

MARTIN HAYES QUARTET

FIDDLE Martin Hayes

GUITAR Kyle Sanna

VIOLA/VIOLIN Liz Knowles

BASS CLARINET Doug Wieselmann

Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral
Saturday, November 22 @ 7:30 PM

There will be no intermission.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Praised by *The Irish Times* as a musician with an “insatiable appetite for adventure,” Martin Hayes is regarded as one of the most significant talents to emerge in the world of Irish traditional music. He is the founder of the musical supergroup, The Gloaming, The Common Ground Ensemble and the Martin Hayes Quartet. He is the artistic director of Masters of Tradition, an annual festival in Cork, Ireland, and a co-curator for the Marble Sessions at the Kilkenny Arts Festival, Ireland.

Hayes has performed in venues such as the Barbican, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Philharmonie Cologne, Philharmonie de Paris, Muziekgebouw Amsterdam and Usher Hall, Edinburgh. He has created collaborations in the classical, folk and contemporary music worlds with musicians such as Bill Frisell, Ricky Skaggs, Jordi Savall, Brooklyn Rider and the Irish Chamber Orchestra, and the RTE Concert Orchestra. He has performed on stage with musicians such as Sting and Paul Simon and has recorded with Yo-Yo Ma’s Silk Road Project.

The 25/26 season has seen Hayes curate a celebration of Irish traditional music at Cork Opera House; return to the Belfast International Festival and Concertgebouw Amsterdam; and debut at Rheingau Music Festival and Penn Live Arts with the Martin Hayes Quartet. In spring 2026, Hayes will curate and lead a major Irish music celebration featuring the Common Ground Ensemble, launching at the National Concert Hall in Dublin before embarking on a U.S. tour. The centerpiece of the tour will be a landmark concert at Carnegie Hall on St. Patrick’s Day, inaugurating a new annual tradition in partnership with Carnegie Hall, New York’s Irish Arts Center and the National Concert Hall.

Joined by special guests, the performances will blend traditional Irish music, song, dance, spoken word and contemporary interpretations of Irish culture. The tour will include stops at Notre Dame, Cleveland, Boston and Ann Arbor.

In 2023, Hayes released his first recording with the Common Ground Ensemble entitled *Peggy's Dream*, which received a 5-star review in *The Irish Times*. Other recent highlights include three sold-out concerts with the National Symphony Orchestra Dublin where *Peggy's Dream* was reimagined for fiddle and orchestra; a tour of the UK with the Martin Hayes Trio to cities including London, Leeds, Bristol and Manchester; and concerts at Union Chapel in London, The Auckland Arts festival in New Zealand, The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. in celebration of the anniversary of Northern Ireland's Good Friday Agreement, and at the Stresa Festival.

Growing up in a musical family in rural county Clare, Ireland and in a remote mountainous locality with a rich music tradition instilled in Hayes a deep love, understanding and connection to traditional music.

IRISH CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA

DEC 19

Make merry this holiday season with the enchanting sounds of Ireland's finest traditional artists. Returning for the first time since 2017, this special 20th anniversary concert features vocal star Caitríona Sherlock in her Philadelphia debut as well as the local talent of McAleer-Paulson School of Irish Dance.

BUY TICKETS TODAY!

