

music • theater • readings • childrens's hour • local history



THE 8TH ANNUAL

CROSSROADS IRISH- AMERICAN FESTIVAL

March 4-25, 2011
San Francisco

www.irishamericancrossroads.org



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www.consulateofirelandsanfrancisco.org



**Message from Gerry Staunton
Consul General of Ireland
to the Organisers and Participants in the
Crossroads Irish-American Festival 2011**

It gives me great pleasure to extend warmest St Patrick's Day greetings to the Organisers and Participants in the Crossroads Irish-American Festival, 2011.

The St Patrick's Season provides a wonderful opportunity for the Global Irish Family to gather together to celebrate our common values and identity; it also provides us with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate what it means to be Irish, and to participate with family and friends in Irish cultural activities and heritage events, such as the Crossroads Festival.

Irish men and women have brought the name of Ireland to countless lands. They brought with them our culture and our unique history and they introduced peoples around the world to St Patrick and his people. They earned respect and admiration for the way they enriched their new homelands, often overcoming huge obstacles and difficulties.

Let me conclude by warmly congratulating all those who have played a part in organising this year's Crossroads Festival, and by wishing the event every success.

We at the Irish Consulate are proud to support the festival and look forward to attending the events.

Gerry Staunton
Consul General of Ireland
San Francisco

Céad Míle Fáilte

(A hundred thousand welcomes):

The Crossroads Irish-American Festival celebrates its 8th year in 2011 and is bursting with new opportunities for you to discover and explore Irish-American history and culture, with a particular focus this year on literature and oral history.

We highlight oral history alongside the Irish-American literary tradition because we understand that the oral tradition is an important foundation of Irish-American cultural expression. Through the events of this year's Festival, we aim to explore the unique arc of Irish-American literary history, and the link between the oral tradition and the written word. In addition, we are eager to bring forward the voices of men and women who have participated in the newly launched Crossroads Irish Oral History Archive of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Beginning on March 4th and closing on March 25th, this 21-day Festival marks a year of growth and transformation as we are bringing eleven remarkable events to the community, showcasing an astoundingly broad array of voices from literature, music, dance, theater, and spoken word. These voices range from internationally award-winning musicians to those of men and women from our own local communities, including you!

Our journey in producing the Crossroads Festival is always rewarding and full of stories about the remarkable and meaningful ways that Irish-Americans contribute to the culture and society of the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. We are privileged in doing this work and grateful to the community for all of your support.

Each individual and business donating to the Festival is directly responsible for the richness of what you see in this year's Festival calendar. We thank you for all that you do, and for the chance to highlight the best and brightest in Irish America in San Francisco.

Be sure to log on to www.irishamericancrossroads.org to learn more about the Festival.

We look forward to seeing you at 'The Crossroads'.

With Best Regards,

HILLARY FLYNN and MARGARET MC PEAKE

Co-Producers, Crossroads Irish-American Festival 2011

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CROSSROADS

IRISH-AMERICAN FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH *Opening Night*

TIME: 8pm

LOCATION: The Plough & the Stars Pub,
116 Clement Street @ 2nd Avenue, San Francisco

\$18/advance or \$20/door.

Advance tickets available at the Plough & Stars or at
www.irishamericancrossroads.org to buy tickets online.

Liz Carroll in Solo Concert

Grammy nominated fiddler and composer, Liz Carroll, opens the Crossroads Irish-American Festival with a rare solo appearance. Liz, a highly-respected composer celebrated for invigorating the traditional styles of Irish music, is the recipient of numerous awards, including an Irish Traditional Musician of the Year award and a National Heritage Award. Her most recent album, *Double Play*, was nominated for a Grammy in 2010. She is also the 2011 winner of the TG4 “Traditional Composer of the Year” award. TG4 is Ireland’s Irish language television station.

MUNI: Bus lines 2, 44, 38, 33



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SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH

TIME: 11:30am-12:30pm

LOCATION: The Fisher Children's Center, Main Public Library, 100 Larkin Street @ Grove Street, San Francisco.

