

All Aboard! This year's **Ardee Baroque** takes as its theme **The Grand Tour**, that educational (and enjoyable) journey through Europe taken by the wealthiest young men during the 17th and 18th centuries. Often lasting more than a year, the Grand Tour brought the rich but uncultured into contact with all that was great in the areas of visual arts, literature, music, and general refinement. **The Irish Baroque Orchestra**, whose Director, Monica Hugget, is both well-travelled and highly refined, invites us to take a seat as they whisk us from England to Italy, Germany, and France in the company of some of the finest Baroque composers, including Purcell, Lotti, Bach, and Rameau. This Grand Tour is completed over two concerts on Friday and Sunday. Single or return tickets are available.

A one-day excursion to Venice will take place on Saturday evening, starting from the Church of Ireland in Collon. Renowned soprano **Deirdre Moynihan**, accompanied by a stellar line-up of musicians, will perform a selection of **Vivaldi's Cantatas**. This series of songs, among the most exciting and engaging of the whole Baroque repertoire, will be interspersed with lesser-known instrumental works by **Veracini** and **Geminiani**. All tickets first class!

Geminiani was born in Lucca, studied in Rome and travelled to France and the Netherlands before paying two long visits to Ireland in the 1730s. An apocryphal story has him meeting the harper **Carolan** at a salon in Dublin, only to find himself bested musically by Nobber's finest. Apt then that harpist and composer **Anne-Marie O'Farrell's** programme will include works by **Handel** and **Bach** alongside a suite by Carolan, placing the blind harper firmly in the milieu of European Baroque composition. Anne-Marie's charabanc arrives into Smarmore Castle on Saturday afternoon. Seats are limited.

Members of the **Irish Baroque Orchestra** will perform at the Ardee Branch Library on Saturday morning, especially for children. Informal, interactive, and in great demand, this always-popular musical event is free, but remember – the boat sails at 11am, so be at the quayside in plenty of time.

Ardee is the centre of our Grand Tour every year, and our lecture, which takes place at Smarmore Castle on Sunday afternoon, explores how Ardee coped when the Anglo-Normans, on a different kind of cultural excursion, arrived here in the late twelfth century. One of Ireland's most popular historians, **Professor Seán Duffy**, will shine a light on the arrival of those warring adventurers whose descendants, some five hundred years later, embarked on their own Grand Tour.

With the good ship, Irish Baroque Orchestra, anchored in Ardee during the week of Ardee Baroque, schools, older people and community groups have the opportunity to come aboard for rehearsals and a programme of outreach work. We extend our thanks to the IBO and all our day-tripping musicians and contributors for making this voyage a rather special one.

Ardee Baroque is a venture initiated by the Arts Office of Louth County Council, with support from the Arts Council and Ardee Town Council. Ardee Baroque is supported by a Festival Board, whose aim it is to develop and promote the festival on a local, national and international level.

MAKE A NIGHT OF IT!

Ardee and Collon are blessed with restaurants, offering great food, style and value. Why not combine a great musical performance with a great meal at one of these restaurants.

SMARMORE

La Cucina 041 685 9955

COLLON

Watters 041 982 6118
The Forge 041 982 6272

ARDEE

Fuschia House 041 685 8432
Muldoon's 041 685 3240
Wau Asian Cuisine 041 685 8733
Elisa's 041 685 8588
The Hillside 041 687 1047
Ferdia Arms 041 685 3331
Sorrentos 041 6858499



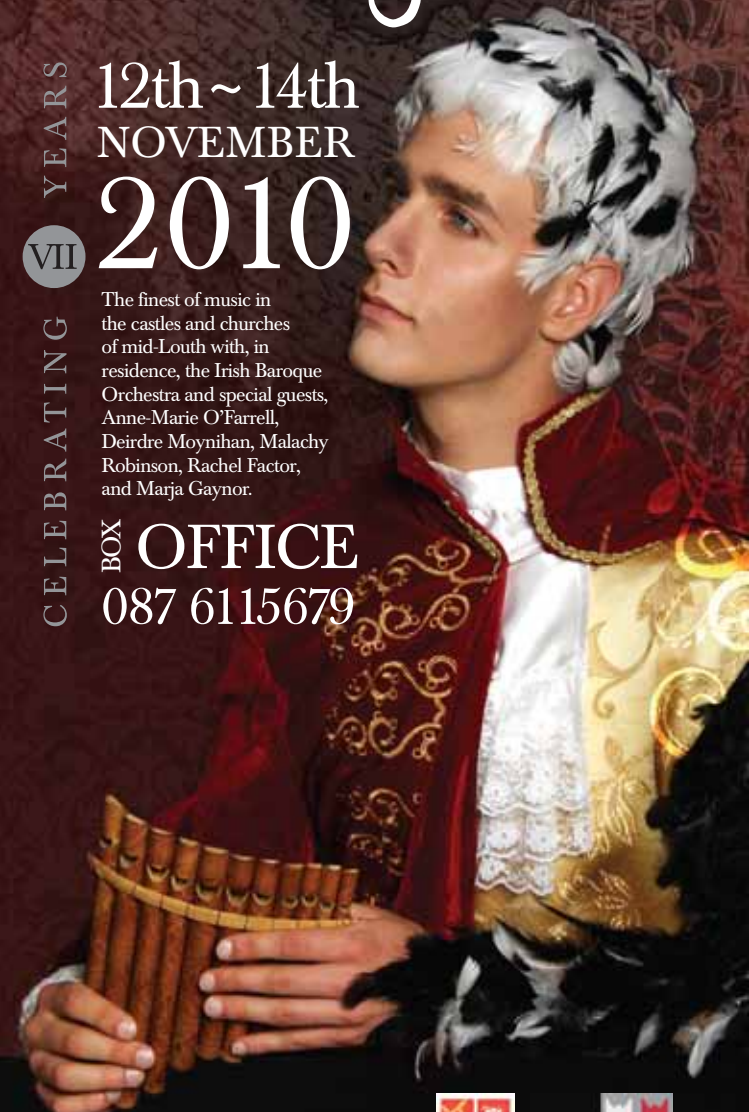
Design by Christopher Jennings | www.adesign.com

Ardee Baroque

CELEBRATING
VII YEARS
12th ~ 14th
NOVEMBER
2010

The finest of music in the castles and churches of mid-Louth with, in residence, the Irish Baroque Orchestra and special guests, Anne-Marie O'Farrell, Deirdre Moynihan, Malachy Robinson, Rachel Factor, and Marja Gaynor.

BOX OFFICE
087 6115679



BOOKINGS +353 87 6115679

email // nicola.irwin@louthcoco.ie
web // www.createlouth.ie



BOOKINGS +353 87 6115679



