



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

Sandra Gioia Treadway
Librarian of Virginia

Traditional Music of Ireland and Appalachia To Fill the Air at the Library of Virginia

~Ireland Meets Appalachia: A Conversation in Music on May 21~

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For Immediate Release

Three experienced musicians—Mary Dailey and Jimmy Costa from Appalachia and Patrick O'Flaherty from Ireland—will perform at the Library of Virginia on Friday, May 21, from 6:00—7:30 p.m. The trio will discuss and demonstrate through songs and tunes the common threads that run through the vocal and instrumental music of Ireland and Appalachia. The speakers will explore how the traditions evolved, and the similarities and differences they found when they began performing together. O'Flaherty will also discuss his immigration experience and involvement with Appalachian musical culture. This free program and discussion will be moderated by Gregg Kimball, director of Education and Outreach at the Library of Virginia.

Patrick O'Flaherty's music career spans three decades including tours throughout America with The Poor Clares and Celtic Folks. He sings in his native Gaelic and is a master of the mandolin, button accordion, and harmonica.

Jim Costa a skilled player of fiddle, clawhammer banjo, guitar and harmonica, with an extensive repertoire of traditional tunes and songs. He sings and instructs classes in traditional mountain music at festivals and workshops across West Virginia.

Mary Dailey is a singer, songwriter, and lover of old Appalachian and Celtic folksongs and ballads. She has performed in the mid-Atlantic region for more than 20 years in a variety of groups and venues, including at the Kennedy Center's Atrium, but "down home" settings have always been her favorite.

Ireland Meets Appalachia: A Conversation in Music explores the cultural connections between folk music from Ireland and the traditions that still survive in Virginia's Appalachian region. It is cosponsored by the Richmond Folk Music Society and Irish-American Society of Greater Richmond. For more information call 804-371-2126.

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