



JACK O'ROURKE

JACK O'ROURKE takes to the Sitges stage again, this time with some special guests in his line-up! A captivating live performer, Jack O'Rourke shows a deftness when it comes to dissecting the minutiae of relationships and examining the human condition in a manner worthy of lyrical forebears Leonard Cohen and Tom Waits." The Irish Examiner

Jack O'Rourke takes many forms – singer, songwriter, composer, performer. He manages to combine that most difficult and delicate of writing traits – the ability to convey the personal whilst making it universal. Like all artists, Jack has respect for tradition while pushing the parameters of innovation. Jack is excited to be part of Sitges Live Festival. His third year playing - one of Jack's highlights from his gig last year was collaborating with Simon Morgan and playing a version of the Catalan anthem.

At home in folk, chamber music, blues, pop, jazz and rock, Jack's rich baritone is warm, emotional and inviting. Seated at the piano, he picks out folk songs of modernity with nodás to melodic traditions of old - be it the beautiful ode to growing up gay in the Amnesty Yes campaign anthem, Silence, to the poignant story of a publican who secretly paints in Opera On The Top Floor to the joy and release of diving into the ocean in Sea Swimming. Having played St. James' Church for Other Voices, Jack sang Neil Young's Harvest Moon Live on national television for Culture Night and joined a pantheon of Irish artists paying tribute to John Prine for two sold out nights in Vicar Street.

Jack is currently writing songs for his 4th album and embarks as a soloist on a tribute to Leonard Cohen with the RTE Concert Orchestra.

Versatile and musically adventurous, Jack's roots still lie at the piano, the telling of a story in song and his empathy to sing of characters facing life's triumphs and tragedies.

Quotes

"Sparse, well-spaced arrangements, with lyrics of pathos and wit" - RTE Arena

"O'Rourke is a vocalist of rare distinction. The album's essence is to be found on Sea Swimming - a track that's redolent of the sort of standards that Paul Brady delivered early in his career." - John Meagher, The Irish Independent

"There's a soaring, magical quality to Jack O'Rourke's Wild Place. There's an almost cinematic feel to the album, like a soundtrack to some classic Hollywood movie, perhaps by Nora Ephron. Wild Place seals O'Rourke's reputation as one of Ireland's most gifted performers." - Hotpress