



MusicConnects

Autumn/Winter Programme 2026



MUSIC THAT MOVES GALWAY



In Conversation

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

Through **In Conversation** we present four programmes, each pairing two cultures of string quartet writing with a contemporary Irish work. From the sun and shadow of the Mediterranean to the hustle and bustle of Paris and Amsterdam, this season traces one form's many accents. Music in conversation.

Check out our accessible events below, featuring four key series and a few special extras:

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.

From Paris to Amsterdam

The colour and shimmer of French quartet writing has a tête-à-tête with a rhythmical Dutch offering.

Tue 25 Aug **Music Unveiled** Westside Library, 11am-12:30pm

Featuring Dr Amanda Feery & Dr Jane O'Leary

Tue 1 Sep **Lunchtime with ConTempo** St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm-1:50pm

Sun 6 Sep **ConTempo Countywide** The Mall, Tuam, H54 Y773, 5pm

Going Coastal

Italy's tradition, better known for the voice than the bow, in conversation with Portuguese quiet and *saudade* (a deep, melancholic longing).

Sun 4 Oct **Lines of Listening** The Space, Áras na Mac Léinn, University of Galway, 11am-1pm

Sun 4 Oct **ConTempo Countywide** Campbell's Tavern, Headford, H91 T4A8, 3pm

As part of the Something in the Water Festival

Tue 6 Oct **Lunchtime with ConTempo** St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm-1:50pm

One sea, two shores

Malta's island voice, shaped by the currents that passed through its harbour, speaks to Spanish heat across the Mediterranean.

Sun 18 Oct **Lines of Listening** The Space, Áras na Mac Léinn, University of Galway, 11am-1pm

Tue 27 Oct **Music Unveiled** Westside Resource Centre, 10:30am-12pm **(PLEASE NOTE TIME)**

Featuring Dr Aidan Thomson & Rhona Clarke

Sun 1 Nov **ConTempo Countywide** Station House, Clifden, H71 AK52, 6pm

Tue 3 Nov **Lunchtime with ConTempo** St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm-1:50pm

In partnership with
Music for Galway

Wed 4 Nov **Ensemble Skills Workshop** University of Galway

With The Pale Blue Dot in partnership with Music for Galway

Ages 12-18, Grade 3+ or equivalent • Email: info@musicconnects.ie for details

Fri 27 Nov **Emily Anderson Concert** Michael D. Higgins Auditorium (Lower Aula),
University of Galway, 7:30pm • Tickets: €12.50-€25 • musicforgalway.ie

Along the River Sûre

The Belgian tradition, fusing structure with warmth, in dialogue with a rare hearing of Luxembourgish quartet writing.

Sun 22 Nov **Lines of Listening** The Space, Áras na Mac Léinn, University of Galway, 11am-1pm

Tue 24 Nov **Music Unveiled** Ballybane Library, 11am-12:30pm

Featuring Dr Aidan Thomson & Deirdre McKay

Tue 1 Dec **Lunchtime with ConTempo** St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, 1:10pm-1:50pm

Fri 11 Dec **ConTempo Countywide** Amharclann Chois Fharraige, Inverin, H91 W925, 8pm

Sat 12 Dec **3 Kinds of Music** O'Donoghue Theatre, University of Galway, 3pm

Featuring ConTempo Quartet, In Flow Gamelan Ensemble and Aengus Hackett

In partnership with Arts in Action

Booking:

Book *Music Unveiled* through the individual Libraries/Resource Centre

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.

Pay-what-you-can:

Entry to *Lunchtimes with ConTempo*, *ConTempo Countywide*.

and *3 Kinds of Music* is on a **pay-what-you-can** basis. Booking is not required.



SUPPORT US



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