



# Brendan Browne

Brendan also from The Claddagh in Galway City and has been playing the button accordion since he was a child. His interest in learning the button accordion came instantly after an inspiring bank holiday weekend master class in the Galway Arts Centre in Dominick Street with accordion virtuoso Máirtín O' Connor, a native of Galway city. Brendan's focus at that time was within the realm of competitions and he won his first All Ireland Fleadh Cheoil on the button accordion in 1992 following on with All Ireland titles on the single row melodeon and an t-Oireachtas championship.

Throughout Brendan's musical career he has had the pleasure of touring many European countries with various artists and line-ups to include the Riverdance 'Flying' Squad tour company.

Brendan's musical career continued to develop as he performed as a duet piece with his sister Maureen Browne alongside Johnny 'Ringo' McDonagh of Dé Dannan. He has made appearances with Irish Traditional Supergroup BackWest of which he is a founding member, at both National and International Festivals, to include St. Patrick's Day Festival (Eyre Square Galway City); Féile Traidhpicnic, (An Spideál, Gaillimh); Temple Bar Trad Fest, (Temple Bar, Dublin), The Gathering Traditional Festival (INEC Killarney, Co. Kerry), Ballyshannon Folk Festival (Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal); Siamsaíocht @ 6 (Gael Linn – Baile Atha Cliath); Clifden Traditional Music Festival (Clifden, Co. Galway); Celtic Connections (Glasgow, Scotland), Asso Sláinte Festival d'Artois-Gohelle (France), Festival Intercéltico O Son do Pazo, (Spain), Tyneside Irish Festival (Newcastle, UK) and toured the United States East Coast and Mid-West regions performing at the worlds' largest Irish Music Festival at Milwaukee Irish Fest, Gaelic Park Irish Festival, (Gaelic Park Chicago), Boston Irish Festival (Irish Cultural Centre Canton MA), New York City and New Jersey not to mention Sydney Australia where he has performed in local venues.

During the summer of 2019 Brendan had the privilege of performing with BackWest for the President of Ireland, An tUasal Michael D. Higgins as part of Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture showcase in conjunction with Tourism Ireland hosted by the Consulate General of Ireland, Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

He has recorded on many local, national and International radio and television stations such as RTE, TG4 and BBC Scotland and UK. He features on Enda Scahill's debut album 'Pick it Up' and subsequently recorded and co-produced BackWest's debut album entitled 'The Long Walk' which was released in May 2017. His most recent recording and co-production with BackWest is their current album 'Heritage Hall' released in January 2019 where the band were awarded ASLR Celtic Radio Award 2019 for 'Best New Band' category. The Band featured on the Front Cover of Irish Music Magazine in May 2019.

Brendan plays Bertrand Gaillard button accordions.