

The Galway Advertiser ↓

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The Week

THE ROOTS SESSIONS

REVIEWS OF TRAD AND ROOTS CDS
By Kernan Andrews

The Kane Sisters - Under The Diamond (Dawros Music)

LETTERFRACK'S FINEST, Liz and Yvonne Kane return with their second album *Under the Diamond* - named after Diamond Hill, one of the Twelve Bens.

Apart from two solo performances *Under the Diamond* features mostly duet fiddle playing from the sisters which hears them in perfect sync. While their playing is tight and focussed, they also sound so at ease with each other and this allows the music to flow in a spirited fashion.

The variety of tunes from Paddy Fahey, Finbarr Dwyer, Martin Hayes, and Ed Reavey, along with Liz's own compositions bring out different moods and contrasts in the



performances, creating an album of real variety and imagination. Go on, treat yourself to it.

Hot Press Magazine →

TRADITIONAL

THE KANE SISTERS

Under the Diamond Claddagh Records

★★★



Fiddle siblings are a rarity, and the Letterfrack Kanes have forged so much virgin territory with their instinctive duets that they conjure images of pioneering gold prospectors as readily as they do feisty fiddlers. Their shared genetic lineage must claim credit for the magnificent intertwining of fiddles on the set of reels that includes two tunes christened *Fahey's*, and their mirror image reading of the slow air, *Seán O'Duibhir A Ghleanna*, is not so much a duet as a latticeworked rendition of one of the most sublime tunes in the tradition. With mere tinctures of solo playing allowing a peep at Liz and Yvonne's identities, this is a collection that celebrates contemporary composition, borrowed tunes and a shared passion for the music - with verve. www.thekanesisters.com Siobhan Long

The Irish Times ↑

THE KANE SISTERS

UNDER THE DIAMOND [DAWROS MUSIC]

Fiddle playing sisters Liz and Yvonne Kane hail from Letterfrack, Co. Galway and brought out *The Well Tempered Bow*, their debut album as a duo, in 2002 after several years of touring with Sharon Shannon's band. About the only criticism I could muster up of that excellent recording was that no solo tracks were included; this time round, they've filled that gap with one solo set from each sister, highlighting both the slight differences in style and the equal technical mastery that make them such an effective pair. Unusually, they've also featured a slow air played as a duet, the two fiddles in plaintive unison. On the liner notes they make the comparison with the sean-nás singing of another pair of Galway sisters - Sarah and Rita Keane. It's a fair cop, and produces an unexpectedly lovely effect. As before, there are a couple of fine original tunes penned by Liz - 'Jig For Jimmy' and 'Betsy's Delight', written in honour of their grandfather (fiddler Jimmy Mullen, who passed away last August) and grandmother. EIGHT / TEN