

The Rolling Wave

A New Generation of Uilleann Pipers

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The Rolling Wave, a new recording of young uilleann pipers, was launched today by Jimmy Deenihan TD, Minister for Arts Heritage and Gaeltacht as part of NPU's annual Tionól in Listowel.

The recording, produced by Na Píobairí Uilleann, features 15 young pipers including recent TG4 Young Musicians of the Year winners Pádraic Keane from Galway and Caoimhín Ó Fearghail from Waterford.

With each passing generation, young pipers continue to discover new possibilities in the instrument and in the music and *The Rolling Wave* reflects uilleann piping today as a vital, modern art, relevant to the young musician and audience alike.

Na Píobairí Uilleann has a long-standing commitment to recording and showcasing the talents of young musicians and previous publications include *A New Dawn*, which drew inspiration from the seminal 1978 recording *The Pipers Rock*.

In 2010 NPU began making a new series of recordings of young players for the archive and given the quality of the music being recorded it was felt that the time was right once again to produce a representative sample commercially for listeners. *The Rolling Wave* provides a snapshot of the state of the art amid the new generation of players.

However, unlike previous collections, the number of outstanding young players continues to grow and *The Rolling Wave* includes performances by young players from all over Ireland, Scotland, England and the USA.

Further Information

Contact NPU, info@pipers.ie, +353 1 8730093, www.pipers.ie, 15 Henrietta St, Dublin 1.

About Na Píobairí Uilleann

Na Píobairí Uilleann (NPU), the Society of Uilleann Pipers was founded in 1968 at grassroots level by pipers with the aim of protecting a threatened art form. Now, 44 years later, NPU is a thriving arts organisation with thousands of members worldwide, dedicated to servicing the aims and needs of pipers worldwide. It is an ambition of NPU's to establish the uilleann pipes as the iconic instrument of Ireland in the 21st century. Since unveiling its restored Georgian premises at 15 Henrietta St in January 2007, NPU has been busy catering for the expanding demand for regular tuition as well as releasing a number of significant publications and recordings. With demand for pipes considerably exceeding supply, a dedicated Training Centre – *PipeCraft* - has been established to deliver training in the very highly skilled craft of uilleann pipemaking. NPU's commitment to tuition, both on a weekly basis at its premises and internationally, continues to grow, along with its public performance programme.

NPU also maintains a significant online presence. *SOURCE*, our web-based piping and traditional music resource, makes available our accumulated training, tutorial and archive materials to lovers of Irish music around the world.

Na Píobairí Uilleann's primary funding agencies include the Department of Arts Heritage and Gaeltacht, The Arts Council / An Comhairle Ealaíonn and Dublin City Council.