

Joint SMI and ICTMD Ireland Postgraduate Conference 2026

MTU Cork School of Music
Union Quay, Cork City

14-15 January 2026



Wednesday 14 January 2026

11:00–16:00 Registration
FOYER

12:00–12:20 Welcome

CURTIS AUDITORIUM

Welcome from Conference Co-Chairs **Ciara O’Leary Fitzpatrick** (Munster Technological University), **Eric Browne** (Munster Technological University), **Obumneke Anyanwu** (Dublin City University)

Welcome on behalf of SMI

Wolfgang Marx, SMI President

Welcome on behalf of ICTMD Ireland

Susan Motherway, ICTMD Ireland Chair

12:30–13:00 Welcome Concert

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13:00–14:00 Keynote

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Chair Susan Motherway (Munster Technological University)

Joanne Cusack (Maynooth University)

Insider Action Research: Overcoming Challenges in the Field

14:00–14:30 Refreshment Break

FOYER

14:30–16:00 Session 1		
ROOM: 217 (Bridget Doolan Room)	ROOM: 213	ROOM: 215
1a Musical Dialogues (Lecture Recitals) Chair: Anna Barbara Falkenau (University of Galway)	1b Compositional Approaches Chair: Nicole Grimes (Trinity College Dublin)	1c Music Analysis Chair: Kevin Boushel (Dublin City University)
Connor Wilcox (Royal Irish Academy of Music) Roseingrave in Italy: Experimentalism and Anachronism in the Harpsichord Suites of 1728 Neda Nikolić (University of Limerick) Towards a New Musical Synthesis: Dialogue between Balkan and Irish Music	Dylan Murphy (Maynooth University) Beckettian Reversibility – A Compositional Approach to Samuel Beckett’s Trilogy: <i>Molloy</i> , <i>Malone Dies</i> and <i>The Unnamable</i>	Hamidreza Golestanisani (Dublin City University) Musical Narrative Theory and Holy Minimalism: Arvo Pärt’s <i>Für Alina</i>
	Hayden Kline (Trinity College Dublin) Polytunality: an Under-explored Tool for Creating Unique Intervals in Compositions	Iulia-Daria Iacob (University of Art and Design, Cluj-Napoca) <i>Imaginary Music</i> : A Chôric Reading of Octavian Nemescu’s work
	Santiago Kodela (TU Dublin) From Fretboard to Choir: Translating Embodied Guitar Knowledge in <i>Tag</i> for SATB Voices	Fidelma Nugent (Dublin City University) Time, Eternity, and Faith in Sound: Early Reflections on Catholic Theology in Olivier Messiaen’s Choral Works
16:15–17:45 Session 2		
ROOM: 217 (Bridget Doolan Room)	ROOM: 213	ROOM: 215
2a Piano Music in Ireland (Lecture Recitals) Chair: Kerry Houston (Technological University Dublin)	2b: Music Pedagogy Chair: Adrian Scahill (Maynooth University)	2c: Music Therapy Chair: Adam Behan (Maynooth University)
Órán Halligan (Royal Irish Academy of Music) <i>Strains of Other Days</i> : Constructing a Musical Lineage of Native Irish Piano Works	Joan O’Malley (TU Dublin) “Trilby-Mania” and The Secrets of Svengali: Popular Perceptions of Classical Singers and Vocal Pedagogy in the Late Nineteenth/Early Twentieth Century	Kate Daly (University of Limerick) ‘Crossing the Threshold’: Facilitating Group Singing in Addiction Recovery Contexts

in Late eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Century Ireland	Decheng Shao (University College Cork) Finding Space Between Standardization: Liminal Belonging and Participatory Ensemble within State-Run Secondary Schooling in Suzhou, China	Fiona Kelly (University College Cork) Exploring the Impact of Caregiver Training on the Facilitation of Music-Based Activities in Residential Care Settings
Orly Watson (Royal Irish Academy of Music/Queen's University Belfast) The Dim Murmur from the Duns of Men: Piano Music in Ireland (1750–1950)	Stephen Lane (Munster Technological University) New Approaches to the Teaching of Music Literacy: Exploring the Impact of New Resources on the Development of Generalist Teacher Confidence and Self-Efficacy in Irish Primary Schools	Hannah Healy (University of Limerick) Giving Grief a Voice: Exploring the Use of Music Therapy to Support Children Who are Experiencing Grief (Recital)
18:00–18:45 Wine Reception and Award Presentation FOYER		
19:00 Social Gathering THE COURTYARD AT SOBER LANE: SEE MAP		
Thursday 15 January 2026		
09:30–12:00 Registration FOYER		
09:30–11:15 Session 3		
ROOM: 212	ROOM: 213	
3a Lecture Recitals Chair: Ciara O'Leary Fitzpatrick (Munster Technological University)	3b Masters Student Presentations (10 minutes) Chair: Cheryl Tan (Trinity College Dublin)	
Brian Sheehan (Munster Technological University) Data Sonification and Listening for Knowledge	Aoife Sheridan (Maynooth University) From Eibhlín to Ellen: The Incorporation and Adaptation of Irish Songs in Eighteenth-Century Art Music	
	Laura McNally (Munster Technological University)	

