

The award-winning virtuoso partnership of “*one of the UK’s greatest guitarists*” (BBC RADIO 2) with “*the doyenne of Irish harpers*” (SCOTLAND ON SUNDAY) has toured in twenty-three countries to venues ranging from the tiniest of village halls and historic European churches to palaces in Kyoto and Istanbul, London’s Barbican, Sydney Town Hall and Cologne’s Philharmonie; recorded nine CDs; and given TV and radio performances on five continents. Expect a breathtaking blend of traditional Irish music, hot jazz, bluegrass and baroque, spiced with striking new compositions and Chris’s “delightfully subversive wit”!

Recent headlining festival performances have taken place in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada, Italy, France, Denmark, Sweden, the UK and Ireland.

In the Live Ireland Music Awards 2019, a recent Chicago performance was awarded “Concert of the Year” and Chris was named “Male Musician of the Year”. (Máire had been named “Female Musician of the Year” in the Live Ireland Music Awards 2016.)

Máire Ní Chathasaigh is “*the great innovator of modern Irish harping, a player of outstanding technique and imagination*” (The Rough Guide to Irish Music) and one of Ireland’s most important and influential traditional musicians. As a teenager in the 1970s she invented a whole new “traditional Irish” style of harping that quickly became the norm amongst both her contemporaries and the younger generation of Irish players, thereby spearheading the re-introduction of the harp into the mainstream of the living tradition. She was described by the late Derek Bell as “*the most interesting and original player of the Irish harp today*”. She is the sole harper recipient to date of Irish music’s most prestigious award, Gradam Ceoil TG4 - a national recognition of her pioneering work. “*Her work restores the harp to its true voice.*” THE IRISH TIMES

Chris is “*one of the UK’s greatest musicians*” (BBC Radio 2) and “*one of the top guitarists of his ilk in the world*” THE LIVING TRADITION. He has toured and recorded with many luminaries of the folk and jazz worlds, among them Boys of the Lough, Aly Bain and Stéphane Grappelli. “*Dazzling*” ACOUSTIC GUITAR (USA) “*His playing boggles my mind*” Flatpicking Guitar Magazine (USA)

“Dazzling virtuosity” THE DAILY TELEGRAPH “Music of fire and brilliance from the high-wire act in traditional music” THE IRISH TIMES “Their blinding technique, sizzling Irish reels and hot jazz improvisation brought an extended standing ovation... Newman has the great gift of being informative and hilarious simultaneously” THE WEST AUSTRALIAN “An eclecticism and spirit of adventure that is quite thrilling” THE TIMES “Blazing guitar and dancing harp” DIRTY LINEN (USA) “Brilliant, innovative harping and guitar-playing of astonishing virtuosity and versatility” \* \* \* \* SONGLINES

Website: [www.maireandchris.com](http://www.maireandchris.com)