

Festival fun and frolics for everyone's tastes

WORLD MUSIC, JAZZ AND TRAD FESTIVALS

■ **12 Points!** Europe's New Jazz Festival, Project Arts Centre, Temple Bar, Dublin 2, May 4-7. A showcase of 12 emerging jazz groups and artists from across Europe. Tickets €20 each evening; www.12points.ie.

■ **Baltimore Fiddle Fair, Baltimore, Co Cork, May 5-8.** Sessions, art exhibitions, workshops and concerts with **Aly Bain, Phil Cunningham, Liz Carroll and John Doyle.** Tickets vary; www.fiddlefair.com.

■ **Galway Early Music Festival,** various venues in Galway, May 19-22. A festival of classical music, with harp and vocal concerts, Renaissance music and dance, and workshops exploring the music of ancient Ireland. Tickets vary; www.galwayearlymusic.com.

■ **O'Carolan Harp Festival & Summer School, Keadue, Co Roscommon, July 25-29.** Held in honour of harper and composer **Turlough O'Carolan,** including céilís, harp recitals and lectures. Tickets vary; www.harp.net/Keadue/Keadue.htm.

■ **Ceol na Mara Festival,** the Renvyle Peninsula,

Connemara, July 31-August 5. A festival of traditional music and dance including exhibitions, sean-nós dancing classes, the Renvyle Triathlon and history walk. Tickets vary; www.ceolnamara.ie.

■ **Feakle International Traditional Music Festival,** various venues, Feakle, Co Clare, August 3-8. Trad festival with **Eddi Reader, Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill,** film screenings, workshops and music sessions. Tickets vary, many free events; www.feakle-festival.ie.

■ **Big Bang Festival of Rhythm,** various venues, Dublin, August 18-21. Percussion festival with dance, singing and visual arts including a broad spectrum of drumming. Tickets vary; www.bigbangfestival.com.

■ **Dunmore East Bluegrass Festival, Dunmore East, Co Waterford, August 25-28.** A weekend of bluegrass and country concerts with homegrown and international bands. www.discoverdunmore.com.