



Oh Me Oh My, The Night Joe Dolans Car Broke Down

Limerick Classical Concert Series

Front Cover: A Lot Like Christmas Main Photo: Rising Stars 2022



## **ANNUAL REPORT** 2021/2022





## PERFORMANCES October 2021 – September 2022

#### Classical

Awakening - Camerata Ireland; Irish National Opera; John O'Connor University Concert Hall Carmen Senbla/Ellen Kent Commemoration Concert Limerick Choral Union Four Seasons Explained Vladimir Jahlokov ICO - Homelands - A Celebration: Guitar Man with Sean Shibe: Mozart & Widmann; Mozart, Kinsella & Berlioz; Bach, Mozart & Debussy; Mozart The Final Symphonies; Mozart, Shostakovich, Frost & Glass Wilson & Bruckner Irish Chamber Orchestra Madama Butterfly Senbla/Ellen Kent Maria Stuarda Irish National Opera Rising Stars 2022 University Concert Hall RTÉ CO: John Williams 90th Celebration RTÉ CO & University Concert Hall **Tenebrae Concert** Limerick Sings International Choral Festival Tenebrae Workshop Limerick Sings International Choral Festival UCH Music Club University Concert Hall UL Orchestra Summer Prome University of Limerick Orchestra

#### Comedy

Dara O'Briain The Lisa Richards Agency Des Bishop The Lisa Richards Agency Neil Delamere The Lisa Richards Agency Pat Shortt Shortt Comedy Theatre Company Rhod Gilbert Blue Jeans Management The Dirtbirds The Dirtbirds The Punchline : Emma Doran & Julie Jay | Micky Bartlett University Concert Hall Tommy Tiernan Aiken Promotions (3 shows)

#### Community

60th Anniversary Celebration Concert Limerick School of Music A Winter's Tale The Snowman Limerick Educate Together Culture Day - Charlie Chaplin Screening University Concert Hall (2) **Expressive Arts Theatre School Showcase Expressive Arts Theatre School** Fighting Words (online) University Concert Hall (6)

#### Limerick Jazz Society **Opera Workshops** Opera Workshop (4 Days) Young Irish Jazz Musician Bursary Limerick Jazz Society Podcast Paudcast.ie Filming Woken (2 Days)

#### Conferences

Jazz with Strings

**ECASIA Conference** Plassev Campus Centre **IPWSO Conference** University of Limerick **Talc Conference reception Plassey Campus Centre Ultimate Frisbee Event Plassey Campus Centre** WONCA Conference Plassey Campus Centre

#### Drama/Musical

The Night Joe Dolan's Car Broke Down Verdant & University Concert Hall (3 shows) Menopause the Musical Robert C Kelly & University Concert Hall (2) Friends the Musical Parody Robert C Kelly & University Concert Hall **Copper Face Jacks The Musical** Verdant Productions & Kite Entertainment (5) **Rory's Stories** Singular Artists Ltd.

#### Eclectic

Dermot Whelan - Mindful NK Management Muscle Contest Ireland Muscle Contest International **RIBBF Championship** Rep. of Ireland Body Building Federation **Ultimate Hell Week** Singular Artists Ltd

#### Family

A Lot Like Christmas Robert C. Kelly & University Concert Hall (9) **Panto Kids Auditions** University Concert Hall

Charlie Chaplin with Compton Organ **Exhibition On Screen: Sunflowers Exhibition on Screen: Raphael Revealed National Theatre Live: Follies** National Theatre Live: No Man's Land **Raiders of the Lost Ark** Ratatouille **Romeo & Juliet** Sweat The Addams Family The Notebook The Wizard of Oz The Last of the Mohicans

#### Thanks to our supporters

Music Abba The Show Tommy Swarbrigg Acoustic Country: Aisling Rafferty University Concert Hall Christy Moore Paddy Doherty (3 shows) Clannad Singular Artists Ltd. Dan McCabe Tom Kelly Promotions Imelda Mav **Aiken Promotions** Kodaline Dolans Lumen – Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin University of Limerick Mike Denver Tom Kelly Promotions Nathan Carter Tommy Swarbrigg (2 Shows) **Reeling in the Showbands** Tommy Swarbrigg Róisín O University Concert Hall Sharon Shannon/Mary Coughlan/Frances Black Dolans The Fureys Joe McCadden The High Kings Singular Artists Ltd. The Three Amigos J & C Promotions Tommy Fleming **TF Productions Ltd** U.L. Events **Blindboy Live Podcast** 

**UL Student Life** EntreprenEIREship: Ireland's Summit for Inspiration UL Student Life IED Movie Nights UL Global (2 Shows) International Women's Forum University of Limerick UL Open Davs University of Limerick (1 Dav) UL Orientation Week University of Limerick (4 Days) UL Conferrings University of Limerick (11 Days) UL Global Welcome Event University of Limerick (2 Days) UL Inspire Event University of Limerick

#### Box Office

RTE lyric fm Towelodge // International and an LIMERICK LEADER

UL Creative Writing University of Limerick (3) Limerick Sings Afternoon Proms; An Evening of Choirs in concert, Anúna Workshop Limerick Sings Outdoor Chorus Limerick Sings various venues

