

## Vocal Chords: Iarla Ó'Lionáird In Conversation with Christy Moore

1 x 58'

An Athena Media production for RTÉ Lyric FM.

Vocal Chords is a music documentary series for RTÉ Lyric FM which takes presenter **Iarla Ó'Lionáird** on a musical odyssey to discover the global phenomenon of the human voice as well as asking the simple but vital questions - why do we sing and what happens when we do? Vocal Chords, the 5 part the series broadcast on **RTÉ Lyric FM** from Friday 1st May 2015 for 5 weeks, but a one hour special, a musical conversation with singer-songwriter Christy Moore airs on **RTÉ Lyric FM** on **August 14th at 7pm**



**Iarla Ó'Lionáird** is one of the leading figures in traditional Irish music. He has had success with a number of groups including The Crash Ensemble, Afro Celt Sound System and most recently The Gloaming. Iarla has also lent his voice to movie soundtracks such as “Gangs of New York” and “Calvary”. Iarla has and continues to tour all over the globe and has recorded with some of the biggest names in music including *Peter Gabriel*, *Robert Plant*, *Nick Cave* and *Sinéad O'Connor*. Iarla is passionate about the story of the voice and music culture and has a masters degree in ethnomusicology and is completing a PhD.

For this compelling one-on-one interview, Iarla visits **Christy Moore** at his home in Dublin to talk about his relationship with the voice and songs, and what it means to be a singer. Moore traces his vocal story from his childhood growing up, not just in a singing family but in friendship with his boyhood friend Donal Lunny.

Sitting in the very room where Moore creates his music, he shares with Iarla the inspiration for his songs, his love of the folk tradition, and his many influencers over the years including Ewan MacColl, The Clancy Brothers, and even being at singers' clubs like ‘An Góilín’

The singing voice is one of Christy's oldest and cherished companions, and for that he is “**blessed, fortunate and full of gratitude**”, but also knowing the remarkable power he has to share his voice with the world, he describes the relationship that the singer has with their audience, saying

*“In order to project yourself out to hundreds or thousands of people, you got to open up, you've got to open up your chest, your lungs, your voice, your throat, your mind, and you have to reach out in a way that couldn't do here now, it's just impossible, I always think it's a magic thread, that goes from the song and the singer out to the audience and comes back again and this special air is created, that allows us to listen in a certain way allows us to sing in a certain way, allows the work to breathe and shine and sparkle in a certain way.”*

The series producer of Vocal Chords is Helen Shaw

The producer/audio editor is Amy Millar

The recordist and presenter is Iarla Ó'Lionáird

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Visit [www.vocalchords.ie](http://www.vocalchords.ie) to follow the full story.