



MusicConnects

Spring-Summer Programme 2026



MUSIC THAT MOVES GALWAY



Threads

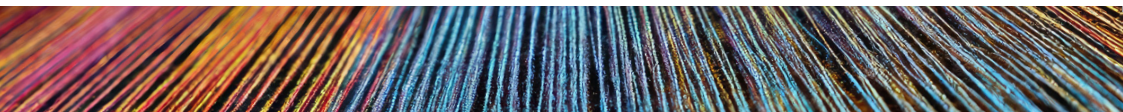
MusicConnects is where music, community, and place come together. We bring inspiring music and musicians into the heart of everyday life, reaching people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities across Galway City and County.

Threads, our theme for 2026, knits together composers whose music is connected by shared ideas, relationships, and places. Across the season, our Ensemble-in-Residence, **ConTempo Quartet** traces these connections – from friendship and love to homeland and musical echoes – weaving past and present into a rich tapestry of music across time and place. Check out our FREE events, featuring four key series:

Flagship concert series

- **Lunchtime with ConTempo** – our monthly lunchtime series, perfect for your lunch break. Enjoy vibrant, accessible chamber music in a relaxed setting.
- **ConTempo Countywide** – a series bringing live music to communities across Galway County, connecting people to the joy of chamber music wherever they are.

Listening initiatives

- **Music Unveiled** – our Guided Listening initiative in collaboration with Galway City Council Arts Office and University of Galway's Department of Music. These informal and accessible sessions deconstruct some of the music to be performed during the season.
 - **Lines of Listening** – a Creative Responses initiative in partnership with Arts in Action. Artist Maeve Curtis and author Mike McCormack lead deep-listening workshops where participants respond to this season's music through mark-making – in paint or in words – exploring process, reflection and connection.
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With Love

Threads

This programme features composers whose personal relationships profoundly shaped their music. Tender, passionate, and lyrical, the featured works reveal how love can be a powerful creative force.

- Sun 1 Feb **Lines of Listening** O'Donoghue Centre, University of Galway, 11am–1pm
Tue 3 Feb **Lunchtime with ConTempo** St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm–1:50pm
Sat 28 Feb **ConTempo Countywide** Oughterard Courthouse, H91 CC96, 8pm

Shaped by Landscape

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Across the ages, composers have drawn inspiration from the places they call home. This programme connects music to place, from landscapes to the elements shaping the land and its people.

- Tue 24 Feb **Music Unveiled** Galway City Library, 11am
Featuring Dr Amanda Feery & Judith Ring
Tue 3 Mar **Lunchtime with ConTempo** St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm–2:50pm
Featuring the World Premiere of 'Raise a Tragic Chorus in a Gale' by Judith Ring
Sun 29 Mar **ConTempo Countywide** Claregalway Castle, H91 E9T3, 4pm

Intimate Dialogues

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This season we spotlight the intimacy of the string duo. Two concerts explore centuries of composers weaving voices together, revealing the unique stories two instruments can tell.

Violin Duo: Two voices in conversation

- Sun 29 Mar **Lines of Listening** O'Donoghue Centre, University of Galway, 11am–1pm
Tue 7 Apr **Lunchtime with ConTempo** St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm–2:50pm
Fri 24 Apr **ConTempo Countywide** Súil Eile, Barna, H91 AXH1, 6pm

Viola & Cello: A dialogue across time

- Sun 26 Apr **Lines of Listening** Siobhan McKenna Theatre, Arts Millenium Building, University of Galway 11am–1pm
Tue 5 May **Lunchtime with ConTempo** St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm–2:50pm
Sun 17 May **ConTempo Countywide** Súil Eile, Barna, H91 AXH1, 6pm



What We Carry

Threads

This programme reflects on the influence of parents and early listening on a composer's voice. The music explores how artistic wisdom is passed down and transformed, connecting the generations.

Tue 19 May Music Unveiled Galway City Library, 11am

Featuring Dr Ann-Marie Hanlon & Ronan Guilfoyle

Mon 1 June ConTempo Countywide Halla Ronáin, Inis Mór, 12:30pm

Featuring the World Premiere of 'Legacy' by Ronan Guilfoyle

Tue 2 June Lunchtime with ConTempo St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm–1:50pm

Entry to all events is FREE. Donations welcome.

No booking is required for concerts*.

*With the exception of Claregalway Castle via Eventbrite.

Booking for *Music Unveiled* is through Galway City Library.

Booking for *Lines of Listening* is through Eventbrite (Arts in Action)

A maximum of 16 places are available per session so early booking is advised.



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