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KYO-SHIN-AN ARTS PRESENTS

# KAMMERRAKU

WITH THE ARIANNA STRING QUARTET



**November 30, 2012**

**8 p.m.**

For tickets, call (314) 516-4949 or visit [touhill.org](http://touhill.org)

Sponsored by The Ei'ichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Professorship in Japanese Studies, International Studies and Programs, University of Missouri-St. Louis, and the Arianna String Quartet with the support of the Regional Arts Commission, St. Louis. Supported by the Japan Foundation through the Performing Arts JAPAN program.

# CELTIC FESTIVAL BLACK 47



**with St. Louis Irish Arts**

**November 3, 2012**

**8 p.m.**

Sponsored by The Smurfit-Stone Corporation Endowed Professorship in Irish Studies, International Studies and Programs, University of Missouri-St. Louis, and Llywelyn's Pubs with the support of the Regional Arts Commission, St. Louis.

## Black 47

If anyone is left standing, it'll be Black 47. The band is celebrating an astonishing 20 years of rocking the world with the Celtic-influenced genre it pioneered, not to mention their championing of various political and social issues. Known for its partying as much as its politics, Black 47 has released thirteen albums on major and indie labels, toured the world and blown the genre of Celtic rock wide open for many a band to follow.

Black 47 recently released *A Funky Céilí*, a collection of 18 of their best-known up-tempo and humorous tracks, along with *Bankers and Gangsters*, twelve new topical and political songs. The band employs its distinctive ever-broadening mélange of New York styles - rock, reggae, hip-hop, folk, Irish traditional, downtown noise, jazz and blues - on this celebratory eclectic mix highlighted by some top-shelf storytelling. The new songs range from the rocking socio-political commentary of *Long Hot Summer* and *Bankers and Gangsters* through humorous scenarios like *Long Lost Tapes of Hendrix* and *Izzy's Irish Rose* to the classic pop songwriting and romantic nostalgia of *Yeats & Joyce* and *That Summer Dress*.

Taking their name from the worst year of the Irish Potato Famine, Black 47 burst onto the American scene in 1993 with its single, *Funky Céilí* from the CD, *Fire of Freedom*. The band's signature eclectic sound, socio-political lyrics and off-the-wall live shows paved the way for other Irish influenced bands such as Flogging Molly and Dropkick Murphys. The band's songs have long been used in political science and history courses in hundreds of high schools and colleges throughout the US.

Black 47 is led by Larry Kirwan (guitar/vocals). He has written ten plays and musicals produced in the US and Europe; five published under the title *Mad Angels*. Kirwan's novel, *Liverpool Fantasy*, an alternate history of the Beatles, received much critical acclaim and has been translated into Spanish, Greek and Japanese. His memoir, *Green Suede Shoes*, was published in both the US and UK. He has recorded two solo albums, *Kilroy Was Here* and *Keltic Kids*. He hosts the popular *Celtic Crush* for SiriusXM Satellite Radio, and writes a controversial weekly column for the nationally distributed *Irish Echo* newspaper.

### The Band

Geoffrey Blythe (saxophones) was a founding member of Dexy's Midnight Runners.

Fred Parcels (trombone) has worked extensively in Latin/Jazz and big bands.

Thomas Hamlin (drums) is a veteran of the Max's/CBGB's scene.

Joseph Mulvanerty is a founding member of The Ruffians, a New York City pop/punk band called "an American, Gen Y version of the Pogues" by the Chicago Sun Times.

Joseph "Bearclaw" Burcaw offers a wealth of funk/R&B experience as well as a dynamic stage presence.

### Discography

A Funky Céilí (2011)  
Bankers & Gangsters (2010)  
Iraq (2008)  
Bittersweet Sixteen (2006)  
Elvis Murphy's Green Suede Shoes (2005)  
New York Town (2004)  
On Fire (2001)  
Trouble in the Land (2000)  
Ten Bloody Years (1999)  
Live In New York City (1998)  
Green Suede Shoes (1996)  
Home of the Brave (1994)  
Fire of Freedom (1993)  
Black 47 EP (1992)  
Black 47 (1991)  
Home of the Brave / Live in London (1989)

**Because Black 47 never plays the same set twice,  
the songs will be announced from the stage.**

**For more information, please visit**

**[black47.com](http://black47.com)**

**[facebook.com/black47](https://facebook.com/black47)**

### St. Louis Irish Arts

In 1987, the first Missouri Irish dance teacher licensed to train dancers for competitions opened a school for music and dance. This school was, and continues to be, unique among Irish dancing schools in the United States because every student who joined the school was required to take an Irish music lesson on the tin whistle to complement their regular dance lessons. The school was named St. Louis Irish Arts School.

Affiliated with Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, (the Dublin-based Irish musicians association, with 36,000 members and 400 branches in 15 countries on four continents), St. Louis Irish Arts has become one of the most successful academies of Irish music, song, dance, and culture in North America.

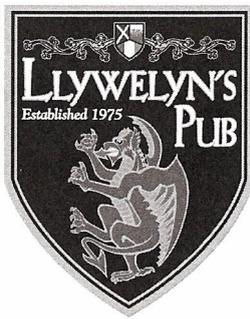
While the School operates separately from the Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann branch of St. Louis Irish Arts Inc., there is very close collaboration between the two. The school raises funds for the branch through various annual activities. In turn, the branch supports the music and dancing programs operated by the school.

Directed by Limerick native Helen Gannon, SLIA's magical blend of Irish music and dance lessons has fostered and produced some of the finest musicians and dancers worldwide. Today, St. Louis Irish Arts School is located in Maplewood, Missouri. Students are accepted into the school's program from the age of four years old through adults.

St. Louis Irish Arts is delighted to be partnered with the University of Missouri-St. Louis through the Smurfit-Stone Endowed Professorship in Irish Studies.

**For more information, please visit**

**[slia.org](http://slia.org)**



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