

Celtic CONNECTIONS 2012

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Please note that full event listing for Celtic Connections
2012 are available at

<http://www.celticconnections.com/pressreleases>

Celtic Connections Programme Update

Second Date for Gerry Rafferty Concert Announced

We are delighted to announce that, due to outstanding popular demand, there will be a second night of the **Bring It All Home - Gerry Rafferty Remembered** concert. This bonus second night will take place on **Monday 23 January 2012** in the **Main Auditorium at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall**.

The night promises exciting performances from a number of the Paisley-born singer-songwriter's friends, family, bandmates, collaborators and admirers. Curated by Gerry Rafferty's daughter Martha and long-term friend **Rab Noakes**, the extensive performers list will include **The Proclaimers, Ron Sexsmith, Barbara Dickson, Maria Muldaur, James Vincent McMorrow** and **Jack Bruce** to name just a few.

Tickets are now on sale.

The countdown has begun for Celtic Connections 2012!

Since our launch in October there have been a number of new shows added to the festival including a special 40th anniversary concert for the **Average White Band** with special guests including **Michael Marra** and **Niki King** and others TBA (3 February 2012, GRCH). Returning to the festival direct from Shetland performing on their 21st anniversary of forming as a band are **Rock Salt & Nails** (3 February 2012, Oran Mor) and **A Celebration of the Dewar Awards** (23 January 2012, St Andrew's in the Square) features some of Scotland's best new talent. Celtic Connections will celebrate the increasing popularity of club culture with **Beat Bothy Club Night** which takes place at **The Arches** (3 February 2012) which includes a special set by **Mylo**.

There have been some changes to show venues at the festival

Change in Venue for JAADU: Faiz Ali Faiz Concert

The **JAADU: Faiz Ali Faiz** concert on **Monday 23 January 2012** has been moved from the Main Auditorium at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall to **Grand Hall, City Halls**. The concert will start at **7.30pm** and tickets will be priced at **£20**.

The Box Office is currently contacting all patrons who have already bought tickets for the above concert to advise them of the change in venue.

Change in Venue for The Big Breakthrough!

The **The Big Breakthrough!** concert has been moved from the Grand Hall, City Halls to the **Auditorium, Mitchell Theatre**. The ticket prices will remain at **£13** and the concert will still start at **7pm**.

The Box Office is currently contacting all patrons who have already bought tickets for the above concert to advise them of the change in venue.

Gaelic at Celtic Connections

As part of Glasgow Life's Gaelic Arts programme, Celtic Connections is delighted to be working in partnership again with **Ceol 's Craic** over three packed days at the Centre for Contemporary Arts. As the social hub and platform for contemporary Gaelic Culture in Glasgow, **Ceol 's Craic** will play host to a number of established and emerging artists on the Gaelic folk scene, including **Anne Martin**, Glasgow – based Breton band **Askolenn**, **Kaela Rowan**, **Alix Quoniam & Yves Pucher**, **Donald Macdonald & the Islands** and **Willie Campbell**. The three day event, which runs from 26th – 28th January, will also feature pre-concert Gaelic Arts events including lectures, workshops, the Gaelic conversation cafe and film screenings.

Some of the line-ups at the festival have changed

New artists announced for The Singing Land

It has been announced that **Isla St Clair** will be narrating the evening while **Captain Stuart Samson MBE** (previous Pipe Major of the Gordon Highlanders) will be joining the impressive line-up at the **Old Fruitmarket** on **Wednesday 1 February 2012**.

Support announced for James Vincent McMorrow

James Vincent McMorrow will be joined on stage by the Irish, Mexican and Canadian singer songwriter **Lindi Ortega** at his concert in **The Mitchell Library** on **Saturday 21 January 2012**.

New Act Announced with KAN

Bard, the London-based band is set to launch their much-anticipated debut album at Celtic Connections. They are performing alongside **KAN** and **Guidewires** at this show at **The Arches** on **Friday 27 January 2012**.

