

Irish  
Georgian  
Society

BOSTON, MAY 17, 2019

# THE EGAN IRISH HARPS

Tradition, patrons  
and players



NANCY  
HURRELL

## ABOUT THE EVENT

This special performance lecture and reception celebrates the release of *The Egan Irish Harps: Tradition, Patrons and Players* by Nancy Hurrell of Braintree, MA, recently published by Four Courts Press with support from John J. Burns Library.

The harps of Dublin maker John Egan (*fl.* 1797-1829) display the exquisite artistry of the late Georgian period, as evidenced by the two rare Irish harps in Burns Library. A self-taught harp maker, Egan was awarded a royal warrant by George IV and invented a new national instrument: the “Portable Irish Harp,” which proved vital to Ireland’s continued harping tradition. Hurrell will discuss Egan’s innovations and legacy, and play a 200-year old Egan harp from her own collection.

This event is jointly sponsored by the Irish Georgian Society and Boston College Libraries. A full bar and hors d’oeuvres reception will begin at 5:00 PM with the program to follow at 6:00 PM.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nancy Hurrell is a harpist, harp historian and consultant to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The leading authority on Dublin harp maker John Egan (*fl.* 1797-1829), Hurrell spent a decade examining harps in museums and private collections and is author of the Egan entry in the *Grove Dictionary of Musical Instruments* (2014). A performer in several Boston early music ensembles, she has been a harp instructor at the Boston Conservatory and Brandeis University. Her pioneering CD, *The Egan Irish Harp*, is the first recording of an Egan Portable Irish Harp, c.1820. In 2019, Four Courts Press published her groundbreaking monograph, *The Egan Irish Harps: Tradition, Patrons and Players*.

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AND BOSTON COLLEGE LIBRARIES  
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## *Egan Irish Harps: Neoclassical Art Meets Traditional Music*

GUEST SPEAKER

**Nancy Hurrell**  
Author

**FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2019**

5:00 - 7:00 PM

**JOHN J. BURNS LIBRARY**

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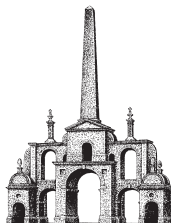
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**FRONT COVER:**

*The Egan Irish Harps:  
Tradition, Patrons and Players*  
[www.fourcourtspress.ie](http://www.fourcourtspress.ie)



Irish  
Georgian  
Society

*Preserving the Past, Building the Future*

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[www.igs.ie](http://www.igs.ie)

# The Irish Georgian Society

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2019

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There is no charge for this event, but please consider a donation to the Irish Georgian Society, Inc., a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization in the United States by completing the information on the back of this card.

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For additional information, please contact;  
Michael Kerrigan, Executive Director at 312-961-3860 or  
e-mail: [info@irishgeorgiansociety.com](mailto:info@irishgeorgiansociety.com).

*The Irish Georgian Society, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization in the United States which encourages the appreciation and conservation of Ireland's architecture and decorative arts.*

No tickets will be mailed