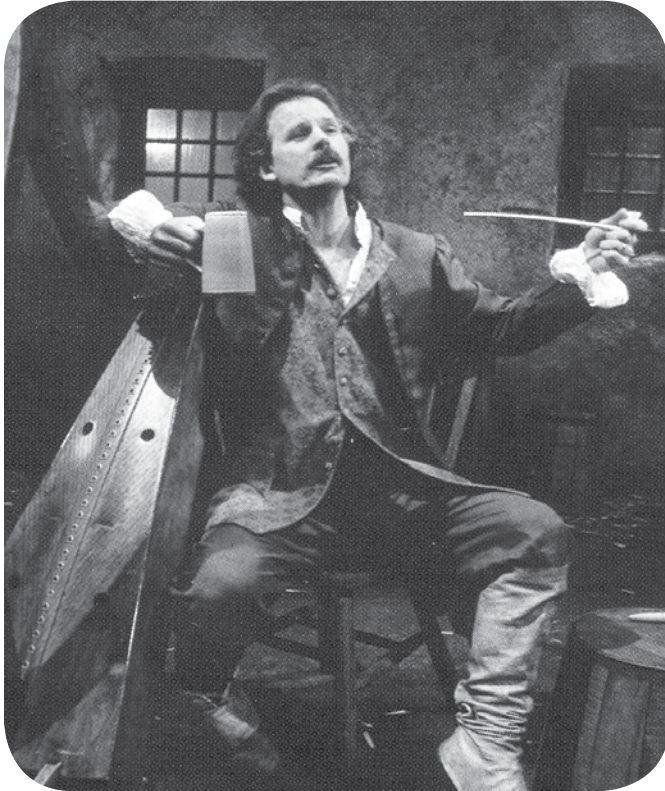
Children's Hour

Patrick Ball, a premiere Celtic harp player and captivating storyteller in the Celtic tradition, tells tales with a rhythmic charm that serves up a feast for the mind of children. As an accompaniment to these tales, Patrick plays the Celtic harp and offers the children an introduction to this rare, legendary instrument, its music, its playing technique and its place in Irish culture and folklore.

The Murphy Irish Dancers will also perform jigs, reels, and other high-kicking dance steps!

PARKING: Civic Center Garage, 355 McAllister Street.

MUNI: Underground: Civic Center, F Line and Market Street Buses



PAT CROWE

Musical Interlude

TIME: 1pm-1:30pm

LOCATION: Koret Auditorium, Main Public Library, 100 Larkin Street @ Grove Street, San Francisco.



Join us for an enjoyable interlude of traditional Irish music before the afternoon's exploration of Irish-American literature in the Koret Auditorium. Music performed by Autumn Rhodes (flute, concertina) and Darcy Noonan (fiddle).



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*The Crossroads Irish-American Festival
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SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH

TIME: 1:30-4pm

LOCATION: Koret Auditorium, Main Public Library, 100 Larkin Street @ Grove Street, San Francisco.

Imagining Irish America: 250 Years of Literature and Counting

Special thanks for support from the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

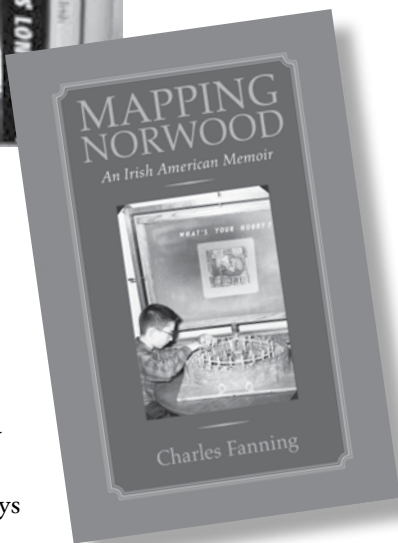
This gathering of leading voices in Irish-American literature will explore the enduring history and contemporary impact of Irish-American literature, including readings from their most recent works.



Charles Fanning

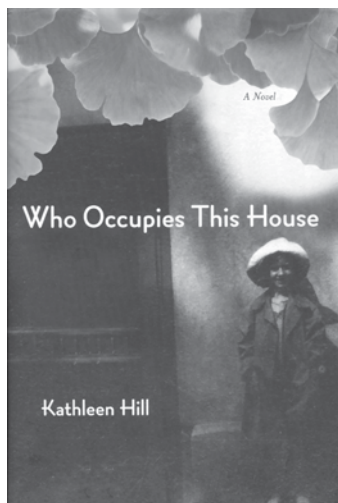
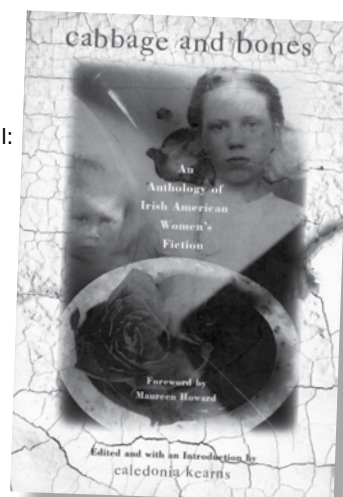
Charles Fanning writes that an Irish-American voice can first be found in a broadside that appeared on the streets of New York in 1789. Wave upon wave of immigration from Ireland has continually influenced the literary voice of the Irish in America, always reflecting the energy of the newest arrivals as well as their efforts to adapt to this new land. Please join us for a lively conversation about the past and present importance of the Irish-American literary tradition.

