

Irish National Committee of the International Council for

Traditional Music

17th Annual Conference

25-26 February 2022

Dundalk Institute of Technology

Music: Connectivity, Interaction and Mediatisation

Keynote Address: Professor Thérèse Smith, University College Dublin

The global COVID pandemic has underlined the centrality of social interaction to music and dance around the world, spanning across the entire spectrum of participatory and presentational forms of performance. It has heightened our awareness of the importance (and the fragility) of the sonic bonds that connect musicians, musical communities, and audiences across the globe. Musicians have responded to the pandemic in various ways, particularly in how they have used technology to create new forms of mediated live performance, to allow collaboration and co-operation, to foster connections between musical communities, and to reimagine forms of musical creation and transmission. The mediatisation of these interactions may in fact have only been accelerated by the pandemic, as various types of technology have already impacted the way that musicians communicate. Perhaps most affected by the restrictions of the pandemic are various forms of amateur and participatory music making; serious challenges remain in these areas, particularly for those involved in vocal music.

We invite scholars to take this opportunity to consider the nature of the connections and interactions which underpin many forms of music, dance, musical communities, and musical research itself. In particular, we encourage research which focuses on all forms of musical interaction; on the maintenance and transmission of somatic knowledge; and on the embodied nature of musical communication. We ask how musicians and dancers have adapted to the restrictions of the pandemic, and how might these adaptations have lasting imprints on artistic practice? How have the very real fears and cautiousness provoked by the pandemic impacted upon musicians, ensembles, and audiences? How might music have a role in fostering our re-entry back into society, particularly for those who have suffered trauma, anxiety, and other mental health issues as a result of life and lifestyle changes? Does a focus on developing resilience as a response to the crisis mask a neoliberal approach to the arts and artistic practices, driving more practitioners into an 'artistic precariat' (Bain and McLean 2013)? And how might scholars and ethnomusicology contribute to this through applied work?

Papers that address the following topics will be especially welcome:

- New research on musical interaction and communication
- New forms of mediated music performance and participation
- Participatory music in a post-COVID world
- Connecting and maintaining musical communities

We encourage proposals on this theme from scholars in all relevant academic fields.

We also welcome papers on other topics from the broader field of ethnomusicology, including those researching popular music and popular musicology, ethnochoreology, community music, music therapy, folklore studies, and applied research inside and outside the academy.

Proposals will be accepted for:

- Individual paper: These should be 20 minutes long and will be followed by 10 minutes of discussion.
- Panel: Organised panels of 3-4 papers (90 or 120 minutes).
- Lecture-recital: These should be 20-30 minutes in length.
- Shorter (10-minute) postgraduate presentations may also be submitted. We also welcome short (10 minutes max.) video extract submissions, which will be shown between panel sessions.

To submit a proposal, please email an attachment (.doc or .docx) to chair@ictm.ie by 6 December 2021 including:

- Title of paper
- Name and institutional affiliation
- Abstract (200 words; panels should include individual paper abstracts as well as a thematic abstract from the panel proposer)
- Short biography (c100 words)
- Preferred presentation format (in-person or online)

Successful applicants will be notified by 17 December 2021. A student travel bursary is available (see below).

ICTM Student Travel Bursary

Purpose: To facilitate travel to the annual ICTM Ireland conference for a postgraduate student. The award is based on the quality of abstracts submitted. All applications will be judged by the ICTM Ireland committee.

Eligibility:

- Current postgraduate students at an Irish/international institute
- Applicants who have applied for and been accepted to present at the ICTM Ireland conference
- Applicants must be members of ICTM Ireland.

Prize: €100

Regularity: Annually

Applicants should email chair@ictm.ie by 14 January. Awardees will be notified by 1 February. Successful applicants will receive a cheque at the annual conference for the award amount.