

Limerick LEADER

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Mayor John Cronin with Prof David Fletcher, guest speaker and honorary chairman Pennine Heritage Trust, and Limerick Civic Trust chairman, Jim O'Donnell (LL)

UL honorary degree for Riverdance composer

By MARTIN BYRNES

RIVERDANCE composer, Bill Whelan, who is already a Freeman of Limerick, will be conferred with an honorary Doctorate of Letters at UL next Monday.

Mr Whelan, "one of the foremost and busiest of Irish composers, arrangers and producers, straddling the worlds of classical music, traditional music, dance and theatre," according to the college's citation

Also receiving an Honorary Doctorate of Letters is actress Anna Mahan, of whom the university says: "Her career has spanned over 50 years of theatre, cinema, radio and television achievement." Co-incidentally, she too is a Freeman, but in her instance of her native city of Waterford.

Others to be conferred are the violist and conductor Bruno Giuranna; East Timor activist Tom Hyland, and writer and broadcaster John Quinn.

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