

Saturday 18 January 7.30 pm
The Parade Tower, Kilkenny Castle

Sunday 26 January 4.00 pm
Thomastown Concert Hall, Co. Kilkenny

Saturday 8 February 7.30 pm
The Parade Tower, Kilkenny Castle

Sunday 23 February 4.00 pm
Thomastown Concert Hall, Co. Kilkenny

Sunday 9 March 4.00 pm
The Parade Tower, Kilkenny Castle

Sunday 16 March 3.00 pm
Thomastown Concert Hall, Co. Kilkenny
(note starting time)

Sunday 23 March 4 pm
The Parade Tower, Kilkenny Castle

The Carducci String Quartet

Matthew Denton violin
Michelle Fleming violin
Eoin Schmidt-Martin viola
Emma Denton cello

Quartet in D major Opus 20 No. 4 - Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Stamp - Donnacha Dennehy (b. 1970)

Entr'acte - Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)

Quartet in Eb major Op. 117 No. 9 - Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)

Described by The Strad as presenting "a masterclass in unanimity of musical purpose, in which severity could melt seamlessly into charm, and drama into geniality", the award-winning Carducci Quartet is internationally acclaimed as one of the most accomplished and versatile ensembles of today. Featuring two Cork musicians, the Carducci Quartet is one of the longest established and most admired string quartets on the world stage. They return for their latest tour of Ireland with a beautiful programme including one of Shostakovich's finest string quartets, marking the 50th anniversary of his death in 1975.

Patrick Rafter violin Fiachra Garvey piano

Sonata for violin and piano in A major - César Franck (1822-1890)

Poème élégiaque, Op. 12 - Eugène Ysaÿe (1858-1931)

Sonata for violin and piano No. 2 in G major - Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Kilkenny-based violinist Patrick Rafter has toured Europe, the Middle East, South America, and Asia as a soloist, director, conductor, and recitalist. He has been the grand prize winner of multiple competitions including the Valiant Violin Competition, Switzerland 2016, the London Performing Arts Competition 2017, and the Dublin Feis Ceoil Conducting Competition 2022. Leading Irish pianist Fiachra Garvey is possessed of a maturity and profound understanding of his art, which when combined with his infectious enthusiasm for music-making, has already captivated audiences in concert halls across Europe and beyond.



The Sonoro String Quartet

Marley Erickson violin
Jeroen De Beer violin
Séamus Hickey viola
Isaac Lottman cello

Chorale - Donnacha Dennehy (b. 1970)

Quartet in Bb major Op. 92 No. 5 - Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)

Quartet in G minor Op. 10 - Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Founded in 2019 and featuring Cork violinist Séamus Hickey, the Sonoro Quartet has already established itself as one of the leading young string quartets of its generation. They perform over 40 concerts annually in countries such as Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, Hungary and Ireland making them one of the most active string quartets in Belgium.



Lenneke Ruiten soprano Finghin Collins piano

Lieder - Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Im Frühling

Suleika I

Suleika II

Totengräbers Heimwehe

Die junge Nonne

Ganymed

Erlkönig

Wanderers Nachtlied

Der Zwerg

Rastlose Liebe

An die Musik

Dichterliebe - Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Lieder - Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

Traum durch die Dämmerung

Morgen

Schlechtes Wetter

Alongside a stellar operatic career in which she has performed leading roles at the opera houses in Salzburg, Milan, Drottningholm, Brussels and New York to name but a few, Lenneke Ruiten is also a dedicated Lieder singer. Having studied with Ely Ameling, Robert Holl, Hans Hotter and Walter Berry she now devotes much of her time to giving master classes in Brussels, Zeist, The Hague and Amsterdam. Lenneke regularly partners Finghin Collins in recitals both in Ireland and the Netherlands. As well as enjoying a career as a solo pianist Finghin Collins is passionate about Lieder. Music in Kilkenny is delighted to welcome back these two world renowned artists to perform music in which they both excel.



The Britten Oboe Quartet

Nicholas Daniel oboe & cor anglais
Jacqueline Shave violin
Ting-Ru Lai viola
Caroline Dearnley cello

Adagio in F major for cor anglais and strings K. 580a -

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Quartet for oboe and strings -

Elizabeth Maconchy (1907-1994)

The Phantasy Quartet for oboe and strings -

Ernest John Moeran (1894-1950)

Artin - Jacqueline Shave

Sonderhø Bridal Trilogy - Danish traditional

Oboe Quartet in F major K. 370 - W.A. Mozart

Nicholas Daniel founded the Britten Oboe Quartet together with his colleagues and co-principals of the award-winning Britten Sinfonia; they all bring to this ensemble not only the highest musical standards but also the experience of playing together over many years, resulting in warm, expressive and above all enjoyable playing. They perform music of the highest quality and explore lesser-known works both from Britain and from abroad, as well as standard classics such as Mozart's oboe quartet. The quartet has been heard up and down the UK, from Aberdeen to the Gregynog Festival in Wales, Swaledale and Wimbledon Festivals, Oxford, Manchester, Cambridge, and at Wigmore Hall and Kings Place in London. Most recently they have toured internationally to the Netherlands, Germany and Sweden.