Xiangyu Zhang (Royal Irish Academy of Music) The Evolution of Chinese Oboe Repertoires: Tradition, Innovation and Cultural Synthesis	Irish Dance from a Holistic Perspective Among Young Adults	
	Katie Feeney (University of Oxford) The Nocturne: A Corpus Analysis of John Field and Frédéric Chopin's Piano Nocturnes	
	Javier Noriega Molina (Trinity College Dublin/Royal College of Music, London) The Emergence of the Professional Violist: Repertoire and Specialisation c. 1750–c. 1950	
	Catherine Lietz (Maynooth University) Irishness, Hybridity, and Artistry in Síomha's <i>Infinite Space</i>	
	Brigid Cryan (University College Cork) Random Following with a MaxMSP Device: Exploring Perceived Autonomy and Phrasal Parsing	
	Charlotte Daun (University of Limerick) Why Community Music Matters	
11:15–11:30 Refreshment Break		FOYER

11:30–13:00 Session 4		
ROOM: 212	ROOM: Curtis Auditorium	ROOM: 215
4a Opera Studies Chair: Michael Lee, Journal of the Society for Musicology in Ireland	4b Music, Dance, and Climate Action (Lecture-Recitals) Chair: Maria Judge (Munster Technological University)	4c Cultural Connections Chair: Méabh Ní Fhuartháin (University of Galway)
Leanne Fitzgerald (TU Dublin) Exploring Research and Innovation in Jennifer Walshe’s Opera <i>Mars</i> (2025)	Aleksandr Nisse (TU Dublin) Detailed Analysis of <i>Pleonexia</i> : Ecosystems and Harmonic Series in Contemporary Composition Michelle Palmer (University of Galway) What Can Ecofeminist Dance Theatre and Eco Soma Approaches Offer Dramaturgy and Performance in the Midst of Climate Crisis?	Marta Siermantowska (TU Dublin) The Impact of Cultural Connections on the Music of Richard Galliano
Aisling Fitzgerald (University of Galway) Putting on the Trousers for the Trouser Role ... in Opera Leadership in Ireland		Kevin Ferreira Shortall (University of Limerick) Alec Finn’s Bouzouki: Transcriptions, Analysis and Educational Strategies
Qian Le (Queen’s University Belfast) Voice, Character, and Collaboration: Anastasia Robinson and Handel’s <i>Amadigi di Gaula</i>		Eoin Kearns (Queen’s University Belfast) Irish Traditional Music and Musical Diplomacy of the Irish State in China
13:00–14:00 Lunch		
14:00–15:15 Careers Forum		BISTRO
14:00–15:15 Careers Forum		
Chair: Wolfgang Marx (University College Dublin) Panel discussion with Joanne Cusack , Maynooth University, Nicole Grimes , Trinity College Dublin, Claire Layton , Music Development Officer, Music Generation Cork City, Michael Lee , Journal of the Society for Musicology in Ireland, Róisín Maher , Munster Technological University & Finding a Voice Festival, Eoghan Neff , Musician		

15:15–16:15 Session 5		
ROOM: 212	ROOM: 213	ROOM: 215
5a Song Categorisation Chair: Deirdre Collins (Munster Technological University)	5b Festivals Chair: Kelly Boyle (University College Cork)	5c Twentieth-Century Irish Music Chair: Anne Ralph (Munster Technological University)
Michael Young (Dublin City University) Song Categorisation and Style in Musical Theatre, with a focus on <i>The Bridges of Madison County</i> by Jason Robert Brown	Laura Reese (University of Limerick) “Time Travel to the Greatest Party Since Camelot”: The History of American Renaissance Festivals	Christina Nastos (University of Würzburg) Shaping Irishness: The Evaluation of Irish Identities in the Music and Work of Aloys Fleischmann
Aoife Ní Laoire (Dublin City University) A Love for the Ages or Lost in Definition? Rethinking the Categorisation of Traditional Irish-Language Love Songs in Modern Times	Katrina Tracey Cuddy (Queen’s University Belfast) The <i>Sonorities</i> Festival and the Belfast Soundscape: 1981-1999	Dylan Kelly (Dublin City University) <i>Ultima Rerum</i> : A Reappraisal of the Later Career and Music of Gerard Victory (1921-1995)
16:30 Conference Close		CURTIS AUDITORIUM

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