

Newsletter

October 2021



Ambasáid na hÉireann  
Embassy of Ireland

# HALLOWEEN

Embassy of Ireland Helsinki

## Greetings from the Embassy

I hope you are all enjoying autumn and looking forward to marking Halloween as we are in the Embassy.

As vaccine coverage is steadily increasing and Finland has lifted restrictions, we are experiencing a change in patterns and enjoying the beginning of the return of events, including those listed in this Newsletter, which has more in-person events than I have seen before. It was possible for the Embassy to host our first small get-together for Irish Community organisations earlier this month which was a wonderful opportunity to make some connections. This was the first event since the start of the pandemic and we are hopeful that as the situation improves further, we will be able to meet more of you on various occasions in the months to come. However, we know the situation remains difficult and expect that lots of activities will still continue online or in hybrid form.

Next year Ireland and Finland celebrate 60 years of Diplomatic Relations and we are planning some exciting things around that. More information on those will be published in our next newsletters and on our social media platforms so please remember to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

At the end of the summer we said goodbye to Deputy Head of Mission Ms Emma McCarron who returned to the head office in Dublin. We thank Emma for all her hard work over the last three years and wish her all the best in her new projects! Our new Deputy Head of Mission Steven Murphy arrived to Helsinki in late September just in time for the beautiful autumn foliage. Steven joins us from Dublin where we worked on the European Neighbourhood Unit at the EU Division. He is joined by his wife Gunnhildur, and I wish them all the best for their time in Finland. Tervetuloa!

The last year and a half have been a strain for many of us and especially hard for those who have not been able to see loved ones in other countries. We hope that the events organised by the various Irish communities and associations here in Finland and the online events from Ireland, will bring a little bit of Ireland to you all. We continue to encourage you to join in with events and activities organised by the various active organisations or indeed the Embassy. Traditions, like Halloween, which is just around the corner, give us a good excuse to share. Like last year, we are running a competition for you all you to take part, please see more information on the next page – get colouring, costume making and picture taking!

Happy Halloween! Oíche Shamhna Shona!

Ruth Parkin

Ambasadóir na hÉireann - Ambassador of Ireland - Irlannin suurlähettiläs - Irlands ambassadör

# HALLOWEEN COMPETITION



It's competition time!

Send us a picture that captures your Halloween 2021 in Finland!

It could be a photo of you and/or your family all dressed up, a pumpkin you've carved or Halloween themed artwork by your children.

Send us your entry latest on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November

to [helsinkiembassy@dfa.ie](mailto:helsinkiembassy@dfa.ie)

Or share on our Facebook or Twitter [@IrishEmbFinland](https://www.facebook.com/IrishEmbFinland)

Prizes for top entries!

## COMMUNITY EVENTS OCTOBER 2021



13<sup>th</sup> October

Representatives of the Irish community met with Ambassador Parkin and incoming Deputy Head of Mission Steven Murphy at the Ambassador's Residence.



26<sup>th</sup> October

FIFA Women's World Cup Qualifier match Finland-Ireland at the Helsinki Olympic Stadium.



22<sup>nd</sup> October

Mark Hennessey Irish musician, composer and dancer held an Irish music evening in Molly Malone's.





# COMMUNITY EVENTS AHEAD



## Samhain

Saturday 6.11. 2021 at 18.00 in Thirsty Scholar (Fabianinkatu 37, Helsinki).

A joint event with the Finnish Celtic Society. Stories on Halloween's celtic roots and supernatural Irish stories. Irish music by Markku Lauren & co.

## Christmas Party

Sunday 5.12.2021 at 18.00 in Molly Malone's (Kaisaniemenkatu 1, Helsinki).

Festive night out, pub quiz and lively Irish music by Ants in The Pants.

More information on both events [HERE](#)



## HELSINKI HARPS GAA

Autumn practices at the Tali Sportsfield in Pitäjänmäki.

