultural hub and the scene of numerous concerts. It also served as the performing venue for the Collegium Musicum, largely made up of students and founded by Telemann. In 1729 Bach became its director and ushered in a new golden age of informal performances, often featuring new music by Johann Sebastian and his musical peers.

In 2027, RIAM artists look forward to evoking the welcoming and adventurous spirit of Café Zimmermann over three Fridays in February.

Date: Fridays, 5th, 12th and 19th February 2027

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 6.00 pm

Admission: Free

Unlocking the Archives

Since its foundation in 1877, the **National Library of Ireland** has built an extraordinary record of musical life in Ireland, spanning printed and manuscript music, archives, concert programmes and images.

As the NLI celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2027, RIAM is delighted to join forces with Ireland's library of record for *Unlocking the Archives*, a special series of performances and events bringing musicians, audiences and collections together in new ways.

Bite-Sized Performances at the NLI

Throughout 2027 RIAM musicians take music beyond the concert hall with bite-sized performances at the iconic National Library of Ireland, offering visitors a chance to encounter live music in the heart of the Library itself.

Dublin Resounding: Music from the Georgian City

In April, a special celebratory concert, *Dublin Resounding: Music from the Georgian City*, opens a window onto the rich and cosmopolitan musical life of eighteenth-century Dublin.

Bringing together composers closely associated with the city, popular tunes printed in Dublin and works from the wider European repertoire heard in its concert rooms, the programme evokes a musical culture in which international and local traditions, theatre, concert music and popular melody existed side-by-side.

RIAM Baroque Orchestra Claire Duff, director

G. F. Handel: Concerto Grosso in F, Op. 6 No. 9

Philip Cogan: Piano Concerto in C, Op. 5

Anonymous: Moggy Lauder and Molowney's Favourite Jigg with Variations

Arcangelo Corelli: Concerto Grosso in G minor, Op. 6 No. 8, "Christmas Concerto"

Tommaso Giordani: Irish Medley to The Island of Saints

Date: Thursday, 8th April 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €12 / €10 / €5

