



COMHALTAS
hamilton IRISH ARTS

workshops

Saturday, October 13, 2018 - All workshops cost \$20

Location: Homewood Suites by Hilton - 40 Bay St., S. Hamilton

10am to Noon

Flute and tin whistle:

We're going to be examining *The Silver Spear* as an example of a reel that you can change the sound of by looking at ornamentation. For example: cuts, rolls, crans, etc., and articulating the tune by choosing the best places to breathe. This also affects the rhythm. We will look at other tunes from the participants so bring something you want the "diddlydee-doctor" to help you with. Find out more about Steafan at <http://www.steafan.com>



Steafan Hannigan

Fiddle:

Many fiddlers learn tunes well, but find themselves struggling with the execution of the tunes, how to make them sound 'Irish', how to find that lilt particular to the genre, how to get the fingers and bow to work together or fast enough.

With 30 years of fiddling under her belt, an All-England championship, and teaching fiddling and classical technique for over 20 years, Saskia is experienced in helping students of all ages and levels find their stride and improve by tweaking their technique.

Bring your questions and problems.

Of course if the class is already experienced, we will learn cool tunes!

Find out more about Saskia at <http://www.saskiatomkins.com>



Saskia Tomkins

Set Dance:

Maureen was raised in Co. Leitrim and has been dancing since she was 3 years old - first in step dancing, then ceili and set dancing.

Maureen has taught in Ireland, U.S., New Zealand and many provinces in Canada, primarily in the Toronto/Hamilton region, for over 35 years.

She makes dancing fun and has loads of patience with all levels of dance.

This workshop will be in set dancing - which consists of 3 - 5 figures in each dance, pausing between each figure where the music could change tempo.

Every set is named after a place in Ireland, so it is also a great way of learning the geography of the country through dance.

Set dancing is done in groups of 8. Please wear a soft-soled shoe that will slide on wood floor easily.

You don't need a partner, but you do need to want to have fun!



**Maureen
Mulvey-O'Leary**

E-MAIL us to register for one or more workshop at hamiltonirisharts@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook: Hamilton Irish Arts or our

NEW and IMPROVED website: <http://www.hamiltonirisharts.ca>

1pm to 3pm

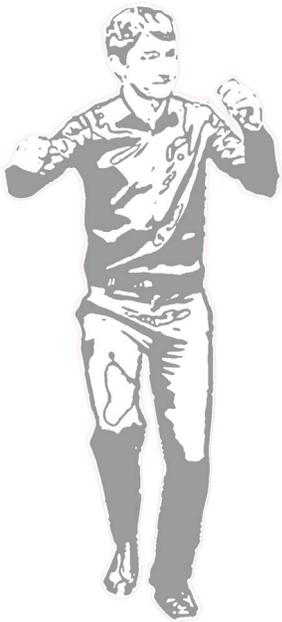
In her youth, Marilyn loved the world of Canadian Step Dancing and dancing to her father's Square Dance calls, or swinging around the floor at Junior Farmer Dances. Twenty years ago, alongside her children, she began Irish Dance lessons. Then ten years later, at the Summer Irish Immersion Camp, Marilyn was introduced to the wonders of Sean n3s dance. Marilyn's training has since given her opportunities to study under local and world renowned Irish Sean n3s dancers and teachers.

In 2009, Marilyn co-founded the Celtic Thunder Academy of Irish Music and Dance. She teaches Irish music & dance lessons in Harriston, Guelph, and Fergus. Marilyn is the Artistic Director of the Spring Rain Weekend - an annual Irish Cultural Weekend in Belwood, ON. Marilyn also teaches high school. She earned high honours in both her TMRF Irish Dance Teachers' qualifications and her Dance Part 2 certification for teaching dance in Ontario's schools.



Marilyn Abraham

An introduction to the wonders of Sean n3s dance:



No idea of what Sean n3s dance is? Then this is the workshop for you. Have done a little sean n3s dance and looking for ways to build your repertoire? Then this is the workshop for you.

Sean n3s literally means "old style" in Irish. It is one of the oldest variants of Irish dance. Historically, in the remote villages of the Gaeltacht, Sean n3s dance with its rich regional variances was passed down grandparent to child. As those extended family households became less common, instruction in Sean n3s dance moved outside the home and into the community. Sean n3s dance has some similarities to Canadian Step Dance, or Treble Reels, however it is a unique dance form. It is an exciting, improvised, heel-dominant battering style dance characterized by a loose, playful upper body, close to the floor steps & a strong musicality. As an improvised communication between musician & dancer, the dancer readily responds to variations in the tune and changes to the tune, rather than dancing a set routine. The Sean n3s dancer and musician define tempo/speed and musical style together (reel, jig, hornpipe). Sean n3s dancers synthesize learnt steps or family sequences into that musician-dancer conversation so that their personality is apparent. Another key characteristic of Sean n3s dance is that the shuffles are predominantly heel/toe shuffles with their feet close to the floor as opposed to toe/toe shuffles characteristic of modern Irish step dancing.

Those registering for the Sean n3s dance workshop are requested to wear either **regular street shoes or Traditional Group Set Dance shoes which have a leather sole and a hard heel**. Please do not wear shoes with metal taps nor Irish Dance hard shoes.

In this workshop, Marilyn will lead you in your journey of personalizing your Sean n3s dance style!