



# Clebran: Connected Imagination

Conversation and performance at Other Voices Cardigan

**3rd - 5th November 2022**

- **Conversation and performance over the 3 days of Other Voices festival**
  - **Wales' First Minister joins the conversations**
- **Fresh perspectives from 19 leading thinkers and creatives**

Other Voices Cardigan presents a series of compelling and provocative discussions: **Clebran: Connected Imagination**, a celebration of the enduring cultural and musical ties between Ireland and Wales, taking place at Mwldan in Cardigan from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2022.

Each afternoon writers, musicians, journalists, artists, poets, politicians and academics will join in conversations about how we perceive our world, language and culture.

On the second day of the event, Friday 4 November at 4.15pm, the **Rt. Hon Mark Drakeford MS, First Minister of Wales**, will make a very special appearance as a guest speaker, joined by the celebrated poet Mererid Hopwood and acclaimed traditional fiddle player/violinist Aoife Ní Bhríain to form a panel hosted by TV and radio broadcaster Huw Stephens, in order to explore the value of culture, creativity and connection, and the identities of people, nations and diasporas.

Clebran will commence at 4pm on Thursday 3 November with the **Raving Celts** session in which Irish performer, folklorist and musician Billy Mag Fhloinn joins with leading Welsh dance and performance artist Eddie Ladd to explore lost Celtic rituals, including a unique performance created for Clebran that brings together and reimagines ideas of our ancient traditions.

Following that on Thursday at 5.15pm we will hear from three remarkable Irish and Welsh musicians - Mercury prize nominated Gweno, Iarla Ó Lionáird (The Gloaming, Afro Celt Sound System) and rapper Sage Todz – who join journalist Jude Rogers to talk about their language journeys and creative expression through Celtic languages.

Friday's discussions begin at 2pm with the internationally bestselling author Emma Dabiri joining historian Professor Diarmaid Ferriter and writer and broadcaster Professor Richard Wyn Jones for a panel hosted by heritage and slavery researcher Marian Gwyn to re-examine the colonial histories of Wales and Ireland and help us to better understand the positions we find ourselves in today.

Our final Clebran session of 2022 on Saturday at 2pm turns our gaze to the future with Turner prize nominated artist Rabab Ghazoul, Róise Goan, Artistic Director of Arts Admin, and presenter Molly Palmer sharing ideas about how we might imagine our future, together with Jane Davidson, vanguard of Wales' world-leading Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, and session host, historian and writer Dr Christopher Kissane.

Internationally acclaimed traditional singer Iarla Ó Lionáird and fiddle player Aoife Ní Bhriain will both provide us with a taste of their exceptional music during their sessions.

This exciting series of carefully conceived discussions and performances have been created to bring fresh perspectives to a new collective imagining about some of our most pressing challenges and germane reflections... because things look different from the Edge.

Other Voices wristbands will get you entry to all Clebran events (subject to capacity). Earlybird weekend wristbands priced at £20, rising to £25 on 13 October.

Full details of the programme, speakers, tickets can be found at [othervoices.ie](http://othervoices.ie) as well as line-ups for the Music Trail and Church.

The Clebran discussion sessions are part of Other Voices Cardigan and are staged in partnership with Ireland's Edge, the ideas strand of Other Voices.

**First Minister Mark Drakeford said:**

*"It's so good to see the return of Other Voices to West Wales to showcase some of our best musical talent. I'm so glad that we are re-establishing this exciting event in the calendar. It's a symbol of the importance of our cultural and business connections with our friends in Ireland".*

**Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin TD said:**

*"Other Voices Cardigan again promises a wonderful programme of live music which will enable outstanding performances to be enjoyed around the world. It is especially heartening to see audiences and artists coming together again in person. I am very proud that my Department is supporting the programme again this year and strengthening further the cultural ties between Ireland and Wales."*

**The Consul General of Ireland in Wales, Denise McQuade said:**

*“We are delighted that Other Voices is returning to Cardigan this year. Ireland and Wales share rich cultural ties which stretch back many centuries. Other Voices provides an opportunity to build those ties and to highlight and share the best of contemporary Irish and Welsh culture.”*

Other Voices Cardigan is produced by South Wind Blows in partnership with Mwldan and Triongl and made possible thanks to the support and investment of Welsh Government and The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

## **ENDS/**

Contact Helena Turgel [helena@mwldan.co.uk](mailto:helena@mwldan.co.uk) +44 (0)1239 622 403 for further details

## [Speaker bios and images](#)

Ireland’s Edge began in 2015, evolving from an ambition to explore Ireland's future in a changing global landscape from a unique vantage point in Dingle, at the very western tip of Ireland. Ireland’s Edge promotes the idea that collaboration, discussion, lending and borrowing can build on our collective knowledge, placing culture, creativity and community at the very heart of what we do.

