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Triptych

Laura Risk * Paddy League * Kieran Jordan

Triptych is a vivacious three-part ensemble featuring fiddler Laura Risk, guitarist/percussionist/vocalist Paddy League, and dancer Kieran Jordan. This remarkable trio delivers elegant and soulful renderings of traditional music and step dance, from Irish, Scottish, and French-Canadian traditions. These three artists began performing as teenagers in the professional folk circuit — Risk in San Francisco, League in Washington, DC, and Jordan in Philadelphia. Their individual talents in traditional music and dance have taken them to premier performance venues throughout North American and Europe. Each one of them has an impressive solo career, and each has collaborated with the most highly regarded artists in their fields. As Triptych, these three accomplished performers create a tasteful yet gutsy sound and a visually invigorating live concert performance. **For more information, visit www.triptychtrad.com.**

Laura Risk

From driving reels to lilting jigs to melancholy Gaelic airs, Laura Risk's fiddling takes you on a rich journey through the diverse repertoires of Scotland, Quebec, and Ireland. Her expressive, versatile playing is described by filmmaker Ken Burns as "a revelation and achingly beautiful."

Laura has toured extensively as a soloist and as a member of numerous bands (*Greenfire*, *Ensemble Galilei*, *The John Whelan Band*, *Cordelia's Dad*), performing at venues such as the Newport, Philadelphia, and Winnipeg Folk Festivals; Celtic Connections in Glasgow, Scotland; Celtic Colours in Cape Breton, NS; The Bottom Line in NYC; City Stages in Birmingham, AL; the Summer Solstice Festival in Los Angeles; and the Freight and Salvage in Berkeley, CA. Her first solo CD was named one of *The Boston Globe's* 'Top 10 CDs of the Year', and her first album with the group *Greenfire* was an Allegro Corporation's #1 World Music title and a BMG Record Club Top 15 Bestseller for the year.

On her new solo recording, *2000 Miles*, Laura joins forces with some of Quebec's hottest traditional and jazz musicians to create a richly-textured and exciting new sound. Says *Living Tradition*, "Laura plays in a powerful, percussive style, with tight control and beautiful tone but bursting with energy and passion, turning reels into romps and slow airs into soul-searches." Laura recently completed a five-year tenure as an Instructor of Fiddling at Wellesley College, where she founded the college's first Celtic music ensemble. **For more information, visit www.laurarisk.com.**

Paddy League

Paddy League spent his teenage years in the musically diverse Washington D.C. area, and soon acquired a strong background in jazz, Latin, and world percussion styles. His involvement in traditional Irish music initially came about through an interest, acquired from his grandfather, in the Irish language. In seeking out avenues of learning, he fell in love with the music and became involved in the D.C. area's flourishing traditional music community. He has since become one of the most respected percussionists and bodhran teachers on the North American acoustic and traditional music circuit.

Paddy has performed at most of the major Irish and Celtic venues and festivals in North America, including the Washington, DC, Milwaukee, Southern Illinois and North Texas Irish Festivals; The Kennedy Center and The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC; The Knitting Factory in NYC; The Ark in Ann Arbor, MI; and The Prism in Charlottesville, VA. He has conducted bodhran workshops at several renowned universities and music camps, including The Swannanoa Gathering, Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddle Camp, The Catskills Irish Week, Rocky Mountain Fiddle Camp, and the University of North Florida. Paddy is also a prolific recording artist who has been featured on over thirty albums to date, including recent releases by Susan McKeown, John Whelan, Mick Moloney, and Connie Dover. Paddy is based in Boston. **For more information, visit www.paddyleaguemusic.com.**

Kieran Jordan

Kieran Jordan lives in Boston where she works as a performer, teacher, and choreographer of Irish dance. Kieran has performed as a solo step dancer in the United States, Canada, Sweden, and Ireland. She has developed a musical and expressive style that incorporates traditional Irish dance technique with other dance forms, including modern dance, sean-nós Irish step dancing, and Cape Breton step dancing. Of a recent performance, *The Boston Globe* wrote, “Jordan complemented Irish step's vivid high kicks and swiveling footwork with an uncharacteristically loose upper torso and a playfully theatrical use of the head and arms, bringing the traditionally rigid dance form the freedom and fluidity of jazz tap.”

Kieran learned to dance in her native Philadelphia. At age 16, she began performing professionally in the Philadelphia area with the popular Irish trio — Mick Moloney, Seamus Egan, and Eugene O'Donnell. Over the years, she has performed at hundreds of concerts and festivals, sharing stages with renowned musicians including: Danú, Paddy Keenan, Seamus Connolly, Sharon Shannon, Hanneke Cassel, Laura Risk, Liz Carroll, and Buddy MacMaster. Kieran has presented choreography in Massachusetts at Jacob's Pillow, Springstep, the Dance Complex, the Boston Celtic Music Fest, the Irish Connections Festival (by commission in 2004), and with Brian O'Donovan and WGBH in “A Christmas Celtic Sojourn.” In Ireland, she has shown her work at the Sionna Festival, the University of Limerick, and Simasa Tire.

Kieran has a B.A. in English and Irish Studies from Boston College and an M.A. in Contemporary Dance Performance from the University of Limerick, Ireland. She also holds the TCRG certification for teaching Irish dance. **For more information, visit www.kieranjordan.com.**