



Press Release

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SHARON SHANNON TO RECEIVE THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AT THE METEOR'S

SET TO PERFORM 'GALWAY GIRL' AT THE AWARDS

World renowned accordionist SHARON SHANNON is set to receive the "Lifetime Achievement Award" at this year's Meteor Ireland Music Awards, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the Irish Music Industry over the past 22 years, the youngest ever recipient of this highly acclaimed award. The awards which take place on St Patrick's Day 17th March at the RDS will feature Sharon Shannon performing her number one hit *Galway Girl*.

The accordionist from Co. Clare has achieved legendary status throughout the world and has made the much-maligned accordion 'cool' in her home country. She is renowned for her collaborations, not just in Irish traditional music, but through all musical genres, Hip-Hop, Cajun, Country, Classical and Rap.

Her recent success is a collaboration with Irish rock singer Mundy on the Steve Earle penned hit *The Galway Girl* has been in the top 5 in the Irish charts for over three months and won Ireland's number one download single at the Meteor Awards in 2008.

Sharon 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, Mark Knopfler, The RTE Concert Orchestra, The Chieftains, The Waterboys, Willie Nelson, Nigel Kennedy, Alison Krauss and Shane MacGowan - a list that is testament to Sharon's versatility as well as talent.

She has entertained US President Bill Clinton and Irish Presidents Robinson and MacAleese and more recently The Sultan of Brunei in Australia. Sharon records and produces her albums at her own studios 'Poets Corner' outside Galway in Ireland; and releases on her own label - The Daisy Label.

A prolific composer, Sharon is currently writing an album of traditional tunes for full Concert Orchestra arrangement. She is also working on a new album with guest singers to be released in the Autumn of 2009. The genre-defying star has had multi-platinum album sales and has had several number one albums, singles and DVDs in her home country. Sharon has played festivals all over Europe including Oxegen, Womad and Glastonbury and has recently completed a sell-out UK tour and Irish nationwide tour with guests including Shane MacGowan, Mundy and Dessie O' Halloran.