

06-16 AUGUST 2026

KILKENNY ARTS FESTIVAL

Neon Dust, KAF25

Become a Festival Friend
Dreams and Discoveries in Ireland's medieval city

kilkennyarts.ie

Legendary artists, unique collaborations, unforgettable experiences...



What Are You Afraid Of?, KAF25

Since its foundation in 1974, Kilkenny Arts Festival has gathered many of the world's finest musicians, performers, writers and artists in Ireland's medieval city each August. For ten days, the city's historic churches, castle, courtyards, townhouses and gardens offer a magical setting for unique collaborations and intimate encounters between audiences and artists.

As we continue into our second half century, we look forward to welcoming you back to Ireland's Medieval City from 6 - 16 August for a rich, eclectic and exciting programme. Our wonderful city is constantly evolving, mapping new stories on to old stone, and this year's programme is a reflection of that - a celebration of place and possibility. This year's Festival will present music, dance, spoken word, visual art, opera, spectacle and much more.

We are thrilled to announce the world premiere of the winner of the prestigious Fedora International Opera Prize, **The Curing Line**, which explores themes of healing, loss of culture and environmental collapse through the story of Cora, a young woman who inherits a life-saving ancestral healing power but loses her ability to use it.

This year, some of Ireland's finest ensembles make a welcome return to Kilkenny, including Festival ensembles-in-residence the **Irish Chamber Orchestra** and **Chamber Choir Ireland**, alongside a stellar international music series, while the hugely popular Secret Garden Music brings exceptional artists to beautiful spaces in the streets and gardens around Kilkenny.

With many more incredibly exciting collaborations yet to be announced, Kilkenny will be centre-stage celebrating the best in arts and culture in Ireland this Summer.

“The Kilkenny Arts Festival is **of place**. Not just because the distinctive medieval city makes imaginative use of its spaces, but because they're central to what it presents.”

Deirdre Falvey, *The Irish Times*



Elise, KAF25



Adam Buttimer, KAF25



Aoife Ní Bhriain & Cormac McCarthy, KAF25

All of this is made possible by the support of our funders, dozens of local businesses, hundreds of passionate volunteers and thousands of loyal Festival goers.

With your help, the artistic adventures can continue.

Make it possible.

But we also need you. As a Festival Friend, your support is vital in helping us to bring the world's leading artists to our historic city, and securing Kilkenny's place as one of Europe's finest summer festivals. And, if you can, consider becoming a Special Friend, Best Friend or Patron, enabling us to aim even higher while giving you a range of extra benefits.

To join, just fill in the attached form, call the Festival Office on 056 7763663 or visit kilkennyarts.ie/support/friends to find out more.

BENEFITS	FRIEND €150	SPECIAL FRIEND €300	BEST FRIEND €500	PATRON €1,000
Invitation to official Festival launch & opening party	✓	✓	✓	✓
Acknowledgement on Festival website & in brochure	✓	✓	✓	✓
Festival Club Membership	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dedicated Friends' newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Complimentary tickets *	2	4	6	10
Priority booking		✓	✓	✓
Ticket discount **		5%	10%	15%
No Booking Fees		✓	✓	✓
Complimentary Music Notes programme		✓	✓	✓
Dedicated booking service			✓	✓
Access to allocation of seats for sold-out shows ***				✓

TERMS & CONDITIONS

* From list of Festival highlight events

** Ticket discounts do not apply to special offers, workshops, children's shows or tickets purchased directly at events

*** Subject to availability

PERSONAL DETAILS

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

MOBILE

PAYMENT DETAILS

Online

www.kilkennyarts.ie/support/friends

Cheque

Please make payable to Kilkenny Arts Festival

Credit Card

Visa Debit Visa Mastercard

NAME
ON CARD

COMPANY
NAME

CARD

NUMBER

EXPIRATION
DATE

CCV

NUMBER

SIGNATURE

I would like to join

Friend

Special Friend

Best Friend

Patron

Acknowledgement

NO - I would like to remain anonymous

YES - I wish my acknowledgement to read as follows:

CHY3 Form

With the Government-approved tax back scheme, the Kilkenny Arts Festival can reclaim up to 44.9% in tax from revenue on donations of €300 or more made by individuals, making your donation significantly more valuable with no additional cost to you. All you need to do is complete and sign a CHY3 form, available on our website.

You can complete Friend of the Festival sign up, and the CHY3 form online or you can print this and mail it to our office at 11 Patrick's Court, Patrick Street, Kilkenny, R95 P042.

If you need any assistance with filling the forms or have any queries please call us on 056 7763663 or email friends@kilkennyarts.ie to request a call-back.

“Kilkenny is one of Ireland’s most charming cathedral cities... and the Kilkenny Arts Festival one of the country’s most venerable. The 10-day event was packed with stellar names”

The Sunday Times



Kilkenny Arts Festival | 11 Patrick's Court | Patrick Street | Kilkenny
Tel +353 (0)56 776 3663 | Email info@kilkennyarts.ie
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