

E-mail [info@composers.ie](mailto:info@composers.ie) Web [www.composers.ie](http://www.composers.ie)  
Please note that two competitions follow with some similar details, therefore please mark clearly which competition you are entering.

## IMRO/Mostly Modern Young Irish Composers' Composition Competition 2005

**Prize**  
€500

**Deadline**  
Scores to be sent to the Association of Irish Composers not later than December 15th 2004

**Age and nationality**  
The composer must be Irish and be under 30 by the deadline date.

### Conditions for entry

**Instrumentation**  
Flute (may double alto flute) and Percussion group as follows:

Player 1: marimba (4\_ octaves)  
Player 2: bongos, 3 suspended cymbals  
Player 3: glockenspiel, 2 log drums, tam-tam  
Note: scores must include all 4 performers

**Duration**  
Not more than five minutes

**Entry fee**  
€15, payable to the Association of Irish Composers

**Other conditions**  
The piece must be previously unperformed and unrecorded. Scores to be under pseudonym, with a sealed envelope containing the composer's real name, address and date of birth. Year of composition must be marked on the score. Midi realisations of scores may be included with materials. Scores and other materials will not be returned. Winners can not be subsidised to attend the performance.

**Other details**  
The winning work will receive a performance by Sinead Farrell and the RIAM Percussion Ensemble in the Mostly Modern Series on Thursday January 20th 2005, at the Bank of Ireland Arts Centre, Dublin. The Judges reserve the right to make no award if the entries are deemed to be of insufficient standard.

## AIC/Mostly Modern International Composition Competition 2005

**Prize**  
€650

**Deadline**  
Scores to be sent to the Association of Irish Composers not later than December 15th 2004

### Conditions for entry

**Instrumentation**  
Percussion ensemble (4 players) as follows:

Player 1: tubular bells, gong  
Player 2: glockenspiel, suspended cymbal (medium)  
Player 3: vibraphone, temple blocks  
Player 4: 4 timpani, snare drum

Note: Scores must include all 4 players, but not necessarily every instrument

**Duration**  
Not more than five minutes

**Entry fee**  
€15, payable to the Association of Irish Composers

**Age limit**  
No age or nationality restrictions

**Other conditions**  
The piece must be previously unperformed and unrecorded. Scores to be under pseudonym, with a sealed envelope containing the composer's real name, address and date of birth. Year of composition must be marked on the score. Midi realisations of scores may be included with materials. Scores and other materials will not be returned.

Winners can not be subsidised to attend the performance.

**Other details**  
The winning work will receive a performance by the Royal Irish Academy of Music Percussion Ensemble in the Mostly Modern Series on Thursday January 20th 2005, at the Bank of Ireland Arts Centre, Dublin. The Judges reserve the right to make no award if the entries are deemed to be of insufficient standard.

**Address for entries/information**  
Association of Irish Composers, C/O IMRO, Copyright House, Pembroke Row, Dublin 2, Ireland.  
E-mail [info@composers.ie](mailto:info@composers.ie) Web [www.composers.ie](http://www.composers.ie)

## Other competitions

**Feis Ceoil**  
Please note some interesting competitions in the Feis Ceoil syllabus for 2005. The IMRO award is open to composers under 30, writing for chamber ensemble/string orchestra/SATB choir, with a prize fund of €1000

AIC awards a prize of €200 for a set of Pieces for Children, for piano/string/wind solo or ensemble. This competition is open to composers under 19.

These competitions were unfortunately under-subscribed last year, and no prizes were awarded. Please consider entering this year if you are eligible, or pass this information onto any young composers who may be interested. Age limits for both competitions are reckoned from 01/01/05, and the closing date is 03/02/05.

For more information, see the current Feis Ceoil syllabus, or contact [info@feisceoil.ie](mailto:info@feisceoil.ie) who will happily send out a syllabus.



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## AIC AGM notice

Please make a note in your diary: the next AIC AGM will be held in CMC, 19 Fishamble St, Temple Bar, Dublin on Wed Dec 8th at 3pm. A wine reception will follow. The agenda will include:

### Presentation of Annual Report and Accounts Strategy for 2005

If you have a topic you wish to see discussed please email it or post it, ahead of the meeting, to AIC.

