Name

Address

Phone

Mobile

Email

Present position/place of study

Musical qualifications: exams/diplomas/degrees etc.

Please enclose the following with your application:

1. A brief summary of your experience in composition and a list of any works composed

2. The name and contact details of one referee who may be contacted to report on your composition or experience

Completed applications should be sent to the address below by Friday, June 5th 2020. Applications can also be sent by email.

Dr John McLachlan, Irish Composition Summer School, Ballyargus, Redcastle, Co. Donegal, F93C5P1. Email johnrmclachlan@gmail.com, Ph 074 9383734

Course directors will assess applications, and applicants will be contacted within one week of closing date. 50% of fee will be due by June 19th 2020

The ICSS would like to thank the TU Dublin Conservatoire for the generous hosting of the Summer School in 2020. ICSS is on Facebook.

Course information and fees

COMPOSITION COURSE July 1st - 10th €380

Observer: €30 per day
This entitles participants to attend lectures and workshops only. Observers should fill in the form on this brochure and write a cover note marked ‘observer’ indicating the number of days they wish to attend.

Background

The Irish Composition Summer School started as the Ennis Composition Summer School, founded in 1983 by John Buckley, and has been responsible for over thirty years of excellence in composition teaching by Irish and international composers. Previous directors have included Nicola LeFanu, James Wilson, John Buckley, Kevin O’Connell and Michael Alcorn. A majority of the most successful Irish composers of the last three decades have attended the Summer School. It has provided them the opportunity to work with leading names in composition—including Bent Sorensen, Paul Ruders, Christopher Fox, Liza Lim, Kevin Volans, Simon Bainbridge, Michael Finnissy, Nicola LeFanu, Jo Kondo, Clarence Barlow, Tansy Davies and Laura Elise Schwendinger, —and in performance, including Collette McGahon, Sylvia O’Brien, David Adams, Cassiopeia Winds, the Fidelio Trio, the Clarion Horn Trio and the ConTempo Quartet.

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This year’s school will offer a range of lectures, presentations and demonstrations that will cover aspects of contemporary composition, focusing on writing for any combination of the available forces (flute, violin, guitar and double bass), with optional electronics. At the end of the course, the students’ works will be presented in workshop, rehearsed and digitally recorded by the performers in residence. Throughout the course, students will receive guidance from experienced course directors and nationally and internationally renowned composers. This year, the ICSS is delighted to welcome Benjamin Dwyer as Guest Director, who will present seminars on his work, as well as giving individual tutorials to all students. Due to the short duration of the course students are expected to come with some sketches/ideas prepared. Please note the course does not provide accommodation.

Levels

The course involves a great deal of individual tuition and so is suitable for a range of music students from postgraduate to undergraduate. The course involves a combination of one-to-one tutorials with the participating composers, and group seminars. These will cover the major aspects of contemporary composition such as harmony, rhythm, formal structure, the use of music technology and instrumental writing.

Composers and Performers

GRÁINNE MULVEY

was born in Dublin. She studied under Professor Nicola LeFanu and gained a DPhil in Composition at the University of York in 1999. She also holds an MA in Composition from Queens University, Belfast. She was appointed Head of Composition at Dublin City University, a position he retained until 2011. She studied at the National Conservatory of Music in 2001. Other studies include courses with Peter Maxwell Davies, Jonathan Harvey, Louis Andriessen and Kaija Saariaho. Her music has been widely performed and broadcast both in Ireland and across the globe. She was a featured composer in the 2007 RTE NSO Horizon concert series. She represented Ireland at the ISCM World Music Days in consecutive years (2008 and 09) in Lithuania and Sweden. She has won various competitions, and received awards, commissions and performances from Concorde, the RTE National Symphony Orchestra, the Ulster Orchestra, the Northern Irish RSL (UK), the Romanian Radio Chamber Orchestra, the Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra, the Hradec Králové Philharmonic Orchestra (Czech Republic), pianists Cheryl Pauls (Canada) and Slawomir Zabrzycki (Poland), the Greek Guitar Ensemble (USA), the Tampere Raw Ensemble (Finland), the Ulster Barrie Webb and pianist Matthew Schellhorn among others. CDs include 2014’s Akanos, on Navona Records, and inclusion on anthologies from Black Box and CMC.

