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Eliza Carthy and Aidan Curran

Described by Q Magazine as 'A gloriously natural singer', 'seriously impressive' by The Telegraph and 'Not the Messiah, but a very naughty girl' by comedian Stewart Lee, **Eliza Carthy** is a pioneering figure in contemporary music and undoubtedly one of the most impressive and engaging performers of her generation.

Winner of 2 Nationwide Mercury Prize nominations and innumerable BBC and other accolades over a 17 year career, Eliza has performed and recorded, not only with legendary parents Martin Carthy and Norma Waterson, but also with a diverse array of artists from Paul Weller to Rufus and Martha Wainwright, from Nick Cave to Joan Baez.

Over the course of her career, Eliza has toured everywhere from Peru to the US and closer to home, has appeared at the tiniest folk club to Glastonbury Festival mainstage and the Royal Albert Hall.

Inventive fiddle-playing combines with exuberant rhythms and Eliza's passion for English traditional music, of which she's long been a champion, is displayed in her rich and incomparable voice. Though Eliza is fearless, colourful and maverick in the best tradition of English songwriters, she is also one of the key figures to have revitalised interest in traditional folk music in recent years, capturing even the most hardened of dissenters with her intelligent, charismatic and boundary-crossing performance.

Canadian singer and virtuoso guitarist **Aidan Curran** incorporates a wide range of influences in his playing style. Originally taught guitar by his grandfather, who played in Prairie dance bands in the 1930s Aidan also has strong family connections to North East England.

From bluegrass to blues, gypsy jazz and even Northumbrian folk tunes he will challenge your musical preconceptions. Aidan, a founder member of highly acclaimed band, The Park Bench Social Club has teamed up with Eliza on numerous occasions.