



Newsletter

August 2021

AUTUMN

Embassy of Ireland Helsinki

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Join the first Helsinki GAA Festival on 28 August!

In conjunction with Nordic GAA Development Day 2021, the Helsinki Harps invite you to the first Annual Helsinki GAA Festival to play and watch Gaelic sports, celebrate Irish culture, and join in on all the fun that the Helsinki Harps community has to offer. As with all events during the pandemic this is dependent on the restrictions in place on the day. If attending any event please remember the [THL guidance](#).

Rain or shine, the event will take place outdoors at Talin liikuntapuisto on Helsinki's west side. Games will begin at roughly 10:00 and last until roughly 15:00. New or inexperienced players are welcome to join. (If you want to play, bring shorts, studs/cleats, and a gum shield.) Food and drinks will be available at the event, as well as seating, handwashing stations close by, and plenty of activities for children of all ages.

The Harps welcome offers of volunteers to help out on the day and have some support to assist with travel of players from outside at Helsinki. For further information and updates check the event [Facebook page](#).



Workshops in schools

Supported by the Embassy, Brent Cassidy of the Irish Festival of Oulu is delivering virtual school workshops on Irish Music and Culture. If anyone has contacts for schools which might be interested in an engaging and interactive virtual workshop for kids of any school age please get in touch with the Embassy and we can put you in contact with Brent.

Embassy Job Opportunity

The Mission is now looking to recruit a **Public Affairs Assistant**. The Public Affairs Assistant will play an active role in supporting the Embassy's press and public outreach work. The successful candidate will work as part of a small and busy Embassy team, and will have opportunities to develop her/his skills and gain hands-on experience in these and related areas. Find more information about applying for the position [here](#).

Photo exhibition in Ireland: Road Bowling in Armagh and Cork

Road bowling, or 'throwing the bullet' is primarily associated with the Counties of Armagh and Cork. The photographs in [this exhibition](#) show people and environments from these two regions, featuring both players and spectators of the sport.

Photographs from Cork are by Michael Bradley and photographs from Armagh are by Colin Robins, assisted by Joonas Aitonurmi in Armagh. Joonas Aitonurmi is a Helsinki journalist and writer, and Colin Robins is a Cornwall based photographer and lecturer at the University of Plymouth. Two recent collaborations resulted in exhibitions held in Helsinki at the Aleksanteri Institute, Finnish Centre for Russian and Eastern European Studies, and at Tiedekulma's Crazy World conference.

Galway International Arts Festival

The [GIAF 2021 programme](#) has been announced! Special tip: Galway International Arts Festival and Other Voices join forces for a special one-off free online concert livestream on 3 September from Galway's beautiful 13th century St. Nicholas' Church. Find out more [here](#).

Helsinki International Film Festival

The 34th Love and Anarchy [Helsinki International Film Festival](#) will take place again this autumn. Keep an eye out for Irish films in the programme!

Ireland Architecture Diary

The new online [Ireland Architecture Diary](#) puts Irish architecture events on a global platform with cities including London, New York and Boston, while Manchester, Birmingham and Sydney are also due to join. It is a one-stop-place for people in Ireland and around the world to find out what's happening in architecture in Ireland. The diary features a diverse range of events from 'online and digital' to 'workshops', 'exhibitions', 'talks and debates' and much more.

26.7.-4.9.

5.8.-15.8.

6.8.-30.8.

28.8.-12.9.

16.9.-19.9.

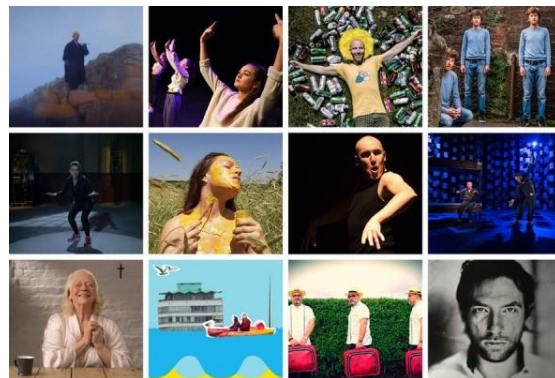
30.9.-17.10.

Kilkenny Arts Festival

[Kilkenny Arts Festival's](#) 48th annual edition runs from 5 - 15 August, presenting premieres and new productions in spaces across Kilkenny as well as events online!

Culture Ireland Showcase at Edinburgh

This year, Culture Ireland will showcase 11 Irish productions as part of the 2021 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. For 2021, the productions are being streamed through the Fringe Player, the Fringe's own digital platform and various streaming platforms being hosted by Edinburgh's key Fringe venues. Read Culture Ireland's 2021 Edinburgh Showcase online brochure [here](#).



Dublin Theatre Festival

[Dublin Theatre Festival](#) brings world-class theatre to Dublin, supports artists in creating outstanding work and provides a platform to showcase the best of Irish theatre to the world. The 2021 programme and online events are to be announced soon!

National Gallery of Ireland at Home

To those who cannot visit the National Gallery of Ireland in person – the Gallery will continue to connect with you online through exciting online events, videos, podcasts, creative activities and blogs. Check out [this page](#) for collections, Spotify playlists, drawing inspiration and more.

Presidential Distinguished Service Award

Do you know someone who has given sustained and distinguished service to Ireland and/or Irish communities abroad or on a global or international issue of importance? They may be eligible to be nominated for the Presidential Distinguished Service Award. Read more about how to nominate someone [here](#) and forward the Nomination Form to the Embassy before 6 August 2021.



OUR SERVICES

Travel Advice

From 19th July, new advice and rules for [international travel](#) came into effect in Ireland. Advice about travelling to Finland is available [here](#). We advise all Irish citizens when travelling abroad to remain vigilant and follow the instructions and advice from the local authorities. The [Finnish Border Guard](#) provides information on border restrictions for travellers entering Finland. [The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare](#) provides guidance on health security measures. Information on testing for COVID-19 is also available on the [FINENTRY](#) service.



Visas

Ireland has resumed accepting all long stay visa and preclearance applications. It remains the position that short stay visa applications are not accepted, except for cases that fall under the Emergency/Priority criteria. For further information please see the website of the [Irish Immigration Service](#).

Passports

The Passport Service is continuing to process Passport Online applications as a priority. Find information on the provision of passport services [here](#). To apply via Passport Online, please click [here](#).

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If you have an Irish community or cultural event that you would like to publicise, email us at helsinkiembassy@dfa.ie.

Best Wishes from the Embassy of Ireland!