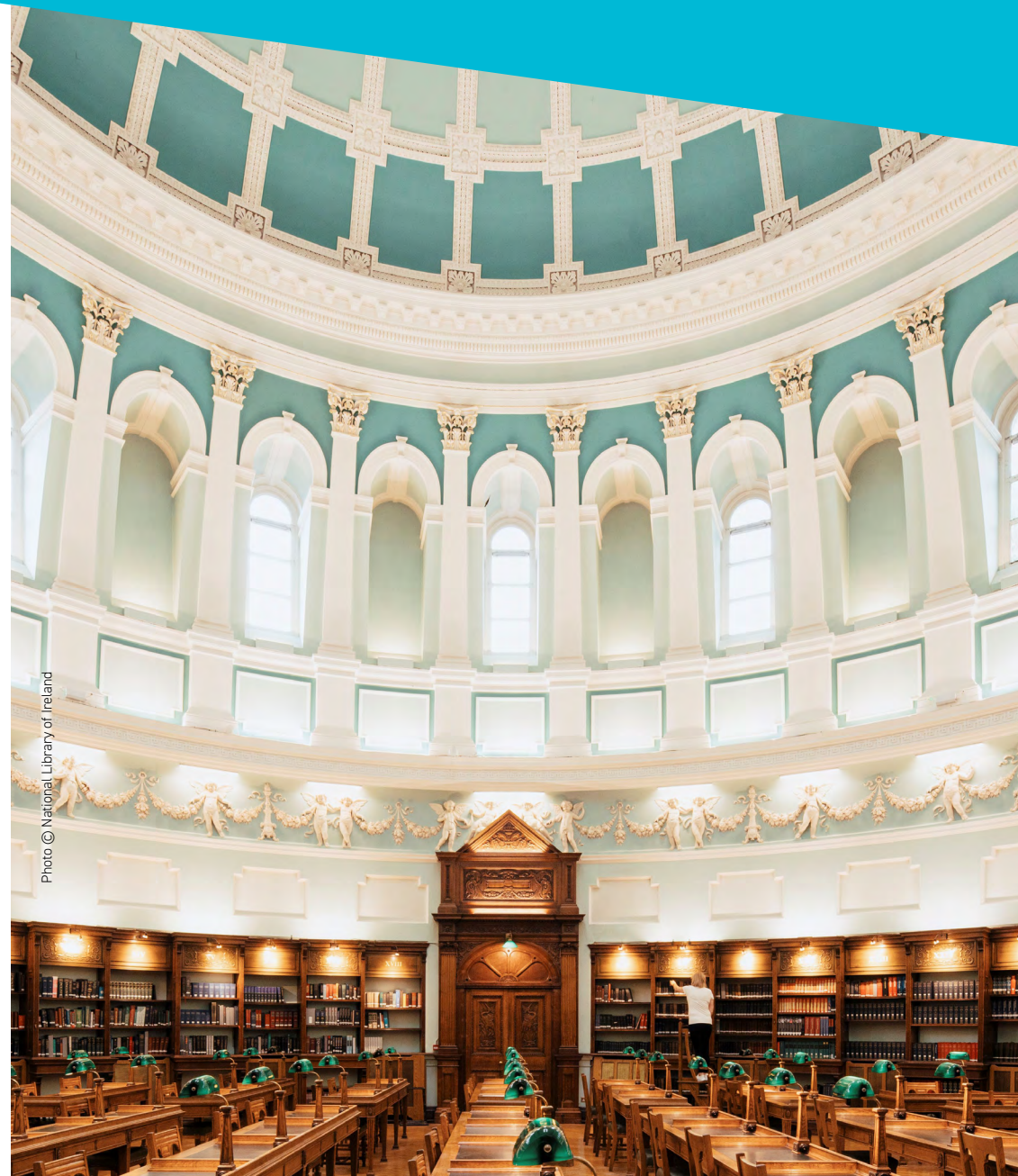


Photo © National Library of Ireland

RIAM New Music

Improvisation with Live Electronics

Improvisation is a cornerstone of in-the-moment musical composition, and since the 1960s, improvisation with live electronics has been an important practice. With modern computing technology capable of generating and manipulating audio like never before, musicians now have access to a sonic wonderland at their fingertips.

Following an immersive week working with leading Irish composer Jonathan Nangle, composition students will unleash their improvisatory skills making for a thrilling concert for musicians and audiences alike.

Date: Thursday, 22nd October 2026

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

hearing art at the RHA

A Co-Creative Music Composition Performance led by Composer Karen Power

RIAM's Co-Creative Music Composition Programme led by the award-winning composer Karen Power aims to overcome barriers to participation in artistic creation for people living with disabilities.

In 2024, RIAM created Ireland's first mixed ensemble, which is made up of equal numbers of RIAM students and participants living with a disability interested in music. Under the leadership of Karen Power, who has extensive international experience in co-creative and inclusive practices, the inclusive ensemble moves through a series of listening, responding and improvising tasks in order to establish a new musical language that is built from within.

Following two highly successful performance projects in 2024 and 2025, these inspirational musicians come together once again to co-create and perform a brand new composition, on this occasion based on 'found' sounds recorded in the RHA Gallery.

Presented in partnership with the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts

Date: Friday, 11th December 2026

Location: RHA Gallery

Time: 6.30 pm

Admission: €5

RHA

Robert Finnegan New Works for Saxophone and Electronics

Following a period of work with one of Ireland's foremost contemporary composers, Jonathan Nangle, and the award-winning saxophonist Robert Finnegan, RIAM composition students are proud to present the first performances of new works for saxophone and electronics in a recital by an artist described as "one of the most exciting Irish saxophone players in a generation".

Date: Wednesday, 24th February 2027

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

The Diabelli Codex

Described by the iconic German pianist Alfred Brendel as 'the greatest of all piano works', Beethoven's colossal "Diabelli Variations" grew from a publisher's request for a single variation on a rather trivial tune. Written between 1819 and 1823 on a waltz by Anton Diabelli, this exceptional set of variations lies at the heart of a fascinating project this season.

Pianist Ian Fountain and composer Kevin O'Connell lead piano and composition students in exploring Beethoven's extraordinary work through performances, masterclasses, workshops, talks and first performances of new works.