## **KEY MILESTONES 2021/2022**

#### Programme

- Presented 171 concerts, graduations, international conferences and other events across the year.
- Welcomed 12 choirs and over 640 choristers to Limerick for the 2022 Limerick Sings International Choral Festival from across Ireland and Europe- our first live Festival since 2019. Joining us for the Festival was International Choral group Tenebrae, who performed at our Opening Gala, and renowned conductor David Brophy who led our Outdoor Chorus on the iconic Cliffs of Moher, featuring on both RTÉ and Virgin Media news on the day.
- Programmed 7 concerts with the Irish Chamber orchestra, and UCH's first in-person 3-part Limerick Classical Concert Series featuring artists from Irish National Opera's ABL Opera Studio, international Irish Pianist John O'Connor and Camerata Ireland with pianist Barry Douglas.
- Welcomed artists and performers across all genres including Neil Delamere, Kodaline, Tommy Tiernan, Blindboy, the RTE Concert Orchestra, Dermot Whelan, Sharon Shannon, Imelda May and Copper Face Jacks The Musical.
- Grew our creative writing programme with the Fighting Words team hosting workshops with a number of National Schools including Killaloe N.S., St. Brigid's N.S. and Scoil Naoimh Íde.

#### Audiences

- Welcomed over 67,000 audience members across the year.
- Produced a new family Christmas show, A Lot Like Christmas, featuring the much-loved Snowman Movie and some of our well-known Panto cast members to work within COVID's 50% capacity restrictions and an 8pm curfew.

#### Business

- Following full venue closures in March 2020, UCH's doors reopened in full in September 2021 all while still under tight COVID measures and capacity restrictions.
- At the same time the UCH Executive team returned to their full and part-time roles to support the return of events. This included checking COVID certificates on entry, mask wearing and socially distanced queuing systems.
- Recruitment campaigns continued throughout the year to fill vacancies across UCH's Box Office, Marketing and Operations team.
- In Autumn 2021 UCH received a grant of €25,000 from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media through their Event Sector COVID Support Scheme and later in the year a second grant of €100k under the Department's Live Performance Grant Restart Grant Scheme. Both assisted UCH significantly in covering business restart and operational costs.
- Further support came through a Capacity Building Grant from the Arts Council to allow UCH develop, design and deliver a new website, offering a seamless booking experience to customers, and a modern and stylish new presence for UCH online.
- During this time UCH also moved to a new ticketing platform, Ticketsolve to provide a more user friendly and intuitive booking experience for customers and staff while delivering cost savings too.

#### **Charitable Objectives**

- As a registered charity, University Concert Hall's work aims to:
- Develop an accessible concert programme of national and international standing.
- Develop culture and entertainment in the region, helping to contribute to the social and cultural life of Limerick and the surrounding Mid-west region.
- Provide a platform to showcase community arts entities including many Limerick operatic and oratorio choirs, youth choirs, local orchestras, musical theatre companies as well as stage and dance schools.



"Absolutely love this venue. From the staff at front office to the backstage crews! Well run, amazing venue. Every seat has a great view.'

f Facebook Comment

"Saw the Ukrainian municipal opera and orchestra perform Carmen, it was amazing. Will 100% be checking out whatever they have on show every season

**G** Google Review

"Great night and atmosphere. Staff were lovely, very friendly and helpful."

**G** Google Review



# for the rest of my life."



## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

#### 2021/2022

2021/2022				
Perf. Type	No. of Perfs	% of Perfs	No. Attending/ Streaming	Attendees as %
Classical	24	13.79%	5,566	8.28%
Comedy	12	6.90%	7,887	11.74%
Community	20	11.49%	2,152	3.20%
Conference	16	9.20%	4,690	6.98%
Drama / Musical	12	6.90%	5,583	8.31%
Eclectic	5	2.87%	2,224	3.31%
Family	11	6.32%	1,731	2.58%
Film	13	7.47%	1,071	1.59%
Music	20	11.49%	12,683	18.88%
UL Events	33	18.97%	22,633	33.69%
Box office	8	4.60%	962	1.43%
	174	100.00	67,182	100.00

### UNIVERSITY CONCERT HALL FINANCIAL OVERVIEW Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

#### **OPERATING INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Operational Surplus/ (Deficit)	148,564	(29,558)
Total Expenditure	1,112,826	618,048
Grant Expenditure	0	19,300
Direct Performance Costs for Shows	227,064	75,796
Staff Costs & Administration Expenditure	885,761	522,952
Expenditure		
Total Income	1,261,390	588,490
Grant Income	142,535	26,918
Other Operating Income	111,841	149,512
Limerick and Clare Council Grants	45,000	45,000
UCH Memberships & Donations	19,167	12,724
Venue Show Income	942,847	354,336
Income		
	30.09.2022 €	30.09.2021 €
	Year ended	Year ended

Total income for the year was €1,261,390, an increase of 114.34% on the previous year; this was utilised as follows:

