



## The musicians

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### **Ross Ainslie** *Bagpipes & Whistle*

Ross hails from Bridge of Earn in Perthshire. He began playing chanter at the age of 8 and like Ali Hutton studied under the watchful eye of the late great Gordon Duncan and was a member of the Vale of Atholl pipe band. Ross also plays with Salsa Celtica, Dougie Maclean's band, India Alba, Tunebook, Charlie Mckerron's trio and in a duo with Irish piper Jarlath Henderson. He released his début solo album "Wide Open" in 2013 which was voted 9th out of 50 in the Sunday Herald "The Scottish albums of 2013". He was nominated for "musician of the year" at the Radio 2 folk awards 2013 and also for "Best Instrumentalist" at the Scots Trad Music Awards in 2010 and 2012.

### **Ali Hutton** *Bagpipes & Whistle*

Ali, from Methven in Perthshire, was inspired at the age of 7 to take up the bagpipes and came up through the ranks at the Vale of Atholl pipe band. He was taught alongside Ross Ainslie by the late, great Gordon Duncan and has gone on to become a successful multi-instrumentalist on the Scottish music scene. He has produced and co-produced several albums such as Treacherous Orchestra's "Origins", Maeve Mackinnon's "Don't sing love songs", The Long Notes' "In the Shadow of Stromboli" and Old Blind Dogs' "Wherever Yet May Be". Ali is also currently a member of Old Blind Dogs and the Ross Ainslie band but has played with Capercaillie, Deaf Shepherd, Emily Smith Band, Dougie Maclean, Back of the Moon and Brolum amongst many others.

### **Kevin O'Neill** *Flute & Whistle*

Kevin was brought up in the Royal burgh of Rutherglen in Glasgow. He learnt his musical trade through the Glasgow Comhaltas organisation, regularly attending their instrumental classes every Tuesday evening. Performing in many Ceilidh bands as a youth and regular playing in the many sessions that the city had to offer forms the backbone of Kevin's musical upbringing. Kevin is also a noted composer with some of his tunes being covered by well known folk artists such as Brian Finnegan and Session A9. When not playing in bands Kevin works as a sound engineer providing a service for some of the top acts in the scene. As well as with Treacherous Orchestra he currently plays in Maverick Angels.

### **John Somerville** *Accordion*

Originally from the Highlands of Scotland, John is one of a new breed of exciting and dynamic accordion players to recently emerge from the vibrant Scottish music scene. He has constantly been refining his unique style of accordion playing, performing and writing for a whole host of bands and artists. He started off as a founding member of electro-folk pioneering group Croft No. Five with whom he toured extensively throughout the UK and Europe. He has also collaborated with musicians from across the globe including recent commissioned work with instrumentalists from Japan, Cape Breton and Central Europe. His style takes in influences from far and wide including West Highland and Gaelic music, European Folk as well as more modern forms such as techno and dance music. He continues to be a predominant part of the Treacherous Orchestra with some of his recently composed tunes featuring on the new album.

### **Éamonn Coyne** *Banjo & Tenor Guitar*

Éamonn now lives in Edinburgh but is originally from Ireland (Dublin/Roscommon). His debut solo CD *'Through the Round Window'* also featured a few friends including Grammy Award winner Alison Brown, Dermot Byrne and Michael McGoldrick. fRoots called it *"utterly stunning"* and The Irish Times reported, *"...this album comes as no surprise either in its virtuosity or eclecticism"*. Coyne has also performed and recorded with a vast array of people from many different musical genres including Tommy Peoples, Bèla Fleck, Jerry Douglas, Sinéad O'Connor, Tim O'Brien, and Russell's House. He also currently tours with Salsa Celtica and Kris Drever. *Songlines* described their debut duo CD *'Honk Toot Suite'*, as *'a breath of fresh air'* with its *'mutually attuned musicianship of the first order'* and *'its immense yet ultra-supple sophistication'* and 'Storymap', their 2012 follow up, garnered similar press including a five star review from BBC Music Magazine.

### **Adam Sutherland** *Fiddle*

Adam Sutherland comes from Alt No Goire on the south side of Loch Ness. Adam started young, attending fiddle lessons with late Highland Fiddle legend Donald Riddle. A prolific composer, his self-penned tunes have been covered by Session A9, Peatbog Faeries, Flook, Troy Magillvary, Sharon Shannon, Micheal

McGoldrick and Frankie Gavin. He also currently plays with Session A9, and Babelfish but has toured with Manran, Mans Ruin, Mairearad Green's Passing Places, Croft No. Five, Peatbog Faeries and Salsa Celtica amongst others.

