



SUNSPOT PRODUCTION

Promoting American and World Roots Music

Sunspot Concerts at the Lyceum

Irish Singer Cathie Ryan

Sunday, July 16. 8 PM

\$26 advance/\$28 door

Cathie Ryan's parents were Irish immigrants who moved to the United States so Cathie's father could find work in the automobile industry. Cathie grew up in Detroit, but her home and community were filled with the music of Ireland.

The Irish-American band Cherish the Ladies (CTL) was formed as a one-time concert concept. Audiences loved the group of Irish American women, and when the group formally became a band, Cathie signed on as their lead singer, a position she held for seven years. Cathie helped define the band's sound through interpretations of traditional songs and her own new compositions, along with her spirited bodhran playing



Cathie left Cherish the Ladies in 1995 and released her first solo album, simply titled *Cathie Ryan*, in 1997. Produced by Seamus Egan of Solas, the album received critical acclaim. Joining Cathie on the recording were Seamus and other musicians who worked with Solas, including John Anthony, Michael Aharon, Chico Huff (who appeared with Karan Casey at our first Sunspot concert), Steve Holloway and Winifred Horan. Also participating were the Canadian piper Jerry O'Sullivan and Washington-area guitarist Zan McLeod.

Cathie's second and third albums, *The Music of What Happens* and *Somewhere Along the Road*, continued to feature her exceptional interpretations of traditional tunes while including a growing number of Cathie's own compositions and arrangements. Many of Cathie's own songs, even those that deal with contemporary issues, carry the feel and strength of traditional pieces. On both recordings, Cathie worked with a "Who's Who" of traditional Irish and American musicians.

In producing *Somewhere Along the Road* and her latest album, Cathie worked with John McCusker, who formerly played fiddle with the Battlefield Band, and collaborated with guitarist John Doyle in writing several songs. Cathie's most recent CD, *The Farthest Wave*, has received rave reviews.

About the Sunspot Concert Series

The Sunspot series showcases performers from the United States and around the globe, representing all styles of traditional and folk music. Sunspot's primary venue is the 130-seat Lecture Hall at The Lyceum, Alexandria's city museum. With no seat more than six rows from the stage, The Lyceum is an ideal meeting place for artists and audiences to share a unique musical experience.

**Tickets on sale at www.sunspotpro.com and at all concerts.
Shows at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St, Alexandria, Virginia**