



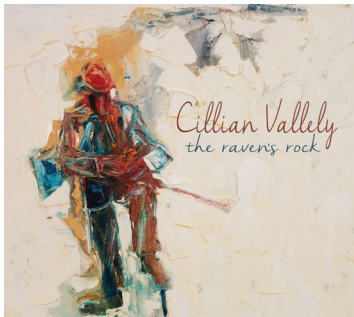
*"[Vallely's] piping is assured, crisp, and altogether impressive."* – Irish Echo

*"...Vallely is one of the most respected pipers playing today and in great demand..."* – Irish Voice

*"[Vallely is] one the great names in a new generation on the uilleann pipes."* – www.allmusic.com

Cillian Vallely, piper of the trad supergroup Lúnasa, has released *The Raven's Rock*, his solo debut. Featuring a number of all-star players, including his brothers Niall Vallely & Caoimhin Vallely (Buille), Sean Óg Graham (Beoga, Uláid), Paul Meehan (Lúnasa, At First Light),

Ryan McGiver, Jeremy Kittel (Jeremy Kittel Trio), and others, the album offers a ten track mixture of traditional tunes and some of Cillian's original compositions played with a contemporary flair. Vallely's music is widely admired and critically acclaimed. His mastery of chanter, drones and regulators gives him a distinctive voice and a reputation as one of Irish music's top uilleann pipers, things that are very much apparent on *The Raven's Rock*.



A native of Co. Armagh, Vallely is the product of an important traditional Irish music family. His parents Brian and Eithne Vallely founded the legendary Armagh Pipers' Club, an organization that has fostered the revival of traditional music in the north of Ireland for over fifty years, and there, Vallely grew up surrounded by music. Taught by his father and local piper

Mark Donnelly, he mastered the whistle and pipes and developed a distinctive approach to piping later influenced by the rhythmic, flowing style of Paddy Keenan. His budding professional career began in the 1990s, touring with groups like the New York-based Whirligig and the popular show Riverdance.

*"The hottest acoustic band in the world."*

– New York Times

*"Lúnasa's musicianship is awesome...I'd sell my soul to be able to play like that"*

– Mojo (UK)

Vallely joined Lúnasa in 1999 and with them has recorded seven albums and played over 1500 shows in 20 countries, including major tours throughout North America and Europe, Japan, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Australia. Lúnasa are considered true innovators in Irish music and receive universal critical praise. They have played in major venues like the Hollywood Bowl, the Royal Concert Hall of Glasgow, Dublin's National Concert Hall, and the Bercy Arena in Paris, as well as every major folk festival, including Glastonbury, Womad, the Edmonton Folk Festival, and Lorient Interceltique. They were also named "Performers of the Decade" by Livelreland.com in 2010. Their most recent work is a groundbreaking album with Ireland's RTÉ Concert Orchestra in 2013. Lúnasa maintains a sterling profile and are standard bearers in the world of traditional music.

*"[With Springsteen], Cillian ensured a perhaps unexpected place for himself and the uilleann pipes in rock history."*

– BBC News

With over 60 recordings to his credit, Vallely is an in-demand studio session musician. He has collaborated on traditional music projects including *Callan Bridge* with his brother Niall and *On Common Ground* with flute player and Lúnasa bandmate Kevin Crawford. Vallely has also toured and recorded with the likes of Natalie Merchant, Tim O'Brien, Mary Chapin-Carpenter, Alan Simon (with members of Fairport Convention and the Moody Blues), the Celtic Jazz Collective with David O'Rourke, Lewis Nash and Peter Washington, the Prague Philharmonic Orchestra, Karan Casey, Micheal O'Suilleabhain, and many more.

Vallely's playing has also been used in the soundtrack for the BBC series *Flight of the Earls* and for Hollywood motion pictures including *The Golden Boys*. Most recently, however, he was a guest on Bruce Springsteen's *High Hopes* album, a modern day classic, which topped the charts in 14 countries.

### Cillian Vallely

#### **The Raven's Rock**

Release date: June 1, 2016

UPC 7 00261 44093 4

www.cillianvallely.com

Press Contact

Daniel Neely

danielneely@gmail.com

646-270-1172

Bookings

Cillian Vallely

cillianv@hotmail.com

347-837-5015