DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama Past and Present: A Celebration of 30 Years of the Bachelor of Music Performance Degree in DIT

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DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama
Past and Present

A celebration of 30 years of the
Bachelor of Music Performance Degree in DIT

Hosted by Liz Nolan, RTÉ lyric fm

NCH National Concert Hall
Wednesday 1st November 2017, 8pm
It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the National Concert Hall tonight to celebrate 30 years of the DIT Bachelor of Music degree. DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama introduced the first Music Performance degree in Ireland in 1987, forever ending the talent-drain of young performers leaving Ireland in search of an undergraduate degree elsewhere. Heading out to a different country and culture and entering some of the toughest music training programmes in the world is a tall order for any first year student. Several decades ago I was one of those young performers and four years in New York City quickly turned into twenty years in America. As one of the lucky few that was able to return home, it is a privilege to be part of the extraordinary community that is the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama.

Tonight we celebrate the success of the last three decades by connecting our Conservatory alumni and current students through what we do best. The music you will hear has been chosen specially for this evening and in many cases has a special meaning or memory for the groups/alumni involved. We are tremendously grateful to our alumni performing this evening: to the eleven featured soloists who represent many different eras of the last 30 years and who immediately said yes when we called, to the alumni who are performing tonight in our ensembles alongside our current students and staff, and to all the alumni who tried to be here but couldn’t come back due to their international performance commitments, DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama offers a heartfelt “thank you”.

Many of our Friends have asked over the years how to support the Conservatory and our talented students so we are delighted to be able to launch the Conservatory’s Scholarship Programme this evening. For those interested in reading more about this, details available on the back of the programme, on our Conservatory website or by contacting foundation@dit.ie or (01) 402-5406.

In DIT we believe that young Irish performers possess tremendous talent and that with the right teaching, hard work, opportunities and inspiration, they can realise their full potential. We are very proud of our alumni who are living their dreams all over the artistic world and tonight, we invite you to sit back, relax and listen to all they can do!

Dr. Orla McDonagh
Head, DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama
PROGRAMME

“O Fortuna” from *Carmina Burana*

DIT Choral Society
David Brophy, conductor

Intermezzo, Op.116 No.4

Adam McDonagh, piano

*Rosewood (2010)*
Movements 3, 2, 1

Marco Ramelli, guitar

*Méditation* from *Thaïs*

David O’Doherty, violin
Edward Holly, piano

*Breathing through the eye of a needle*
from *Heaven lay close, 4th mvt.* (2009)

Chatham Saxophone Quartet
Aimee Farrell Courtney, bodhrán

*Chère Nuit*

Amy Ní Fhearraigh, soprano
Adam McDonagh, piano

*Laudes (2013)*

Robbie Carroll, organist

*Africa: Ceremony, Song, Ritual (1994)*

DIT Wind Ensemble
Conor O’Riordain, conductor

INTERVAL
Ó Carolan’s Concerto
Reel set: Touch Me if You Dare
The Copper Plate
Ó Connell’s trip to parliament.

Carlos Salzedo
(1885-1961)

DIT Harp Ensemble

Pace, Pace mio Dio
from La forza del Destino

Giuseppe Verdi
(1813-1901)

Sinéad Campbell-Wallace, soprano

Chacun à son goût
from Die Fledermaus

Johann Strauss II
(1825-1899)

Paula Murrihy, mezzo-soprano

DIT Symphony Orchestra
David Brophy, conductor

Three Preludes

George Gershwin
(1898-1937)

Kevin Hanafin, saxophone
Orla McDonagh, piano

Leo Delibes
(1836-1891)

Barcarolle from Tales of Hoffman

Jacques Offenbach
(1819-1880)

Paula Murrihy, mezzo-soprano
Sinéad Campbell-Wallace, soprano

DIT Symphony Orchestra
David Brophy, conductor

Ode to Joy from Symphony No.9

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Ode to Joy

Freude, schöner Götterfunken,
Tochter aus Elysium,
Wir betreten feuertrunken,
Himmlische, dein Heiligtum!