Charles Fanning, author of the *Irish Voice in America: 250 Years of Irish-American Fiction* and *Mapping Norwood: An Irish-American Memoir*.



Caledonia Kearns, editor of *Cabbage and Bones: An Anthology of Irish-American Women's Fiction* and *Motherland: Writings by Irish-American Women about Mothers and Daughters*.

PARKING: Civic Center Garage, 355 McAllister Street. MUNI: Underground: Civic Center, F Line and Market Street Buses.



Kathleen Hill, author of the novel, *Who Occupies This House*.

The United Irish Cultural Center (UICC) and the Irish Cultural Centre of California (ICCC)
Are proud sponsors of the
Crossroads Irish-American Festival 2011

**Sunday, February 27th
@ 8pm**

The Wolfe Tones in concert at the UICC,
Info & tix: 415-860-1854

**Friday March 4th
@ 7 pm**

No Host Cocktails
8 pm Dinner
Grand Marshall Dinner
@ UICC

Saturday, March 12th
Don't miss! The Annual
Corn Beef & Cabbage
Dinner (following the
parade) @ UICC

Sunday, March 20th
Annual UICC/ICCC/Java Beach Block Party @ UICC

For a complete list of St. Patrick's Day events,
www.irishcentersf.org.

**Crossroads Festival
events at UICC**

**Tuesday, March 8th
@ 7pm**

A Reading with Author,
Julian Gough
St. Francis Room @ UICC

**Sunday, March 13th @
2-4 pm**

Oral Histories of the Irish
in San Francisco: A Night
of Storytelling
St. Francis Room @ UICC

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**Congratulations to the Crossroads
Irish-American Festival 2011 !!**

**Java Beach
&
Java Beach at the Zoo**

SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH (CONTINUED)

TIME: 8pm

LOCATION: The Plough & the Stars Pub,
116 Clement Street @ 2nd Avenue, San Francisco

\$18/ADVANCE or \$20/door.

Advance tickets available at the Plough & Stars or go to
www.irishamericancrossroads.org to buy tickets online

Liz Carroll in Concert with Jake Charron

Grammy nominated fiddler and composer, Liz Carroll, in concert with Jake Charron, one of Canada's finest accompanists for fiddle music.

MUNI: Bus lines 2, 44, 38, 33



LOIS SIEGEL

TUESDAY, MARCH 8TH

TIME: 7pm

LOCATION: United Irish Cultural Center, St. Francis Room,
2700 45th Avenue @ Sloat Blvd., San Francisco.

A Reading & Conversation with Julian Gough




ANNE MARIE FIVES

In his West Coast premiere, Julian Gough, born in London, raised in Ireland, and living in Berlin, will read from his most recent book, *Jude: Level 1* (2008), part of a hugely ambitious attempt to write the funniest serious novel of the new millennium. This reading will also explore how the arrival of a multicultural perspective in Ireland and Europe resembles the American experience. We will invite discussion as to how this recognition affects the definition of Irish-American experience.

This event will be moderated by the celebrated author, Yiyun Li, whose works of fiction have garnered many prizes including the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award and the PEN/Hemingway Award. Yiyun was also named a MacArthur Foundation fellow in 2010.

Crossroads 2011 is proud to host this event, which is supported by *Imagine Ireland*, an initiative of *Culture Ireland*, and by *A Public Space*, an independent magazine giving voice to the twenty-first century.

MUNI: Underground: L Taraval and
Bus Lines 23 and 18

Imagine Ireland 
An initiative of **Culture Ireland**

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Congratulations

Crossroads Irish American Festival

Future generations will be forever enriched by and grateful for your efforts to highlight and memorialize the rich and diverse history of the Irish-American community and their enormous influence on the arts, cultural and political landscape.

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SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH

TIME: 2-4pm

LOCATION: United Irish Cultural Center,
St. Francis Room, 2700 45th Avenue @
Sloat Blvd., San Francisco.

Oral Histories of the Irish in SF: A Night of Storytelling

*Special thanks for support from the
Irish Government's Emigrant Support
Programme (ESP).*

Join us as we honor and celebrate
the voices and contributions of the
1950's generation of Irish immi-
grants to the Bay Area. In this
event, individuals from the Cross-
roads Irish Oral History Archive
Project of the San Francisco Bay
Area will tell their stories, in their
own words.

The Crossroads Irish-American
Festival is creating the first-ever
oral history archive of the Irish
and Irish-American communi-
ties of the Bay Area. This oral his-
tory project is composed of audio
recordings of individuals telling
their own stories about their own
experiences of emigrating to or
growing up in the Bay Area. If you
or someone you know would like
to be part of this project, please
contact us. To learn more about
the Oral History Archive Project,
please go to: [www.irishamerican-
crossroads.org](http://www.irishamerican-crossroads.org).

