



Brian Conway

Leading exponent of the unique New York Sligo style

"Someone whose talent should be sampled firsthand by far more people outside the Big Apple."

—Earl Hitchener

2002 Top 10 CD of the Year

First Through the Gate recognized by The Irish Echo

2007 Tribute to Andy McGann

There are times when you would close your eyes, and hear Andy himself coming through the hands and soul of Conway.

—LiveIreland.com

"...now wearing every laurel that Irish music can bestow on its most gifted performers, Brian brings his own brand of sweetness, elegance and high good humour to his fiddle playing."

—John Daly, Director Irish American Heritage Center, Chicago

Brian Conway is simply one of the finest fiddlers that America has to offer the world of traditional Irish music. Born in the Bronx, New York of Irish émigrés from County Tyrone, Brian grew up with a strong sense of traditional music and at age ten began the fiddle. Music was part of home life and Friday nights at the Conway house included a veritable Who's Who of the leading players in New York. His two fiddle teachers and early musical influences were Irish music legends Martin Mulvihill and Martin Wynne.

He won his first All-Ireland fiddle title less than two years after starting the instrument and in 1986 was only the fourth American to win the senior title. Brian's fiddle style became steeped in the nuances of other musical mentors like his friend Andy McGann.

Brian has synthesized all of those musical influences into a very driving yet fluid style, highly ornamented yet precise and clear. His is the so-called New York style of Sligo music, harkening back to the 1920s and the legendary Michael Coleman. From Brian's many New York Irish mentors, it's easy to draw a link to that the era, yet Brian himself has generated his own commanding presence in the fiddle world. He's got the technical brilliance matched with seasoned musical maturity along with a charming stage presence.

Brian has been performing at Irish festivals up and down the East Coast and Mid-West for years as well as teaching fiddle at various summer music camps. He has recently done some notable appearances in Ireland and Canada.



Accompanying Brian on his festival and concert tours will be the highly regarded piano accompanist and flute player Brendan Dolan.

Recording Credits

2007: A Tribute to Andy McGann (*Clo-lar-Connachta*)
2004: track on Celtic Winds: Irish Music in America
2002: First Through the Gate (*Smithsonian Folkways*)
2002: tracks on Patrick Mangan's Farewell to Ireland
2001: tracks on Traditional Irish Music in America
2000: Apples in Winter with Tony DeMarco, re-release
1991: tracks on My Love is in America
1991: tracks on The Rights of Man: the Concert for Joseph Doherty
1983: track on Joe Burke's The Tailor's Choice
Watch for Brian's new CD this Summer!

For Bookings:

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