"Aspire not to have more, but to be more"
Archbishop Oscar Romero

Kisses at the Courthouse Gallery
Parliament St., Ennistymon
County Clare
Phone: 065 7071630
Friday, March 20th at 8.m.

A recent winner at The Irish Film and Television Awards, KISSES, directed by Lance Daly, will be shown in the Courthouse Gallery, Ennistymon on Friday, March 20th at 8.m. Entry €5 to cover screening and post show discussion with producer Les Kelly. http://ennistymoncourthousegallery.blogspot.com/

Water Has No Edges
A conference inspiring communities to realise the power of the arts and the arts to realise the power of communities.  
When: 26th March 2009 9am - 5 p.m.
Where: Harry Clarke House, NCAD, 100 Thomas Street, Dublin 8
For further information and a booking form contact www.bluedrum.ie
Gillian Keogan at 01 8771446 or info@bluedrum.ie

Blue Drum works from the principle that participation in Arts Based Community Development "Our Thing" is fundamental to the health, well being and development of individuals, groups, communities and society. The agency also aims to enable individuals, groups and communities most disadvantaged by society to access a quality arts experience. Source : http://www.bluedrum.ie

Clare Guitar Weekend
For Guitar Enthusiasts and Fans.
Friday 27th - Sunday 29th March 2009
Temple Gate Hotel Ennis - www.templegatehotel.com

It's non-profit, the target participants are "anyone who is into guitar" whether jazz, blues, contemporary, folk, picking, traditional accompaniment, rock & metal, whatever...

The quickest way to progress, and the basis of the Clare Guitar Weekend, is to experience good playing and then pick the brains of the players. This is not just true for beginners: the weekend will suit accomplished flamenco players who are interested in bottleneck, or traditional players who are interested in jazz. Or vice versa and more besides.  
For further information contact Alph Duggan at 065 6849068 
or info@clareguitarweekend.com
Source : http://www.clareguitarweekend.com
COMA Limerick meet once a month to explore and play new music by living composers. New participants are always welcome!

The music we play suits musicians of all abilities (although some sight-reading experience does help!). More details at www.myspace.com/comalimerick or email Fiona at fionanil@yahoo.com.

Rehearsals are 11am-3pm at the Belltable's off site venue - Red Cross Hall, Cecil Street (beside Tom Collins' pub), Limerick:

Saturday 21st March
Saturday 25th April
Saturday 23rd May
Saturday 20th June

Bring your instrument and an open mind!

Island Music Club
The Highway Bar,
Crusheen, Co Clare
Fri March 27th, Doors 9pm
Adm €15

Catch the Celtic Rock & Blues Experience of Horslips Guitarist and Vocalist Johnny Fean, Stephen Travers Bassist with the Miami Showband, and percussionist extraditioneiro Blendi Krasniqi for a feast of Celtic Rock and Blues.

Dearg Doom, Trouble with a Capital T, Sword of Light, are some of the Guitar anthems synonymous with the legendary Johnny Fean, Catch these and wonderfull blues numbers from the likes of Peter Green, and Robert Johnson for a memorable guitar night from one of Irelands most famous Axemen.
Website: http://www.myspace.com/feantravers

"The Pogues counted Horslips and especially the primeval Celtic Guitar Stylings of Johnny Fean, as a major influence. With the heart stopping opening notes of their defining moment "Dearg Doom" Johnny stripped away centuries of oppressive fog and announced that now, at last, Ireland was ready to Rock! A Manifesto in D Minor and the greatest Irish 45 of all time.
"
- Philip Chevron ---- Guitarist with The Pogues

Bookings Contact: 086-8599957
email: fhayes23@eircom.net
Website: http://www.myspace.com/claregigs

Cannonball Run 24 Hour Film competition: Call
Cannonball Run are seeking students, emerging film makers and anyone who has an idea for a short film project but no access to funding, who are interested in taking part in a marathon filmmaking event to produce a 3 minute film from start to finish in just 24 hours. The winner will receive €1000 in equipment vouchers courtesy of Filmbase and all completed films, as well as a fly-on-the-wall documentary of the event, will be aired on Dublin Community Television.
Crews (of up to 5 people) will need to be available for interview in the Digital Depot on the evening of 25 March 2009, and selected crews will have to meet at 12.30pm on Saturday 28 March 2009 for casting. The 24 hours for completing the films **starts at 2pm on 28 March 2009 and ends at 2pm on 29 March 2009**. Films will be screened in 4 Dame Lane from 8pm on 29 March 2009, followed by an awards presentation and wrap party with DJ sets. Cannonball Run are also recruiting a pool of actors to be used as cast members in the short films. Prospective cast members should be available to meet at the Teachers' Club at 12.30pm on Saturday 28 March 2009 for casting, and be free all day on 28 and 29 March 2009.