MUNI: Underground: L Taraval and
Bus Lines 23 and 18



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TUESDAY, MARCH 15TH

TIME: 7pm

LOCATION: St. Patrick's Church, McKenna Hall,
756 Mission Street @ 3rd Street, San Francisco.

Crossroads 2011 is proud to present the winner of the First Annual Irish-American Writing Contest in Memoir. The aim of this contest is to support and develop the voices of Irish-American writing.

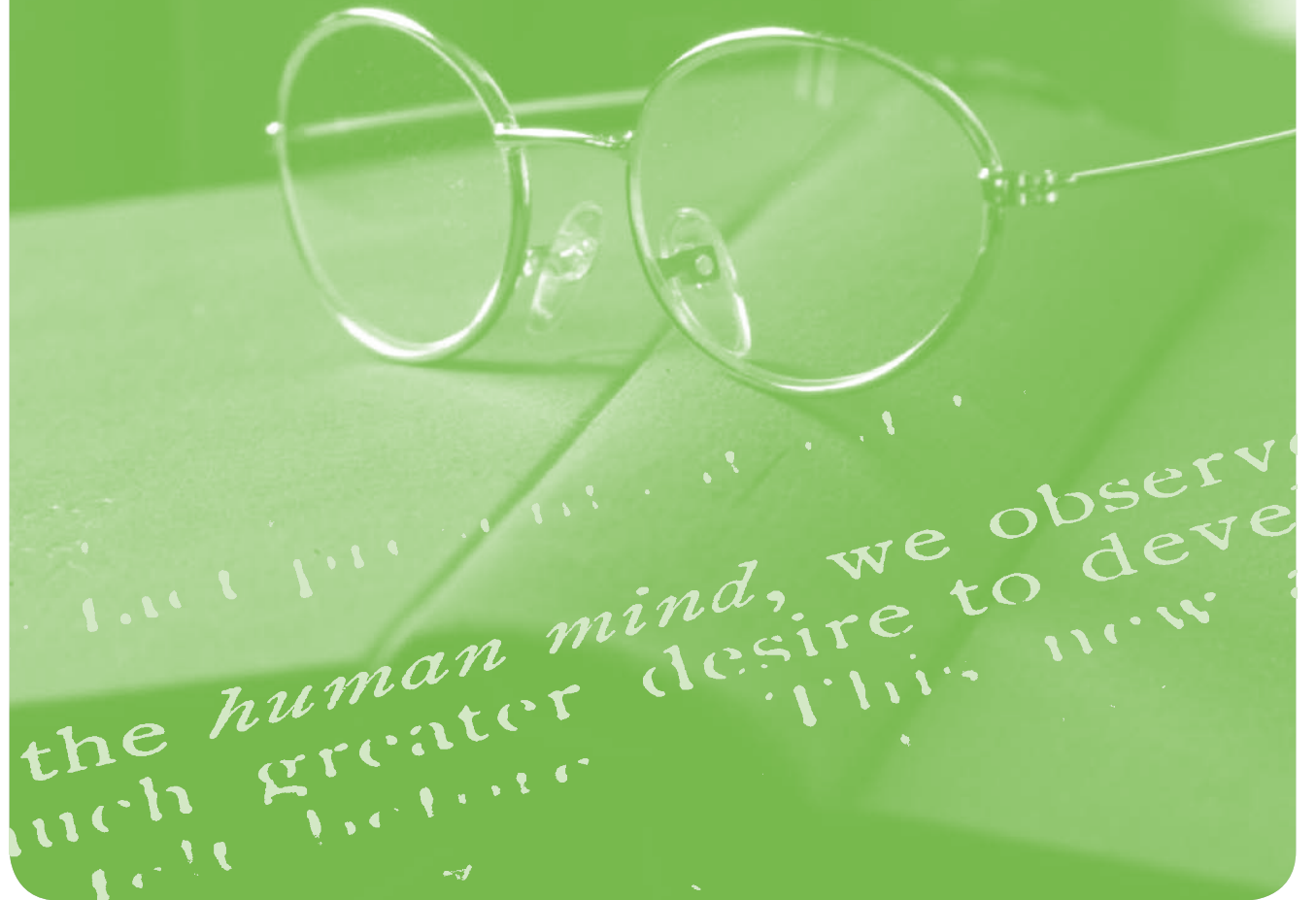
This event celebrates the winner of the Memoir contest and provides an "open mic" opportunity for writers in the community to read from their memoirs (time limited) about the meaning of an Irish-American heritage. We especially welcome *all* individuals who submitted their work of memoir to the contest to join us! See website for additional information about this "open-mic" event.