Football Sundays at 19.00

Hurling Wednesdays at 18.00

Childrens' youth camp on four Saturdays in November and December, details below

More information on all events [HERE](#)

**HELSINKI HARPS**  
IRISH SPORTS  
**YOUTH CAMP**  
FREE  
FREE  
20/11, 27/11 & 4/12, 11/12  
10:00 - 11:00  
Talin jalkapallohalli  
Ages 5 & up



## Irish Dance Classes

InSpiral Dance Company Finland is an Irish Dance school in Finland.

They organise weekly classes and workshops in Helsinki, Jyväskylä, Tampere, and Turku area.

More information on the classes [HERE](#)

## Other Voices – Live Stream Concert

For the night owls in the community,

Tonight Friday 29 October at 23.00 Finnish time, tune in for a live concert from the Irish Embassy in London.

Stunning performances by eclectic folk act The Unthanks, pioneering multi-instrumentalist Michael McGoldrick Music, platinum award-winning singer-songwriter Katie Melua and the magnificent indie-electro-folk duo Saint Sister.

Watch it [HERE](#)

OTHER VOICES:  
LONDON CALLING  
THE UNTHANKS  
SAINT SISTER  
KATIE MELUA  
MICHAEL MCGOLDRICK  
HOSTED BY ANNIE MAC  
29 OCT 2021 / 9PM GMT+1  
EMBASSY OF IRELAND, LONDON

## Irish TV Series on YLE Arena

Irish thriller drama series *Smother* written by Kate O'Riordan and directed by Datháí Keane is showing on YLE Arena.

It stars Dervla Kirwan as Val Ahern, a mother who is determined to protect her family at any cost.

Watch it [HERE](#)

# COMMUNITY EVENTS AHEAD

**Jane Hughes Exhibition** 29.10.-21.11.2021 – Gallery Vanha Kappalaisentalo Porvoo

The exhibition *Toisella Rannalla* brings together the works of Laura Böök, Jane Hughes, and Mari Mäkiö, inspired by a mix of different locations by the sea: the Aran Islands, on the West coast of Ireland, Öro island in Turku archipelago and Edithburgh Jetty Yorke Peninsula on the South Australian coast.

Jane Hughes (b.1984) is an Irish artist based in Helsinki working with painting and installation to explore cultural and social histories and our relation to the environment through diverse approaches.

LAURA BÖÖK, JANE HUGHES

& MARI MÄKIÖ

*Toisella rannalla*

29.10.–21.11.2021



GALLERIA VANHA KAPPA LAISENTALO • GALLERI GAMLA KAPLANSGÄRDEN

Välikatu 13, Porvoo  
Mellangatan 13, Borgå

Avoinna: ti–su klo 10–16, ma suljettu  
Öppet: ti–sö kl. 10–16, må stängt

kappalainen@porvoo.fi  
040 489 1771



Ambassadeur en Finlande  
Embassy of Ireland



Svenska  
kulturfonden

PORVOO BORGÅ



# COMMUNITY EVENTS AHEAD

**European Film Weeks in Helsinki** 15-23.11.2021 presents films from EU countries

The event is organized by the European Commission Representation in Finland and the European Parliament Information Office in Finland, in cooperation with Embassies from EU member states and candidate countries.

The event takes place in Eurooppasali (Malminkatu 16, Helsinki.) All screenings are free of charge.

DOKUMENTTI  
DOKUMENTÄR  
DOCUMENTARY

# THE SILVER BRANCH

LA / LÖ / SAT 20.11.  
klo / kl / at  
**13.00**



   

**IRLANTI, 2017**

**OHJAAJA** Katrina Costello

**KESTO** 75 min

**KIELI** Englanti

**ESITTÄJÄ** Irlannin suurlähetystö,  
Irish Film Institute, Culture Ireland ja  
Arts Council of Ireland

## THE SILVER BRANCH

The Silver Branch on elokuvakeronmallinen luonnon ja maatilakulttuurin ylistys ja samalla kurkistus maanviljelijä-runoilija Patrick McCormackin elämään. McCormack jatkaa lukuisien häntä edeltäneiden maanviljelijäsukupolvien työtä samoilla kotikonnuilla. Tämä Katrina Costellon esikoisohjaus, jonka henkeäsalpaavista luontokuvista hän on itse kuvannut suuren osan, rakentaa voimakkaan meditatiivisen katselukokemuksen, joka antaa eväitä syvään yhteyteen luonnonympäristömme kanssa ja auttaa tiedostamaan selkeämmin roolimme haavoittuvan planeettamme suojelussa.