Deine Zauber binden wieder
Was die Mode streng geteilt*;
Alle Menschen werden Brüder*
Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.
David Brophy was born in Dublin and is a graduate of the Dublin Institute of Technology and Trinity College Dublin. Following further studies in Ireland, England and Holland, he was appointed Apprentice Conductor with Chamber Choir Ireland and subsequently became the first appointee to take the position of Assistant Conductor with the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland. A former Principal Conductor of the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, David now enjoys a close relationship with both RTÉ orchestras in addition to regular appearances as guest conductor with the Ulster Orchestra. His career has seen him conduct throughout Europe, Africa, the United States, Canada and China working with orchestras including the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic, Nashville Symphony Orchestra, Naples Philharmonic, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra, Washington D.C., Orquesta Nacional Clásica de Andorra and Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia and the Royal Ballet Sinfonia.

David’s operatic work has led to wide acclaim, partnering Lyric Opera Productions, Opera Theatre Company, Opera Ireland, Glasthule Opera and Northern Ireland Opera, most notably in their recent acclaimed partnership with the Irish Chamber Orchestra conducting Handel’s Radamisto. He has collaborated with many internationally acclaimed soloists, numerous songwriters, composers and traditional musicians, among them Tasmin Little, Barry Douglas, Willard White, Lesley Garret, Sir James Galway, Lang Lang, Danielle de Niese, Nicola Benedetti, Kim Criswell, Daniel Hope, Dame Evelyn Glennie, Chloë Hanslip, Eleanor McEvoy, Paul Brady, Brian Kennedy and Declan O’Rourke, Shaun Davey, Neil Martin, Bill Whelan, Arvo Pärt, David Fennessy, Nico Muhly and Donnacha Dennehy, Altan, Liam O’Flynn, Sharon Corr, Máirtín O’Connor, Lúnasa, The Chieftains, Clannad, Rita Connolly, Carlos Núñez, Sharon Shannon and Martin Hayes, U2, Sinéad O’Connor, Jon Lord (Deep Purple), Duke Special, Celtic Thunder, Imelda May, Jack L, Phil Coulter, The Coronas, Neil Hannon (Divine Comedy), Eddi Reader (Fairground Attraction) and Marti Pellow (Wet Wet Wet). He has appeared at all major festivals in Ireland, most notably with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra at the Electric Picnic, and has conducted at the Proms in the Park with the Ulster Orchestra as part of the BBC’s Last Night of the Proms.

David has broadcast on RTÉ, BBC, CBC (Canada), Sky Arts 2 television and across Europe for the EBU. He has recorded for Silva Screen Records, Lyric FM, Tara Records, V2 Records, New World Records and Compass Records labels. His television appearances include the National Concert Hall’s 25th anniversary gala concert, The Symphony Sessions (RTÉ) and Proms in the Park (BBC) with the Ulster Orchestra. Film credits include Shaun Davey’s scores for The Abduction Club and Ella Enchanted while his recent recording of Victor Herbert’s operetta Eileen for New World Records, conducting the Orchestra of Ireland in collaboration with triple Grammy award-winning producer Judith Shermann, has been released to wide critical acclaim.

David won the 2013 Sky Arts Ignition Award, pitching with director Lynne Parker (Rough Magic Theatre Company) to present Kurt Weill’s opera Mahagonny at Dublin’s Olympia Theatre, mounted as a co-production with Opera Theatre Company. Aside from his work as a musician, David has presented the RTÉ1 award-winning TV series Instrumental and most recently fronted the IFTA award-winning High Hopes Choir for Tyrone Productions and RTÉ1 TV. He has most recently been appointed to the board of Ireland’s Contemporary Music Centre.
Dublin-born pianist Adam McDonagh is a first-class honours performance graduate of the Dublin Institute of Technology Conservatory of Music and Drama. He was awarded the Michael McNamara Performance Gold Medal, the Anne Leahy dissertation award, and First Prize in the Ninth National CHMHE Undergraduate Musicology Competition. He has studied with Mary Lennon, Orla McDonagh, Christopher Elton, and harpsichord with David Adams in the Royal Irish Academy of Music, and is continuing his musical studies this year as a scholar of the University of Cambridge. Adam regularly performs throughout Ireland and has performed across Europe and for Irish radio and television. He was awarded 2nd Prize in the Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year competition, and is generously supported by the Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and Music Network’s Music Capital Scheme. Adam works extensively as a collaborative pianist and has acted as accompanist in the masterclasses of Patricia Bardon, Ailish Tynan, Dame Ann Murray and Maxim Vengerov. He recently acted as répétiteur and assistant conductor for Opera Collective Ireland’s production of Benjamin Britten’s Owen Wingrave. He has performed orchestral piano with the Irish Chamber Orchestra and SinfoNua, and as a continuo player with the Wexford Festival Orchestra and Irish Youth Baroque Orchestra.

