**Dear Friend** 



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Lewisham Irish Festival
at the Albany

This weekend celebration of Irish culture starts on Friday 19 March 8pm when you can share An Evening with Sean Hughes....for one night only. Sean (Perrier Award winner for Comedy) became a regular on our TVs in series like 'Never Mind the Buzzcocks' and the acclaimed Channel 4's 'The Last Detective'. Don't miss this special evening of poems and readings from Sean's blackly comic novels, 'The Detainees' and 'It's What He Would Have Wanted'. Tickets £10, £8 concs

There will be a warm welcome waiting for you at the ALBANY OPEN HOUSE, Saturday 20 March, 1-6pm, a FREE festival day. Come and enjoy a day of live music, spoken word and comedy in the new fully licensed café. Stand-up comedian, John Ryan, 'a gem of a performer', will be your MC for the day, introducing a range of acoustic music, from the traditional Irish folk sound of Creel to the bluesy, gravelly growl of Peter Alexander. There's spoken word from Dublin born Jody Trehy and Aoife Manix, 2001 Farrago London Slam! champion. Children's workshops in Irish dance at 2pm with a special showcase later in the day. Catch some gems of Irish film in The Albany's Studio - open for a range of film screenings. Share in the festivities whilst enjoying home cooked food with a distinctly Irish flavour complemented by Caffreys and Guinness. Be sure to come early...

After the Albany Open House you might like to stay on for the evening when the festivities continue in the theatre with **North Cregg**, voted 'Best New Band' by Irish Magazine, playing their hot Irish 'trad' sounds with a touch of blue grass and a little bit of swing. Plus support from **Tarantism** with their special blend of 'Afro-Celtic Dub Diddly Festi knees up Fusion'! Expect to be dancing into the night . Tickets £8/ £6 concs.

## **SPECIAL TICKET OFFER:**

£8 TICKET FOR SEAN HUGHES (quote 'Laughing Stock' when buying your ticket) £5 TICKET FOR NORTH CREGG (quote 'Dancing feet')

Last but not least enjoy the latest work of artist **Linda Kearns**, exhibiting from **Friday 12 March to Saturday 10 April**. Working in Indian ink inspired by the writings of the Book of Kells, her work captures the spirit of Ireland's old way of life, which is slowly dying out.

We look forward to welcoming you to this celebration of Irish culture. To book your tickets please call our Box Office on 020 8692 4446.

**Best wishes** 

Bridget theugowe

Marketing Co-ordinator, Art of Regeneration

Clare Clare