



Padraic Collins

is a harper from just outside Ballina in Co. Mayo and has been playing the harp for 18 years. He was taught, as many male harpers in the North Mayo area were, by Peter Neary as part of Bofield CCE. Padraic completed a BMus degree in Maynooth University before completing a PDE in Music Education in the University of Limerick, as well as an MA in Irish Traditional Music Performance. He went on to work as a professional musician, touring various parts of Europe with a variety of instrumentalists and singers, as well as playing music as part of the Bunratty Castle banquets. More recently he has worked as an educator of music, as harp tutor in University College Cork, before moving to London to teach music in secondary school. Padraic has now returned to Ireland after four years and works with Music Generation Roscommon, and performs across the west and north west of Ireland, as part of Sligo's vibrant session scene. Padraic has accompanied many accomplished singers such as Alyth McCormack from the Chieftains, Dr Sandra Joyce, and currently his partner Catherine Fagan.