

UNITED IRISH of DAYTON



ESTABLISHED 2002

2019 United Irish of Dayton Celtic Festival to Feature Four Stages of Continuous Entertainment and Seven Headliner Bands

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The 2019 United Irish of Dayton Celtic Festival, presented by the United Irish of Dayton in partnership with Five Rivers MetroParks, will feature SEVEN headliner bands. Each band is highly acclaimed in the world music scene and enjoys a diverse fan following. The event will feature four stages of continuous entertainment with over twenty acts. The festival will take place July 26-28 at RiverScape MetroPark in Downtown Dayton. Admission is FREE!

Fan favorite Gaelic Storm returns to headline the 2019 Dayton Celtic Festival. Over the course of 10 albums and nearly 3,000 live shows, Gaelic Storm — the chart-topping, multi-national Celtic band is back! Regularly playing more than 120 shows a year, Gaelic Storm has built a loyal following as diverse as the band's own music. Fans of traditional Irish music have championed the group for years, as have fans of harder-edged Celtic rock. On tour, Gaelic Storm is just as likely to play a large rock club as a plush theater. The band makes regular appearances on cruises, too, joining artists like the Barenaked Ladies and Michael Franti. Gaelic Storm has straddled the line between tradition and innovation for nearly two decades, infusing traditional Celtic music with modern influences, and updating the genre for a new generation of fans raised on rock, country and folk. Along the way, the group has topped the Billboard World Chart four times and earned a reputation as a hard-touring, genre-bending band.

A Dayton Celtic Festival fan favorite, Scythian (sith-ee-yin) returns for their eleventh appearance at the Dayton Celtic Festival. Rousing and raucous, Scythian plays kicked-up Celtic and world music with hints of Gypsy and Klezmer, all infused with a touch of punk-rock sensibility. Their immigrant rock sound is saturated with thunderous energy, technical prowess and storytelling songwriting, which beckons crowds into a barn-dance rock concert experience.

Socks in the Frying Pan returns for their sixth year as traditional headliners for the 2019 festival. Socks in the Frying Pan comprises of Aodán Coyne on guitar and vocals and the accomplished Hayes brothers, Shane Hayes on accordion and Fiachra Hayes on fiddle & banjo. This youthful trio blend Irish traditional melodies with their own personal flair, which has gained them critical acclaim and accolades including 'New Band of the Year' by the Irish Music Association. The

group has been embraced in the United States, having been booked by every major Irish festival and praised for their modern traditional style and energetic approach to music. They have a clear love for live performance, which only compliments the traditional essence in their shows and makes for a truly unique form of entertainment.

Cuig, an Irish five-piece band from the North of Ireland makes its debut at the 2019 United Irish of Dayton Celtic Festival! These musicians are tearing up the rule book with their bold approach to their native musical tradition. Since the release of their critically acclaimed debut album, “New Landscapes,” for which Cuig were awarded “Best New Irish Band 2016” by the Irish American News, they have taken both sides of the Atlantic by storm having toured extensively in the US, Europe, and Ireland. Comprising of Miceal Mullen (banjo, mandolin), Rónán Stewart (fiddle, uilleann pipes, vocals), Ruairí Stewart (guitars), Eoin Murphy (button accordion) and Cathal Murphy (drums, guitars, vocals), Cúig look set to continue this success with the release of their highly anticipated sophomore album, ‘The Theory of Chaos’.

Doolin’, making its United Irish of Dayton Celtic Festival debut, was formed in Toulouse in 2005 and comprises six accomplished and eclectic musicians who have gained fame through their music. French in origin – though easily mistaken for Irish musicians – this sextet (guitar, bodhrán, violin, tin whistle, accordion/vocals, bass) brings a fresh approach to Irish music. Inspired by the purest tradition, Doolin’ combines instrumentals, vocals and original compositions in a resolutely modern style. The arrangements, at times taking their inspiration from pop-rock, folk, jazz, funk, or even rap (and always in the best taste), emit great energy. That’s Doolin’ – Irish music with a French touch!

In addition, Rory Makem returns to the Dayton Celtic Festival after his festival debut last year! Rory is a seasoned performer with over 25 throughout the United States, Canada, England, Scotland and Ireland. At his best on stage, Rory captivates years on the road, Rory has toured extensively with The Makem and Spain Brothers and for 18 years toured and played guitar with his father, the legendary Tommy Makem. He has entertained countless sold-out venues, festivals, and theaters audiences with his skilled musicianship, his charisma and passion for the songs, his extensive knowledge of poetry and history, and his humor.

The Fitzgeralds, also making a return appearance at the Dayton Celtic Festival, are a family group consisting of fiddling and step dancing sensations - Tom, Kerry, & Julie Fitzgerald (the youngest members of Everything Fitz). These siblings, from Canada’s renowned Ottawa Valley, have come a long way from their small-town roots. Featuring 3-time Canadian Grandmaster Fiddle Champions and Ontario Open Step Dance Champions, this unique act features high-

energy fiddling and mind-blowing step dancing. It is the rare combination of exceptional musicianship, incomparable step dancing, audience interaction, evident love of performing, and genuine sibling connection that resonates with audiences of all ages and sets this group apart.

Dayton Celtic Festival goers can also enjoy performances from the following regional and local musical and dance groups: Ceili with Éamóinn de Cógáin; Celtic Academy of Irish Dance; Dulahan; Dwyer School of Irish Dance; Father Son and Friends; Fin Tan; Jameson's Folly; Mary's Lane; McGovern Irish Dance; Miami Valley Pipes and Drums; Sons O'Blarney; The Drowsy Lads; The Rice Brothers; and The Roving Rogues.

For more information, visit www.daytoncelticfestival.com or call (937) 372-9788.