

## Application form

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](mailto: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

## Course information and fees

COMPOSITION COURSE July 1<sup>st</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> €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, Poul 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.

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

# Irish Composition Summer School 2020

(38<sup>th</sup> edition)

July 1<sup>st</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>

Application deadline: Friday June 5<sup>th</sup>



**Course directors**  
Grainne Mulvey  
Martin O'Leary

**Guest director**  
Ben Dwyer

**Performers in Residence**  
Susan Doyle  
Andreea Banciu  
Pavlos Kanellakis  
Malachy Robinson

**Technology director**  
Ian Brabazon

**Hosted by**  
TU Dublin Conservatoire

**Administrator**  
John McLachlan

Sponsored by the Arts Council/  
An Chomhairle Ealaíon and IMRO



This year's school will offer a range of lectures, presentations and demonstrations on all aspects of contemporary composition, focusing on writing for any combination of the available forces (flute, viola, 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 Institute of Technology 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 Horizons 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 RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, the Ulster Orchestra, the Northern Sinfonia (UK), the Romanian Radio Chamber Orchestra, the Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra, the Hradec Králové Philharmonic Orchestra (Czech Republic), pianists Cheryl Pauls (Canada) and Slawomir Zubrzycki (Poland), the Bruce Gbur Bassoon Ensemble (USA), the Tampere Raw Ensemble (Finland), trombonist 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.



Born in Dublin, **MARTIN O'LEARY** began composing at the age of fourteen. He studied music at TCD, from where he holds a PhD on the English composer Havergal Brian. Since 1991 he has lectured at NUI Maynooth, where he became a full time member of staff in the Department of Music

in 1993. He has written an extensive series of works covering most genres, and his compositions have been heard throughout Europe, as well as in Israel and the USA. "Glory to His Name", a CD of arrangements for a capella choir, was released on Ceol Records in 2003. More recent works include "Bluescape" (2007) for piano trio, written for the Fidelio Trio, "Blue Toccata" (2011), commissioned for the 2012 AXA Dublin International Piano Competition, "Avanti" (2012), written for the Muzika Piano Trio of Kenosha, Wisconsin, and "Luireach Phadraig" (2015), written for the Maynooth Chamber Choir and director Michael Dawson. Martin O'Leary performs regularly in solo repertoire and chamber works as a pianist, and has premiered works by John Buckley, John Casken, Rhona Clarke, John McLachlan, Peter Michael Hamel, Paul Hayes and Kevin O'Connell.



Composer, musicologist and guitarist **BENJAMIN DWYER'S** compositions are regularly performed internationally and he has been the featured composer/guitarist at the Musica Nova Festival (São Paulo), the Biental de Riberão Preto (Brazil), the National Concert Hall's Composers' Choice and the RTÉ 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 première in 2013 and which was released on Diatribe Records in 2017. *jouissance... (for shakuhachi)* was premiered at the L'Auditori Concert Hall in Barcelona in 2013 during the European Shakuhachi Festival. His project KnowingUnknowning, a work for improvised music and dance (with Helen Kindred), 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 Belfast Book Festival in 2019 with the composer as soloist. A CD of Dwyer's Beckett-inspired works are also on Diatribe Records. CD recordings include *Twelve Études (Gamelan Records, 2008)*, *Irish Guitar Works (El Cortijo, 2012)*, *Scenes from Crow (Diatribe Records, 2014)* and *The Alchemia Sessions Live from the Autumn Jazz Krakow 2014 (4-CD set) for Notwo Records.*

**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 lectured in the Music Technology department of NUI Maynooth, while undertaking post-graduate 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.

### Performers



**SUSAN DOYLE** divides her time between her teaching at the Royal Irish Academy of Music and her position as flutist with contemporary music group, Crash Ensemble, with whom she has toured extensively. Susan also regularly plays with Irish National Opera, National Symphony Orchestra, National Concert Hall Orchestra and the RTE Concert

Orchestra, as well as being involved in many recordings for TV and film. Susan has also worked nationwide as an outreach and education musician with the National Concert Hall and has conducted many workshops with young and upcoming composers. She has also been very involved in chamber music and very much enjoys performing with like minded musicians.



**ANDREEA BANCIU** is the violist/founder of the RTÉ ConTempo Quartet, which is the Galway Ensemble in Residence since 2003 & the RTÉ Quartet in Residence since 2012. Andreea 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 Andreea will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of ConTempo Quartet with over 100 concerts in Ireland and abroad. Her recent album "New Airs" went straight to no 3 in the iTunes classical charts. Her recordings can be found on the Universal, Sony, Quartz, Deutsche Schallplatten & NMC labels. On 10th June 2016 Andreea was awarded a Degree of Doctor of Music (honoris causa) by the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG). She lectures in the string faculty of TUD Conservatory of Music and Drama.



**PAVLOS KANELLAKIS** started learning the classical guitar at the age of 7. From 1992 until 1998 he studied with Elena Papandreou at the Philippos Nakas Conservatory in Athens, 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 - Auszeichnung'. In 2007 he began his PhD studies at the Dublin Institute of Technology in Ireland under the supervision of Dr. John Feeley. A prize winner of national and international guitar competitions, he has received 4 first prizes for his interpretation on the music of J.S.Bach among them the Gianluigi Fia Prize, at the Gargnano International Guitar Competition. He has collaborated closely with composer Nikos Mamangakis, recording most of his music for solo guitar for the label Idaia including the work 'New Excursion' and 'Concerto for Guitar'. He has given concerts in Greece, Switzerland, Germany, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Austria, Italy, Latvia, Estonia, and Ireland.



**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 and 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.