## **Ireland’s Edge highlights:**

[Manchán Magan | How The Irish Language Inspires A More Connected Way Of Life](#)

[Fay'd | An Spailpín Fánach \(Drill Remix\) | Live at Ireland's Edge](#)

[“I’m Just a Banjo Player”: Grammy Winning Rhiannon Giddens in conversation](#)

[www.irelandsedge.net](http://www.irelandsedge.net)

**@irelandsedge**

**FULL CLEBRAN PROGRAMME:**

## Connected Imagination

**Conversation and performance at Other Voices, Cardigan**

**3-5 November**

**Thursday 3 November**

4.00PM

**RAVING CELTS**

Christopher Kissane (host)

Billy Mag Fhloinn

Eddie Ladd

Our Clebran discussions begin with a collective reimagining of folk traditions. Folklorist, musician and archaeologist Billy Mag Fhloinn created Pagan Rave as a means of exploring ideas of ancient ceremony and custom. Music, costume, movement and the sensation of collective joy allows those taking part to directly experience the role these rituals play, then and now. Working with performer Eddie Ladd, the two have created a unique performance for Clebran that brings together ideas of our ancient traditions and reimagines them.

5.15PM

**KEEPERS OF THE FLAME**

Jude Rogers (host)

Gwenno

Iarla Ó Lionáird

Sage Todz

A conversation featuring some exceptional singers and musicians who are reviving, preserving and promoting the Irish, Welsh and Cornish languages through music and song. We will hear about their own language journeys and how expressing themselves through different tongues became so important to their creative imaginings. Performance from Iarla O'Lionaird.

### **Friday 4 November**

2.00PM

### **ECHOES OF EMPIRE**

Marian Gwyn (host)

Emma Dabiri

Diarmaid Ferriter

Richard Wyn Jones

The Welsh and the Irish share the unenviable position of being amongst the first peoples to be colonised by England, and those painful histories underpin our national psyches. Less spoken of are the ways in which each played a part in the colonial machine, and the benefits that followed. Our panel unravels the complexities to help us understand how we have arrived at today and how we might move forward.

3.15PM

## WHO ARE WE: CULTURE, IDENTITY AND DIASPORA

Huw Stephens (host)

Aoife Ní Bhriain

First Minister of Wales Mark Drakeford

Mererid Hopwood

The cultural landscapes of Wales and Ireland are keystones for our identities, be it for those at home or those away. Creativity and connection paved the way and have never been more vital for our onward paths. Our panellists have each explored these ideas from different vantage points and share thoughts on what this might mean for our collective futures. Performance from Aoife Ní Bhriain.

## **Saturday 5 November**

2.00PM

## IMAGINING THE FUTURE

Christopher Kissane (host)

Jane Davidson

Rabab Ghazoul

Róise Goan

Molly Palmer

Wales was the first country in the world to legislate for the protection of those not yet born via the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, and many of those goals flow into the Ireland-Wales shared statement and joint action plan 2021-2025. We ask our

panel to help us envisage how art, creativity and culture can help realise those goals, whose voices are needed and who gets to decide?

### **Other Voices:**

Other Voices started as a one-off music event in a small church in Dingle, a small fishing village in the west of Ireland and over the last 20 years the idea has grown. Other Voices is now an established fixture in the musical calendar - a 'must attend' event for performers and audiences alike. Other Voices has led to the creation of an international music TV series and the filming of that series subsequently became a music festival, a tourism event in its own right that celebrates the local on a global scale. In recent years Other Voices has travelled to London, Belfast, New York, Austin, Texas and Berlin.

### **Other Voices Highlights:**

Amy Winehouse: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1xFsoRYrds>

Hozier: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0\\_oGM2o2y0Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_oGM2o2y0Y)

Sam Fender: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCrwhejbCxo>

Fontaines D.C.: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OigDCDM5\\_Qc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OigDCDM5_Qc)

The Murder Capital: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r19CdbbYQMk>

Sigrid: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9jwHvfgMjE>

Young Fathers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C01pXeWoGFk>

[www.othervoices.ie](http://www.othervoices.ie)

@othervoiceslive

### **Mwldan**

Mwldan is an independent Arts Centre and cinema based in Cardigan. The venue presents a multi-artform live programme and screens around 3000 films and live



broadcasts annually. A major producing venue, Mwldan is behind collaborations such as Catrin Finch and Seckou Keita, and also produces the Cardigan Castle Summer Events in partnership with Cardigan Castle. In 2017 Mwldan started the record label bendigedig in partnership with ARC music productions, operating a 360-degree model of artist management, agenting, producing, releasing, PR and marketing. A not-for-profit registered charity and social enterprise, the organisation has an annual turnover of £1.7 million (pre-Covid) and employs a staff team of 19.

**[www.mwldan.co.uk](http://www.mwldan.co.uk)**

**@TheatrMwldan**

## **Triongl**

Triongl is a TV and Film production company established in 2017 by Nora Ostler and Alec Spiteri and joined by Gethin Scourfield in 2018. All three are experienced producers with a track record of producing high quality, award-winning content. They will be documenting 'Other Voices/Lleisiau Eraill' for an hour's special edition for later broadcast on S4C and RTÉ.

**[www.triongl.cymru](http://www.triongl.cymru)**

**@triongl\_tv**