Marco Ramelli is a guitarist, composer and artistic director from Milano, Italy who has been awarded various first Prizes in international competitions in Italy, Spain, UK, France and Serbia. Marco joined the teaching staff of the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama in 2017 where he is currently a Lecturer in Guitar Performance. His concert career also includes performances at several international music festivals, including the “Stagione Internazionale della Chitarra di Lodi”, the “Big Guitar Weekend” in Glasgow, “Usher Hall series” in Edinburgh, “Leeds International Concert Season”, “Aberdeen International Youth Festival”, the “Guitar Master” in Brighton, “Concerti al Castello Sforzesco” in Milano, Festival Internazionale di Lagonegro, the “Edinburgh Fringe Festival” and “Ullapool Guitar Festival”. Marco regularly performs in Italy, Spain, Turkey and the UK and made his USA debut in Los Angeles.

David Fennessy was born in Ireland and currently lives in Glasgow, Scotland where he teaches composition at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. His music has been performed by, amongst others, Ensemble Modern, London Sinfonietta, Talea Ensemble, BBC Symphony Orchestra, and Munich Chamber Orchestra. Recent significant works include Pass the Spoon, a “sort-of opera” written in collaboration with the English visual artist David Shrigley, Hauptstimme, premiered by Garth Knox with Rednote Ensemble at the Huddersfield Festival, and Sweat of the Sun a large scale music theatre work for the 2016 Munich Biennale. David’s music is published by Universal Edition, Vienna.
**David O'Doherty** studied with Ronald Masin at the DIT Conservatory of Music, Dublin and received a BMus Performance Degree in 1996. In 2000 he received a 'Premier Prix de Virtuosité’ from the Conservatoire of Lausanne, Switzerland where he studied with Pierre Amoyal and Jean Jaquerod. At the Geneva Conservatory David graduated from the class of Gabor Takacs-Nagy in 2005 as leader of the Byron String Quartet with whom he continued to work in the class of the Ysaye Quartet in Paris as well as in Pro-Quartet; a scheme for the development and promotion of professional ensembles. In 1997 David made his American debut live on the Boston Radio show “Morning pro Musica” and a year later made his soloist’s debut with the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland. This was followed by recitals at the National Concert Hall, the Bank Ireland Arts Centre, New World Music Festival in Venezuela and in Switzerland with Pierre Amoyal. David is co-founder of the Paderewski Trio in Switzerland and of the Reflecting Strings Harp Trio in Ireland with whom he has released five CDs. Now a lecturer at the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, he shares his time between solo performances and giving chamber recitals throughout Europe.

In 1992, **Edward Holly** was the first pianist to graduate from the Bachelor in Music Performance degree at DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama where he studied piano with Frank Heneghan. In 1995 Edward became a student of Professor Christopher Elton in London. Edward received an honours Masters’ Degree in Music Performance from the National University of Ireland, Maynooth in 1997 and holds a Masters in Philosophy in Music and Media Technologies from Trinity College Dublin. Edward won numerous first prizes for repertoire playing in Feis Ceoil and Feis Maitiú, and was a piano finalist in the Lombard and Ulster Music Foundation Award. His career as a solo pianist has taken him to Italy, America, Russia and England. His concerto appearances include a performance of Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue with the RTE Concert Orchestra. He has acted as official accompanist for Feis Ceoil and is also piano accompanist for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Performance students at DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, where he is a Lecturer in Piano and Piano Accompaniment.
Formed in the summer of 2008, the Chatham Saxophone Quartet was named after the street on which its members first met. Since their foundation in 2008 they have performed at the Boyle Arts Festival, International language Conference at Alliance Francaise for president Mc Aleese, INVITE: International Music Education Conference April 2010, the Unitarian church and, most recently, the National Concert Hall, Dublin. In 2011 the quartet became The Galway Music Residency’s Apprentice Ensemble where they were mentored by Con Tempo and gave several performances. In 2012 the quartet was awarded Music Network’s Young Musicwide award. The CSQ is dedicated to the performance of a wide range of music from the standards of the saxophone quartet repertoire to new contemporary works. Each of the quartet’s members are also active in composing and arranging new works for the group.

