

*Christmas with*

# ANÚNA





In 1987, **Michael McGlynn** founded ANÚNA. The ensemble's name, originally An Uaithne, derives from the collective term for the three ancient types of Irish music *Suantraí* (lullaby), *Geantraí* (happy song) and *Goltraí* (lament).

While many of performers in ANÚNA come from the island of Ireland its members are drawn from across the world, currently Iceland, the Netherlands, Italy, Slovenia and the USA. The repertoire is created by Michael McGlynn, and includes reconstructions of medieval music from Ireland, traditional song arrangements and original music.

They have appeared at the World Sacred Music Festival in Fes, Morocco and headlined the first ever Irish prom at the *BBC Proms* in the Royal Albert Hall. ANÚNA have sung in many of the finest spaces in the world including the Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing, Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre, Muziekgebouw Eindhoven, De Doelen Rotterdam, Orchard Hall in Tokyo, Town Hall New York and in Minneapolis Symphony Hall. In February 2017 the group performed in collaboration with a Noh theatrical company for the play Takahime, a Japanese adaptation of W.B. Yeats' *At the Hawk's Well*. The performance was directed by **Gensho Umewaka** (Japanese National Treasure) and Michael McGlynn who also composed an original score for the production.



ANÚNA created the atmospheric vocal sound of *Riverdance* from 1994 until they left the stage show in 1996. That year the album *Riverdance the Show*, won a Grammy Award. In 2011 they featured on DVD and CD with the pioneering Australian children's entertainers **The Wiggles**.

In February 2018 the group won the Outstanding Ensemble category of the Annual Game Music Awards for their contributions to the soundtrack of the hugely successful video game *Xenoblade Chronicles II* (Square Enix). In 2012 they appeared as the "Voices of Hell" on the video game **Diablo 3** [Blizzard] gaining a Game Audio Network Guild nomination for the Best Original Choral Performance in February 2013.

The unique nature of the group's performance has resulted in the creation of a ground-breaking and highly successful Education & Outreach programme that has been responsible for workshops across China, Japan, Spain, Belgium, Israel, Sweden, Canada, Poland, the UK and The Netherlands. Their ANÚNA International Summer School, now in its sixth year takes place in Dublin. The second ANÚNA Winter School will take place next February in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

*Invocation* won a National Entertainment Award for classical music in 1994, while *Deep Dead Blue* was nominated for a Classical Brit Award in 1999. *Celtic Origins* (2007), also an award-winning PBS show and DVD, became the number one selling CD on the US World Music Charts that August while the album *Christmas Memories* reaching the Hot 100 of the Billboard Album Chart in 2011. They have been signed to some of the world's major record labels including Decca, Universal Classics, Polygram, E1 and Philips.



# 2019

Launch of the début album by Icelandic/Irish offshoot  
M'ANAM (available at the door) and  
their first tour of the Netherlands, and début Irish performance.  
They travel to Canada and Iceland  
in the Spring, and appear in January as headliners at  
the Celtic Connections Festival in Glasgow.



Début performances in Ireland and the Netherlands of the  
new six-voice female ensemble SYSTIR.





# PROGRAMME

Media Vita  
Mariam Matrem Virginem  
An Oíche  
Christmas Day is Come  
Suantraí  
Gaudete  
An Oíche Úd i mBeithil  
The Coventry Carol  
Dúlamán  
The Wild Song  
Oíche Chiúin

## *Interval*

The Wexford Carol  
St Nicholas  
Sanctus  
Song of the Wind  
Ríu Ríu  
Jerusalem  
Jingle Bells  
The White Rose  
Ding Dong  
O Holy Night  
Pie Jesu

## THE SINGERS

Andrea Delaney  
Andrew Dempsey  
Ariel Estébez  
Cian O'Donnell  
Daithí Ó Nuanáin  
Deirdre Higgins  
Dominique Cunningham  
Ellie Mc Ginley  
Fergus Cahillane  
Gavin Brennan

Hannah Traynor Boyle  
Jernej Rudel  
Kerry Rose Stamp  
Lucy Champion  
Massimo Orlandini  
Miriam Blennerhasset  
Nickolas Stoppel  
Rory Musgrave  
Ryan Garnham  
Sorcha Fenlon

Artistic Director/Composer Michael McGlynn  
Education and Outreach Lucy Champion  
All titles written/arranged by Michael McGlynn