



Maireid

celtic journey

Celtic Dreaming, Celtic Blues, Celtic Swing

MIETTA'S

The Lounge, Alfred Place, Melbourne

Friday August 20th 8.00pm

Concert \$10/8 Bookings 654 2366

Concert and two course dinner \$27

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Saturday Sept. 11th 5:45pm to 7:30pm, The Lawn Stage - Free

MONTSALVAT

Hillcrest Avenue, Eltham

Sunday September 12th 5.00pm \$15/12

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The Logo: The Lyrebird is a singer and dancer and represents the many voices of Australia. Designed and illustrated by Brigitte Sullivan.

Maireid - Celtic Journey

The group **Maireid** has had remarkable success since their launch late last year. They have performed for the Melbourne International Festival, toured as guests of the Maleny Festival in Queensland, (which attracts 50,000 people over 5 days), opened the Nimbin Aquarius Festival 20th anniversary celebrations over the New Year and performed at the Tanawha Blues Festival, on the Sunshine Coast, in May. They have also performed to audiences at the Hanging Rock Festival, the Port Fairy Festival, the CeltFest, the opening of the Davis Cup Tennis Tournament and more.

The group performs regularly at Mietta's, one of Melbourne's most beautiful venues.

The Media have been very supportive of their music and their recordings have received regular airplay.

Donal Lunny, internationally respected producer from Ireland, will produce their next recording in Melbourne.

Their repertoire covers three separate and interchangeable musical concepts which can be described as Contemporary/World Music.

CELTIC DREAMING: Original and contemporary songs and music.

CELTIC BLUES: (duet and full ensemble) An anthology of emotional music styles from medieval Europe to America and Australia today.

CELTIC SWING: Dance music 'to keep the feet from sticking to the floor'.

Maireid is

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| Maireid Sullivan | - Singer/Songwriter |
| Matthew Arnold | - Violin, Keyboard |
| John Norton | - Guitars, Lutes, Bouzouki, Pipes, Vocals |
| Peter Neville | - Percussion, Vibraphone |
| Luke o'Neill | - Guitar |
| Dominic McAlinden | - Bodhran (Irish Drum), Conga |
| Michael Jordan | - Drums, Vocals |
| Gary Costello | - Bass |

"There is a wonderful sense of excitement in developing a musical project like this. The musicians are excellent, creative, energetic and committed.

Since the launch of our music last September, we have had a wonderful year of experimentation with musical styles and ideas.

Our group takes a creative and innovative approach in leading people to discover their cultural heritage and think differently about it. Music offers a common ground and meeting point for diverse cultures faced with difficulties which require understanding and compromise, compassion and dignity.

Singing has always been my great love. When I stepped over the threshold into the study of Celtic history a whole new world of ideas and wonder opened up for me. I am amazed at what I have discovered. It is a good thing for modern people to look back on the cultural paths we have taken because it is helpful in our effort to understand the present so that we can be free to create a fresh and original future.

I first met Matthew when we played in a music theatre production in 1977. I was very impressed with his broad musical knowledge, improvisation skills and lyricism. So, when I came to bringing this group of musicians together, he was the first person I sought out. And here he was! He was back in Melbourne after spending several years in India.

John is known in acoustic music circles as 'the Wizard'. He is a Music Anthropologist and instrument maker. John studied early music in London and Italy and developed his improvisational skills with Arab music in the Middle East. He is also a 'mean' Blues player and singer. Together we created the Celtic Blues concept.

I first heard Peter performing with the Melbourne Symphony. Peter eclectic musical style was shaped by his early attraction to the strength of the rhythmic element, the dynamism of the harmony, of 20th century classical music. Peter also has a sharp wit which keeps us on our toes.

Luke joined us after spending four years in the forests of Northern New South Wales whilst studying Music Composition at the University of New England. Luke is curious to learn more about his Celtic cultural roots. He is a wonderful musician.

Dominic first played with us at the Port Fairy Festival. He is the best Bodhran player I have ever heard. Dominic grew up in an Irish family in England. Traditional music and dance were a part of his everyday life. Dominic's love of percussion began with the spoons and progressed to the Bodhran, then kit drums and conga.

I knew of Michael's formidable reputation long before I met him. He is very much in demand as a freelance drummer and he teaches Improvisation Studies at the Vic. College of Music. I discovered that from the age of five he toured England and Ireland in his father's Irish band. He revealed a life-long ambition to recapture the 'lilt' in Irish rhythms and the way it made him feel as a child. He told me about his concept of Celtic Swing and joined the group to take us on a new journey.

Michael suggested I call Gary Costello because they both had shared this special interest in Irish rhythms. Gary is a highly respected and brilliant Bass player. I cannot imagine anyone playing Bass as interestingly as Gary does with our kind of music.

The result of this development in our music will have to be witnessed for yourselves."

Maireid Sullivan