The promise shown by acclaimed bodhrán player Aimée Farrell Courtney’s debut performance in Dublin’s National Concert Hall at the tender age of eight was realised when she won the 2010 World Bodhrán Championship.

Since then she has gone on to collaborate with musicians such as Donal Lunny, Liam O’Flynn, and Alyth McCormack and perform in venues such as The O2 Arena (Dublin) and The Hermitage Theatre (Russia). Aimée’s love of music is evident in her teaching, which has led her to conduct workshops across Ireland, Europe and the USA.

Aimée holds a Bachelor of Music degree from DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, specialising in Irish Traditional Music. Graduating with First Class Honours, Aimée was also awarded the Leo Rowsome Gold Medal for outstanding traditional performance and the Michael McNamara Gold Medal for outstanding overall performance.
Amy Ní Fhearraigh is a Dublin based soprano under the tutelage of Sínead Campbell-Wallace. She graduated from the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama with First Class Honours in the Bachelor of Music Pedagogy degree. Successes within the Conservatory include the La Scala prize for Operatic Aria Performance and the Gertrude Morris-Grant for voice and piano duo. Her achievements in competitions continue into the ESB Feis Ceoil where in 2015 she won the ‘Milne Cup’, and in 2016 the ‘Dramatic Cup & Tony Quigley Award’ with an invitation to perform in the ESB Feis Ceoil Gala Concert. Amy recently made her debut with the RTÉ Symphony Orchestra in a live broadcast on Lorcan Murray’s ‘Classic Drive’ and her professional role-debut as Frasquita in Lyric Opera’s production of Bizet’s Carmen last year. In October she made her debut with Opera Collective Ireland in the Irish premiere of Britten’s Owen Wingrave conducted by Stephen Barlow, her performance of the character Mrs. Julian was reviewed as being “stunning” with her “voice and physicality creating a character of delicious fury”. Other operatic roles include Susanna in Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro with DIT Opera Ensemble, Susanna in Handel’s Susanna with DIT Opera Ensemble, Drusilla in Monteverdi’s L’Incoronazione di Poppea with DIT Opera Ensemble, and Lucinde in Gluck’s Armide with The Yorke Trust. Other notable performances and repertoire include covering the lead soprano role of Hannah in Donnacha Denney’s newest and critically acclaimed opera, The Second Violinist, the role of La Cugina in a concert performance of Puccini’s Madama Butterfly with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra and as the Queen and Second Woman in Handel’s Solomon as part of the ‘Choral Fusion’ series with Dun Laoghaire Choral Society and Galway Baroque Singers. In concert, Amy was most recently invited to participate in the annual ‘Glasthule Opera Gala’ conducted by David Brophy, and in the inaugural ‘Rising Stars Concert’ in the University Concert Hall, Limerick. She sang in a televised performance of the Bach Cantata BWV 79 as part of the 500 year celebration of the reformation in October and was part of the Conservatory of Music and Drama’s ‘Lunchtime Concert Series’ in the John Field Room performing Schumann duets and Brahms Liebeslider Walzer, Op. 52.

