

Sheri Gallery

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17:30

Friday

# Craobh Rua Performs at Romney Bottling Works



As part of Imagine Ireland, Culture Ireland's year-long season of Irish arts in America in 2011, look for Craobh Rua in Romney, on Friday, April 1st at 7:30 p.m. at The Bottling Works, 426 E. Main St.

The Hampshire County Arts Council is pleased to bring back Craobh Rua (pronounced CRAVE ROO-AH), which translates from Irish to "Red Branch" and is a name well known in Celtic history from The Red Branch Knights of Ulster. This Belfast-based Irish Traditional Music band has performed in the USA, Canada, and Australia, as well as throughout Europe and the British Isles.

Regarded around the world as one of the finest ambassadors of Irish Traditional Music, Craobh Rua's impeccable musicians bring their own individual experience to the group and fuse their talents to bring life to a wide array of instruments such as banjo, mandolin, fiddle, uilleann pipes, flute, tin whistle, guitar and vocals. Craobh Rua takes a refreshing, unpretentious but uncommonly skilled run at

some of the greatest music in the world.

"Craobh Rua are free advertisement for everything that's good about Irish Traditional Music - they play it from the heart and they play it superbly. Long may they continue to do so." — Belfast Telegraph

Craobh Rua performed live from Belfast on BBC Radio 3 in World Music Day along with a host of artists from around the world. They have appeared on the BBC TV Series "The Shetland Sessions" and also on "BBC Music Live" when they played live in front of millions of viewers. Craobh Rua performed at the Millenium Stage Live Internet Broadcast concert series from the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, and their performance for the Smithsonian Concert Series, Washington, DC was recorded and broadcast worldwide on Voice of America.

Craobh Rua is made up of Brian Connolly on banjo and mandolin, Jim Rainey on guitar and vocals, Conor Caldwell on fiddle, and Aaron Hagan on uilleann

pipes and tin whistle. The group has released five albums and appeared on a number of compilation albums. Their current offering being aptly entitled "If Ida Been Here Ida Been There."

Advance tickets are available at [www.HampshireArts.org/tickets.html](http://www.HampshireArts.org/tickets.html) or at the Hampshire County Visitors Center in The Bottling Works, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Seating for advance ticket purchasers is assigned up front on a first-purchased basis.

All other seats are first-come first-served.

The Hampshire County Arts Council welcomes persons with disabilities at all its activities. To request accessibility services to participate, contact 304-496-8002 or [performances@hampshirearts.org](mailto:performances@hampshirearts.org) in advance and they will do their best to accommodate. WV Relay Operator for information on performances: 711-496-8002

The concert is presented with financial assistance from the WV Division of Culture and History, and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the WV Commission on the Arts.

Culture Ireland is the state agency for the promotion of Irish arts worldwide, working under the aegis of the Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport. Culture Ireland creates and supports opportunities for Irish artists to present their work at strategic international festivals, venues, showcases and arts markets. For more information visit the website [www.cultureireland.gov.ie](http://www.cultureireland.gov.ie)

Imagine Ireland is a year-long season of Irish arts in America in 2011, an initiative of Culture Ireland, with funding from the Department of Tourism, Culture and Sport.