MUNI: Bus lines 14, 27, 30, 45, 76

BART: New Montgomery Station

PARKING: Jessie Square Garage, 223 Stevenson Street (btw 3rd & 4th Sts) and 5th and Mission Garage, Mission Street.

First Annual Irish-American Writing Contest Award & Reading



A special thanks to our review panel:

Michael Patrick MacDonald, author, *All Souls: A Family Story From Southie* and *Easter Rising: A Memoir of Roots and Rebellion*.

Patricia Monaghan, author, *Red-Haired Girl From The Bog: The Landscape of Celtic Myth and Spirit*.

James Silas Rogers, editor, *New Hibernia Review: A Quarterly Record of Irish Studies*.

Maureen Waters, author, *Crossing Highbridge: A Memoir of Irish America*.

The New Crossroads Irish-American Festival

The Crossroads Irish-American Festival has embarked on a phase of growth and expansion. We now offer three distinct projects:

- The Crossroads Irish Oral History Archive of the San Francisco Bay Area
- The Crossroads Irish-American Writing Contest
- The Crossroads Irish-American Festival

These new avenues are a direct outgrowth of the mission and experience of the Crossroads Festival.

Crossroads Irish Oral History Archive Project of the San Francisco Bay Area

This project recently launched with a grant from the Irish Government. We aim to produce a comprehensive archive of the life stories of the Irish in the San Francisco Bay Area, representative of all generations of experience. In this first phase, we have targeted the 1950s generation of Irish emigrants and their Irish-American counterparts.

This archive belongs to the Bay Area community and we want to hear from you – a member of this community! Contact us if you or someone you know would like their story to be part of the Archive.

Crossroads Irish-American Writing Contest

2011 also sees the inaugural award of the first Crossroads Irish-American Writing contest in memoir. Through this award, we aim to support and develop Irish-American writers. While focused on memoir in this inaugural year, we will branch out into fiction and poetry. To learn more about future contests, join our mailing list at www.irishamericancrossroads.org. First prize: \$300!

Mission

Founded in 2004, the Crossroads Irish-American Festival promotes the discovery and understanding of the Irish experience in the Americas to ensure that the richness of the arts, culture, history and traditions of this heritage are both held in great esteem and preserved for generations to come. We achieve this mission through the production of events and projects that promote Irish-American culture and heritage with an emphasis on the Irish and Irish-American communities of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Crossroads Irish-American Festival

2011 marks the 8th year of this Festival which has become a beloved annual event for its commitment to producing inspired, creative, and relevant programs regarding Irish and Irish-American history and culture. We are dedicated to creating a dynamic forum where meaningful, many-sided conversations take place about our Irish and Irish-American histories, our ancient roots and modern hybridities, our passions, our work, our presence around the globe and our creative efforts to make sense of it all! To receive Festival program announcements, join our mailing list at www.irishamericancrossroads.org.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17TH

TIME: 7pm

LOCATION: BookShop West Portal,
80 West Portal Avenue @ Vicente Street, San Francisco.

Join us for a night of poetry and Irish hospitality to celebrate St. Patrick's Day! Crossroads 2011 is proud to host a reading of some of the Bay Area's finest poets.

HOST: Katherine Hastings is the author of *Fog & Light*, *Updraft*, and *Sidhe*. She is the founder of the WordTemple Poetry Series in Sonoma County, www.wordtemple.com.

MUNI: Underground: K, L, M and Bus lines 48, 17



Poetry Reading and St. Patrick's Day Celebration!



Gillian Conoley

Gillian Conoley is a Pushcart Prize-winning poet and the Poet-in-Residence and Associate Professor at Sonoma State University. Conoley is the author of four poetry collections, including the highly praised *Some Gangster Pain* and *Tall Strange*.



Kathleen Lynch

Kathleen Lynch's collection *Hinge* (2006) won the Black Zinnias Press National Poetry Book Competition. Her numerous award-winning chapbooks include *Alterations of Rising* and *Kathleen Lynch - Greatest Hits*. Her work (fiction and poetry) appears in several anthologies, including *The Next Parish Over—A Collection of Irish American Writing*.

PARADE Commences: 11:30am
at 2nd & Market Streets
Route: Market Street to
Civic Center Plaza
via McAllister
Street

FESTIVAL: Civic Center Plaza
10:00am to 5:00pm
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Gwynn O'Gara

Gwynn O'Gara is Sonoma County's sixth poet laureate (2010 - 2011) and is a teacher for California Poets in the Schools. She is the author of three chapbooks of poetry, *Winter at Green Haven*, *Fixer Upper*, and *Snake Woman Poems*. Gwynn is a lifetime poet.



SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH

MEETING TIME: 11am **TOUR LENGTH:** 60-90 minutes

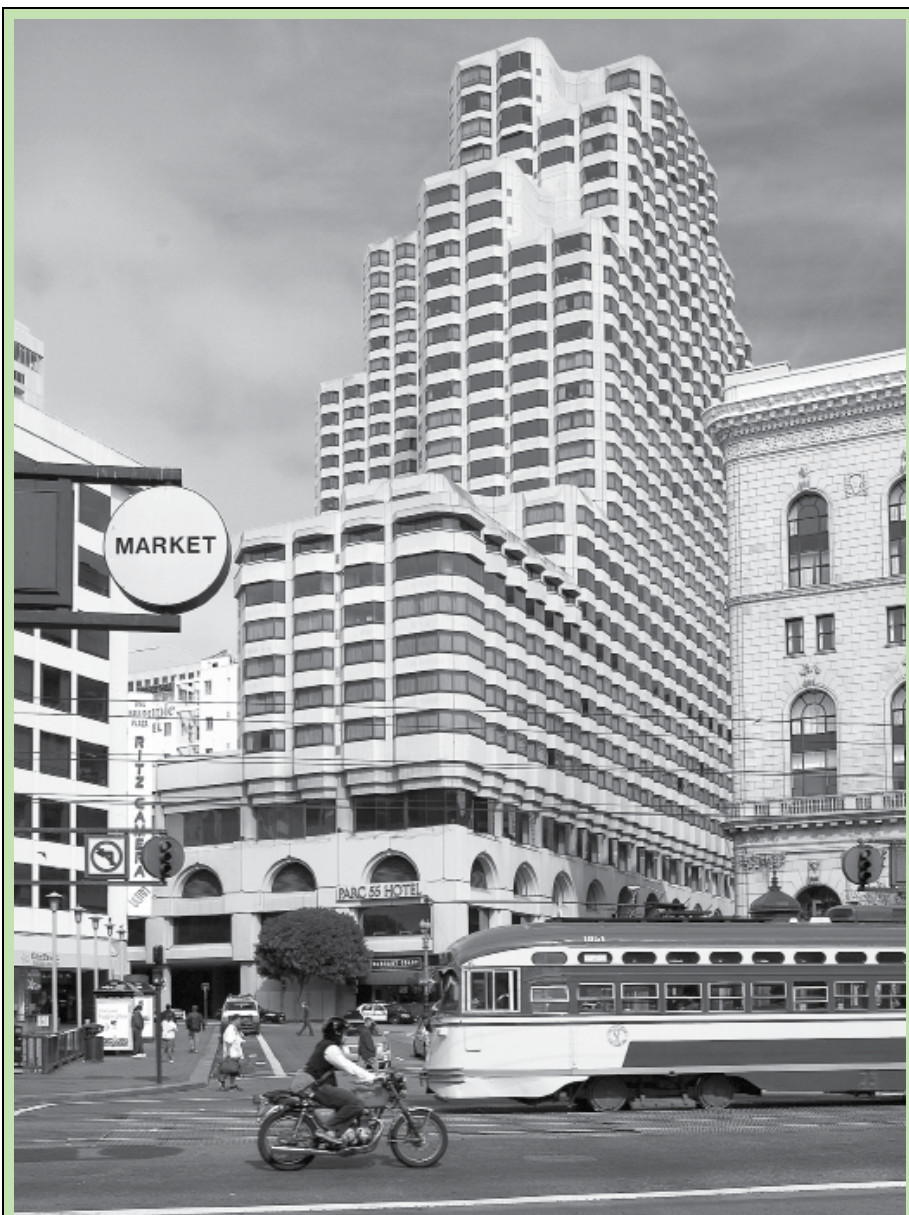
MEETING LOCATION: Walking Tour will meet at Hills Plaza Entrance Steps, 75 Folsom Street @ The Embarcadero, San Francisco.

MUNI: Underground: N and T



Irish Labor History in San Francisco: A Walking Tour along the Waterfront

Join veteran City Guide tour guide, Peter O'Driscoll, along with historian and author, Lawrence H. Shoup, for a fascinating tour illuminating the history of San Francisco's famed waterfront, with a particular focus on its Irish and Irish-American workers, leaders, and martyrs. The tour will include the sculpture dedicated to the waterfront strikers of 1934 and other historic markers along the way. The tour will end inside Rincon Center discussing the historic murals dedicated to the labor movement in San Francisco. Wear comfortable walking shoes! This event is wheel chair accessible.