Robbie Carroll has recently completed the BMus degree in DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, and graduates with a First-Class Honours in organ performance, studying under Simon Harden. A native of Galway, and a graduate of Jesuit school Coláiste Iognaid, Robbie previously completed a three-year organ scholarship in Galway Cathedral, under the tuition of Ray O’Donnell. He was also the organ scholar of St Mary’s Pro-Cathedral from 2014 - 2017, where he worked closely with the renowned ‘Palestrina Choir’, under the direction of Blánaid Murphy. With the choir, Robbie has performed in venues both at home and abroad (such as Carnegie Hall and St Patrick’s Cathedral, New York), and has accompanied the choir on tours to the USA, Brussels and Rome. He has also recorded with the choir, on their most recent CD. Robbie has given solo recitals in Ireland, the UK and Germany. In April 2015, he was invited to perform alongside two other students in the ‘New Paths’ music festival, in Beverly-Minster. He has also performed as concerto soloist with the DIT Symphony Orchestra. He has participated in masterclasses with Dr John Kitchen, Dame Gillian Weir, Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin, Eric Lebrun and Prof. Henry Fairs, among others. He also holds an Associate Diploma in piano performance, and maintains keen interests in conducting and pedagogy.
Conor O’Riordan started his musical life as a euphonium player in the Rathfarnham Concert Band and continued his studies at DIT Conservatory of Music with Sean Fleming and Harmut Pritzel. He subsequently made the change to the tuba and on completion of his music Performance Degree was awarded the Michael McNamara Gold Medal for outstanding performance in a final recital. He then went on to postgraduate studies at the London Guildhall School of Music and Drama where he studied with Patrick Harrild and Jim Anderson. Conor has also studied with world renowned tubist, Roger Bobo in Florence. A former member of the National Youth Orchestras and Wind Ensemble, he has also played regularly with both the NSOI, RTE Concert Orchestra, Ulster Orchestra and various freelance orchestras. As a soloist he has played concerti with the DIT College of Music Wind Ensemble, the Guildhall School of Music Wind Ensemble, Hibernian Orchestra, as a finalist in the Young Musician of the Future with the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland and most recently with the Irish Youth Wind Ensemble. On his return from London, Conor worked as a freelance tuba player and teacher until his appointment to the position of Orchestra Manager with the RTE Concert Orchestra in 2004. In August 2007, he returned to playing as a profession when he joined the Tuba section of the Band of An Garda Síochána. Conor has recently been appointed to the faculty of DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama.

A native of Baile Átha Cliath Tom Doorley was musically reared as a boy soprano in St Michaels Church Dún Laoghaire and attended whistle classes at the headquarters of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann in Monkstown. The seeds were set for a rich and diverse palette of musical tastes which developed and matured over the following years. Tom was very fortunate to have had some very influential music teachers such as Cormac Breathnach, Vincent Broderick, Michael Ó hAlmhain, Ciaran O Connell, William Halpin, James Galway and Marzio Conte but to name a few. Apart from the encouragement and support of his family his main influences were found in the music of Matt Molloy, Eamon Doorley, Bracken brothers and summer performances under the guidance of Seamus Mac Mathuna. He studied music in third level in DIT and Trinity College which immersed him into a vibrant musical scene with some wonderful colleagues such as David Brophy, Michael Ó Toole, Orna Loughnane, Anthony Kearns, Liz Nolan, Emer Quinn and many more. His studies took him further afield to America, France and Italy. On returning to Ireland in 1996 Tom joined the newly founded traditional super group Danú. It was an exciting time as the band toured and performed all over the world as cultural ambassadors adding to the long list of wonderful musicians, artists, writers and dancers that have attracted many visitors to Ireland. He also spent four years touring and recording with the late Liam Clancy. He has recorded over eight albums with Danú and has made guest appearances on many other recordings such as one of Scotlands finest young traditional singers Julie Fowlis which led to a recording for Disneys movie “Brave”.
Sinead Campbell-Wallace has been a member of the Vocal Department at the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama since 2011. Following a successful career as an acclaimed light-lyric soprano, Sinead has recently made the exciting transition into fuller dramatic repertoire. Next season sees her return to the UK to sing her first Verdi requiem in Manchester and to cover the title role in Ariadne auf Naxos for Scottish Opera, and for Opera Holland Park.

This season saw Sinead’s critically acclaimed debuts with Opera Northern Ireland in Radamisto ‘Sinéad Campbell-Wallace, the evening’s most sumptuous and rounded voice’...‘a wonderful impassioned performance’ and Carmen with Cork Opera House ‘Soprano Sinéad Campbell-Wallace brought a purity of voice and presentation to Micaela’ as well as a widely praised return to Opera Theatre Company in the role of Musetta in La Bohème. At the National Concert Hall, she reprised the role of Micaela with Lyric Opera, sang excerpts from La Forza del Destino and Otello in their Verdi gala, and with the RTE National Symphony Orchestra, performed works by Richard Strauss and Beethoven, as well as a live radio broadcast of Puccini arias.