## Members' Subscriptions

Please make sure you have paid your AIC member's subscription for 2004! The current annual subscription is €40/ student rate €20. AIC needs your support more than ever. Please contact AIC by email for our account details if you wish to pay by direct debit or bank transfer. Also, if you are not receiving occasional emails from AIC informing you of opportunities then this indicates that we do not have your current email address. Please keep us up to date for contact purposes, you may be missing out!

## Dates for your diary

Please note the following cluster of AIC activities in December and try to support them with your attendance. Details for these events are on the following pages.

**Dec 5th RIAM: workshops (morning) and concert (2.30pm)**

**Dec 8th AGM at CMC: 3pm**

**Dec 9th Simon Mawhinney: lunchtime concert, BoI Arts Centre**

## Winter activities 2004

Since 1998 AIC has been in the happy position of being able to provide an annual concert series, the Autumn Series. Through the six years up to 2003 it has consisted annually of four or often more concerts, mostly held in the Hugh Lane Gallery. Many international performers and composers have been featured alongside a huge range of Irish composers. For 2004, however, we can no longer produce a 'series' as such. This is a result of the fall in our regular funding over the last three years, as IMRO has disengaged itself from much of the support it used to provide to the contemporary music sector. Meanwhile the Hugh Lane Gallery has closed for the Autumn for major refurbishments.

We are, nonetheless, excited to be able to announce two events this December: a piano solo recital by Simon Mawhinney at the Bank of Ireland Arts Centre, Foster Place, and a young composers' workshop at the RIAM featuring the RIAM Percussion Ensemble under Richard O'Donnell.

Simon, who is also a composer with a growing profile (his music featured in our Autumn Series 2001), will perform an exciting programme on Thursday December 9th at 1.15pm.



Simon Mawhinney

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Here's the full programme:

**Boulez: Notations**

**Scott McLaughlin: The Veil Nebula**

**Mawhinney: Sulaymaniyih**

**Ligeti: Musica Ricercata**

For details on the workshop see 'opportunities' below, but also note that a public concert will form part of this event and you are all welcome to attend the concert, the workshop or both, on Sunday Dec 5th at the Katherine Brennan Hall, RIAM, Westland Row, Dublin 2.

## Gavin O'Sullivan moves on

Anyone who has worked in concert promotion (particularly, but not exclusively in contemporary music) in Dublin in the last ten years will notice the gap that the departure from the scene of Gavin O'Sullivan will leave. Gavin is heading off to Poland for a few years, where no doubt his unparalleled energy and efficient, softly-spoken style will come into play in exciting music projects. His absence from the NCH and particularly the Hugh Lane Gallery will, I am sure, be felt in new music circles.

As Jane O'Leary puts it:

*"The Hugh Lane Concert Series has been a real home for new music, quietly and efficiently managed by Gavin. His support for adventurous programmes has ensured a rewarding experience for both listeners and performers--no small achievement! We are all grateful."*

I would add that I have benefited greatly from working with Gavin, in general terms of learning how much is possible where the will exists, and in specific practical terms—he has been extraordinarily generous with his time.

## Lobbying

Concert promotion and composer opportunities form the more noticeable side of what AIC is about, but our core reason for existence often requires a quieter vigil. We exist to protect composers' material interests, and much of that work has to go on without publicity. Apart from our participation in the Forum for Music in Ireland, we have, over the last two years, formed an informal alliance with the Irish Playwright and

Screenwriters' Guild and the Sculptors Society of Ireland. Regular meetings have resulted in a focus on areas of common interest such as Artists Tax Exemption (where each year as budget day approaches we lobby the Revenue Department). In June and August we met executives of the Arts Council to discuss ways of ensuring that Arts Council funded companies/organisations should treat artists on a professional basis; e.g., to resist the temptation to offer poor rates or to allow creative work to go ahead before funding is in place. Various practical suggestions have been made, but the question of whether the Arts Council will see fit to implement such procedures has to wait, since the Arts Council is (coincidentally) calling for submissions on the development of its role. It will create new policy documents (to replace the abandoned Arts Plan) in early 2005. There are also composer-specific concerns that AIC wishes to bring to the Arts Council, this will be done on a separate basis. Also, over the summer AIC has been in dialogue with Northern Irish composer members and ACNI (the Arts Council of Northern Ireland) over the current plans that affect, or may soon affect, their representation by CMC.