Entrants can apply via email - cannonballrun@dctv.ie or use the contact form online at: dctv.ie/cannonball/

'The Cannonball run is connected to DCTV as part of a wider festivals of television it is organising in an effort to engage new layers of people with its work as a media co-operative.

Dublin Community Television (DCTV) is Ireland’s newest TV broadcaster, having secured a 10-year Community Licence from the Broadcasting Commission of Ireland (BCI). It is run by a co-operative and Dublin’s only community TV station. With offices in Temple Bar and the Digital Hub, DCTV has plans to base small-scale production facilities around the city, making video and television production and transmission as accessible as possible. Using new, low-cost, all-digital technology, DCTV is part of a global growth in alternative, community-focused media.'

*Source: http://dctv.ie/cannonball/*

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Unconquered City by former mayor of Limerick Diarmuid Scully will be launched in City Hall, Limerick on **Tuesday March 31st**.

*(Note change of date. This is due to an industrial protest at City Hall on the Monday.)*

Unconquered City will be launched by current Mayor of Limerick, Cllr. John Gilligan in City Hall at 7pm.

Unconquered City tells the story of the men and women who fought at the Siege of Limerick, August 1690. It does so both through the lives of the ordinary citizens and soldiers, and those of the better known historical figures of the time - William of Orange, Patrick Sarsfield, Tyrconnell and de Boisseallau.

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SuperMassiveBlackHole is dedicated to the photographic imagery resulting from the time-based processes found in many interdisciplinary art practices today. The magazine seeks to engage and represent respective projects and ideas which utilise Photography (digital or analogue), New Media (high or low tech), and Performance (through documentation). Fine Artists are encouraged to engage with the magazine as a way of exhibiting, testing, developing and experimenting with new (or old) ideas whether it is through a single image or a structured project.

Time, Space, Light and Gravity are what drive SuperMassiveBlackHole.

The magazine is currently accepting submissions for its upcoming first issue to be published in April 2009.

*Deadline for submissions: 1 April 2009*

*Source: http://www.supermassiveblackholemag.com*
freedocumentaries.org: a site where anyone with an internet connection can watch a movie to educate themselves or simply explore another perspective whenever they please. These movies aren't just for education but are also for entertainment. As a secondary objective freedocumentaires.org allows independent filmmakers to have their message heard by viewers that they may not normally reach.

source: http://www.freedocumentaries.org/index.php

StreetFilms
The mission of StreetFilms is to document livable streets best practices throughout the world and enlighten the general public that their streets can be safer for pedestrians and bicycles. The ultimate goal is to encourage more human-friendly cities and rethink the way our streets are allocated.

source: http://www.streetfilms.org/

Lost Films is an initiative of the Deutsche Kinemathek – Museum für Film und Fernsehen, Berlin, funded by the Kulturstiftung des Bundes (German Federal Cultural Foundation). Its purpose is to make visible the invisible portion of film history by acting as a collaboration platform for internet users to bring together relevant information and surviving documents concerning Lost Films. The archive of titles currently contains over 3500 films believed or declared to be lost.

Source: https://www.lost-films.eu/index

Screening the past is concerned with:
• the history of photography, film, television and multimedia;
• the representation of history on/in these media;
• the role of these media in social history;
• the history and development of critical and theoretical analysis in these areas.

Source: http://www.latrobe.edu.au/screeningthepast/

Action Work - Theatre, Film and Education.
Uses creative action methods such as forum theatre, dramatherapy, ritual and storytelling. We specialise in empowerment and peace programmes with young people, including dealing with issues such as bullying, racism, homophobia, and disability. These take the form of active workshops, performance workshops, creative writing, film and video projects.