In concert in the coming season, Sinead will give lieder recitals at both the National Opera House and Concert Hall. She will perform in Rossini’s Stabat Mater with the RTE Concert Orchestra, in concert with pianist Philip Thomas at the University Concert Hall, Limerick, in a concert series for Wexford Festival Opera, in concert with the Irish Baroque Orchestra, and as a soloist in Brahms’ Requiem at the NCH.

Pianist, Dr. Orla McDonagh studied with Dr. John O’Conor at the Royal Irish Academy of Music for fourteen years before moving to New York to study at The Juilliard School for the Performing Arts. Graduating with a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance degree she then headed to the American mid-west to the renowned Indiana University Jacobs School of Music in Bloomington. Receiving both her Master and Doctor of Music degrees from IU, she studied with some of America’s greatest pianists including Seymour Lipkin, Jacob Lateiner, Jerome Lowenthal, Mennahem Pressler and Edmund Battersby. Currently Head of the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, McDonagh previously lectured at Indiana University, Lewis and Clark College and the Royal Irish Academy of Music in Dublin. She was a member of the faculty of the Indiana University Summer Piano Academy in Bloomington for sixteen years and is currently a faculty member of the Dublin International Piano Festival Summer Academy and the International Piano Master Course in Duszniki-Zdroj, Poland. An active soloist, chamber musician and contemporary music practitioner, McDonagh has performed in Europe, the U.S. and Canada. She has recorded for and performed live on Irish national television and radio as well as several classical music media outlets in the USA. McDonagh is a founding member of The Belisama Trio and the McDonagh Sisters Duo with whom she performs regularly.
Kevin Hanafin studied saxophone at the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama from 1983 to 1991 as a part-time student. In 1995, he graduated with a BMus (perf) Degree, winning the Michael McNamara gold medal for excellence in performance in the final year examination. He pursued postgraduate studies at the Royal College of Music, London and at the Royal Irish Academy of Music. In 1996 he was concerto soloist with the DIT wind ensemble on their American tour and concerto soloist with the Irish Youth Wind Ensemble at the NCH and at the Aberdeen International Festival in 1997. In addition he was wind finalist in the RTE musician of the future competition and the Ulster Bank young musician of the year. He was also a finalist in the Skeen International Award at the Aberdeen Music Festival in 1997.

Since graduating from the Royal Irish Academy of Music in 1998 with an M.Mus, he has performed regularly with the RTE concert and symphony orchestras. In 2003 and 2006, he was a concerto soloist with the RTE concert orchestra. Other performance activities include solo recitals at the Bank of Ireland Arts Centre, lunchtime classic choice recitals, John Field Room and the Parry room. As a member of the Crash ensemble, he has performed throughout Canada, USA and Europe. In 2005 Kevin joined Riverdance in their tenth anniversary season at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin and since then has participated in occasional performances touring the world. As a Saxophonist Kevin is very much in demand as a freelance musician performing regularly as principal saxophonist with NSO, RTECO and Ulster Orchestra.

As an educator, Kevin has held positions as lecturer in saxophone at both the DIT Conservatory of music and the Royal Irish Academy of Music. He has lectured saxophone at 2nd level, undergrad and post grad level with students achieving critical acclaim and competition success at both national and international level. In 2017 Kevin was appointed assistant head of school for Orchestral Studies at The DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama.

Irish Mezzo-Soprano Paula Murrihy received her Bachelor in Music from DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama in Dublin before continuing her studies in North America at the New England Conservatory. Paula has also participated in the Britten-Pears Young Artist Programme, was an apprentice at Santa Fe Opera and also part of San Francisco Opera’s Merola Program.

