

A Galway Blessing

from the opera *Paper Boat*

Oh people of the Corrib deep,
the river's music calls to sleep –
I bless the rain that falls on you
I bless the frost, I bless the dew.

I bless the merchants, bless the tribes,
I bless each bargain, bless each bribe.
I bless the sailors on the deep,
I bless each eyelid closed in sleep.

Oh city of the crouched estates,
where men and women sleep sedate
under Eyre Square's sharp-edged stars,
between the drunks, the heaving bars.

I bless the merchants, bless the tribes,
I bless each bargain, bless each bribe.
I bless the sailors on the deep,
I bless each eyelid closed in sleep.

Oh burning city born in flames,
oh phoenix city that remains,
home to the living and the dead,
I bless your children in each bed.

I bless the merchants, bless the tribes,
I bless each bargain, bless each bribe.
I bless the sailors on the deep,
I bless each eyelid closed in sleep

Arr.: Elaine Agnew
Words: Jessica Traynor

The *Paper Boat* Anthem...

The community opera *Paper Boat* weaves together history, mythology and current events to tell a story of human endurance, inspired by St. Nicholas' Church, Galway.

We invite you to take your place among the musical tribes of Galway, record your performance of *A Galway Blessing* and submit your recording to [RTE lyric fm](https://www.rte.ie/lyricfm) by April 6th.

Selected recordings will be broadcast in the lead up to the world premiere performance of *Paper Boat*, which takes place on 23rd April 2022, in St. Nicholas' Church, Galway.

Tickets are available from www.musicforgalway.ie.

