

solfest 3,4,5 september 2004 silloth, west cumbria

A MAJOR NEW ROOTS, FOLK AND WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL FOR CUMBRIA 2004

Cumbria has a new major Roots, Folk and World music festival in the shape of Solfest. Taking place over the weekend of 3rd, 4th and 5th September 2004 just outside Silloth, the three day event hosts not only the finest names in contemporary folk but the most happening exponents of roots and dance music crossover, Celtic music's most vital acts, exhilarating world music artists, a healthy selection of up-and-coming singer songwriters plus rockabilly, blues, drumming, the cream of local talent and much more besides.

possibly the most exhilarating purveyors of acoustic fuelled Celtic music in the UK today. Their line up includes some of the British Isles finest instrumentalists Sarah Allen, Ed Boyd, Brian Finnegan and John Joe Kelly.

Blue Horses hail from Wales and have been creating a stir for over a decade now with their own unique slant on folk-rock. Renowned for their showmanship and memorable live performances. Big, brash, bold and ballsy Blue Horses seldom disappoint live.

The Christina Pato Band come all the way

from Scotland, whose diverse influences and grounding in Scotland's Folk and Celtic music culture has helped them produce an innovative and evocative sound.

Topmor combine originality and originality in a fast moving electric set that has a wide appeal to fans of Celtic roots music and contemporary folk rock.

Rachel Williams born in West Wales and now living in Cornwall, has, over the last few years, been building a reputation for herself around the UK as an outstanding singer of traditional and contemporary folk songs and ballads.

King Voodoo are an Aberdeen based four piece that for a couple of years now have been helping kick rockabilly into the new millennium. Re-igniting the rock-'n'-roll fire in the belly of Johnny Cash, The Stray Cats and The Meteors.

Megson Live in a leafy suburb of South London and take inspiration from the current wave of New Folk and Bluegrass.

Keiretsu are a 10-piece live band like no other. Formed in February 2000, keiretsu intended to be a 100%-live drum'n'bass collective, but the band soon diversified to incorporate influences ranging from folk to psytrance, breakbeat to funky jazz, ambient to

from Galicia in Spain. The fresh young face to British shores, Christina, resplendent in green hair, fronts a full on roots rock band combining sensitive arrangements, silky vocals and a superb stage act full of fun and vigour, (in fact even the odd Santana riff on Gaita - Galician pipes).

Appearing over the weekend are the UK's finest folk rock veterans **The Oyster Band**. Since their ground-breaking debut 'Step Outside' in 1986, The Oyster Band have continually pushed back the parameters of the folk rock form, and taken it into previously uncharted waters.

Shooglenifty have managed over the past dozen or so years to create a unique twist on traditional music that has won them an extensive and devoted fan base not only across Europe, the US and Australasia, but as far afield as India, Malaysia and Japan.

Mcdermotts 2 Hours are living legends on the punk/folk and Celtic-rock, being the band that inspired The Levellers to form and recently reformed after a break of 12 years. The band give a healthy nod to their Irish roots.

Croft No Five have gained a reputation as one of the most innovative bands to emerge recently from the British music scene. Their fusion of contemporary Scottish melodies with dance and funk grooves, worldly influences, samples and programming has seen them fill out dance floors wherever they go.

Flook are quite

Skilda Their ground-breaking music incorporates many contemporary sounds, from pulsing synths and crunching rock guitars to soaring solos which draw on the best of progressive rock whilst at the same time honouring the rich Celtic music traditions.

Cloud 9 are a young all female four piece

rock-'n'-roll.

Susan Raven is a powerful performer and a skilled song-smith, a 21st century troubadour with a rich and wide-ranging voice.

Sabari are a multi ethnic four piece who use West African acoustics to produce inspiring music accessible to all.

The Beccy Owen



RNLI Visitors



Lifeboat Station welcomes children from the TOPO Holiday Club



The children of TOPO Holiday Club experienced first hand what it's like to dress up as lifeboat crew... fortunately there wasn't a call out that day.

The small museum within the boathouse showed the children past and present exploits of the Silloth Lifeboat. The children really enjoyed looking around the Atlantic 75 and learning about the roles of the crew.

Most surprising was the weight and quantity of equipment each crew person has to wear.

The children enjoyed a special TOPO picnic lunch in the lookout room and then produced some wonderful art work of the surrounding views. A thoroughly good time was had by all with some youngsters showing interest in being future crew! Watch this space!



Spikey Bee by Ashley Robertshaw aged 7 from Silloth Primary School

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Band are the vehicle for the song writing talents of Newcastle based Beccy Owen. Discover her now before she takes that step to mega stardom.

Also appearing over the weekend are a cream of local roots, folk, singer-song writing and contemporary rock talent in the shape of Alter Native, Closed Circle, Small Change, Delivo, The Kites, Mary And More. Plus Fusetrax Presents Dance Tent with Gooseman/electrosluts, Sunny Doing, and Others.

Songwriters And Players Tent, Arts,

Crafts, Adults And Kids Workshops, and a Bar.

The Siskyn Café will be providing cheap wholesome food and raising money for the Siskyn Centre, a children's hospice which is being built in West Cumbria.

Tickets available from The Carnegie Box Office, Finkle Street, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 2BD.
Telephone: 01900 602122
Full details and charges are available via the website at www.solwayfestival.co.uk
Traders contact Sunny Dermott: 078 7659 8088.

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