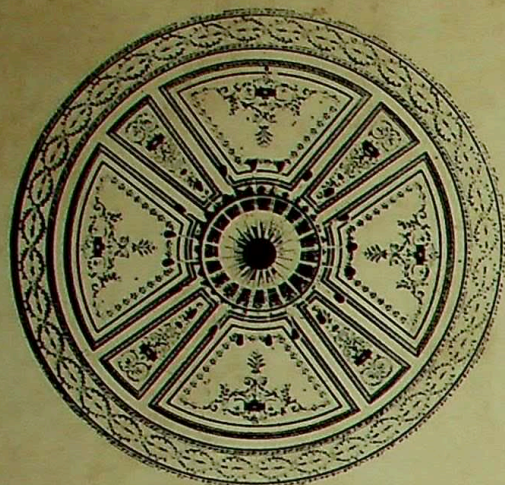


Ó RIADA SA GAIETY

LE SEÁN Ó SÉ AGUS CEOLTÓIRÍ CUALANN





Ó RIADA SA GAIETY

An oíche mhór cheoil a thug Seán Ó Riada agus a chuideachta dhúinn in Amharclainn an Gaiety i mBaile Átha Cliath in Earrach na bliana 1969, sé údar a bhí léi ómós a thabhairt do Pheadar Ó Doirnín, file a cailleadh dhá chéad bliain ó shin agus a raibh a chuimhne á comórath san am. Agus do cuireadh cloch úrghreanta le carn an fhile nuair adúirt Seán Ó Sé *Mná na hÉireann*, amhrán de chuid an Doirínigh, le fonn nua ceoil a chum an Riadach don ócáid. Mar ba chuibhe, leis, tugadh onóir ar leith do cheol Uladh — cúige dhúchais an fhile: le siansaí maorga *Mharshlua Uí Néill* a bhí istigh i gclár na hoíche.

Ach ba chuibhe fós nár claiodh le dúchas Uladh amháin, agus go raibh ceol agus amhráin ann as cheithre háirde na hÉireann. Arae ba file Éireannach é Peadar Ó Doirnín, agus oirfideadh ómóis ón náisiún Gaelach tré chéile, ag dul do dá réir. An té a bhí san amharclann an oíche úd ní fhéadfadh aon amhras a bheith air ach go mba ócáid náisiúnta í seo: chuaigh meanma na hócáide agus meanma an cheoil i bhfeidhm ar chách, meanma a raibh idir shult agus síreacht inti, glóir agus — glóraitheo!

Music of the Nation, to honour one of the nation's poets. This record of the Ó Doirnín bi-centenary concert begins with the spirited Ulster cavalry tune *Marcshlua Uí Néill*, played by Ceoltóirí Cualann, and followed by one of Peadar Ó Doirnín's own picaresque songs, *Mná na hÉireann* ('The Women of Ireland'), sung by Seán Ó Sé, in a new setting, composed for the occasion by Seán Ó Riada. Still in 18th century Ulster, a piece by Carolan follows, an elegant *Planxty* dedicated to Mr. Baptist Johnston of Tully, Co. Monaghan, sometime High Sheriff of the County and member of the Irish Parliament from 1747 to 1753.

Next, one of the great Munster songs *Im Aonar Seal* by Eoghan Rua Ó Súilleabháin, sung to its own noble traditional air by Seán Ó Sé. This is one of the finest examples of the *aisling* ('vision') genre, with a marvellous matching of lyric and melody.

From Connacht, *The Whinny Hills of Leitrim*, two slip-jig tunes skilfully blended in counterpoint. And then back to Munster for the majestic *Marbhna Luimní* ('Limerick's Lamentation'), first published by Neale of Dublin some thirty years after the great defeat which inspired it. The composition of this moving Munster lament is, in fact, attributed to an Ulster harper, Myles O'Reilly of Cavan, who was born in 1635 and may well have lived to see and recognise what was no mere local disaster, but the breaking of a nation's hopes. Curiously enough, the air seems to be the same as that of the lament known in Scotland as 'Lochaber no More', but its Irish provenance is well attested.

The second side of the disc begins with one of those songs which, wherever they were made, belong now to Ireland as a whole. This one is attributed to an Ulster poet, Cathal Bui Mac Giolla Gunna, but whether we call it *Carrickfergus* or *Do bhí Bean Uasal* ('There was a Lady'), whether we sing it in Irish or in English, or, as here, in a bit of both, it remains one of the best-known and best-loved of Irish ballads.

The charming air *An Ghaoth ó nEas* ('South Wind'), which follows, may be from County Clare. Bunting credits it to one Domhnall Meidhreac Mac Conmara and it has been identified with a similar melody called 'I have a secret to tell thee'. The next item is also under two titles, but is of a very different category. This fine Leinster tune, *Máirseáil Rí Laoise* ('March of the King of Laoise') is sometimes called *Rory O'Moore*, apparently in honour of Ruairí Óg Ó Mórdha who played a prominent part in the war of the first Elizabeth of England.

A solo piece for harpsichord, again a cunning fusion of two airs — from Ulster this time — arranged and played by Seán Ó Riada, brings us to the two final bands on the disc. Here we have two performances which brought the Gaiety concert to a lively, not to say hilarious end. First, Seán Ó Sé sings an old favourite, *Iníon an Phailitínigh* ('The Palatine's Daughter') the story of a very early ecumenical encounter! — backed, if not indeed surrounded, by the Ceoltóirí. And finally one of the 'big' Kerry reels *Ríl Mhór Bhaile an Chalaigh*.

Mo cheol iad na Ceoltóirí!
SEÁN MAC RÉAMOINN

NA CEOLTÓIRÍ

Stiúrthóir agus Cóiritheoir	Seán Ó Riada
Amhránaí	Seán Ó Sé
Bheidhlíní	Máirtín Fay
	Seán Ó Ceallaigh
	Seán Ó Catháin
Píob	Paddy Moloney
Feadóg	Seán Potts
Fliúit	Micheál Ó Toibride
Bosca Ceoil	Éamonn de Buítléar
Bodhrán	Peadar Mercier
Cruitchora	Seán Ó Riada

TAOBH 1

1	Marcshlua Uí Néill	3' 10"
2	Mná na hÉireann, (amhrán)	2' 58"
3	Planxty Johnston	2' 53"
4	Im Aonar Seal, (amhrán)	3' 15"
5	Cnocáin Aitinn Liatroma	2' 48"
6	Marbhna Luimní	5' 45"

TAOBH 2

1	Do Bhí Bean Uasal, (amhrán)	3' 54"
2	An Ghaoth ó nEas	2' 30"
3	Máirseáil Rí Laoise	4' 26"
4	An Chéad Mháirt de'n Fhómhar } Na Gamhna Geala }	Seán Ó Riada: Cruitchora 2' 33"
5	Iníon An Phailitínigh, (amhrán)	2' 28"
6	Ríl Mhór Bhaile an Chalaigh	3' 02"

Taifeada: Studio Éamon de Buítléar, beo ón Gaiety.

An Clúdach: Dearadh, Liam Miller;
Grianghraf: (Sileáil Amharclann an Gaiety), James Maguire.

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