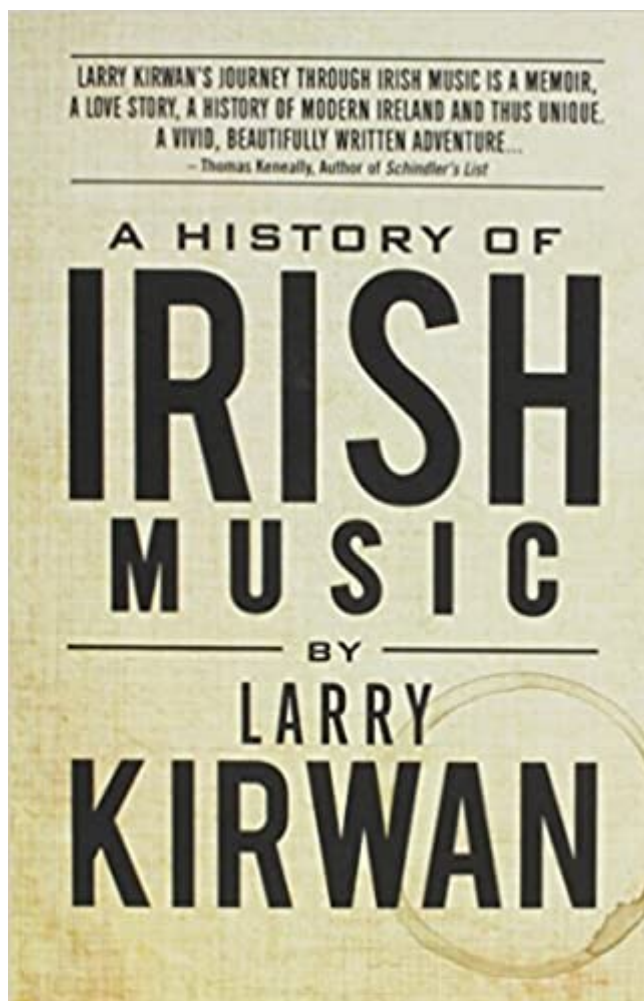


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# A History Of Irish Music



## Synopsis

From Medieval Wexford to Midtown Manhattan Larry Kirwan tells the story of Irish music to a backdrop of war, social upheaval and revolution. From Viking invader to Sean O'Riada, Oliver Cromwell to Rory Gallagher, James Connolly to Van Morrison in a clash of uilleann pipes, armalites and electric guitars. The story moves with the Diaspora to The Pogues' London, Dropkick Murphys' Boston and Black 47's New York City. Pulsing, passionate, occasionally tragic - through the eyes of an insider.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A great read from an always entertaining writer, musician and all around storyteller. The author's heart was fully into this; as it is in everything he does.

Larry's books are always fascinating and informative

Larry is a great friend, musician, writer, poet. His words caused me to delve into other areas of music I had long forgotten, and areas I had not yet known about. Enchanting read, I couldn't put it down. I recommend it to any young musician today, or music lover, Celtic or otherwise! Great stuff inside this cover! Plus, Larry is a wonderful teller of tales...

Larry Kirwan shares his wealth of knowledge on Irish music. Very entertaining.

Good informative summary

As the leader of the (former) best Irish punk band in NYC, Black 47, Larry Kirwan knows his way around music. Larry is a great guy and my wife and I went to Ireland with his tour group in 2014. But this book is much more than the history of music in Ireland and the diaspora. It places Irish music in the social, political, cultural and economic context that influenced the music. The story is also interspersed with Larry's personal story which adds so much to the tale and expands the narrative of Green Suede Shoes. The best part, and this is fantastic, is that all the references to particular artists and groups and songs in the book are easily accessible through YouTube searches. You can read about the phenomenal Rory Gallagher, then see the performances described in the book on Youtube. I particularly liked watching and hearing the Irish Showbands of the 60's. One suggestion I have is that if the book goes into a second printing, and it deserves to, that Larry append a discography of his favorite albums so readers can begin to build cd or mp3 collections. A wonderful read and a nice person.

Interesting take on Irish music as seen thru the eyes of a man born in the tradition, but graduated (?) to punk. Good writing on this subject, but not the best. Most enjoyable read on the subject of Irish traditional music...Ciaran Carson.

This book knocked my socks off in a totally unexpected way. I don't know what I was expecting, but not the enthralling web of autobiography, personal history and musicology that Kirwan wove in this book. I've enjoyed his other books, plays and music; this one, however, peeled back the layers of Kirwan's take on his Irish heritage and laid bare a musical soul. I couldn't put it down.

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