



*Thursday 19 January to Sunday 5 February 2017*

*Follow the conversation at @ccfest*

*[www.celticconnections.com](http://www.celticconnections.com)*

### **SHOWCASE SCOTLAND AT CELTIC CONNECTIONS 2017**

Scottish musicians will be in the global spotlight next January when more than 170 music industry delegates from across the world will gather in Glasgow for the annual **Showcase Scotland** event at **Celtic Connections**.

From **Wednesday 25 to Sunday 29 January 2017** leading promoters, record label representatives and agents from around **25 countries** will experience performances by around **60 Scottish bands and musicians** including **Gillian Frame, Talisk, Duncan Chisholm, Adam Holmes & the Embers, Elephant Sessions** and the **Angus Nicolson Trio**.

A major **Trade Fair** held at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall also provides the opportunity for promoters to meet artists and their representatives.

The event, which is supported by Creative Scotland and organised by Active Events on behalf of Celtic Connections, provides invaluable opportunities for the artists to raise their profile and secure new opportunities, as well as highlighting the dynamic music scene in Scotland.

Showcase Scotland will also present performances by an exciting range of musical talent from **Brazil - the partner country for Celtic Connections 2017** - including **Roberta Sá, Hamilton de Holanda, Renata Rosa** and **Yamandu Costa**.

As well as providing fantastic exposure to delegates for the visiting Brazilian artists, the event also helps to create new links between Scottish and Brazilian musical communities.

Singer **Roberta Sá** is a Latin Grammy award winning pop icon in Brazil. Of Portuguese descent, she performed in the closing ceremony of the Rio Olympic Games and this year made her UK debut as part of a European tour.

**Hamilton de Holanda's** ground breaking musical career has seen him reinventing the playing style of traditional Brazilian instrument the 10 string Mandolin, and bringing it to a global audience. He has been described in the press as the "*Jimi Hendrix of bandolim*".

The music of **Renata Rosa** brings together indigenous Brazilian influences, African and Portuguese elements to create an irresistible, rich sound. A multi-instrumentalist she is best known as a vocalist and virtuoso on the Rabeca - a traditional fiddle with 8<sup>th</sup> century Arabic origins which was brought to Brazil by the first Portuguese colonizers in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Guitarist and composer **Yamandu Costa** performs a diverse range of styles that makes him impossible to categorise, including classical, tango, samba, and chamamés. His main instrument is the violão de 7 cordas, the Brazilian seven-stringed nylon guitar.

**Donald Shaw, Artistic Director of Celtic Connections**, said: "The passion and artistry of Brazilian music is renowned throughout the international musical community. It is fantastic that we are able to present shows by some of the most exciting Brazilian musicians performing today as part of Showcase Scotland at Celtic Connections.

"This would not have been possible without our Brazilian partners, the MIMO Festival".

"We can now look forwards not only to some unmissable concerts but the chance to create new connections between Scotland and Brazil, two countries for whom a deep rooted love of making and sharing music is part of our national identity."

**Councillor Archie Graham, OBE, Chair of Glasgow Life**, said: “Glasgow during Showcase Scotland at Celtic Connections is the place to be for musicians and music industry professionals.

“The city’s vibrant music scene and thriving entrepreneurial spirit are at the heart of an event which draws promoters and producers from across the globe.

“We also look forwards to welcoming artists from our partner country for Celtic Connections 2017, Brazil. It’s a lot more likely to be snowing than sunny, but we can guarantee them a warm, Glasgow welcome and a festival atmosphere that’s one of the greatest found anywhere in the world.”

**Alan Morrison, Head of Music, Creative Scotland**, said: “Scotland’s music is one of our national treasures and Scottish musicians are ready to share that wealth across the world. Hosted by Celtic Connections, Showcase Scotland provides a tremendous platform for our home-grown talent to develop their careers and promote our traditional culture to an eager audience of international promoters, programmers, label bosses and agents. We also welcome to Glasgow this year’s partner country, Brazil, and look forward to sharing the concert stage with them, if not the football field.”

**Aline Paes, Head of Production of the MIMO Festival**, said: “Celtic Connections is one of the most wonderful music festivals in the world, but also a place for encounters, friendship and collaboration. We are ready to make new friends from all over the world and bring the best of our music to the vibrant and passionate audiences in Glasgow. We must say that It was a hard work to decide the line-up for the Showcase Scotland considering the big number of great options, but we are sure that we are representing the best of Brazilian music scene.

“We are proud to say that music is in the DNA of our people and that our country produces a kind of music that represents a unique blend of so many different accents, rhythms and influences - a reflection of the richness and diversity of our enormous, complex, and beautiful territory.”

From **Thursday 19 January** to **Sunday 5 February** **2,100 musicians** from across the globe will take part in **300 events** at venues throughout Glasgow, Scotland, for **Celtic Connections 2017**.

One of the leading annual festivals of world, folk and roots music the festival will see **18 days** of concerts, ceilidhs, talks, art exhibitions, workshops, free events, late night sessions and a host of special one-off musical collaborations.

Ends

**For further information, images, or to request an interview with any of the acts performing at Celtic Connections 2017, please contact:**

**Brian Maycock**

**Email: [Brian.Maycock@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:Brian.Maycock@glasgow.gov.uk)**

**Telephone: + 44 (0)141 287 5973 / + 44 (0) 7884 116 421**

### **Notes to Editors**

Celtic Connections is promoted by Glasgow Life. Glasgow Life and its service brands (found at [www.glasgowlife.org.uk](http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk)) are operating names of Culture and Sport Glasgow ("CSG"). CSG is a company limited by guarantee, registered in Scotland with company number SC313851 and having its registered office at 220 High Street, Glasgow G4 0QW. CSG is registered as a charity with the office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (No SC037844).

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit [www.creativescotland.com](http://www.creativescotland.com). Follow us @creativescots and [www.facebook.com/CreativeScotland](https://www.facebook.com/CreativeScotland)