

Coventry Irish Festival

presents

**Spirit
of
Ireland**

**A gala night of Irish
entertainment**

**Belgrade Theatre
Saturday, August 21st 1999**

Compered by and
starring

Conal Gallen

Act One

Introduction by
Austin Cairns

Chairman Coventry Irish
Festival Committee

Alison Hughes

Winner 1999 Coventry Irish
Festival Talent Competition

Linda & Arthur
James

Doherty Academy of
Irish Dancing

Act Two

Corbett & Gaynor
Terry Bradford &
Sussie Arvesen

Grand Finale

In this, the eleventh anniversary of the Coventry Irish Festival, the Committee is proud to present a celebration of Irish culture that encompasses the true spirit of Ireland.

Headlining this evening's show is the comedian from Donegal who was recently voted top Irish comedian in the UK. Fresh from a worldwide tour, Conal brings his unique brand of comedy, music and fun to the Coventry Irish Festival for the second year in succession.

From the Eurovision Song Contest to Top of the Pops to The Belgrade Theatre, Terry Bradford has worked with all of the top names in music; Charlie Landsborough, The Fureys and Joe Dolan to name just three. For Terry though, tonight is what music is all about - playing in front of a live audience.

Sussie Arvesen started her career at the tender age of four in her native Copenhagen. Sussie has recently written a number of songs for Dominic Kirwan and tonight shows the quality that has made her a star across Europe.

Linda & Arthur James, have gone a long way from Hinckley - in fact all the way to Nashville. Their credits include playing with THE big names in country music, Johnny Cash, Billie Jo Spears and Brendan Shine amongst many others. Their stage act reflects the talent they have played alongside and is a refreshing blend of music and comedy with audience participation welcomed.

No introduction is needed for Corbett & Gaynor. Jim and Declan have taken the music scene in the midlands by storm over the last few years with their repertoire of classic Irish ballads and their own material.

Their first compact disc with their blend of country and Irish music launched the band on the road to success - a road that sees the band play the length and breadth of the country.

Returning from Ennis in County Clare with no fewer than five world titles is the perfect reward for the long hours of dedication shown by the students of the Doherty Academy of Irish Dancing. The excellence of the Academy is shown tonight with a specially choreographed dance drama 'From Flag Floor to Lord of the Dance.' A history of Irish Dance.

**Stage Manager
Catherine Breslin**

For the Belgrade Theatre

Technical Stage Manager

Steve Pamplin

Sound Engineer

Steve Wilson

Chief Electrician

Bernie Howe

*The Coventry Irish
Festival Committee would
like to thank all the staff
at The Belgrade Theatre
for their support in this
event*

Supported by

