The Irish Chaplaincy Scheme in Britain Presents

st. patrick's night festival concert

at the royal albert hall

WEDNESDAY 16th MARCH '77

Souvenir Programme

25p
Best wishes from B+I Line.
A MESSAGE FROM CARDINAL HUME

On this the eve of St Patrick I send warm greetings to the Irish Chaplains and to all of you who are supporting to-night’s Festival Concert.

I had not been at Westminster long when I realised what a debt the diocese owes to the Chaplains. There are no less than thirty priests here, as well as religious sisters and brothers, engaged in pastoral and welfare work.

The Irish people have splendid traditions. It is not only their priests and religious who have been missionaries; wherever they have settled emigrant Catholics have carried with them a strong religious sense and deep loyalty to the Faith. Closely linked with these has been their love for their country and its rich cultural tradition. The feast of St Patrick is a time to celebrate the treasures you have inherited; to rejoice and be grateful for them.

May God bless the work of the Chaplains. May the example of St Patrick and all the saints of Ireland keep the new generation true to their Faith and worthy followers in the missionary tradition.


GEORGE BASIL HUME
Archbishop of Westminster
One of four talented sisters, well known in Ireland, Eily O’Grady gave her first radio broadcast as a pianist at the age of eight. She studied piano with Elizabeth Huban in Dublin and after winning many awards at the Dublin Feis Ceoil she obtained a scholarship from the Italian Government and went to Rome where she studied for four years with Carlo Zecchi.

With her husband, Frank Patterson, Eily has given many recitals in the U.S.A., Canada and Europe. She appears frequently on Radio and Television.

An accomplished exponent of our native instrument — the Irish Harp, Eily studied with Nancy Calthorpe, the well known teacher and arranger of Irish Folk Music.

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NA CASAIDIGH

Na Casaidigh are one of the most exciting young traditional Groups in Ireland to-day. Five brothers, originally from the Donegal Gaeltacht, they have won competitions both in the traditional and classical field and each boy plays several instruments. They come from a great family tradition and their father, Sean O Casaidh is a distinguished scholar of Irish Music and Literature. Already, Na Casaidigh have toured France and Wales and have appeared on B.B.C., and R.T.E. television.

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MICHAEL TWOMEY

Michael Twomey is a most versatile and distinguished actor. Born in Cork, he began his career as a Shakespearean actor and was particularly noted for his portrayal of Hamlet, for which he won “Best Actor” award at the Killarney Festival, 1959.

He had produced, presented and compered a number of radio programmes, including Variety Shows, Magazine Programmes and Documentaries. Michael appears weekly on the R.T.E. television show “Hall’s Pictorial Weekly” in the comedy duo “Cha and Miah”.

He has compered many Festivals all over Ireland, including the Cork International Film Festival for three years in succession and each year he produced “Summer Revels” at the Cork Opera House.

At present he is a Director of Theatre of the South Ltd., with whom he has played over fifty roles and toured the west coast of America in 1972.
Bank of Ireland is pleased to be associated with the sponsorship of the St. Patrick’s night Festival Concert.
Artistes

frank patterson
the o'grady sisters
na casaidich
michael twomey
dermot o'brien
mary mc sweeney
fr. michael cleary 
fr. michael funge

kavanagh school of dancing
blake
angela farrell

Producer
MR LESLIE JACKSON

Will our patrons please note that all the seats in the Royal Albert Hall are not available to us to book as some are held by patrons of the R.A.H. who own the seats outright. We regret any disappointment to our patrons of this Concert who have been unable to obtain seats, and trust they will understand when they see some unoccupied seats.
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FRANK PATTERSON

Frank Patterson is one of Ireland's foremost International artists. Born in Clonmel, Co, Tipperary, he made his first public appearance as a boy-soprano in his hometown. In 1962, he commenced vocal studies with Dr. Hans Waldemar Rosen, pursuing at the same time a course of acting at the National Academy of Theatre and Allied Arts in Dublin. Two years later, he won all the major vocal awards at the Dublin Feis Ceoil (Ireland's National Music Festival). Scholarships to London and Holland followed and he finally went to Paris, where he studied for four years with the famous French soprano, Janine Michaeu. To help finance his studies during this period, he gave frequent concert, radio and television performances and it was a broadcast of Purcell Songs on B.B.C. (London) that first brought him to the attention of the Philips Record Company. While still a student in Paris, he signed a five year exclusive recording contract with them.

Now with eleven L.P.'s to his credit, he is much in demand throughout Europe for oratorio (his performances as the Evangelist in the Bach Passions have won particular praise), concert, recital, radio and television engagements and has already completed four coast-to-coast tours of the U.S.A. and Canada. He has sung with Colin Davis, Sir Charles Groves, Jean Fournet, Karl Richter and Paul Sacher, and has been soloist with many major orchestras including the London Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, Halle, Liverpool Philharmonic, Orchestre de Paris, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Basel Chamber Orchestra, Academy of St. Martin in the Fields and R.A.I. Symphony of Rome.

Frank Patterson is married to the Irish pianist, Eily O'Grady, and when not on tour lives in Ireland, where he has his own Radio Series and regular television show "For your pleasure — Frank Patterson".

Last year, Frank had the great honour of being invited to sing "Panis Angelicus" at the Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia. The first Irishman to be so honoured since John McCormack. He has just returned from an extensive Concert Tour of Holland and after his appearances in Britain, he leaves for concerts in Italy and Sicily.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On behalf of the Irish Chaplains I would like to thank very sincerely all those who gave so generously towards our souvenir programme. To those who sold tickets, arranged coaches and who helped in any way in making the occasion such a happy and successful one, thank you. Hoping you will enjoy this evening and have a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Fr. Pat O'Herlihy
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