**Innes Watson** *Fiddle*

Born in Glasgow, brought up in the Borders, Innes has carved himself a deep groove in the face of contemporary and traditional folk music of Scotland. Alumni of the National Centre of Excellence in Traditional Music in Plockton and a graduate of the Bachelor of Arts in Scottish Music at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Innes is now a leading tutor in instrumental performance at the RCS and the University of the Highlands and Islands. He is also renowned as one of Scotland's best instrumentalists being awarded "Instrumentalist of the Year" at the 2009 Scots Trad Music Awards at the age of 24 and has since appeared on countless cutting edge recordings. He plays with Ross Ainslie & Jarlath Henderson supergroup and solo groups, Fiona Hunter Band, a deadly duo with Mike Vass, and Man's Ruin. He is constantly in demand as an accompanist and session musician and has recently appeared with Duncan Chisholm, Angus Lyon & Duncan Lyall, Allan MacDonald's Bruce 700 commission and 2014 winner of the BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year, Robyn Stapleton.

**Barry Reid** *Electric Guitar*

Barry comes from Kilmorack in Inverness-shire. He took up the guitar at a young age and played with several bands at school including Dryzabone who went on to win the UK wide "Music for Youth" competition in London, 1997. His musical upbringing was nurtured through the Feis movement and as a teenager he developed his ability and style under tutors such as Jim Hunter, Tony McManus and Terry Small. Barry's guitar style has developed much over the years but has always retained elements of funk and rock, mixed with edgy effects and spacy soundscapes. He is not solely a musician but also a recording engineer and producer and as such is in high demand on the Scottish music scene. He also loves to create and perform electronic music and plays in new dance electro outfit Halcyon, along with TO members Adam Sutherland and John Somerville. He has played with Croft No. Five, Lauren MacColl and the Maccollective, Samling, Lori Watson Trio, Step Dance Company and Box Club.

**Duncan Lyall** *Double Bass, Bass Guitar & Moog Synth*

Originally from Dunblane in Perthshire, Duncan, influenced by a musical family, took up the piano at the age of 5. Taking double bass lessons from the age of 12, he progressed through regional orchestras whilst, at the same time, playing bass guitar in bands covering music like the Red Hot Chilli Peppers, Pink Floyd and The Police. Duncan graduated from University of Strathclyde in 2001 with a BA (Hons) in Applied Music. In huge demand as a producer and session musician, Duncan has featured on over 60 albums most recently recording for Craig Armstrong (composer 'Moulin Rouge' and 'Romeo and Juliet') while his production work includes Treacherous Orchestra, The Shee, Lori Watson and Rule Of Three, Breabach, Ross Ainslie, Box Club and Maeve MacKinnon. Recent musical endeavours have included touring with songstress and folk darling Kate Rusby; Mary Chapin Carenter's "Songs from the Movies" UK tour, alongside legendary drummer Peter Erskine, and conducted by Vince Mendoza; and touring his own composition and album, "Infinite Reflections" commissioned for the Celtic Connections "New Voices" series.

**Martin O'Neill** *Bodhrán*

Martin hails from New Stevenston near Glasgow. A multi-instrumentalist best known for his wizardry bodhrán technique, he is regarded amongst his peers as an innovator in modern bodhrán. He has won All-Scotland, All-Britain and All-Ireland titles and was voted 'Instrumentalist of the Year' at the 2010 Scots Trad Music Awards. He has recorded on more than 60 albums as a session musician and worked with artists such as Stevie Wonder, Béla Fleck & The Flecktones, Ron Block (Alison Krauss & Union Station), as well as many of today's leading traditional/folk musicians including Julie Fowlis, Danú, Fred Morrison, Michael McGoldrick, Donald Shaw, Karen Matheson, Tim O'Brien, John Doyle, Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain.

**Fraser Stone** *Drums*

Fraser Stone is from the Highland village of Grantown on Spey. Another exponent of the Feis movement he has honed his skills as a drummer since the age of six listening to many forms of music including bands and acts such as Wolfstone, Shooglenifty, Martyn Bennett, Miles Davis, Santana, Hendrix, and Guns n Roses. A member of the Old Blind Dogs since 2002, he was formerly the drummer with Indie outfit Stereoglo, while his live and studio session work ranges across rock, blues, jazz and Latin music. His New Voices commission with Paul Jennings, JSP Voyager, was premiered at Celtic Connections in 2006.