**IRLAND, 2017**

**REGISSÖR** Katrina Costello

**VARAKTIGHET** 75 min

**SPRÅK** Engelska

**VISAS AV** Irlands ambassad, Irish Film Institute, Culture Ireland & Arts Council of Ireland

## THE SILVER BRANCH

The Silver Branch är en hyllning till naturen och agrarkulturen och ger en inblick i hur livet gestaltar sig för jordbrukaren och poeten Patrick McCormack, ättling till generationer av jordbrukare som har livnärt sig på de magra jordarna i Burren i grevskapet Clare. Regissören Katrina Costello debuterar här med en film som hon till stora delar har filmat själv. De hisnande natursekvenserna förmedlar en tittarupplevelse som är djupt meditativ och skapar djup samhörighet med den omgivande miljön och ökad medvetenhet om vår roll när det gäller att skydda vår sårbara planet.

**IRELAND, 2017**

**DIRECTOR** Katrina Costello

**DURATION** 75 min

**LANGUAGE** English

**PRESENTED BY** Embassy of Ireland, Irish Film Institute, Culture Ireland & Arts Council of Ireland

## THE SILVER BRANCH

A cinematic eulogy to nature and agrarian culture and a glimpse into the life of farmer/poet Patrick McCormack, descendant of generations of farmers who have lived off the Burren in County Clare. This debut from director Katrina Costello, who shot much of the breath-taking nature sequences herself, creates a viewing experience that is deeply meditative, leading to a deep connection with the natural environment and a heightened awareness of our role in protecting our vulnerable planet.



# OUR SERVICES

## Travel Advise

We advise all Irish citizens when travelling abroad to remain vigilant and follow the instructions and advice from the local authorities. Department of Foreign Affairs advice on travelling to Finland is available [here](#). The [Finnish Border Guard](#) provides guidelines for boarder traffic during pandemic. [The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare](#) provides guidance on health security measures. Information on travel related testing for COVID-19 is also available on the [FINENTRY](#) website.



## Visas

The Department of Justice has announced the resumption of visa processing. Details of the Government of Ireland advice on international travel and travel to Ireland are available on the travel section of the [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) website. For further information on visas, please see the new website of [Irish Immigration Service](#). An online visa application can be made [here](#). For more information and advice contact the Embassy via the [website](#).

## Appointments

Appointments for the Embassy of Ireland in Helsinki, for consular matters when necessary can be made by calling +35896824240 or sending an email to [helsinkiembassy@dfa.ie](mailto:helsinkiembassy@dfa.ie).

## Passports

The Passport Service is continuing to process Passport Online applications as a priority. Find information on the provision of passport services [here](#). To apply via Passport Online, please click [here](#)

## Registration

In addition, you can register your contact details on Department of Foreign Affairs Citizens' Registration, which allows us to contact you and provide assistance in the event of an unforeseen crisis or family emergency while you are overseas: <https://www.dfa.ie/travel/citizens-registration>

## FOLLOW US



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*If you wish to unsubscribe from our newsletter, please let us know by return email. This Newsletter comes to you as a free and voluntary service of the Embassy for your benefit. It includes event information that has been provided to us from external sources; please be informed that we cannot vouch for the accuracy or veracity of that information nor does it imply that the Embassy is associated with these events.*

If you have an Irish community or cultural event that you would like to publicise, please email us at [helsinkiembassy@dfa.ie](mailto:helsinkiembassy@dfa.ie).

**Best Wishes from the Embassy of Ireland!**