MARTIN O’LEARY

is a composer, musician and guitarist. His work includes orchestral, chamber and solo music, as well as commissioned and published works for RTÉ and WASBE, IGS and AOSA. He is a founder member of the Irish Baroque Orchestra, since 1995 and currently runs Vita Studios, a sound recording and music technology company. He has conducted many workshops with young and upcoming composers. He has taught on the summer school over many years, and currently runs Vita Studios, a sound recording and music technology company. He has conducted many workshops with young and upcoming composers.

IAN BRABAZON

is a graduate of NUI, Maynooth and Trinity College Dublin, where he completed his M. Phil in Music and Media Technologies in 1999. He lectures at the department of NUI Maynooth, while undertaking postgraduate research there. He has studied with Todd Winkler, Michael Alcorn and Roger Doyle. He has taught on the summer school over many years, and currently runs Vita Studios, a sound recording and engineering company.

SUSAN DOYLE

is a composer, musician and guitarist. Her work includes orchestral, chamber and solo music, as well as commissioned and published works for RTÉ and WASBE, IGS and AOSA. She has been the featured composer/guitarist at the Musica Nova Festival (São Paulo), the Benal de Ribeiro Preto (Brazil), the National Concert Hall’s Composers’ Choice and the RTE National Symphony Orchestra’s Horizons series. Recent major works include Umbilical, a reworking of the Oedipus myth composed for Maya Homburger, Barry Guy and David Adams, which received its UK premiere in 2013 and which was released on Delphic Records in 2017. jouissance… (for shakuhachi) was premiered at London’s InsideOut Festival in 2016. Dwyer’s latest compositions for guitar include Tombeau sur la Mort de Claude Debussy, premiered at the National Concert Hall, Dublin, in June 2018, and five disjecta (after Beckett) premiered at the RTE Concert Orchestra in 2019 with the composer as soloist. A CD of Dwyer’s Beckett-inspired works are also on Diatrace Records. CD recordings include Twelve Études (Gamelon Records, 2008), Irish Guitar Works (El Cortijo, 2012), Scenes from Crown (Diatrace Records, 2014) and The Alchemia Sessions Live from the Autumn Jazz Krakow 2014 (CD Box set) for Notwax Records.

ANDREA BANCIU

is the violist/founder of the RTE ConTempo Quartet, which is the Galway Ensemble in Residence since 2003 & the RTE Quartet in Residence since 2012. Andrea has won 14 International Prizes in Chamber Music Competitions (London, Munich, Berlin, Prague, Graz, Hamburg, Rome). She has performed over 2000 concerts around the world in 42 countries including most of the canon of the string quartet as well as many concertos. In 2020 Andrea will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of ConTempo Quartet with over 100 concerts in Ireland and abroad. Her recent album “New Airs” went straight to #3 in the Triple A Airplay Chart and has been found on the Universal, Sony, Deutsche Schallplatten & NMC labels. On 10th June 2016 Andrea was awarded a Degree of Doctor of Music (honoris causa) by the National University of Ireland, Galway. She lectures in the string faculty of TUD Conservatory of Music and Drama.

PAVLOS KANELAKIS

started learning the classical guitar at the age of 7. From 1992 until 1998 he studied with Elena Papandreou at the Philharpion Conservatory of Music. He earned his Degree in Guitar Performance at the University of Thessaloniki, Greece where he completed his Bachelor studies with Distinction. In 2000 he entered the Musik Akademie Der Stadt Basel in Switzerland for Master studies in classical guitar under maestro Oscar Ghiglia and in 2003 he completed his studies there receiving the highest mark of the year among all guitar classes ‘Solisten Diplom’. After his studies he became a founder member of the Irish Baroque Orchestra, since 1995 and currently runs Vita Studios, a sound recording and music technology company. He has conducted many workshops with young and upcoming composers. He has taught on the summer school over many years, and currently runs Vita Studios, a sound recording and music technology company. He has conducted many workshops with young and upcoming composers.

MALACHY ROBINSON

is principal double-bass with the Irish Chamber Orchestra, since 1995 and a founder member of Crash Ensemble. He was also a founder member of the Irish Baroque Orchestra, a founder member of the quintet Lunfardia led by Argentinean guitarist Ariel Hernandez, which received four-star reviews for their recordings. He is director of the Robinson Panoramic Quartet, a revelatory alternative to the standard string quartet. Studying double bass and conducting in London’s Guildhall School of Music and Drama, he graduated at the top of his year with first-class honours and the Dove Memorial Prize for General Excellence. After taking a Master’s Degree in Historical Musicology at the University of London, Malachy returned to Ireland in 1994 and has since been in constant demand, working in all idioms both on stage and in studio.