

## *Press Release*

### *New Album release 2019*

## *Celtic Airs on Cello – love stories from the isles*

***The Celtic Cello* is the outstanding debut album from the renowned Switzerland-based, Irish-born cellist, conductor and composer Clíodhna Ní Aodáin. Combining the traditional melodies of Ireland and Scotland with harmonies that speak of a more classical heritage, *The Celtic Cello* brings together 12 pieces that all have stories to tell – stories of love, separation, nature and the cycle of life.**



Clíodhna's first solo recording comes as the natural next step in what has already been an extremely successful career in classical and chamber music; having studied cello in her home city of Dublin and the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester before completing a Master's degree at the University of Montreal, she then moved to Switzerland where for the last 20 years she has become recognised as a conductor, teacher, composer and cellist. Clíodhna also inspires the musicians of the future, not least through her creation of a string orchestra for children aged six to nine.

### **Accident led to inspiration**

So, what has inspired the creation of *The Celtic Cello*? A recent trip home to Ireland became a medical drama as an accident left Clíodhna with a head injury and severe concussion for seven weeks. But this period of recuperation was far from wasted time; on the contrary, it provided Clíodhna with an opportunity to appraise how her Celtic roots have developed her own musical style. Furthermore, it reminded her of how important the sounds of home are to her. And thus, was born this collection of melodies that epitomise the soul of the Celtic people, the influence of whom can be felt throughout the world through their culture and their music. Clíodhna notes that songs on this album "*have both a very personal meaning as well as a universal appeal, combining my musical heritage with treasures that I have gathered on my musical pathway, which has taken me all over the world*".

### **Collection of Irish and Scottish airs**

*The Celtic Cello* is a collection of traditional Irish and Scottish airs that reach back into those nations' histories and people. Such pieces as 'Carrickfergus' and 'Down by the Salley Gardens' are melodies familiar to many from the island of Ireland, while 'Milking Croon' and 'The Parting Glass' add an important Scottish flavour to the album. But not all of the songs have a long history; 'The Prophets are Weeping' is a new piece composed by Clíodhna that is inspired by a poem written by **Uachtarán na hÉireann Michael D. Higgins**, the ninth and current President of the Republic of Ireland, on the subject of forced migration.

### **For lovers of Celtic music**

*The Celtic Cello* is for lovers of Celtic music and for those seeking a calming, tranquil collection of cello airs.

[www.thecelticcello.com](http://www.thecelticcello.com)

***"Clíodhna Ní Aodáin is an amazing cellist and composer. Her new Album is a wonderful creation. I highly recommend this music."*** - David Darling, Grammy Award winning cellist and composer.