Change in Mary Gauthier and Darrell Scott Line-Up

Unfortunately **Darrell Scott** has had to withdraw from his concert with **Mary Gauthier** on **4 February 2012** at **St Andrew's In the Square** due to unforeseen circumstances.

This change was entirely due to circumstances beyond the festival's control.

The Box Office is currently contacting all patrons who have already purchased their ticket to advise them of the change in line-up.

Change in Admiral Fallow, Dry the River and Chasing Owls Line-Up

Unfortunately **Dry the River** has had to withdraw from their appearance in the above concert on **Friday 27 January 2012** at the **O2 ABC** due to unforeseen circumstances. This change was entirely due to circumstances beyond the festival's control.

The Box Office is currently contacting all patrons who have already purchased their ticket to advise them of the change in line-up.

Celtic Connections Presents Transatlantic Sessions on Tour: Shetland 2012

In this the Year of Scottish Islands **Transatlantic Sessions** are performing their first ever show in **Shetland**, the home of Transatlantic stalwart **Aly Bain**, on **Friday 3 February 2012** at the **Clickimin Leisure Complex, Lochside, Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 0PJ**. Tickets will be priced at **£24**.

From the award-winning Pelicula/BBC TV series, the Transatlantic Sessions continue to revisit shared roots and forge new common ground between today's finest Celtic and Americana musicians. Fresh from the success of last year's sold out tour are musical directors fiddle maestro **Aly Bain** and dobro legend **Jerry Douglas**.

Making their Transatlantic Sessions debut are Grammy-winning ex-Mavericks frontman **Raul Malo**, the Wailin' Jennys' dulcet soprano **Ruth Moody** and Irish balladeer **Declan O'Rourke**.

Further gracing the stage are Scottish stars **Eddi Reader** and **Karen Matheson**, while the Stateside posse features **Tim O'Brien** and **Bruce Molsky**, flanked as ever by the ultimate house band of **John Doyle**, **Russ Barenberg**, **Phil Cunningham**, **John McCusker**, **Donald Shaw**, **Michael McGoldrick** and **James Mackintosh**.

Celtic Connections at Glasgow Loves Christmas

Celtic Connections are hosting a number of fantastic performances throughout the Glasgow Loves Christmas in George Square. Every Saturday night between now and Christmas there will be two Celtic Connections acts performing from 7pm. Each act will be doing a 50 minute set each. Please see the list below for performance information.

26 November 2011
George Square
7pm – 9pm

- **Jarlath Henderson Trio** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Saturday 28 January 2012** at **The National Piping Centre**)
- **RURA** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Saturday 28 January 2012** at the **Old Fruitmarket**)

3 December 2011

George Square

7pm – 9pm

- **Finlay MacDonald and Chris Stout** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Wednesday 25 January 2012** at **The National Piping Centre**)
- **Washington Irving** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Sunday 22 January** at the **O2 ABC** and **Friday 3 February** at the **O2 ABC**)

10 December 2011

George Square

7pm – 9pm

- **Kitty the Lion** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Wednesday 1 February** at **O2 ABC2**)
- **Dead Man's Waltz** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Sunday 5 February** at **O2 ABC**)

17 December 2011

George Square

7pm – 9pm

- **Finlay Wells and Sorren MacLean** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Thursday 26 January** at **The National Piping Centre**)
- **Chasing Owls** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Friday 27 January** at **O2 ABC**)

24 December 2011

George Square

7pm – 9pm

- **Niteworks** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Saturday 21 January** at **Oran Mor**)
- **Jo Mango** (performing at Celtic Connections on **Saturday 21 January** at **Platform** and **Tuesday 31 January** at **O2 ABC**)

Festival Artists Receive Major Awards Recognition

Throughout Celtic Connection's existence it has been able to include in its line – up a number of artists who have been honoured with an array of prestigious awards and nominations for major accolades. Celtic Connections 2012 is proud to introduce a number of festival artists that have been nominated for the **BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards**. Nominated artists for this award who are performing at the festival include **Jackie Oates, June Tabor, The Unthanks, Martin Simpson, Bella Hardy, Steve Tilston, Emily Smith** and the **Peatbog Faeries**.

