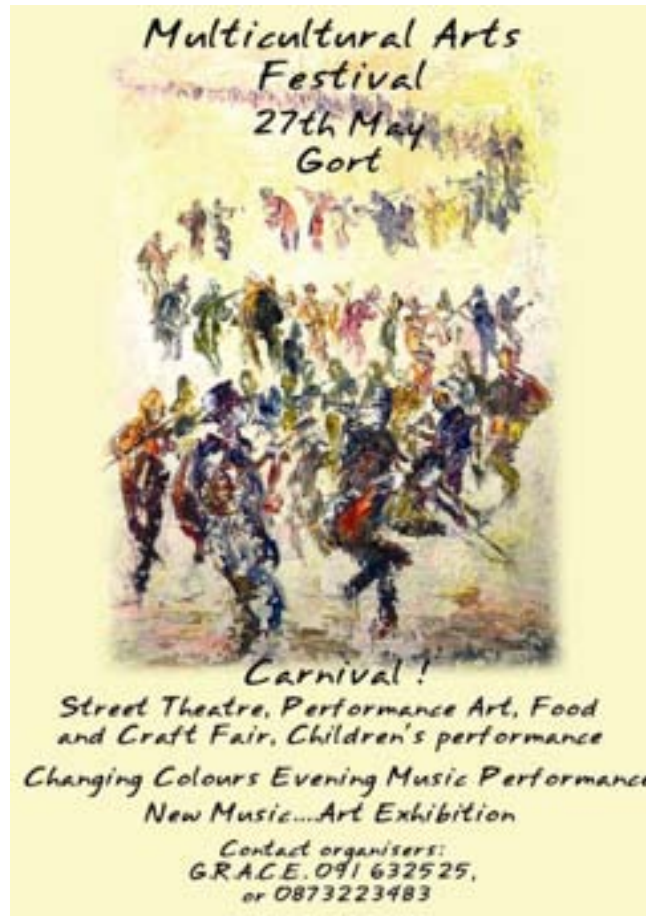


CHANGING COLOURS
Multi-Cultural Arts Festival
27th May 2007



The theme of this festival is the new multi-culturalism of Gort. This event is to celebrate both the changing colours of the people & the environment of Gort & its surrounding region.

The main focus of the event will be a Street Carnival. The carnival will depict the history of Gort from King Guaire (who was famous for extending a welcome to strangers) and will progress through Gort's history from the Yeats/Lady Gregory connection to the arrival of the Brazilians - with all sorts of things in between! Different

groups, including groups from all the different schools will perform street theatre in two minute loops, which will depict aspects of the story-board of Gort. These loops will be repeated as the carnival processes through the town and into the Square.

Other Events:

Art Exhibition

A Food and Crafts Fair

A children's performance and puppet theatre

An evening performance of a contemporary piece of music which has been especially written for the event. This project brings together musicians of all the various nationalities. Bodhrans will sound together with Brazilian drums; Uilleann Pipes will sound alongside Blues guitar! Yeats poetry will be sung to a Hip-Hop rhythm!

A CD of the music will be recorded and will be launched at the event

The theme of the CD is a fusion of musical sounds, rhythms and musical influences. The launch will also see the inception of Coole Records, which has been set-up as a community based record label. Tim Howarth, Hayato and Aleisha Shimizu and Niamh Clune are the founders, writers and production team of Coole Records. The Coole Record team are committed to producing great music using local resources - whether these are unusual instruments, local musicians, singers who might never have been inside a recording studio before, or utilising some of the many talented professionals who live and work in Gort's small, but vibrant community.

"We wanted to take a simple song or a simple tune and transform it into a wonderful mixture of rhythms, sounds and musical influences from this local area. The community and the landscape are the inspiration for this project," states Niamh.

"Changing Colours" is not only the name of the festival; it is also the name of the CD. It is the first project of this kind undertaken by Coole Records. The music project is an offshoot of the work being undertaken by GRACE (Gort Regional Alliance for Community and Environment) who are the organisers of the festival. The idea is to foster integration through music and art; to bring together very diverse cultures by sounding Brazilian drums with Uilleann Pipes, Bodhrans together with Hip-Hop rhythms in an exciting new creative synthesis of ideas.

"We are very proud of this part of Ireland. Poets have written about it; singers have sung about it; the National Irish Theatre owes its beginnings to it. Lady Gregory who lived in Coole Park (after which we have named Coole Records) courted the great and the good amongst the Anglo-Irish literary movement of the day," states Niamh. "The music aims to celebrate the new multi-culturalism of the region - hence the theme of Changing Colours. We hope to help re-animate the arts in this area and have thrown all the influences into the mix and come up with something full of life, character and community spirit."

Other events in the festival will be a street carnival, which will depict the history of Gort from King Guaire (who was famous for extending a welcome to strangers) and will progress through Gort's history from the Yeats/Lady Gregory connection to the arrival of the Brazilians-with all sorts of things in between!

Different groups, including groups from all the different schools will perform street theatre in two minute loops, which will depict aspects of the story-board of Gort. These loops will be repeated as the carnival processes through the town and into the Square.

The carnival will place an emphasis on Street theatre and performance Art as well as including young people and performers in the hope of giving them a show-case for their emerging talents. The carnival will be pedestrianised in an attempt to be more environmentally friendly. There will also be an Art Exhibition at the Court House and in shop windows; children's performance and puppet theatre; a Food and Arts Fair and an evening performance of the Changing Colours CD.

The Art Exhibition will open in the Court House from 12pm - 7pm.

The Carnival will begin @ 2pm... there will be music, dancing, juggling, street theatre all depicting the history of Gort from King Guaire to the arrival of the Brazilians!!!

The Food and Craft Fair will be held in the Town Park behind St Colman's Church from 12.30 to 6pm.

The children's performance will be in Gort Community School @ 4.30pm and the Changing Colours Concert will be in the Lady Gregory @ 8pm.

For further information, please contact the GRACE office: 087 322 3483