

# Celtic CONNECTIONS 2012

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## MUSIC INDUSTRY DELEGATES SAMPLE THE CREAM OF SCOTTISH AND CATALAN TALENT AT SHOWCASE SCOTLAND

Showcase Scotland at Celtic Connections  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Supported by Creative Scotland/Alba Chruthachail, the Catalan Institute for the Cultural Industries, MG ALBA and Highlands and Islands Enterprise

*"I have been attending Showcase for many years now and always regard it as one of the year's real highlights. As a festival programmer it gives me a great opportunity to see a wide range of Scottish artists in a variety of settings. When we turned to agency work in 2005 it provided an invaluable networking opportunity both nationally and internationally and was a major factor in getting us established. The Showcase dates are always among the first in our diary so we'll be back again – really looking forward to it."*

**Alan Bearman**

**Artistic Director, Artistic Director of Sidmouth FolkWeek and Towersey Festival and M.D of Alan Bearman Music**

This January, over **180** music industry delegates from around the world will visit Glasgow on the middle weekend of Celtic Connections to sample of some of Scotland's finest musical talent.

**Showcase Scotland at Celtic Connections** – the largest gathering of the international music community in Scotland – provides a selection of Scottish acts with the valuable opportunity of performing in front of promoters, record labels and agents from over **20** different countries.

Now in its thirteenth year, Showcase Scotland is organised by **Active Events**, and was initiated by **Creative Scotland** and **British Council Scotland** to provide a platform for promoting Scottish music and artists to new audiences around the world. The international exposure that artists gain at Showcase Scotland leads to record deals and overseas touring contracts.

### SPOTLIGHT CATALONIA

Showcase Scotland works with an **international partner** each year and is delighted to share the stage with **Catalonia** in 2012.

Some of the region's finest artists have been selected by Celtic Connections' Artistic Director Donald Shaw to appear at the festival in January. **Sol i Serena, Las Migas, Jordi Molina & Perepau Jiménez, Lídia Pujol, La Carrau** and **Domini Màgic** will perform over the Showcase Scotland weekend as the festival celebrates the strong connections between Catalan and Celtic musical traditions. These acts will perform in front of festival fans, members of the media and music industry delegates from around the world, enhancing their international profile and building an audience in the UK.

Showcase Scotland is working with the Catalan Institute for the Cultural Industries and the Government of Catalonia to stage Spotlight Catalonia.

**Ian Smith, Portfolio Manager: Music and IP development at Creative Scotland, said:**

"The success of Showcase Scotland is due to three significant elements: the fantastic wealth and quality of Scotland's creative musicians; the showcase being hosted by Celtic Connections, such a critically important event for Scotland's music and economy and last, but not least; the strength of the relationship with our international partner which in 2012 is Catalonia. I have no doubt that the 2012 edition will not only feature great music and creative talent from both Scotland and Catalonia who share such complimentary cultural influences, but will also exemplify the essential creative exchange that so benefits such a valuable relationship. Creative Scotland warmly welcomes our partners from Catalonia and the many international delegates with whom it will be our pleasure to engage during their time with us in Scotland."

**Marisol López, Director of International Promotion/Catalan! Arts at the Catalan Institute for the Cultural Industries, said:**

"We are very proud to support the Catalan music industry through the artists that will be showcased at Spotlight Catalonia. We believe that their talent, diversity, and creativity will enrich the international participation in the high standard event that is Showcase Scotland at Celtic Connections. Spotlight Catalonia will be a great opportunity to reach new audiences, promote Catalan music and share a cultural experience with Scotland."

Showcase Scotland 2012 will run from **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>– Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January**, and will involve **60** artists performing in venues across Glasgow as part of Celtic Connections.

*ENDS*

**For further information please contact:**

Celtic Connections Press Office

Tel: 0141 353 8070

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

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

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Generalitat de Catalunya  
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