Yukine Kuroki piano

Suite bergamasque L.75 (excerpt) - Claude Debussy

Transcendental Études S. 139 (excerpts) - Franz Liszt

New Work - Dr. Fergus Johnston (A Music Network Commission)

The Firebird Suite (excerpts) - Igor Stravinsky

Musica Nara, Op. 25 - Minako Tokuyama

Sonata for piano No. 2 in Bb minor, Op. 36 - Sergei Rachmaninoff

Variations, Op. 41 - Nikolai Kapustin

Music Network presents the incredibly gifted pianist Yukine Kuroki in March. She has conquered the hearts of many in recent years, winning both the Liszt Utrecht Competition and Dublin International Piano Competition in 2022, as well as being awarded third prize at the prestigious Rubinstein Competition in 2023. Her mastery of the instrument prompted leading Canadian pianist Janina Fialkowska to describe Kuroki as "a true poet at the piano, who can make you cry with a single note".



Anna Cashell violin Aisling Ennis harp

Sonata for violin and harp (Allegro) -

Friedrich Wilhelm Rust (1739-1796)

Fantaisie on a Theme by Haydn Op. 31 for solo harp -

Marcel Grandjany (1891-1975)

Theme and Variations on 'Amazing Grace' for solo violin -

William Walker

Premiere of New Work (2025) for violin and harp -

Sam Perkin (funded by The Arts Council)

Aria from Goldberg Variations BWV 988 -

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Equinox Postludium 22 in E minor (Excerpt) -

Henning Kraggerud (b.1973)

A little Piece for Peace -

H. Kraggerud

Fantaisie for violin and harp Op. 124 -

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

Join us for an eclectic programme that celebrates the beauty and expressive capabilities of the harp and violin. Anna and Aisling will present a new piece by the Irish composer Sam Perkin alongside the evocative Fantaisie by Saint-Saens. Chosen for their cathartic nature, this selection of pieces are designed to bring peace and solace in these troubled times.



Thursday 10 April 7.00 pm
St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny
(note starting time)

Irish Baroque Orchestra and Choir
Peter Whelan director

St. Matthew Passion

BWV 244
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Revived by Felix Mendelssohn in Berlin in 1829 more than eighty years after its first performance in Leipzig in 1742, Johann Sebastian Bach's setting of the St. Matthew Passion is widely regarded as one of the greatest masterpieces of classical sacred music. Written for double choir, double orchestra and soloists who represent various characters. e.g. commentator (soprano), Evangelist (tenor), Christ (bass), Peter (bass), Judas (bass) - it is almost operatic in form. For this performance the Olivier Award winning Irish Baroque Orchestra perform on 'period' instruments.



Please note that tickets for this concert will be €30.00 each - available online at www.musicinkilkenny.org



Sunday 27 April 3.00 pm
Thomastown Concert Hall, Co. Kilkenny
(note starting time)

Sestina Music
Mark Chambers director

'Le Concert Spirituel'

Suite of *Airs de Violon* - Michel Richard Delalande (1657-1726)
Caprice - Michel Richard Delalande
Confitebor tibi Domine S.56 - Michel Richard Delalande
Concerto grosso in G minor, Op. 6 No. 8 - Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)
Cantate Domino S.72 - Michel Richard Delalande

Join Sestina Music for a captivating evening celebrating the 300th anniversary of the Concert Spirituel. This renowned French baroque concert series returns to life in a stunning performance featuring an 11-piece period instrument ensemble, talented vocal soloists and emerging young artists from the Next Generation Mentoring Programme. Step back in time with Sestina Music and discover the instrumental works of Arcangelo Corelli and the sacred music of Michel Richard Delalande, under the direction of the acclaimed countertenor, Mark Chambers.