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Log on to learn more about the Festival and our newly launched projects, the Writing Contest and the Irish Oral History Archive of the SF Bay Area.

All Festival events are free unless otherwise indicated.



SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH

TIME: Performance: 2-4pm. Doors: 1:30 pm.

LOCATION: Delancey Street Theater, 600 The Embarcadero @ Brannan Street, San Francisco.

\$10/advance or \$12/door.

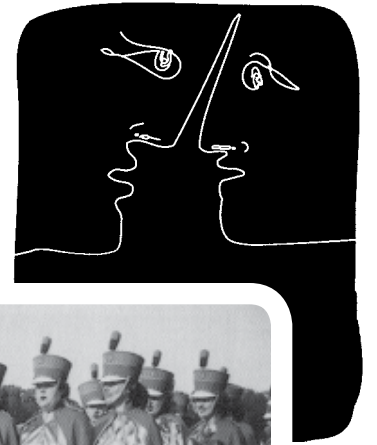
Advance tickets available online at www.irishamericancrossroads.org.

Special thanks for support from the Irish Government's Emigrant Support Programme (ESP).

Crossroads 2011 is pleased to introduce Berkeley's Playback Theatre ensemble to Festival audiences. Believing that moments of our lives can be touchstones, full of power and significance, Playback Theatre transforms personal stories told by audience members into theater pieces using movement, ritual, music, and spoken improvisation.

We invite you to share your stories of Irish-American heritage at this event, which will then be transformed into theater by this remarkable ensemble. Crossroads extends a special invitation to those who emigrated from Ireland to the San Francisco Bay Area as part of the 1950's generation, and their Irish-American counterparts, to share their stories at this event. This event is open to the public.

Telling it at the Crossroads: Transforming Personal Stories into Theater



FRIENDS AND SPONSORS

The 8th Annual Crossroads Irish-American Festival gratefully acknowledges the generosity and support of the following funders, sponsors and partners.

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Geraldine A. Williams
Katie Woodruff & Tim Miller

THE CROSSROADS IRISH-AMERICAN FESTIVAL is a member of the INTERSECTION INCUBATOR, a program of INTERSECTION FOR THE ARTS providing fiscal sponsorship, networking and consulting for artists. Visit www.theintersection.org.



FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH



IRENE YOUNG

TIME: Performance: 7pm. Doors: 6:30 pm.

LOCATION: St. Patrick's Church, The Sanctuary, 756 Mission Street @ 3rd Street, San Francisco. (Side entrance only).

\$18/advance or \$20/door.

ADVANCE tickets available online at www.irishamericancrossroads.org.

Patrick Ball in Concert at St. Patrick's Church

Join us for a remarkable opportunity to hear the music of internationally celebrated Celtic harpist, Patrick Ball, in the sanctuary of St. Patrick's Church, a building embodying the history of Irish San Francisco. St. Patrick's Church was built in 1851 by the Irish and is replete with Connemara marble and stained glass windows of Irish patron saints. It boasted an Irish congregation of 30,000 in 1870. This event promises to be an unforgettable evening of beautiful music and is an especially auspicious occasion as St. Patrick's Church celebrates its 160th anniversary in 2011. Don't miss this rare musical celebration!

MUNI: Bus lines 14, 27, 30, 45, 76

BART: New Montgomery Station

PARKING: Jessie Square Garage, 223 Stevenson Street (btw 3rd & 4th Sts) and 5th and Mission Garage, Mission Street.

