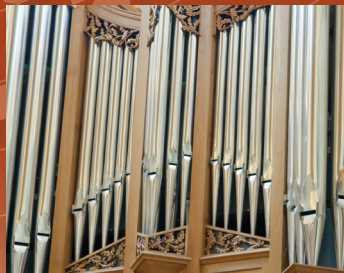


The aim of the Limerick Pipe Organ Festival, part of the Limerick City of Culture celebrations, is to raise awareness of the rich heritage of pipe organs in the city of Limerick and surrounding area. From mighty Cathedral organs to delightful smaller and more intimate instruments, Limerick churches are amply supplied with organs, some dating back to the nineteenth century. Traditionally these instruments have accompanied hymn-singing and choral offerings and have played solos. Their sound has often been found evocative and uplifting and they have added a distinctive ambience to the liturgy. There will be opportunities to hear these instruments played by both resident and visiting performers. There will be master-classes for organ students by organists and teachers with an international profile, and a particularly interesting feature of this Festival will be the attention paid to the exciting art of improvisation.

The Festival has as its highlight this year a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the fine Hill organ in St John's Cathedral, and it is a timely coincidence that this significant anniversary should fall during the year of Limerick's designation as City of Culture. Mozart famously described the organ as the King of Instruments. It has a large dynamic range, and a rich and varied palette of tonal colours. The nineteenth-century organist and composer César Franck described the organ as being his orchestra, and indeed this is an apt analogy. The orchestral potential of the organ can be most particularly heard in the large-scale organ music of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Moreover, in recent years there has been a resurgence of interest in playing transcriptions of orchestral music on the organ.



LIMERICK Pipe Organ Festival 2014

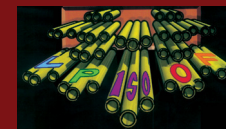
SIMILAR EVENTS

Glenstal Abbey:

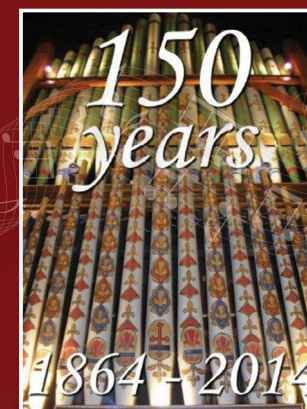
Ansgar Wallenhorst's Improvisation Workshop for organists
August 11th – 13th
Contact Columba McCann: columba@glenstal.org

Douglas Hollick's Repertoire Workshop for organists
August 15th - 17th
Contact Cyprian Love: cyprian@glenstal.org

Limerick Choral Festival:
Organist in Residence concerts
Details available on www.limerickchoralfestival.com



LIMERICK Pipe Organ Festival 2014





Gerard Gillen in concert 14th March 8pm

– admission free

Opening concert of the inaugural Limerick Pipe Organ Festival, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the iconic Hill organ in St. John's Cathedral, Limerick and featuring the internationally celebrated Irish organist Gerard Gillen.

Gerard Gillen was Professor and Head of Music at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth from 1985 to 2007. He is currently Titular Organist of Dublin's Pro-Cathedral and is widely regarded as one of Ireland's leading church and concert organists. Professor Gillen has an international reputation as an organ recitalist and has given over 900 recitals throughout Europe, the Middle East, America and Australia. Gerard Gillen was founder-chairman of the Dublin International Organ & Choral Festival of which he was artistic director from 1990-2000 and has also been a member of international competition juries in Oxford, Ann Arbor, London, Graz and Dublin. His latest CD of the organ music of César Franck and Flor Peeters on the English LCS HiRes label was one of Norman Lebrecht's special Christmas recommendations.

LIMERICK PIPE ORGAN FESTIVAL 2014

Friday 14th March, 8pm - St. John's Cathedral
– Opening Concert of the Festival - **Gerard Gillen** - Free

Sunday 27th April, 7pm - Sacred Heart Church, The Crescent
– **Daniel Battle** – Free

Wednesday 14th May, 7pm St. Mary's Church, Athlunkard Street,
– Featuring organ choral & instrumental music

Tuesday 20th May, 2:00pm – 5:00pm St. John's Cathedral
– **David Briggs** - Improvisation Masterclass – Free
Places limited, apply to www.lpof.ie

Wednesday 21st May, 8pm - St. John's Cathedral
– **David Briggs** – Concert to celebrate 150th anniversary of the organ - €15 & €10 available from FSV, Mulgrave Street, (Instrument Section) 061 207955
or Contact Kathy O'Grady COC team for more details, 061 415799

Sunday 6th July, 10:50am - Glenstal Abbey
Cyprian Love & Columba McCann – Improvisation Concert - Free

Wednesday 16th July, 1.15pm - St. Mary's Cathedral
– **Peter Barley** plays Buxtehude, Hassler, Tunder, Weir, Mathias - Free

Sunday 20th July, 10:50am - Glenstal Abbey
Cyprian Love & Columba McCann – Improvisation Concert - Free

Sunday 3rd August, 10:50am - Glenstal Abbey
Cyprian Love & Columba McCann – Improvisation Concert - Free

Wednesday 6th August, 1:15pm - St. Mary's Cathedral
– **Stuart Nicholson** – (Organist and Master of the Choristers, St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin) - Free

Sunday 17th August, 10:50am - Glenstal Abbey
– **Douglas Hollick** plays Böhm, Buxtehude, Couperin, Sweelinck and JS Bach - Free

Wednesday 10th September, 1:10pm - Mary Immaculate College Chapel - **Paul Collins** - Free

Sunday 12th October, 4pm - Mount St. Alphonsus
– **Paul Collins** - Free

Saturday 25th October, 4pm - St. Michael's Pery Square
– **Irina Dernova** - Free

Thursday 30th October, 7.30pm - Christchurch
– **Nigel Bridge** - Free

Sunday 9th November, 5pm - St John's Cathedral
Closing concert of the festival
– **Bernadette Kiely** - Free



David Briggs in concert 21st May 8pm

Organ concert by international organist David Briggs celebrating the 150th anniversary of the inauguration of the Hill organ in St. John's Cathedral. David Briggs is currently Artist in Residence at St James Cathedral, Toronto. Prior to this he has held major cathedral appointments in England, including that of Director of Music at Gloucester Cathedral.

David Briggs is renowned as a leading exponent of improvisation, and this recital will include organ improvisation. He has also built a significant reputation in the field of orchestral transcriptions – playing well known orchestral music on the organ, often in arrangements that he himself has made. This is a concert not to be missed, as it is rare to hear three different strands in one programme – organ repertoire, improvisation and orchestral repertoire played on the organ. www.david-briggs.org