

PRESS RELEASE

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Critically Acclaimed Irish Music Ensemble Danu'

Presented by The Whiting

Flint - The Whiting is pleased to present the joyful, Irish music of ***Danu'***, on **Thursday, March 18 at 7:30pm**. All seats are just \$27 and \$32 and are available online at TheWhiting.com, by calling (810) 237-7333 and in person at The Ticket Center located within The Whiting. The Whiting is located at 1241 E. Kearsley St. just off I-475 between the University of Michigan Flint and Mott Community College on the beautiful Flint Cultural Center campus.

The Oireachtas Festival in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford in November 1994 was the first place where the first members of Danu met up. *Benny McCarthy, Donal Clancy* and *Donnchadh Gough* from Co. Waterford with Dubliner *Daire Bracken* were invited at this time to the renowned festival in France, *Lorient Inter-celtic Festival*. The band was named Danu after the Celtic Goddess by a good friend *Trisha Hutton*. This was the simple beginning to what was to become one of the most important Traditional Irish ensembles of recent years.

In Lorient the band became an instant success and they were immediately invited to return in 1996, this time brothers *Tom* and *Eamonn Doorley* from Dublin joined the group. Danu won *La Boulee Des Korrigan* in 1996, an award for the best new band of the festival, a prestigious award previously won by bands such as Clannad, The Bothy Band and many others. In November 1996 the band started a studio recording and released their debut album in March 1997 to coincide with a debut tour in the USA. This album featured *Carthach Mac Craith* on vocals. This recording generated a lot of publicity and interest in Danu.

The band's high energy performance quickly became much sought after by the festival circuit and in August 1997 they made their first of many appearances at Denmark's Tonder Folk Festival. The band were also now developing a strong following in the US and in 1999 they signed to the US based Shanachie record label. The much anticipated second record by Danu was released in 2000 entitled *Think Before You Think*, debuting three new members of the band that included *Jesse Smith*, *Noel Ryan* and *Ciaran O Gealbhain*.

In 2002 Danu released *All Things Considered* which saw Donegal fiddler *Oisín McAuley* take over as the band fiddler from *Jesse Smith*. In 2003 the band released *The Road Less Traveled*, which introduced the first female member of the band *Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh* from Dunquin in County Kerry and welcomed the return of founder member *Donal Clancy*. In 2004 Danu released an album featuring solo performances by its members, the album was called *Up in the Air*. Danu were invited to perform at the launch of Ireland's EU presidency ceremony in January 2004 in Brussels. The band also performed in India as part of the Irish government's trade delegation in January 2005.

In early 2006 Danu boasted six successful album releases when an album called *When All is Said and Done* hit the shelves. The band also recorded a live performance in one of Ireland's favorite venues, *Vicar St* in Dublin, the DVD of this show was released in 2006 aptly titled *One Night Stand*. Danu has gathered

dozens of awards over the years, hundreds of 5 star live and album reviews and performed on over a thousand stages.

This performance is supported by Health Alliance Plan, abc12, McLaren Regional Medical Center, WFNT and Michigan Public Radio.

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****Reviewer Tickets AVAILABLE. High Resolution Images available upon request.**

To secure tickets or request images, please contact Wendi Fournier at (810) 237-8689 or wfournier@thewhiting.com**