

## **Selected Reviews of James Kelly's Concerts and Recordings**

"Kelly's show was profound: perennial variation in pieces tantalisingly teased to ecstasy. His unique bell-like tone was scooped from the strings with a breadth-suspending calmness, his lazy rolls and delayed triplets flicked off the fingerboard, folding like poured honey into a luxurious resonance. Here is one of the most deceptively calm personalities in traditional music. He takes the listener out on a country walk, but before they know it they are in full flight on a roller coaster" - Fintan Vallely, The Irish Times

"No performer eclipsed the brilliance of Dublin born fiddler James Kelly. The apparent ease with which Kelly played masked an astonishing level of virtuosity. His ornamentation always served the melody, lending a near-pointillist touch to tunes through idea rich phrasing and an unerring tempo. He knows the difference between finesse and flash, preferring to elicit the structural soul of a tune rather than "sell" it superficially through an overheated technique. Kelly's playing over the weekend conveyed the absolute essence of Irish traditional fiddling and Irish traditional music together" - Earle Hitchner, The Irish Echo

"He is one of the top 10 fiddlers in the world." - Christine Cole, Orlando Sentinel

"You couldn't wish for better fiddling in the Irish style." Alex Morgan - The Living Tradition magazine

"James Kelly, master fiddle player, has produced a recording that is a must for music lovers, students and musicians." - P.J. Crotty, writing about James' CD "Melodic Journeys"