Source: http://www.actionwork.com/

Project for Public Spaces (PPS) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people create and sustain public places that build communities. Our vision is to act as the central hub of the global Placemaking movement, connecting people to ideas, expertise, and partners who share a passion for creating vital places.

Source: http://www.pps.org/

OPENspace research is concerned with inclusive access to outdoor environments for everyone; for disabled people, for minority ethnic groups, for children and young people and their carers, for older people and for economically or socially disadvantaged groups.

Source: http://www.openspace.eca.ac.uk/index.htm
The Soil Association exists to research, develop and promote sustainable relationships between the soil, plants, animals, people and the biosphere, in order to produce healthy food and other products while protecting and enhancing the environment.
Source: http://www.soilassociation.org/

Cloughjordan Plots
Three Educational Gardens - Three Methodologies - One Research Project
The project begins with three separate allotment plots being managed using three different gardening methodologies.
Source: http://cloughjordanplots.blogspot.com/

Clonmel Allotments Association
There is a small but enthusiastic group of vegetable growers living in this beautiful Suir valley town. We are currently engaged in a campaign to get Clonmel borough and county councils to provide land for allotments.
Dec 10 2008 Success!
The sod has been turned on Clonmel's pilot allotment scheme, off the Cashel Road.
Source: http://www.clonmelallotments.org/
The John Seymour School for Self Sufficiency
Our home at Killowen is the "classroom" for the many students who visit us each year in their search for a better way of living. Our only timetables are those of the seasons, the animals and the plants. We dig and weed and build; we brew and cook and bake; we bottle and pickle and freeze; we sing and play and write.
Above all, we try to share our experience and way of life.
Source: http://www.self-sufficiency.net/

Urban Views: A reflection of every day life – real, unaltered impressions of public places, places that everybody visits every day, the street where you live, the parking lot of your favorite grocery store, the subway.
Source: http://www.markushartel.com/

Borderline: Send us photos of your neighborhood's dapper dandies, rough-and-tumblers and everything in between: if you think it represents the street style vision that makes your hometown great we want to see it.
Source: http://borderlinemag.com/

SoundCities: This website allows the audience the possibility to remix the hundreds of samples recorded from around the world. The Database is also open so anyone can upload sounds they collect from world cities, thereby making a contribution to the project and making an online sounds archive.
Source: http://www.soundcities.com/

Europa SCADplus
This site provides user-friendly fact sheets which summarise EU legislation. The fact sheets are divided into 32 subject areas which are the Activities of the European Union. With almost 2,500 fact sheets updated daily, the coverage of legislation is comprehensive and up-to-date.
Source: http://europa.eu/scadplus/

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
For more than 35 years, we have been providing medical help to people caught in many kinds of catastrophes: armed conflicts, natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes, epidemics of disease, and famines.
MSF has sent photographers into its projects to document both MSF’s work and the people we are trying to assist. This is a collection of some of their best work.
Source: http://msf.ca/blogs/

The Feminization of Poverty
The majority of the 1.5 billion people living on 1 dollar a day or less are women. In addition, the gap between women and men caught in the cycle of poverty has continued to widen in the past decade, a phenomenon commonly referred to as "the feminization of poverty". Worldwide, women earn on average slightly more than 50 per cent of what men earn.
Women living in poverty are often denied access to critical resources such as credit, land and inheritance. Their labour goes unrewarded and unrecognized. Their health care and nutritional needs are not given priority, they lack sufficient access to education and support services, and their participation in decision-making at home and in the community are minimal. Caught in the cycle of poverty, women lack access to resources and services to change their situation.

The Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, identified the eradication of the persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women as one of the 12 critical areas of concern requiring special attention and action by the international community, governments and civil society.

The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women discussed the issue of women and poverty at its fortieth session in 1996, and proposed further action to be taken by UN member states and the international community, including the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in all poverty eradication policies and programmes. Among the agreed conclusions of the session were measures aimed at policies to ensure that all women have adequate economic and social protection during unemployment, ill health, maternity, child-bearing, widowhood, disability and old age; and that women, men and society share responsibilities for child and other dependant care.

**Women are the World's Poor**

An important achievement of the Beijing Conference has been the recognition by governments that there is a gender dimension to poverty. This has resulted in efforts to refocus poverty eradication policies to address specifically the needs of women, particularly in rural areas. It has also led to the introduction of a wider definition of poverty, one that not only takes into account minimum basic needs but also includes the denial of opportunities and choices.