The week begins with a rare performance of this monumental work by distinguished pianist Ian Fountain, whose recording of the "Diabelli Variations" has been critically acclaimed.

Midweek, gifted young pianist Daniel Uman performs Kevin O'Connell's brilliant "Measures and Inventions", a multi-movement response to the "Diabelli" incorporating variation, fugue, canon and other devices used by Beethoven. The week concludes with a lunchtime concert featuring the world première of fresh musical responses to Beethoven's work by some of our finest young composers.



Ian Fountain, piano

Ludwig van Beethoven: 33 Variations on a Waltz by Diabelli, Op. 120

Date: Monday, 11th January 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €20 / €15 / €8

Early Bird: €15 / €12 Tickets available until 30th November 2026

Daniel Uman, piano

Kevin O'Connell: Measures and Inventions (2015)

Date: Wednesday, 13th January 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 6.00 pm

Admission: Free

The Diabelli Codex

Date: Friday, 15th January 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 1.05 pm

Admission: Free

"Beethoven Death Mask Variations," Thomas Halloran © Thomas Halloran.
On display in the Georgian stairwell, Royal Irish Academy of Music



Duos

Under the expert artistic stewardship of pianists Dearbhla Brosnan, Dearbhla Collins and Éadaoin Copeland, advanced piano students at RIAM join forces with their peers from the Strings, Vocal and Woodwind, Brass and Percussion faculties to present two special concerts highlighting the art of collaboration.

The great German Romantic composer Robert Schumann's sage advice to young musicians was "never lose an opportunity of making music together". In October, musicians from the Keyboard, Strings and Woodwind, Brass and Percussion faculties delve into the chamber music works of this magnificent composer and his beloved wife, Clara Schumann. In February, singers and pianists come together to present a concert of art songs in German and English exploring the life and loves of a wandering poet.

Robert and Clara

Date: Thursday, 22nd October 2026

Location: Organ Room

Time: 6.00 pm

Admission: Free

A Poet's Spring

Date: Friday, 26th February 2027

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 1.05 pm

Admission: Free



Photo © Chris Dowdall

RIAM Exams Spotlight Awards

We continue to extend our reach beyond our Westland Row premises with the RIAM Exams Spotlight Awards, in partnership with ACE Autobody. Celebrating the diverse achievements of many thousands of music and drama students who take RIAM exams and assessments each year, the Awards highlight and salute the talents and innovations of music and drama students nationwide and support creativity and cultural expression in the wider RIAM community. From budding artists to seasoned performers, the RIAM Spotlight Awards recognise not only exceptional talent, but also the personal growth and creativity shown in overcoming challenges.

With regional concerts taking place in Thurles, Navan, Ballina and Dublin, the 2026 RIAM Spotlight Awards culminate in a spectacular **Spotlight Gala Concert** presented by **Marty Whelan** in the Whyte Recital Hall at RIAM.

Presented in partnership with

ACEAUTOBODY
The Collision Repair Specialists

Munster Concert

Date: Saturday, 7th November 2026

Location: Source Arts Centre, Thurles

Time: 3.00 pm

Admission: Free

Leinster Concert

Date: Sunday, 8th November 2026

Location: Solstice Arts Centre, Navan

Time: 3.00 pm

Admission: Free

Connacht & Ulster Concert

Date: Sunday, 15th November 2026

Location: Ballina Arts Centre, Ballina

Time: 3.00 pm

Admission: Free

Dublin Concert

Date: Sunday, 22nd November 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall, Dublin

Time: 3.00 pm

Admission: Free

Gala Concert

Date: Monday, 14th December 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall, Dublin

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free





Photo © Chris Dowdall

RIAM Competitions

Throughout the year, a large body of our talented student population will compete for a number of coveted bursaries, awards and scholarships, generously supported by a number of individuals and organisations.

A wonderful bird's-eye view of the wealth of emerging talent at the Academy.

Irené Sandford Award for Singers

Vocal students of RIAM compete to join the roster of previous distinguished laureates including Claudia Boyle, Naomi O'Connell and Sarah Brady, in the 2026 Irené Sandford Award for Singers. Commemorating this much-loved singer and former Head of Vocal Studies at the RIAM, the award of €3,000 is generously donated by her husband, Billy Reid.

