

## **KARAN CASEY – Biography**

**Karan Casey** has long been recognized as one of the most innovative, provocative and imitated voices in Irish traditional and folk music. Singing songs charged with a sense of social responsibility in a career spanning over 25 years, Karan has released 7 solo albums as well as an album for children, a duet album with John Doyle and numerous contributions to other artists' projects. She has toured extensively throughout North America, Europe and Japan, performing with her own band as well as collaborating with such diverse musicians as **James Taylor, Bela Fleck, Boston Pops Orchestra, Liam Clancy, Maura O'Connell, The Chieftains, The Dubliners, Peggy Seeger, Karen Matheson, Mick Flannery, Micheál Ó Súilleabháin, Tim O'Brien, Solas** and **Lúnasa**.

In 2017 Karan was Traditional Artist in Residence at University College Cork, toured the UK with the Transatlantic Sessions, performed at Glasgow's Celtic Connections, and toured in the US both with her own band and with Lúnasa, including a performance at New York's Carnegie Hall. In 2018 Karan helped to found FairPlé which is an organization aimed at achieving fairness and gender balance for female performers in Irish traditional and folk musics.

Karan recently released her new album **Hieroglyphs That Tell the Tale** on the Vertical Records Label. Produced by renowned Scottish producer and Bafta-nominated composer **Donald Shaw**, the album also features Karan's long-time musical collaborators **Sean Óg Graham & Niamh Dunne (Beoga), Kate Ellis (The Crash Ensemble) and Niall Vallely (Buille)**. Drawing inspiration from contemporary folk writers Janis Ian, Eliza Gilkyson, Mick Flannery and Bob Dylan, the album displays Casey's impressive talent as a song writer. She is joined on vocals by some of the women singers she's long-admired, including **Karen Matheson, Niamh Dunne, Pauline Scanlon, Maura O'Connell and Aoife O Donovan**.

"Karan Casey's latest album is revelatory. She's always been a singer of songs that tell a story and show their muscle.... This is a strikingly three-dimensional work that stands the test of intensive and repeated listening with ease. A vivid and dazzling snapshot of Casey invincible, at the height of her powers."

**Siobhán Long, Irish Times**

"Casey's voice is among the loveliest in folk music and she's a wonderful interpreter of both contemporary and traditional material."

**BOSTON GLOBE**

"Karan Casey's latest solo venture is a thing of rare beauty."

**SING OUT**

"The most soulful singer to emerge in Irish traditional music in the past decade."

**THE GLASGOW HERALD**

"If ever any doubt existed about who's the best Irish traditional woman singer today, "Exiles Return" sweeps aside all pretenders...Karan Casey has no vocal peer."

**IRISH ECHO**

## **KARAN CASEY – Discography**

### **1996: Solas – Solas**

Her Song: Exotic Voices of Women from Around the World - Various Artists

### **1997: Songlines - Karan Casey**

**Sunny Spells & Scattered Showers - Solas**

Celtic Tapestry, Vol. 2 Various Artists

Holding up Half the Sky: Womens Voices from Around the World - Various Artists

Voices of Celtic Women: Holding Up Half the Sky – Various Artists

### **1998: The Words That Remain - Solas**

Africans in America - Original Television Soundtrack

Celtic Tides - Various Artists

Greatest Hits - Paul Winter

Legends of Ireland [Rhino] - Various Artists

Winter's Tale [Uptown/Universal] - Various Artists

### **1999: Celtic Solstice - Paul Winter**

Holding up Half the Sky: Voices of Celtic Women Vol.2 - Various Artists

housands Are Sailing - Various Artists

### **2000: Seal Maiden: A Celtic Musical – Karan Casey and Friends**

Emerald Aether: Shape Shifting/Reconstructions Of Irish Music – Bill Laswell

Fused - Michael McGoldrick

Fits of Passion - High Spirited Celtic Captured By Starbucks – Various

Ceol Tacsáí – Various

### **2001: The Winds Begin to Sing - Karan Casey**

Celtic Christmas: Silver Anniversary Edition - Various Artists

Evening Comes Early - John Doyle

Two Journeys - Tim O'Brien

Lullaby A Collection – Various

### **2003: Distant Shore - Karan Casey**

Brown Girl in the Ring – Various

### **2004: Very Best of Celtic Christmas – Various**

Other Voices, Songs from a Room 2 - Various

### **2005: Chasing the Sun - Karan Casey**

Lullaby 20th Anniversary Special Edition – Various

20 Great Kid's Songs 20th Anniversary Special Collector's Edition - Various

Folktopia - Various

- 2006:** Reunion: A Decade of Solas [CD/DVD] – Solas  
Acoustic Affair Vol. 1 – Various
- 2007:** A Christmas Celtic Sojourn Live [CD/DVD] – Various  
Excalibur, Vol. 2 – Alan Simon  
Experience Ireland - Various
- 2008:** **Ships in the Forest – Karan Casey**  
Absolutely Irish - Various
- 2009:** Ireland Essential Guide – Various  
Rough Guide to Irish Folk - Various
- 2010:** **Exile's Return – Karan Casey and John Doyle**  
Transatlantic Sessions CD and DVD – Various (includes duet with James Taylor)  
Highland Sessions DVD – Various  
Sweet Slumbers: Soothing Lullabies – Various  
World Travels: World Music for Kids – Various
- 2011:** A Stór mo Chroí: Songs of Love & Loss - Various
- 2012:** Rough Guide to Celtic Women – Various  
Lullabies for Love – Various  
Celtic Soul: The Very Best of Irish Music – Various  
All in Good Time – Various
- 2013:** Irish Ways: Music and Song of Ireland - Various
- 2014:** **Two More Hours – Karan Casey**  
A Prairie Home Companion Duets 2 – Various
- 2015:** Simply Celtic Spirit - Various
- 2018:** **Hieroglyphs That Tell The Tale – Karan Casey**  
The Bloom of Youth - Childsplay

