

CO. DONEGAL, MARCH 27 > 30

It's back again! Join special guests and friends in Buncrana, Co. Donegal from Thursday, March 27th as the third Ar Ais Aris Traditional Arts Festival kicks off for a weekend of top class music, song and dance.

In our first year, we showcased Buncrana's homegrown talent, and last year our native musicians invited their friends back to their hometown. This year, the people of Buncrana have let us know who they'd like to see on stage here. So...here's what you've asked for.

Friday's packed programme includes the world-premiere of a new composition, especially commissioned by the Festival from Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin. He'll be accompanied by Buncrana's top traditional artists and an orchestra. There's also a singers circle, hosted by Jimmy McBride, with local singers and special guests Triona and Mairead Ni Dhomhnaill and the first of The Pyros' late night gigs.

Sharon Shannon and her band Renegade will hit the stage for the Buncrana Welcomes concert on Saturday night, along with Maire NiChathasaigh and Chris Newman. Saturday's events also include the second late night Pyros gig and the hugely popular Next Generation concert.

Sunday's highlights feature the Ceili and step dance extravaganza, traditional masses, and the whole celebration will reach its zenith at the Ar Ais Aris Festival Finale. This spectacular concert on two stages will see Ciaran Tourish & Dermot Byrne introduce their new band Moonlitin' (featuring Michael McGoldrick, John Doyle and Joe Joe Kelly), Four Men and a Dog making a welcome return to Buncrana, Paul Rodden welcoming his French band Mr Midnight on stage as well as slots from the Young Wolfe Tones, Aileach, the Liz Doherty Band, Matt McGranaghan, Simon Bradley, Russell's House and many more.

On top of all this, there'll be the pub gig trail, free recitals, workshops and the singers circle to round out your weekend. Ar Ais Arís offers something for everyone!

For more information:

www.buncranatradfest.com

Festival Phone 086 8829019













