

**SPECIAL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE**  
**SHARON SHANNON**  
**Irish Button Accordion Musician**

---

Sharon Shannon the button accordion player from Co Clare, Ireland has recorded and toured with a who's who of the Irish and Global Music Industry, including Bono, Adam Clayton, Sinéad O'Connor, Jackson Browne, John Prine, Steve Earle, The RTE Concert Orchestra, The Chieftains, The Waterboys, Willie Nelson, Nigel Kennedy, Alison Krauss and Shane MacGowan.

Her 12 studio recorded albums to date have all been very different and groundbreaking mixing traditional Irish with reggae, country, Native American, bluegrass, rap, dance, African, French Canadian.

The genre-defying star has had multi-platinum album sales and has had several number one albums, singles and DVDs in her home country. Her album Galway Girl went 4 times platinum in Ireland with the title track winning her the Meteor award two years running for the most downloaded song.

However, her career took a massive upward trajectory when in the late 80s she was asked to join the seminal rock band The Waterboys. Her first show with that band, to an audience of 50,000, was the on main stage at perhaps the most well-known music festival on earth-Glastonbury.

Her subsequent debut album was released worldwide and was to become the biggest selling record by a traditional artist in Ireland.

She has entertained US Presidents Clinton at the White House and Obama in Dublin and Irish Presidents Robinson and MacAleese on presidential visits to Poland and Australia respectively. She recently accompanied Irish president Michael D. Higgins on his official tour of China.

Among the many awards she has received including Hot Press and Meteor Awards, She also celebrates being the youngest ever recipient of the Meteor Lifetime Achievement Award. She received an IBAM Award in Chicago in 2015 for her 'unique contribution to Irish Music'.

Her music has been featured in several Hollywood movies and she also played a cameo role in the Neil Jordan movie 'Ondine'. She has worked on a stage production of JM Synge's 'The Playboy of the Western World' which was directed by Jim Sheridan.

In March 2017, Sharon released her 10th studio album Sacred Earth. A ground breaking album once again from Sharon. Produced by Justin Adams, this album mixes Irish music with African and blues and features celebrated African Musicians Abass Doodoo and Seikou Keita as well as special guests including Finbar Furey and Alyra Rose.