Date: Tuesday, 24th November 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

RIAM Junior Solo Competition

The RIAM Junior Solo Competition is supported by the Dublin Philharmonic Society, a circle of music-loving friends dedicated to giving outstanding young musicians the chance to perform for a live audience and develop their presentation skills. The Dublin Philharmonic Prize honours the Society's visionary founder, the late Vincent O'Neill, and showcases the artistry of RIAM's Junior Academy students.

Date: Friday, 27th November 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

Dr Marie McCormack Bursary for Wind, Brass and Percussion

The Dr Marie McCormack Bursary for Wind, Brass and Percussion provides a platform to identify, assist and further develop aspiring artists who demonstrate exceptional performance potential and innate musicality. Two prizes of €1,000 are generously sponsored by Helen and Christopher McCormack in their mother's name.

Date: Wednesday, 9th December 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

Ursula Uí Chuinneagáin Bursary for Young Pianists

An exciting bursary of €2,000 for aspiring young pianists at RIAM recognises Ursula Uí Chuinneagáin's contribution to music in Ireland and her family's long-standing association with the Academy.

This valuable prize is sponsored by her son, Luke Ó Cuinneagáin.

Date: Friday, 18th December 2026

Location: Organ Room

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

PianoFest

A week-long feast of piano playing at RIAM as students of the Academy compete in numerous competitions across all ages and repertoire.

Date: 15th to 19th February 2027

Location: Various venues

Time: Various times

Admission: Free

Maura Dowdall Award

Tertiary students of RIAM compete for a coveted concerto performance opportunity with National Symphony Orchestra Ireland and the Maura Dowdall Award of €1,000 presented by the Dowdall family.

Date: Wednesday, 17th February 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

John Pollard Competition for Young String Players

The John Pollard Competition for Young String Players identifies, financially assists and develops the potential of exceptional young string players with two valuable prizes – the John Pollard Award of €2,000 for an outstanding violinist or violist and the Stephen Vernon Award of €2,000 for an outstanding cellist or double bass player.

Date: Wednesday, 3rd March 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

RIAM Plucked Strings Competition

A specialised competition for Junior RIAM students, highlighting and celebrating outstanding performances on classical guitar, classical harp and Irish harp.

Date: Thursday, 4th March 2027

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

Lucien and Maura Teissier Scholarship

The prestigious Lucien and Maura Teissier Scholarship sees exceptional pianists from RIAM's Keyboard Faculty compete for the coveted title before a distinguished jury.

Date: Thursday, 18th March 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

Maeve Broderick Prize for Strings

This exciting competition offering for RIAM string students honours one of the Academy's most beloved and esteemed teachers, violinist Maeve Broderick.

In addition to the title prize, a number of special prizes celebrating audience engagement, creative programming, virtuosic repertoire, the solo works of JS Bach and music by underrepresented composers are also awarded.

Date: Wednesday, 24th March 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

RIAM

Junior Academy

RIAM Junior Academy is a vibrant musical community where young people can discover their potential, develop their artistry and build a lifelong love of music.

From early years programmes and choirs to individual tuition, ensembles and advanced pre-college training, students learn with expert teachers in an inspiring conservatoire environment. Through high-quality teaching, regular performance opportunities and the support of a welcoming community, RIAM Junior Academy helps each young musician grow in confidence, skill and creativity.

Junior RIAM Platform Concerts

A series of Sunday concerts featuring a host of musicians from RIAM Junior Academy performing a tasty menu of musical treats.

Date: Sundays, 22nd November 2026, 17th January, 14th February, 14th March, 18th April & 16th May 2027

Location: Vernon Studio and Organ Room

Time: Various times

Admission: Free

Junior RIAM Performing Groups Christmas Concert

RIAM Junior Academy Performing Groups are full of the Christmas spirit and delighted to present a charming programme of seasonal favourites to usher in our favourite time of the year.

Date: Sunday, 20th December 2026

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 12.00 noon & 3.30 pm

Admission: €12.50 / €7.50

Open Day for Individual Lessons and Choirs

Experience a bird's-eye view of life at Ireland's oldest music conservatoire at this Open Day for students aged 8–17.

