

The Green Groves of Erin

Ireland's Traditional Musicians,
Singers and Dancers
visit the U.S.A. and Canada,
October 1981



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CL24



For the 1981 Tour of the U.S.A. and Canada Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann has assembled a talented group of artistes from the four provinces of Ireland and from among our exiles in Britain, and, joining a touring group for the first time we have two well-known artistes from 'the green fields of America' Mattie Connolly of New York and Monaghan on the uilleann pipes and Johnny McGreevy of Chicago on the fiddle. Our souvenir L.P. presents some of their favourite selections – songs, airs and dance music of Ireland.

Tá naoi mbliain ann anois ó dhein scata ceoltóirí de chuid an Chomhaltais an chéad Turas. I measc na cuspóirí a bhí aca an tráth úd bhí sé i gceist aca ceol, amhfain agus rinne na hÉireann a chur ar aghaidh thall, an ceangal idir ceoltóirí ar an dá thaobh de'n Atlantac a dhaingniú, agus tús a chur leis an bhfeachtas chun Cultúrlann na hÉireann a bhunú. Ní bréag a rá gur éirigh leo san iarracht.

MATTY CONNOLLY, was born in New York, but the family moved back to Scotstown in County Monaghan. It was there that Matty learned his music, under the influence of the Rev. Bernard Maguire, of Sean MacAloon the Fermanagh piper and, of course, of his mother Mrs. Helen Connolly, who plays the fiddle. Sean MacAloon had a successful piping class in Knockstallon, with the pipes being supplied by the late Leo Rowsome. Matty's proudest achievement was when he won the Senior All-Ireland Piping Championship at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann last year.

GERALDINE COTTER: Geraldine has been prominent at sessions, scoraiochtanna etc. around her native Clare in recent years. She is an All-Ireland Champion at Foinn Mhalla on the whistle and is also held in high esteem as one of the finest pianists and accompanists in the land – a member of Ennis Seisiun and Scoraiocht groups.

BREANDAN O DUILL: Breandan is a native of Dublin. An actor by profession he is one of Ireland's best known entertainers. He was a pioneer on the Irish music cabaret scene as founder member of the Gael Linn Cabaret in the fifties. Breandan is

a performer with the famous Comhaltas folk theatre "Fonntai". He appears by kind permission of the Radio Telefís Éireann (Irish Radio & T.V.) Authority.

CAROLINE JUDGE: Caroline Judge's name has figured prominently in the list of All-Ireland winners over the past few years on melodeon, accordion, concertina and in duets and trios. Though still only 16 years of age she has many radio and TV appearances to her credit from the St. Alban's Branch of Comhaltas and her reputation continues to grow from Fleadh to Fleadh.

JIMMY MCGREEVY: Jimmy is a native of Ballymacurley, Co. Roscommon and first began to make his name as a teenage virtuoso at Fleadhanna Cheoil some twenty years ago. He has remained one of our finest and most popular accordionists whose music has been much appreciated on several previous Tours.

MAIRE NI CHATHASAIGH: A member of a very musical family from Bandon, Co. Cork, Maire displays a unique style in playing the Harp, introducing the melodic runs and gracings used in traditional fiddling and piping. She has already toured with

Comhaltas in Libya and in Britain, and has lectured regularly at the Annual Scoil Eige.

MARCUS O hIARNAIN: A member of a great musical family from Carna in the Connemara Gaeltacht, Marcus is a brother of P.J. who is also an All-Ireland Accordion Champion and Marcus himself has established an enviable reputation for his splendid combination of excellent technique and fine traditional style. Marcus is the reigning All-Ireland Champion, one of the outstanding young traditional artistes of the decade.

KEVIN GLACKIN: Kevin is the youngest of the talented Glackin family and seems set to emulate brothers Paddy and Seamus in the field of traditional fiddling. He shows a fine taste and maturity in his interpretation of good tunes, and whilst owing much of his style and repertoire to his Donegal connections, he also displays a feeling for the best in the fiddle styles of other areas.

JOHN MCGREEVY: Even prior to the first Annual CCE Tour ten years ago, John McGreevy was one of the men that musicians from Ireland longed to meet, so it is no surprise that John should be chosen as one of the first Irish musicians in the

U.S.A. to play with a Tour Group. John's reputation as a fine traditional fiddler is well known on both sides of the Atlantic, and his music and warm personality have been a source of inspiration to the many young musicians around Chicago, and indeed, further afield.

RITA GALLAGHER: Rita first came to prominence when she won the Senior All-Ireland traditional singing title at the 1979 Fleadh in Bunclara and since then her performances in the Donegal Seisiun Group and at sessions and workshops have confirmed her position as one of the finest traditional singers in the country. Her singing is crystal clear and flawless and splendidly represents the northern singing tradition in both style and repertoire.

SONNY MURRAY: Sonny is a versatile musician who plays flute, whistle and fiddle as well as his favourite, the concertina. He comes from 'ilmihil in the heart of 'concertina country' in South West Clare. He was one of the many great musicians in the great music sessions in London in the fifties, but has been back in Clare and playing regularly for twenty years or more.

SIDE A

1. Kevin Glackin (fiddle)
N. O Callanain (bouzouki) Reels
The Tempest
John Kelly's Favourite
2. Máire Ní Chathasaigh (harp) Jigs
An Gandal ag poll na bprátaí
Coppers and Brass
3. Geraldine Cotter (tin whistle) Air
Liam Ó Raghallaigh
4. Marcus O hIarnain (Concert flute)
Feargal O Brolchain (bodhran) Reels
The Maid of Mount Cisco.
5. Caroline Judge (melodeon) Jigs
The Merry Maiden
Daniel O' Connell
6. Rita Gallagher Song
Lough Erne Shore
7. Jimmy McGreevy (accordion)
Charlie Lennon (piano) Reels
The Spike Island Lassies
Dillon's Reel
8. Mattie Connolly (uilleann pipes) Jig
The Mug of Brown Ale

SIDE B

1. Jimmy McGreevy (accordion)
Charlie Lennon (piano) Reels
The Roslea Whistler
McGreevy's
2. Marcus O hIarnain (flute)
Fergal O Brolchain (bodhran) Jigs
3. Rita Gallagher (singer) Song
Old Arboe
4. Sonny Murray (concertina) Reels
The Green Groves of Erin
The Ivy Leaf
5. Kevin Glackin (fiddle) Jigs
The Collier's Jig
Paddy Fahy's
6. Breandan O Duill Song
An Druimfhionn Donn Dilis
7. Maire Ni Chathasaigh (harp) Reel
Corney is Coming
8. Johnny McGreevy (fiddle)
Neil O Callanain (bouzouki) Jig
The Maid in the Meadow.

Foillsithe ag Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

comhaltas ceoltóirí éireann

Belgrave Square, Monkstown, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

Léiriú agus Nótaí: Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

