

PRESS RELEASE

Dates Announced For Laura Boosinger

"She's hugely popular in Scotland", said BBC Radio Scotland's Iain Anderson when he announced that Laura Boosinger would be touring extensively in Scotland after her appearances at Glasgow's Celtic Connections festival.

...And he was right.

Last time Laura appeared here, venues were packed to capacity, and many fans travelled from far and wide - some from the *south of England* to Greenock - to catch the show.

It will be the first time that the North Carolina-based artiste will have appeared at Celtic Connections, but what a debut she is making with prestigious shows in the main auditorium of the Royal Concert Hall as well as the city's Tron Theatre.

After that, in association with the Scottish Bluegrass Association, she is off around the country with shows in Peeblesshire, Kilbarchan, Linlithgow, Kirkcaldy, Glenfarg, The Isle of Skye and Aberdeenshire.

Laura has won glowing reviews wherever she appears and is blessed with an 'essence of the mountains' spirit that can take you back to the good old days when folks used to huddle around the radio.

It's said that people who haven't seen her 'live' should prepare themselves for a "goosepimples experience".

Long ago established as one of the classier performers on the Appalachian old-time circuit, she has developed a faithful following in Europe since first touring here back in 2004.

Last year, it was standing room only again everywhere she appeared as part of the celebrated Master Musicians from The Crooked Road show, thanks to a stage presence, sweet voice and playing style, whether on clawhammer banjo, autoharp or guitar, that few can match.

She has just released her fourth CD, *'Let Me Linger'*, her tribute to The Luke Smathers Band, to remind the world just what unsung heroes they were with their groundbreaking, unconventional style.

Reviewing the album, leading Americana music magazine, Maverick said:

"She may rightly be highly regarded for her 'need-another-fix-of' vocal style and clawhammer banjo flair, but in this company, the stakes are raised to a level that brings her into the kind of circle where Tim O'Brien, Dirk Powell and Jerry Douglas occasionally join hands."

Laura turns out occasionally with multi-talented David Holt, himself so highly regarded for the immense amount of fieldwork he has done to keep the folk traditions of the south alive.

When the pair performed together at Doc Watson's MerleFest in 2005, with Bryan Sutton and Josh Goforth as playing companions, many felt it was one of the highlights of the festival.

While here, she will be in the company of Goforth, an outstanding musician, acclaimed fiddler, guitar picker and mandolin player, also from North Carolina, who has recorded in his own right and is in hot demand as a session player in Nashville and much further afield.

Although only in his mid-20s, he has already established himself as a "one to watch" musician who is heading for the premier league.

He was raised in Madison County, a community full of traditional musicians including his cousin Sheila Kay Adams the seventh-generation ballad singer and storyteller, who introduced him to the old-time music traditions of the region.

His reputation led him to land an appearance in the film *Songcatcher* as Fiddlin' Will and he contributed several pieces to the soundtrack. In 2000 and 2003 and 2005, he was named Fiddler of the Festival at the one they all want to have on their CV – the legendary Fiddler's Grove competition.

For more details or to have a listen to some downloads, check out the www.lauraboosinger.com and www.joshgoforth.com websites.

Dates for Diary:

Thursday, Jan 25 – Celtic Connections - Tron Theatre, Glasgow (with Gordie Sampson from Cape Breton).

Sunday, Jan 28 – Celtic Connections – 'Songs of Conscience' event, Main Auditorium, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall (with Odetta, Thea Gilmore, Karan Casey, Karine Polwart, Corrina Hewat and Sara Watkins).

Monday, Jan 29 - Late night show at Celtic Connections Festival Club

Tuesday, Jan 30 – Kilbarchan Old Library, High Barholm, Kilbarchan. Tel: 01505 706346

Wednesday, Jan 31 – The Famous Bein Inn, Glenfarg, Perthshire. Tel: 01577 830216

Friday, Feb 2 – House concert in Glasgow (private)

Saturday, Feb 3 – St Margaret's Hall, Blackness Road, Linlithgow. Tel: 01259 214908.

Sunday Feb 4: Traquair Village Hall, Traquair, Peeblesshire. Tel: 01721 729953

Tuesday Feb 6: Talla Mhor, Sabhal Mor Ostaig, Sleat, Isle of Skye. Tel: 01471 844 207

Wednesday, Feb 7: The Tin Hut Sessions, Bridge End, Gartly, near Huntly, Aberdeenshire. Tel: 01542 832970

Thursday Feb 8 – Acoustic Music Club, Kirkcaldy. Tel: 01592 653645