Visitors can tour the campus, meet our teaching faculty, discover ensembles and choirs, and gain practical advice on starting their musical journey at the Academy.

Date: Sunday, 17th January 2027

Location: Royal Irish Academy of Music

Time: 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Admission: Free

Finale

An array of fantastic talent ends their academic year in celebratory style with the annual RIAM Junior Academy Performing Groups Summer Concert. A concert for all the family showcasing the hard work and dedication of the Academy's numerous ensembles and featuring music from the classical, jazz, film, rock and pop worlds.

Date: Sunday, 9th May 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 12.00 noon & 3.30 pm

Admission: €12.50 / €7.50

Open Day for Early Years Training

Enjoy a lively afternoon exploring our Early Years Training Programmes, designed for children aged 0–8.

Families can experience group classes first-hand through instrument try-outs, pop-up performances, and demonstration lessons led by our talented students and teachers, discovering the joy of living in music from the earliest years.

Date: Sunday, 21st March 2027

Location: Royal Irish Academy of Music

Time: 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Admission: Free

RIAM

Young Artists

Students on the Young Artist Programme are high-potential musicians who are nurtured through additional performance opportunities, high-performance coaching, and lessons with expert faculty in a shared commitment to living in music.

The Young Artist concert series affords audiences a wonderful opportunity to delve into the storehouse of talent that lodges in the Royal Irish Academy of Music. As part of our ongoing collaboration with the National Concert Hall, we return to the John Field Room in February. Meanwhile, at home on Westland Row we are delighted to present a veritable banquet of music by a selection of students on this immersive music education programme.

Young Artists at RIAM

Date: Fridays, 20th November 2026, 22nd January, 5th & 12th March 2027

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 6.00 pm

Admission: Free

Young Artists at the National Concert Hall

Date: Thursday, 25th February 2027

Location: John Field Room

Time: 12.00 Noon

Admission: Free

Photo © Mark Stedman



RIAM

Partnerships

Celebrating Maeve Broderick

Former students, friends and colleagues of much-loved violinist and RIAM teacher Maeve Broderick are warmly invited to gather for a short concert and reception celebrating the life and legacy of a teacher who influenced and inspired so many.

This special concert culminates with a special string orchestra performing Beethoven's *Cavatina* from String Quartet Op. 130. Any string players who would like to take part are encouraged to bring an instrument and join the ensemble.

Date: Wednesday, 25th November 2026

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 7.00 pm

Admission: Free

Women Transforming Classical Music

We are delighted to join forces with The Open University on International Women's Day 2027 to present a special workshop led by feminist musicologists Laura Hamer, Ann Grindley, and Orla Shannon.

On the occasion of this global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women, and one which marks a call to action for advancing gender equality, Laura, Ann and Orla will lead a free interactive workshop to support students, teachers, performers, ensembles, and organisations within the classical music industry to diversify their repertoire by including more works by women composers.

Presented in partnership with
The Open University

Date: Monday, 8th March 2027

Location: Vernon Studio

Time: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Admission: Free

EMPOWER: Women Changing Music International Women's Day Celebration at RIAM

Founded in 2021 by musicians Sinéad Walsh and Hannah Seymour, EMPOWER: Women Changing Music champions the work of women composers and musicians through performance, commissioning, advocacy and community. Returning to RIAM for International Women's Day, this special event celebrates creativity and collaboration through performances by emerging chamber ensembles featuring music by women composers, including the Irish premiere of the EMPOWER OpusHER commission performed by a special guest artist, mezzo-soprano Lotte Betts-Dean. The event concludes with a panel discussion bringing together leading voices from across the Irish music industry to reflect on representation and the future of women in music.

Presented in partnership with EMPOWER

Date: Thursday, 11th March 2027

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: Pay what you can

RIAM Prizewinners at Farmleigh

The official Irish State guest house provides the picturesque backdrop for an outstanding concert featuring prizewinners from our annual performance competitions. Performers will include laureates of the Maura Dowdall Competition, Lucien and Maura Teissier Scholarship, Irené Sandford Award for Singers, Maeve Broderick Prize for String Players, and the Ursula Uí Chuinneagáin, Junior Solo, Dr Marie McCormack, and John Pollard Awards.