Meanwhile, if you have problems with institutions regarding payments for creative work, or more general worries that concern all composers, it is essential that you let AIC know so that we can act on it.

## ReJoyce RePort

While AIC's regular funding situation has been causing concern, our profile of events in 2004 was substantially buoyed by the fact that last December we, in partnership with CMC and Temple Bar Properties, attracted 15,000 on a once-off basis for from the ReJoyce Festival Committee. The activities this funded were: two concerts, the commissioning and recording of five new pieces (connected in some way with Ulysses) and commissioning three video artists to provide accompanying visuals for the commissioned pieces. The idea for marrying serious visual artists to serious music, with a three-minute time limit, is obviously borrowed from rock music. The results were screened at Temple Bar's outdoor cinema as short films

before main features, and as we hoped, one of the pieces also made it on to TV; a difficult place for today's composers to penetrate. The pieces also had a live outdoor concert presentation on June 20th. The other concert was a recital in the Hugh Lane by Judith Mok, of songs related to Ulysses. The commissioned composers in the audio-visual project were Michael Holohan, Vincent Kennedy, Rob Canning, Ben Dwyer and Trevor Knight. The video artists were: Del 9 (an animation company), Katie Lincoln and Eamon O'Kane. The outdoor concert, conducted ably by Fergus Johnston, also included pieces by Fergus, Frank Corcoran and John Wolf Brennan.

## Irish Composition Summer School 2004

The 22nd edition of the Composition Summer School, known for many years as the Ennis Composition Summer School, took place last August in Maynooth University's Music Department. Course Directors Martin O'Leary, Ian Brabazon and Kevin O'Connell were joined by Victor Lazzarini, Gráinne Mulvey and Michael Finnissy as Guest Lecturers. This line-up ensured that a stimulating and diverse scope of



ReJoyce

compositional approaches was discussed, while electro-acoustic and instrumental music received a good balance. Guest performers were David Adams and Elaine Clark. Both performers had to work very hard, as this year there was a particularly productive crop of talented young composers. David and Elaine realised 14 scores, for violin and piano, and solos for violin, piano, organ and harpsichord. Electro-acoustic items included pieces for tape, piano and tape, and harpsichord and tape. The students departed with a CD recording of all the works.

*The ICSS is funded by IMRO and The Arts Council.*

## Opportunities

A chance to hear your work

### December Workshop 2004

Young Irish composers are invited to participate in a workshop of music for flute and percussion.

The workshop will take place on December 5th (Sunday) 2004 in the Royal Irish Academy of Music. The performers will be the RIAM Percussion Ensemble under Richard O'Donnell with Sinead Farrell, flute. Composer John Buckley will facilitate discussion at the workshop.

The workshop will take place in the morning, and the pieces will be performed and recorded at 2.30 in a short concert. The whole day will be open to the public. Participating composers will receive a digital recording of the performance.

### Instrumentation

Submitted scores should use four of the following five personnel:

Player 1: Flute/alto flute

Player 2: 2 chinese blocks, guiro, high hat, tom tom, snare drum, pedal bass drum.

Player 3: 3 cowbells, claves, 3 chinese blocks, tambourine, 3 tom toms, small bass drum.

Player 4: high maracas, 3 triangles, 2 woodblocks, sleigh bells, 2 bongos, low tom tom.

Player 5: vibraphone, medium maracas, 3 suspended cymbals, tam-tam, whip, castanets, ratchet.

### Conditions

Applicants should submit scores by November 19th. A maximum of six scores will be workshopped: if more than six applications are received, a panel will select and inform the short-listed participants. All applicants will be informed by 26th November.

### Duration

Please note that works should be kept to around four minutes, and that where longer works are selected, an excerpt of around this length will be workshopped.

### Age limit

Composers must be under 35

### Address for submissions/information

Association of Irish Composers, C/O IMRO, Copyright House, Pembroke Row, Dublin 2.