Sunday 4 May 3.00 pm
The Parade Tower, Kilkenny Castle
(note starting time)

The Engegård String Quartet (Norway)

Arvid Engegård violin
Laura Custodio Sabas violin
Juliet Jopling viola
Jan Clemens Carlsen cello

Quartet Op. 95 No. 11 - Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
Quartet - Germaine Tailleferre (1892-1983)
Quartet in D minor, Op. 56 (Voces Intimae) - Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)
Norwegian Folk Music

Formed under the midnight sun in Lofoten in 2005, the Engegård Quartet has rapidly become one of Norway's most sought after ensembles. Their bold, fresh interpretations of the classical repertoire combined with a deep attachment to their Scandinavian roots has attracted international acclaim, and inspired some innovative partnerships and programming. The quartet's debut CD was praised as 'breathtaking' in The Strad, while their second release won Pizzicato magazine's 'Supersonic Award'. Their CD of works by Grieg, Sibelius, and Olav Anton Thommessen was praised by Tully Potter in Music Web International as 'what Grieg lovers have been waiting for'.

Sunday 11 May 4.00 pm
Thomastown Concert Hall, Co. Kilkenny

The Vienna Mozart Trio

Irina Auner piano
Daniel Auner violin
Diethard Auner cello

Piano trio in G major, K 564 - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
Piano trio Op. 70 No. 1 in D major (The Ghost) - Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
Piano trio in B major, Op. 8 No. 1 - Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Since its foundation in 1991, the Vienna Mozart Trio has performed in renowned concert halls of Europe and Asia such as the Sala Verdi in Milan, the Wigmore Hall in London, the Musées Royaux des Beaux-Arts de Belgique in Brussels, the Auditorio Centro Cultural Conde Duque in Madrid, the Auditorio Winterthur in Barcelona, the Concertgebouw Rotterdam, the Concert Hall of the Royal Dublin Society, the Palais du Luxembourg in Paris, the Beijing Concert Hall, the Shanghai Concert Hall, the Viennese Konzerthaus and others.



Sunday 18 May 4 pm
The Parade Tower, Kilkenny Castle

Mark Anthony McGrath guitar

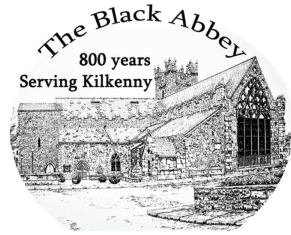
Carolan's Weiss - Baroque Music from Ireland and Germany performed on 6, 7 and 13 string guitars

Sonata No. 34 in D minor - Silvius Leopold Weiss (1687-1750)
Divertimento à Solo in Bb major - S.L. Weiss
Ciaconna in G minor - S.L. Weiss
Carolan's Dozen - Turlough O'Carolan (1670-1738)

In this recital Mark Anthony McGrath performs music by the legendary Irish harper/composer Turlough O'Carolan and the greatest German baroque lutenist/composer Silvius Leopold Weiss. Mark has released 5 solo albums to date to critical acclaim and has performed extensively throughout Europe. He has had numerous commissions for his compositions and arrangements including a commission for a 10 minute solo guitar piece by RTE Lyric FM. Mark will release 'Carolan', his arrangements of the harper's compositions in 2025 and a further Weiss album The Weiss Machine Vol. 2 later in the year.



Research for this project was aided by a Bursary award from the Arts Council of Ireland and support from the Music Network Capital instrument purchase scheme.

Celebrating the life of St Catherine of Siena

On Tuesday 29th April 2025, at 7.30pm, the Black Abbey in Kilkenny will host an evening celebrating the life of the great Dominican, St Catherine of Siena. The night will be a mix of music by the Cantoral Chant Choir and talks on the life of St Catherine of Siena.

This event is part of the Black Abbey's 800th anniversary celebrations.

Admission is free. A retiring collection will be taken at the end.

Ticket prices for all events, except for the St. Matthew Passion in St. Canice's Cathedral on Thursday 10th April are €20 full price, €15 concession and €5 student and child.

Tickets for the St. Matthew Passion on 10th April are €30 each.

To Book Tickets: www.musicinkilkenny.org
Further information about Music in Kilkenny:
email - mikilkenny@gmail.com
tel - + 353 (0)86 1777017

It may be necessary to make changes to the concert schedule, so for up-to-date information about all of Music in Kilkenny's events please go to our website: www.musicinkilkenny.org

Music in Kilkenny is supported by The Arts Council of Ireland, OPW, Thomastown Community Hall, Music Network and National String Quartet Foundation.

www.musicinkilkenny.org



Music in Kilkenny committee:
Fergal Brady, John Clark, Brian Fennelly, Beatrice Kelly, Laoise O'Brien, Susan Proud, Maria Ryan

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