

## **COR NUA**

You will remember that in 2022 a new festival choir was formed under the direction of the experienced conductor **Eunan McDonald** with **Vincent Lynch** on piano. It was made up of singers of many different nationalities, cultures, backgrounds and vocal styles. We are delighted to say that COR Nua is back and almost all of the 2022 members will make a return appearance. The choir will perform a vast repertoire - last year it was 18 choir works and represented songs from 8 different countries!

**Eunan McDonald** has been working in the music industry as a performer and creator for nearly 4 decades! With roots deeply based in choral tradition, he now shares his joy of music conducting youth choirs in Ireland and Great Britain, alongside composing new music various events.

Eunan started singing as a child with The Palestrina Choir in Dublin and has been immersed in choral music both in Ireland and abroad ever since. He performs regularly with The Key Notes, Resurgam and has been a member of The National Chamber Choir of Ireland (formerly RTE Chamber Choir), Lord of the Dance, Riverdance, Christchurch Cathedral Choir and The Choir of St. Teresa's, Clarendon St. to name but a few.

In 2005 he toured throughout North America as Choral Director of Celtic Woman, the internationally acclaimed show. In recent years he has turned his hand to music composition with some success. Since 2007, he has been Section Leader to the bass lines of Irish Youth Choir, Ulster Youth Choir and Senior Section Leader to the National Youth Training Choirs of Great Britain and continues to work as a freelance singer and conductor.

**Vincent Lynch** freelances as a pianist, and studied at Trinity College Dublin, TU Dublin Conservatoire, the Royal Irish Academy of Music, and later at UCLA (film scoring). He has played with the National Symphony Orchestra, RTE Concert Orchestra and Ulster Orchestra, and his work encompasses a broad range of genres including classical, opera, musical theatre, pop, Irish and church music.

As a collaborative pianist, Vincent specialises in creating unique piano accompaniments for songs and chamber music, fusing together an impressionistic classical style with modal harmony and ethnic rhythms. In 2021 he was granted an Agility Award from the Arts Council to compose new Irish piano music.

As musical director of the Celtic Tenors he has toured to Qatar, Bahrain, Italy, US, Canada and Holland, and has toured with the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland to Shanghai, and with the Irish Youth Orchestra to Dubai for Shaun Davy's *The Brendan Voyage*. He has conducted An Garda Síochána Male Voice Choir at the Sydney Opera House, and has worked as Chorus Master for Carmen (Lyric Opera NCH) and The Gondoliers (Festival Productions, Buxton), Music Director for Macbecks (Gaiety Theatre and Cork Opera House) as well as repetiteur work with Irish National Opera, The Dead (Gaiety Theatre), The Barber of Seville (Lismore Opera Festival) and Aida (Lyric Opera, The Gaiety).

As a singer, Vincent has performed with the Irish vocal ensemble Anuna (tours in US, UK, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Sweden), as well as recorded for Celtic Woman, Riverdance, Secret Garden and The Pirate Queen. He has a keen interest in sacred music also, having sung in all the cathedral choirs in Dublin as well as regularly playing organ in the Pro Cathedral and Whitefriars St. Church. Over the past year, Vincent has worked extensively with the UCD Choral Scholars, working on their new album of contemporary choral arrangements of James Joyce's poetry, and recently recorded an album with soprano Claudia Boyle, together with a recital in the National Concert Hall for Wexford Festival Opera.