ABOUT UNITY CHAPEL

In 1886, Chicago architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee designed Unity Chapel for the Lloyd-Jones family, the ancestors of Frank Lloyd Wright. Wright, a teenager at the time it was built, is purported to have worked on the chapel's construction, and actually did work for Silsbee's Chicago architectural firm a few years later. Wright's family were Welsh immigrants of Unitarian faith and they built the chapel as a symbol of thanksgiving for the beautiful, rich farmland and good life the river valley afforded. In 1974, in recognition of its longevity and importance to the community, the chapel was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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THE PROGRAM

July 30, 2018, 7:30 pm Unity Chapel, Spring Green

Matt & Shannon Heaton Irish Music from the Heart

Selections will be announced by the performers.

There will be a brief intermission during the performance.

ABOUT MATT & SHANNON HEATON

Updated and traditional Irish songs and tunes masterfully crafted music, husband-and-wife harmonies, instrumental virtuosity

With engaging stage presence and masterfully-crafted music, Boston-based **Matt & Shannon Heaton** offer well-travelled Irish music from the heart. Steeped in sessions in County Clare and brewed in the acoustic music scenes of Chicago and Boston, they feature stellar flute and guitar instrumentals, sweet husband-and-wife harmony singing, and they also weave in Thai traditional music Shannon learned as a child.

Beyond the MUSIC they play, there's a much bigger story and connection to Ireland. As Shannon explores in her acclaimed podcast Irish Music Stories, a traditional music concert tells big, universal stories, through an Irish music lens. You don't have to play the fiddle or dance a jig to enjoy the Heatons!

Since their move to New England in 2001, the Heatons have become an integral part of their adopted Boston home. Shannon co-founded the Boston Celtic Music Fest in 2003 and was named 2016 Massachusetts Cultural Council Traditional Artist Fellow. And Matt has received multiple Massachusetts Cultural Council Grants for his programs of original rockabilly-tinged music for children (and discerning parents).

Matt and Shannon are poised, passionate American performers with Irish roots and universal appeal. They are comfortable onstage and have a warm connection with their audiences. They move listeners with their love of traditional music (and each other), and their sense of adventure and fun in exploring new directions and possibilities.

<u>MattandShannonHeaton.com</u> <u>IrishMusicStories.org</u>

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