Presented in partnership with Farmleigh
and the Office of Public Works

Date: Saturday, 17th April 2027

Location: Farmleigh House

Time: 8.00 pm

Admission: €20



OPW



RIAM

Students' Union

The Students' Union of RIAM presents an enticing series of concerts for its 2026/2027 season, with performances by brilliant musicians studying full-time at RIAM.

The programme features celebratory themed concerts such as *"If Music be the Food of Love" and Other Great Decrees* (February), *International Women's Day* (March) and the SU's *Celebration of Cultures* (April). Once again, the popular annual series *The Four Seasonal Concerts* returns, with four concerts throughout the year where participating artists have free rein to showcase a variety of repertoire. With an array of concerts continually being added, the RIAM Students' Union is sure to delight and impress audiences once again.

The Four Seasonal Concerts

Dates: Friday, 23rd October 2026 (Autumn)
Friday, 22nd January 2027 (Winter)
Friday, 12th March 2027 (Spring)
Friday, 14th May 2027 (Summer)
Location: Whyte Recital Hall, RIAM
Time: 7.30 pm
Admission: Pay what you can

Composers Concert

Date: Tuesday, 10th November 2026
Location: Vernon Studio
Time: 6.00 pm
Admission: Pay what you can

"If Music be the Food of Love" and other great decrees

Date: Thursday, 11th February 2027
Location: Vernon Studio
Time: 6.00 pm
Admission: Pay what you can

International Women's Day

Date: Monday, 8th March 2027
Location: Vernon Studio
Time: 6.00 pm
Admission: Pay what you can

Celebration of Cultures

Date: Friday, 23rd April 2027
Location: Vernon Studio
Time: 6.00 pm
Admission: Pay what you can

RIAM

Masterclasses

Access to masterclasses and visiting artists is a core element of nurturing emerging artists, inspiring students with fresh perspectives, professional role models, and direct insight into the standards of international performance. Throughout the season, a selection of our International Masterclass Programme sessions will be open to the public.

Alongside each performance in the Wigmore Series Dublin, visiting artists share their expertise with Academy students through masterclasses and Q&A sessions, bringing them closer to the highest levels of artistic practice and leaving a lasting legacy within the Academy.

Throughout the year, we look forward to visits from, among others, violinists **Alina Ibragimova**, **Henning Kraggerud**, **Stephanie Gonley** and **Donald Grant**, cellists **Natalie Klein**, **Peter Jarůšek** and **Rebecca Wise**, lutenist **Elizabeth Kenny**, vocal coaches **Iain Burnside** and **Brenda Hurley**, pianists **Angela Hewitt**, **Paul Lewis**, **Cédric Tiberghien** and **Ian Fountain**, trombonist **Peter Moore**, composer **Karen Power**, the **Chiaroscuro Quartet**, **Schwarzenberg Trio** and **The Gesualdo Six**.

Free public masterclasses will be listed at riam.ie/whats-on



RIAM

Lifelong Learning

Adult Division

Adult Lessons at RIAM cater to a wide range of experience levels, from those taking their first steps in music to seasoned performers looking to deepen their artistry. Beginners are nurtured in a supportive environment where foundational skills and musical confidence are built, while more advanced players can engage in focused study of technique, musicianship, and artistic expression. All lessons are taught in small groups by experienced teachers, offering both personal guidance and the benefits of collaborative learning.

Professional Academy

RIAM Professional Academy courses offer focused learning opportunities for music professionals, covering contemporary pedagogical topics and practical teaching and performance skills, helping participants stay up-to-date with the latest developments in music education and performance.

Discovery & Learning

Discovery & Learning at RIAM invites curious minds to explore music and the arts through short, accessible courses designed for adult learners. Led by expert tutors, these engaging sessions offer fresh perspectives on a wide range of topics, from music history and cultural traditions to contemporary artistic practices. Whether a newcomer or a lifelong music lover, each course encourages active listening, reflection, and discussion in a welcoming environment that values curiosity, conversation, and community.

Wellness

Wellness programmes and courses harness the power of music to uplift and transform, offering enriching experiences that nourish the mind, body and soul. Whether through mindful listening, group music-making, or therapeutic sessions, participants find connection, creativity, and calm in a musical environment designed for personal wellbeing and joy.

