

Clíodhna and the Wølf - Artist Bio

Clíodhna and the Wølf is a captivating musical duo that seamlessly blends ancient Celtic melodies with modern improvisation. The band features Clíodhna Ní Aodáin, known as 'The Celtic Cello,' and Wolfgang Zwiauer, an acclaimed bassist and mandocello player. Together, they create an enchanting soundscape that transcends time and space, drawing deeply from Celtic traditions while innovating with contemporary influences.

Clíodhna Ní Aodáin - The Celtic Cello

The Celtic Cello is the creation of Clíodhna Ní Aodáin. Her one-woman show feels like both a grand theatrical performance and an intimate visit with a cherished friend. She draws her audience in with the low hum and cadence of a drone, layering tone upon tone, from slow and sombre to joyous jigs. Clíodhna's cello is the sound of her soul. Her feet pedal the looper, her body wraps around the cello, at times playing it like a drum, expressing every note; even the wisps of her long golden hair sway in time.

Clíodhna is a playful spirit, maybe even mischievous. Her voice is enchanting, from vocalisations and chants to songs and stories spoken in the soft accent of her native Dublin. She calls upon the audience to join in the music-making with simple chants and body percussion. Audiences are transfixed, refreshed, and uplifted, often describing her performances as transformative experiences.

Combining the traditional melodies of Ireland and Scotland with classical harmonies, Clíodhna's tunes tell stories of love, separation, nature, and the cycle of life.

Trained as a classical musician, Clíodhna has achieved great heights in the classical world as a solo performer, teacher, composer, and conductor of two orchestras in Bern, Switzerland. Following a life-changing accident in 2017, she dedicated herself to traditional Irish music. In 2018, Clíodhna performed The Celtic Cello for the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, and in 2019, she conducted 180 musicians for an Irish music concert highlighting the plight of refugees today. She has released two albums — "The Celtic Cello" (2018) and "Celtic Rituals" (2021) — and is working on an upcoming third album.

Clíodhna's Irish music mentor is Martin Hayes.

<https://www.thecelticcello.com/>

Wolfgang Zwiauer - Bass Guitar and Mandocello

Wolfgang Zwiauer stands as a seasoned musician with a vast array of experiences spanning over three decades. His journey as a bassist in the jazz, pop, improvisational, and songwriting scenes has seen collaborations with notable artists such as Christy Doran, Shirley Grimes, and

Hans Feigenwinter. He has participated in over 150 productions and spent 20 years as a university lecturer, shaping the next generation of musicians.

With his children now grown, Wolfgang embarks on new musical ventures, standing like a seasoned tree trunk in the music world. His recent projects include 'BASS DRUM PEOPLE,' which has begun performing with a debut vinyl album, and the dance project 'ENDLICH,' where he collaborates with musicians from various genres to create improvised soundscapes. His trio 'MORPHEUS TRANCE,' featuring Christy Doran and Lukas Mantel, will release their debut album in 2024.

Wolfgang is committed to promoting equality and diversity in the music scene. His new band, 'ALVA LEAVES,' includes three women and three men, ranging in age from 21 to 56. Wolfgang also founded BASS BÜRO BERN, where he offers private lessons and supports cultural projects. His series 'LIFE AT THE ZOO' showcases over 240 musicians recorded during the pandemic.

Wolfgang's music is driven by passion and joy, rather than career aspirations. He performs street versions of youthful playlists with his daughter Sophie and her friend Finja as 'TEENAGE SONGBOOK,' and jams for hours with friends as 'ROOFTOPPERS.' As an ex-member of the SWISS JAZZ ORCHESTRA, he continues to contribute to this dynamic, self-led big band.

<https://wolfgangzwiauer.com/>

Clíodhna and the Wølf - The Duo

Clíodhna and the Wølf, though newly formed, combine their rich individual experiences to take audiences on a mystical journey through Celtic music. Their performances merge ancient traditions with modern creativity, showcasing the power of cultural heritage and artistic expression. Clíodhna's evocative cello and voice, paired with Wolfgang's deep bass and mandocello, create a unique and transformative musical experience that captivates and inspires listeners.

Clíodhna Ní Aodáin: Cello, Voice, Effects

Wolfgang Zwiauer: Bass Guitar, Mandocello, Effects

<https://www.thecelticcello.com/cliodhna-and-the-wolf>