ENDS

For further information on Celtic Connections and the 2012 programme, or with any interview requests, please contact Material on:

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Celtic Connections 2012 runs from Thursday 19th January – Sunday 5th February and comprises 300 concerts, ceilidhs, talks, workshops, free events and late night sessions taking place over 18 days in 20 venues across Glasgow.

The focal point of Celtic Connections is the **Glasgow Royal Concert Hall**, where every available space is utilised during the festival, from workshops in the foyers to performances by worldclass artists in the Main Auditorium. Elsewhere in Glasgow, venues such as **O₂ ABC, The Tron, Òran Mór, The Arches, The Mitchell Theatre, City Halls** and festival fans' favourite the **Old Fruitmarket** will all play host to Celtic Connections events, whilst the legendary **Celtic Connections Festival Club** will move to a new home of **Apollo 23** (formerly Jongleurs Comedy Club) on Renfrew Street. **Brel** will host jazz and acoustic sessions as part of the festival.

The **economic impact** of Celtic Connections remained high in the midst of the global economic downturn in 2011, a market research study carried out by **Culture Sparks** has revealed. The festival generated an economic impact of **£7.6m** for Glasgow and **£3.1m** for Scotland. Celtic Connections enjoyed an extremely successful 18th festival in 2011, with over **£1m ticket sales** and attendances topping **100,000**.

The festival boosts the local economy and tourism industry in the normally quiet postfestival period. Celtic Connections saw an increase in visitors from outwith Scotland, with **6%** of the audience visiting from the rest of the UK and **10%** coming from overseas, with **26%** of festival fans accompanying their visit to Celtic Connections with an overnight stay. An impressive **85%** of visitors stated that attending Celtic Connections was their sole or main reason for visiting Glasgow, and **83%** said that they would like to come back in 2012. Celtic Connections 2011 generated a direct economic impact of £4,655,156.85 for Glasgow and £1,240,450.76 for Scotland. When standard industry multipliers are applied, Celtic Connections generated £7,587,905.67 of new output to Glasgow and £3,117,881.15 for Scotland. This has resulted in 98.92 new jobs for one year in Glasgow and 56.06 new jobs for Scotland.

Festival fans attended an average of **3.5** events, and respondents to the survey were overwhelmingly positive about the variety and quality of both music and venues.

Tickets can be booked:

Online	www.celticconnections.com
By phone	0141 353 8000
In person	Glasgow Royal Concert Hall 2 Sauchiehall Street Glasgow, G2 3NY

City Halls and Old Fruitmarket
Candleriggs
Glasgow, G1 1NQ

Transatlantic Sessions tickets can be booked at each individual venue for concerts taking place there:

Celtic Connections, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall

2nd and 5th February 2012

www.celticconnections.com 0141 353 8000

Clickimin Leisure Complex, Lochside, Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 0PJ

3 February 2012

N.B Tickets being sold by 'High Level Music' on a face-to-face basis at this venue. No phone bookings or reservations and cash only sales.

Tickets also available at the **Glasgow Royal Concert Hall**

www.celticconnections.com 0141 353 8000

London Royal Festival Hall

6 February 2012

www.southbankcentre.co.uk 0844 847 9910

Dublin Convention Centre

7 February 2012

www.ticketmaster.ie

Birmingham Symphony Hall

8th February 2012

www.thsh.co.uk 0121 780 3333

The Sage Gateshead

9th February 2012

www.thesagegateshead.org 0191 443 4661

Originated and produced by Pelicula in association with Asgard

For further information on Transatlantic Sessions please contact:

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To apply for Media Accreditation for Celtic Connections 2012, visit

www.celticconnections.com/pressaccreditation

ScottishPower became Principal Sponsor of Celtic Connections in 2007. Through the sponsorship, the company encourages its staff and the communities it works within to experience and enjoy the arts. ScottishPower's partnerships reflect the company's belief in the importance of enabling culture to be accessible for all. For background on ScottishPower log onto www.scottishpower.com

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