After being spotted at the Neue Stimmen Competition by Frankfurt Opera’s General Director, Paula was asked to join their acclaimed ensemble. Her numerous appearances have included Annio La Clemenza di Tito, Medoro Orlando Furioso, Dido Dido and Aeneas, Lazuli L’étoile, Dorabella Cosi fan tutte, Orontea and Octavian Der Rosenkavalier, Hansel in Humperdinck’s Hänsel und Gretel, and Polissena in Radamisto. She made her role debut as Carmen to critical acclaim with the highly successful team behind Dido & Aeneas – Barrie Kosky and Constantinos Carydis.
Paula maintains a close connection with the United States and has appeared as Ino in Semele for Boston Lyric Opera, 2nd Lady Die Zauberflöte at Santa Fe Opera, Annio at the Chicago Opera Theater, Cherubino Ghosts of Versailles for Opera Theatre St Louis and Dido for Los Angeles Opera. In Europe, Paula made her debut at Covent Garden as Tebaldo Don Carlo, and returned as Mercedes Carmen. She has appeared as Annio at the Théâtre Capitole Toulouse, as Medoro at Opéra de Nice, as Ascanio in Terry Gilliam’s production of Benvenuto Cellini at English National Opera, and more recently as Octavian Der Rosenkavalier at De Nationale Opera Amsterdam and the Staatsoper Stuttgart.

On the concert platform, Paula’s extensive repertoire includes Vivaldi’s Gloria, Rossini’s Petite Messe Solennelle, Schubert’s Mass in C, Bach’s St John Passion, Mendelssohn’s Elijah, Handel’s Messiah and Mozart’s Requiem. She has appeared regularly with the Handel & Haydn Society in Boston and with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, where she premiered John Harbison’s Symphony No. 6. She recently appeared with the Orchestre de Chambre de Paris in Handel’s Messiah, the Nederlandse Programma Stichting in Handel’s Solomon, Alexander’s Feast and Honegger’s Judith, with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and the St Paul Chamber Orchestra in performances of Bach’s St Matthew Passion and made her debut at the BBC Proms in Haydn’s Paukenmesse. Last season Paula sang Dorabella in Cosi fan tutte and Cherubino in Le Nozze di Figaro with MusicAeterna and Teodor Currentzis, and joined the conductor this summer for a performance of Mahler’s Kindertotenlieder and Hindemith’s Die Junge Magd at the Diaghilev Festival in Perm. An accomplished recitalist, Paula has performed at Aldeburgh Festival and with the Irish Chamber Orchestra in the Shannon International Music Festival and the Chancellor’s Concert at the University of Limerick. She recently gave a recital in Frankfurt with accompanist Malcolm Martineau.

Recent career highlights include her debut at the Metropolitan Opera, New York as Stéphano Roméo et Juliette, appearances at Santa Fe Opera as Ruggiero in Alcina and Orlofsky Die Fledermaus as well her debut at Opernhaus Zürich as Cherubino Le Nozze di Figaro. On the concert platform Paula appeared with the London Philharmonic Orchestra (Beethoven Missa Solemnis), North Carolina Symphony Orchestra (Beethoven Symphony 9), the Handel and Haydn Society (Juno/Ino in Semele) and the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra (Elijah). She also joined Teodor Currentzis and MusicAeterna for performances of Purcell’s Indian Queen, and Pergolesi’s Stabat Mater.

The 2017-18 season sees Paula return to Opernhaus Zürich for Concepcion L’Heure Espagnole and Maman L’Enfant et les sortilèges. She will make her house debut at Teatro Real, Madrid as Frances, Countess of Essex in David McVicar’s new production of Gloriana, and will return to the Nationale Opera Amsterdam as La Muse/Nicklausse Les contes d’Hoffmann. On the concert platform Paula sings Christmas Oratorio with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra,
DIT Choral Society
Simon Harden, choir director
Bernie Sherlock, choir director

Soprano
Orla Bruce
Anna Carney
Amy Conneely
Amy Costello
Orla Daly
Emily Davis
Anna Donlon
Orlaith Dunne
Yannika Frank
Modesta Gorol
Jessica Hackett
Eimear Harper
Emily Hogarty
Aebh Kelly
Naho Koizumi
Sofia Kravets
Tara Lacken
Aoife Masterson
Maria Matthews
Aisling McCarthy
Kayla McDonagh
Alison McGaley
Melissa Murphy
Sorcha Ní Neill
Marion Paget
Kayleigh Quinlan
Caoimhe Reynolds
Olivia Sheehy
Marguerite Smith