An Evening with Adult Division

RIAM Lifelong Learning presents two end-of-term concerts in the Whyte Recital Hall, showcasing participants from Group Classes and the Well Sing Choirs. These concerts mark the close of the Autumn and Spring Terms with a celebration of music and song by members of the RIAM Adult Division.

Date: Thursday, 10th December 2026 and April 2027 (Date will be announced on riam.ie)

Location: Whyte Recital Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Admission: €7.50

Current courses and lessons are listed at riam.ie/short-courses



RIAM Well Sing Choir.
Photo by Gary Collins.

RIAM Junior Academy Open Days 2027

Explore, listen and find your place at the
Royal Irish Academy of Music.

Individual Lessons and Choirs

Ages 8–17 | Sunday 17 January 2027

Meet our teachers, tour the campus and discover our ensembles and choirs.
Get practical advice on taking your next musical step.

Early Years Training

Ages 0–8 | Sunday 21 March 2027

Spark a love of music with instrument try-outs, pop-up performances and
demonstration lessons. Discover our group classes for young musicians.

Both events: 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm | Free admission

Register at riam.ie/JuniorOpenDays

JOIN THE FUTURE ARTIST NETWORK

Exceptional talent should never be limited by financial circumstance.

The Future Artist Network (FAN) brings RIAM and Irish businesses together to give the next generation of exceptional musicians the opportunity to develop, thrive and build careers on the world stage. Through scholarships, bursaries and access initiatives, your company can help create pathways for Irish musicians to reach world-class training here in Ireland.

Retain talent, remove barriers and be part of a growing community investing in Ireland's musical future.

Get in touch today:

Ciara Stagg | Development Manager | ciarastagg@riam.ie

AN EXPERIENTIAL WORKSHOP FOR EXECUTIVES AND LEADERS

Leadership: Through the Music Lens

Discover how you lead.
Strengthen how you perform.

Step beyond the boardroom. Explore leadership through live music at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin.

Working with professional musicians, put listening, judgement and adaptability into practice. No musical experience required.

Workshops tailored to your team and leadership challenges, with facilitated debrief options.

visit riam.ie/leadership-through-the-music-lens



BECOME A FRIEND OR TRANSFORMATIONAL PATRON

BE PART OF OUR MUSICAL JOURNEY

By coming on board as a RIAM Friend or Transformational Patron, you can help our dedicated students realise their true potential and improve access to music education in Ireland. The support of Friends and Transformational Patrons goes directly to RIAM's Student Scholarship Fund.

RIAM Friends

Dolce Friend €125 p.a.
Cantabile Friend €300 p.a.
Vivace Friend €500 p.a.
Brilliant Friend €1,000 p.a.

RIAM Transformational Patron

Adagio Patron €2,500 p.a.
Andante Patron €5,000 p.a.
Allegro Patron €10,000 p.a.
Allegretto Patron €25,000 p.a.

To learn more about becoming a RIAM Friend please contact:
Adam Kendellen | adamkendellen@riam.ie | 01 632 5390

For more info on Transformational Patron and how your support can have a transformative impact on the lives of some of our students, please contact:

John Mc Evoy | Head of Development | johnmcevoy@riam.ie | 086 2488663

Venue Hire at RIAM

Concerts • Conferences • Launches • Meetings • Rehearsals

Host your next event at the Royal Irish Academy of Music and give it a setting with character, history and an internationally recognised reputation.

Located on Dublin's historic Westland Row, RIAM combines Georgian elegance with contemporary performance spaces, creating a distinctive setting for events that leave a lasting impression.

Find your space at RIAM

Whyte Recital Hall | 312 seats

Exceptional acoustics and striking architecture.

Vernon Studio | Up to 120 guests

A bright, adaptable space with a contemporary feel.

Lecture Theatre | 53 seats

A purpose-built space for focused gatherings.

Board Room | Up to 14 guests

An elegant, private setting with Georgian character.

Imagine your event here

Talk to our venue team about bringing it to RIAM.

venue@riam.ie | 01 632 5300

FUNDERS

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An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais,
Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta
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