The overwhelming majority of countries reporting on their implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action have referred to many initiatives in this area. A few examples are:

- In Uganda, there is now an understanding that only by incorporating a gender perspective in all aspects of the National Poverty Eradication Action Plan can the goal to eradicate mass poverty by the year 2017 be achieved.
- Cameroon, Madagascar and Niger have identified women as a specific target group in their national poverty eradication programmes.
- Senegal has conducted gender training for senior decision-makers to mainstream a gender perspective into sectoral development planning.
- In 1998, the Palestinian Ministry of Social Affairs devoted resources to special projects for the development of entrepreneurial skills among women.
- Denmark’s development assistance policy calls for the inclusion of a gender perspective in all programmes.
- Singapore has implemented the Small Families Improvement Scheme, the purpose of which is to help low-income families to get access to education and housing.

**Women and Globalization**

The negative impact of the globalization of the world economy is borne disproportionately by women. As the economy becomes increasingly linked to global markets, it often leads to a reduction in public spending and social programmes, pushing the costs on to the family, where it is most often the women who shoulder the added burden.

- China has reported that due to its comprehensive approach to poverty eradication among women, the number of its citizens living in poverty has dropped from 65 million in 1995 to 42 million in 1998. Sixty per cent of those freed from poverty have been women.
• Zambia, like most African countries, is trying to cushion the negative impact of structural adjustment programmes on women. It is implementing a Social Action Programme that will provide payment for women's education and health services.
• The PROGRESEA programme, introduced in Mexico in 1997, offers assistance to poor women in the areas of employment, education, health and nutrition.
• The introduction of a minimum wage in the United Kingdom and the United States has benefited 1.3 million and 5.7 million women, respectively.
• In Georgia, an analysis of the impact of macroeconomic investments and taxation policies on women helped formulate policies to minimize the negative impact of economic transformations on women.
• In Germany, a pilot project called "Assistance for single homeless mothers" integrated women into society and provided them with employment.

**Key to Change**

Empowering women is a critical factor in freeing the millions of people who are caught in the cycle of poverty and hunger. By providing women with access to economic and educational opportunities, as well as the autonomy needed to take advantage of such opportunities, an important obstacle to poverty eradication would be overcome.

The provision of credit, especially micro-credit, has become a very popular and successful strategy for poverty eradication. According to the United Nations Development Programme's Poverty Report 1998, at present some 10 million women around the world are reached by systems of small loans. Among the examples, since the Beijing Conference, are:

• In 1997, the United States granted more than 10,000 loans, totalling 67 billion dollars, to women business-owners.
• In Belize, the Small Farmers and Business Bank provided 29 per cent of its funds to women.
• Japan gave interest-free loans to 27,000 rural women.
• Since 1994, 96 per cent of Palestinian women who participated in agricultural projects benefited from the implementation of loan programmes.
• In Trinidad and Tobago, the Small Business Development Company has distributed 65 per cent of its loans to women.
• In Sudan, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has provided seed money for the establishment of commercial enterprises to raise the standard of living of low-income women.
• In Viet Nam, a project supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has reached more than 60,000 poor women in 198 communes of 28 provinces, providing them with small loans and basic knowledge about income generation activities.

The Beijing Platform for Action also called on countries to "undertake legislative and administrative reforms to give women full and equal access to economic resources, including the right to inheritance and to ownership of land". However, progress in this area has been slow. Only a small number of countries — including Bolivia, Malaysia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe — have changed their laws to make it possible for women to inherit land.

**Female-headed Households**

In both developed and developing countries, there has been an increase in the number of female-headed households. Female-headed households that do not have access to remittances from male earners are generally assumed to be poorer than male-headed households. Female-headed households are more vulnerable to increased unemployment and reductions in social and welfare spending. Actions to counter this include:
• In the 1988 Budget Law, Italy allocated 250 million lire to guarantee a basic income for poor families, most of which were headed by women.
• Iran and Japan have allocated funds to programmes that integrate rural female-headed households into productive employment.
• Singapore has implemented the Small Families Improvement Scheme designed to help low-income families, particularly those headed by women, gain access to education and housing.
• Greece has instituted allowances benefiting female-headed households.


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