Tenor
Jonas Amrhein
Lorcan Cleary
Ciaran Crangle
Marco Di Marzio
Luke Horner
Leon Kwan
Jody Leech
Benjamin von Rosen
Stephen Walker

Alto
Larrissa Arras
Laura-Joy Copeland
Dorothy Dalton
Ella Fallon
Aoife Jones
Sarah Kilcoyne
Sarah Luttrell
Melissa McCarthy
Janet McKennedy
Catherine Moran
Síofra Ní Dhúighbhaill
Aisling Ní Mhóráin
Muireann O'Keeffe
Mary Prendergast
Kim Shepherd
Rachel Spratt
Tatiana Tyulkina
Rebecca Watchorn

Bass
Alessio Amirante
Connor Campbell
Leslie Cassells
John Courtney
Eoin Foran
Luke Lally Maguire
Daniel Lonergan
Jakob Mahese
Keith Matthews
Fionn Ó h'Ailmhain
Lucas O'Callaghan
Stephen Pearson
Kaiwen Yang

DIT Symphony Orchestra
Anna McKenna
Aoiile Walters
Brenda Farren
Caitlyn Cleary
Charlotte Arnold
David O'Doherty*
Emma Savoldi
Henry Li
Laura Conway
Lilly Tracey
Lisa McLoughlin Gnemmi*
Louise Kenny
Molly Gorby
Odhran O'Casaide*
Orla Mulrey*
Rachel Kenny
Roisin Harbison
Sally-Anne Brannigan
Sarah Kelly
Sam Dunne
Shay Seiya McDonnell
Síofra Grant
Stephanie Byrne
Tomas Pujol Owens
Xavi Fernandez
Yin Yin Sheng
Andreea Banciu*
Catherine Grogan
Cliona Ni Choclain
Cristina Chiricozzi
Philip Jebb
Arun Rao*
Helen Molony
Roise McCormack
Waldemar Kozak*
Molly Rose Burke
Hannah McNamara
Sylvain Gnemmi
Yia Ferguson
Dina Ryan
James Middleton
Delphi Morris
Matthew Bellantani
Dara Noonan
Maria Graham
Ian Dakin*
Fionnnan Keogh
Niall O'Leary
Joe MacDonald
Kieran Sharkey
Jack Marks
Cathal Folan
Gary Byrne
John Rousseau
Carmina Burana
Luke Lally Maguire, piano
Aoife Moran, piano
John Rousseau, percussion
Gary Byrne, percussion
Ronan Connor, percussion
Fabio Gristli, percussion

DIT Irish Traditional Music Ensemble
Tom Doorley *
Kieran Hanrahan*
Peter Browne*
Micheal Ó Raghallaigh
Odhrán Ó Casaide
Amy Courtney Farrell *
Robert Harvey*
Ultan O'Brien *
Mark Redmond*
Josh O'Laughlin *
Jack Hennessey
Fionn Ó hAlmhain
Tara Viscardi
Luke Webb
Fiona Gryson*
Gráinne Meyer
Oisin Ó hAonghusa

DIT Harp Ensemble
Fiona Gryson*
Meabh Mc Kenna
Síofra Ní Dhubhghaill
Anna Szombathy
Tara Viscardi
Clara Booth
Sinead King
Clare Mc Cague*

* Alumni/Staff ensemble performers

Rónán Grant, ensemble and concert manager
Ben Rawlins, recording engineer
Fiona Howard, conservatory administrator
The DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama is committed to investing in the future of the performing arts in Ireland and to ensuring that our most highly talented student performers can reach their full potential.

Scholarship funding is a key part of performing arts education around the world and the Conservatory is launching a new Scholarship Programme to attract the best artistic talent and to provide motivation and inspiration to current and future students. This competitive Scholarship Programme can offer the financial support needed to help them achieve their dreams.

Support for the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama Scholarship Programme will be channeled through DIT Foundation, a registered charity (CHY 14226) established to support DIT in its mission as a comprehensive higher education institution. To learn more about the Scholarship Programme please contact foundation@dit.ie phone (01) 402-5406  We would be very grateful for your support.

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