

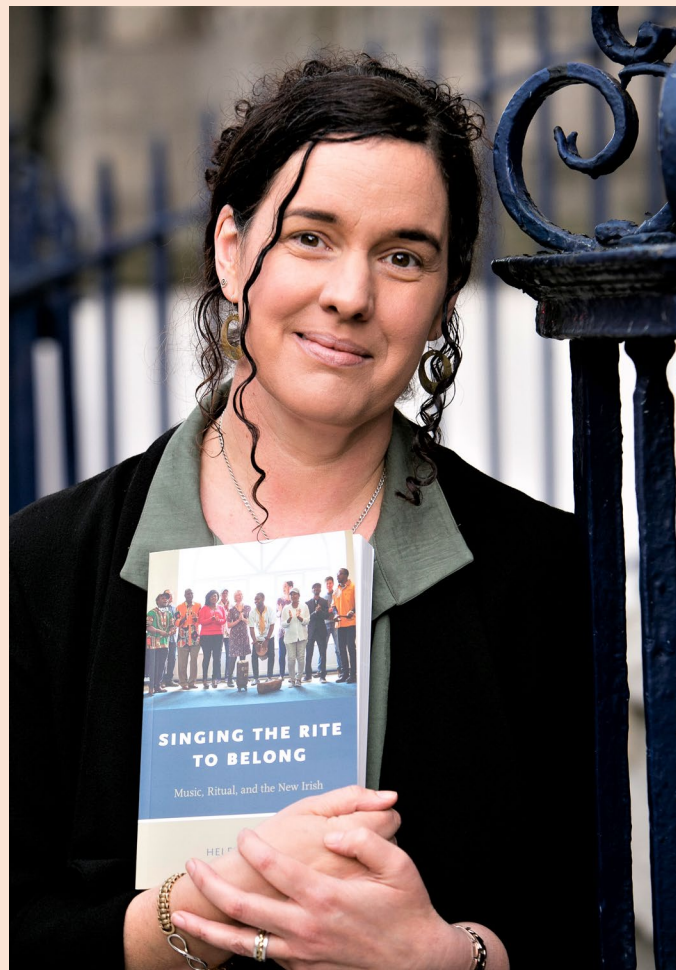
**Sing a Song for the Mistress of the Bones:  
Music, Ritual and the Celtic Feast of Samhain**

**Mathers Museum, October 29, 2019 4:30-6**

**Professor Helen Phelan**

**Irish World Academy of Music and Dance**

**This presentation explores the musical and ritualistic evidence for the emergence of the Celtic ritual cycle, with a focus on the rituals of Samhain, the precursor of Halloween.**



**Helen Phelan is Professor of Arts Practice at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick, Ireland. She is an Irish Research Council recipient for her work on singing and new migrant communities in Ireland. Her most recent book, *Singing the Rite to Belong: Music, Ritual and the New Irish*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2017. As a singer and ritual scholar, she specializes in chant associated with religious rituals and is co-founder of the female vocal group *Cantoral*, who released their much acclaimed CD recording of Irish medieval chant in 2014. She serves on the editorial boards of a number of journals including *Frontiers in Psychology*, *The International Journal of Community Music* and *Experiments and Intensities: A Journal for Performance-as-Research*. She is founder of the Singing and Social Inclusion research group and a member of the University of Limerick Sanctuary board. Her primary research interests are in singing, ritual and migration as well as arts-based and arts practice research methods.**



Carved Turnip, Celtic practice for Samhain-- National Museum of Ireland