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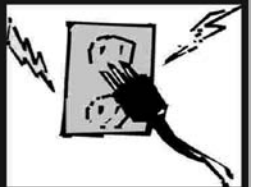
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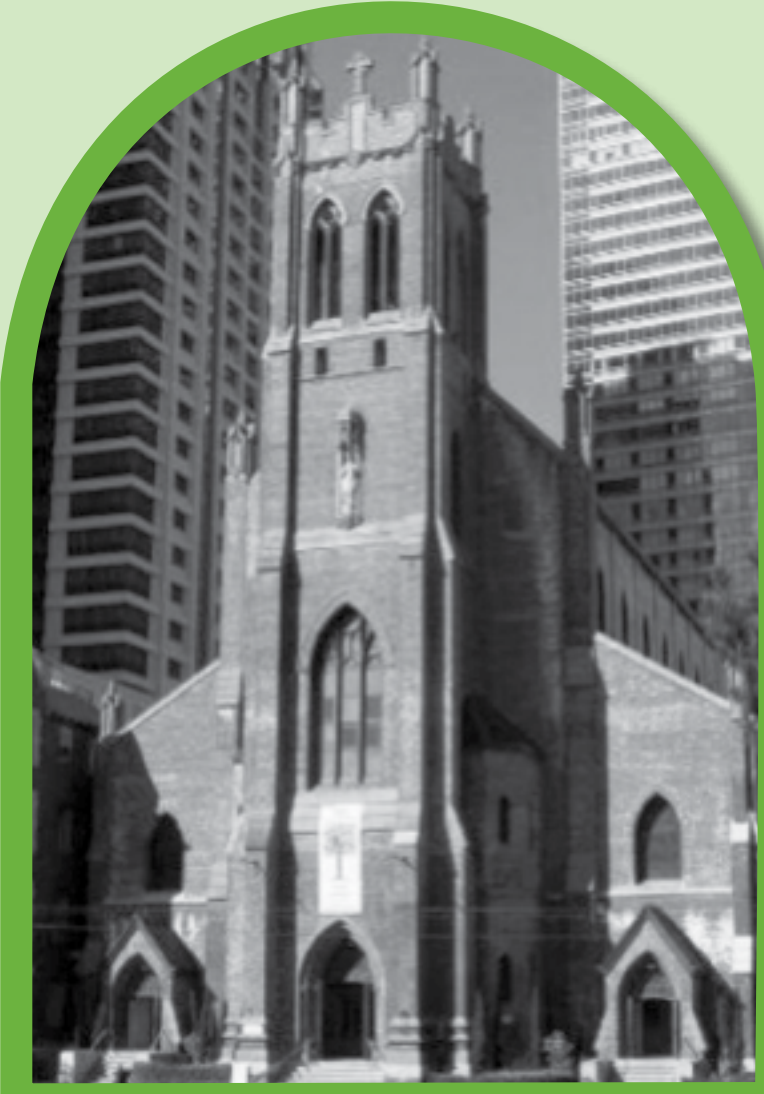
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About St. Patrick's Church in San Francisco

2011 marks the 160th anniversary of the foundation of St. Patrick's Church by the Irish community in San Francisco. This year, St. Patrick's Church invites the Irish community, and those with affinity to the Irish, to celebrate St. Patrick's Day by attending the events on March 12th including 9 a.m. Mass (before the St. Patrick's Day parade) and the St. Patrick's Dinner Dance and Bonanza at 6:30 pm (Donation: \$25).

For more information, please call:
(415) 421-3730 or please visit: www.spcsf.org.



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Interested in Exploring your Irish Heritage?

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WHEN: Monthly on Saturday (Call Jo at 415-585-6506 for time)

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2011 CROSSROADS IRISH-AMERICAN FESTIVAL LINEUP

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FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH @ 8PM
LIZ CARROLL IN CONCERT

A rare opportunity to hear Grammy nominated fiddler and composer, Liz Carroll in solo concert.

SAT, MARCH 5TH @ 11:30AM

CHILDREN'S HOUR Premiere Celtic harp player and storyteller, Patrick Ball, serves up a feast of stories and music for children of all ages.

SAT, MARCH 5TH @ 1:30PM

IRISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE

Leading literary voices will explore the enduring history and contemporary impact of Irish-American literature, including readings from their own works.

SAT, MARCH 5TH @ 8PM

LIZ CARROLL IN CONCERT WITH JAKE CHARRON

Grammy nominated fiddler and composer, Liz Carroll, in concert with guitarist, Jake Charron.

TUES, MARCH 8TH @ 7PM

A READING & CONVERSATION WITH JULIAN GOUGH

Irish novelist, Julian Gough in conversation with celebrated author, Yiyun Li.

SUN, MARCH 13TH @ 2PM

ORAL HISTORIES OF THE IRISH IN SF

Join us as we honor and celebrate the voices and contributions of the 1950's generation of Irish immigrants to the Bay Area.

TUES, MARCH 15TH @ 7PM

WRITING CONTEST AWARD & 'OPEN MIC' READING

Award presentation to and reading by the winner of the 1st Annual Irish-American Writing Contest and invitation to the public to participate in an 'open mic' night.

THURS, MARCH 17TH @ 7PM

POETRY READING & ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

A night of reading and conversation with three of the Bay Area's finest poets.

SAT, MARCH 19TH @ 11AM

WATERFRONT WALKING TOUR OF LOCAL LABOR HISTORY

Join this illuminating walk through SF's waterfront and discover the stories of the Irish workers and leaders in the labor movements of the 19th & 20th centuries.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH @ 2PM

TRANSFORMING PERSONAL STORIES INTO THEATER

Berkeley's Playback Theatre transforms personal stories told by audience members into theater pieces using movement, music, and spoken improvisation.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH @ 7PM

PATRICK BALL IN CONCERT AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

An unforgettable evening of beautiful Celtic harp music in the Sanctuary of St. Patrick's Church, a building embodying the history of Irish San Francisco.

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