



## ARTIE: A DEDICATION

*As the Boston Celtic Music Fest this year celebrates the core traditions of Irish, Scottish, Cape Breton and other Celtic music, we believe it is only fitting to make a special dedication to someone whose legacy speaks to the very essence and ideals of BCMFest.*

*Artie Flynn (1874?-19??) has been called “one of the most forgotten yet unforgettable” characters of Boston’s Great Irish Dance Hall Era. His life was shrouded in mystery, much like his death, and even many of his contemporaries have conflicting stories about where and when they first met him. But as an accordion and melodeon player, and as a vibrant member of the city’s Irish music community, Artie – through his almost compulsive desire to innovate, his dogged determination to chart a new path (often against the advice of family, friends and the medical establishment) and above all his great love of the Irish traditional music he’d known since his earliest years – was a hero to those who love the music and the spirit of tradition*

*During 2010, we will present more on the life and legacy of Artie Flynn. But for now, we offer Artie our gratitude for serving as an inspiration to us all. To Artie, a veritable patron spirit of BCMFest.*

*The BCMFest Board*

*Shannon Heaton*

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