Stewart Hardy and Frank McLaughlin

Fiddle , Guitar and Scottish Smallpipes

**Fiddle virtuoso Stewart Hardy and superb Scottish guitarist/piper Frank McLaughlin are a critically acclaimed duo who possess a rare musical kinship as they explore music rooted in the traditions of Scotland, the Borders and Northumberland while incorporating sensibilities from the worlds of classical, blues, klezmer and jazz.**

As a duo they perform traditional and contemporary tunes stripped back to the bare essentials of fiddle, guitar and Scottish smallpipes. With their long-term collaboration, they have achieved a deep and instinctive understanding of each other’s musical interpretations.

The unique and versatile approach Stewart and Frank bring to their music, combined with their ability to draw on a wide variety of styles, produces an uplifting and joyous performance

**Reviews**

*“The instrumental pairing of Stewart Hardy and Frank McLaughlin is one of traditional music’s great examples of cross-Border co-operation”*

*“Hardy is based in the northeast of England, although his fiddle playing on the Earl Grey strathspey here could place him as an Aberdeenshire native, and guitarist and piper McLaughlin lives in Edinburgh. When they get together, however, each belongs wherever the music takes them, be it in The Pilgrim’s Way’s Spanish dance steps or in the brilliantly mobile Irish set that culminates with Paddy Fahey’s Reel. Hardy brings a terrific range of colourful expression to his playing, from the gentle, poignant lilt of his slow airs, through the slippery hornpipe bowing that lights up The Locomotive and the swooping, steely poise of his own Thunderfoot, and McLaughlin is both an imaginative accompanist and an assured tunesmith, often transferring his piper’s phrasing to the guitar strings. All in all, Root2 is a treasure chest of traditional music making, with every listen revealing new riches.”* **Rob Adams, The Herald**

***“McLaughlin's guitar can chime with a delicacy reminiscent of Tony McManus, or work up powerful drive, while his small pipes sound crisp melodies*** *around* ***which Hardy's fiddle twines ”*** Jim Gilchrist, The Scotsman

**Videos**

Joy Together <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_laDwlO6IM>

Pilgrims Way <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obGylsAV938>

Website : [www.hardymclaughlinmusic.co.uk](http://www.hardymclaughlinmusic.co.uk)

Sample tracks from Stewart and Frank : <https://soundcloud.com/hardymclaughlin>

 Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/StewartHardy.FrankMcLaughlin>

The Musical Programme includes Traditional music from Northumberland and the Scottish Borders, featuring much of the music associated with James Hill ( 1811-1853) as well as ancient airs, jigs and reels from Scotland.

Stewart and Frank compose and perform music of a tremendous variety. Their own music is influenced by the Traditions of Scotland and Northumberland as well as absorbing elements of Classical, Klezmer, Blues and Jazz.