

"Virtuosic, fascinating, dramatic, original, inspired, gloriously adventurous, dazzling, brilliant, stunning, impassioned, electrifying, bewitching, moving, achingly beautiful, influential, revered, unique..."

THE TIMES, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, THE GUARDIAN, THE IRISH TIMES, THE SCOTSMAN, ROOTS...

Chris Newman & Máire Ní Chathasaigh



The celebrated virtuoso partnership of Máire Ní Chathasaigh (pronounced Moira Nee Ha-ha-sig), “the greatest Celtic harper of our age” (**LIVE IRELAND**) and Chris Newman, “one of the UK’s most staggering and influential acoustic guitarists” (**fROOTS**), has presented its unique musical vision in twenty-two countries on five continents to venues ranging from the tiniest of village halls and historic churches to palaces in Kyoto and Istanbul, London’s Barbican, Sydney’s Town Hall, Cologne’s Philharmonie and huge outdoor festivals. Chris and Máire’s performances are rooted but eclectic, emotional but adventurous: a breathtaking blend of traditional Irish music, hot jazz, bluegrass and baroque, coupled with striking new compositions - and what **THE WEST AUSTRALIAN** calls “Chris’s delightfully subversive wit”!

MÁIRE, “the doyenne of Irish harpers” (**SCOTLAND ON SUNDAY**) is the sole harper recipient to date of Irish music’s most prestigious award, Traditional Musician of the Year – Gramam Cheoil TG4 – “for the excellence and pioneering force of her music, the remarkable growth she has brought to the music of the harp and the positive influence she has had on the young generation of harpers”. A West Cork background steeped in the oral tradition led to multiple All-Ireland and Pan-Celtic titles and her development, while still a teenager, of profoundly influential techniques for harp performance of traditional Irish music – subsequently heard on **The New-Strung Harp** (1985), the first harp album ever to concentrate on traditional Irish dance music. “A mile-stone in Irish harp music” **THE IRISH EXAMINER** “A single-handed reinvention of the harp”. “Her work restores the harp to its true voice”. **THE IRISH TIMES**

CHRIS is “one of the UK’s greatest musicians” (**BBC RADIO 2**) and “one of the top guitarists of his ilk in the world” **THE LIVING TRADITION**. A prolific composer, arranger and record producer, he has toured and recorded with many luminaries of the folk, jazz and comedy worlds, among them Boys of the Lough, Aly Bain, Stéphane Grappelli and Fred Wedlock – receiving a silver disc for producing the latter’s international hit **Oldest Swinger in Town**. He has been principal guitar tutor for Newcastle University’s Folk B.Mus course since its inception. His fourth solo CD **Still Getting Away with It** is “An astonishing, joy-filled romp... a must-buy for any guitar player”. **** **SCOTLAND ON SUNDAY** “Beauty and virtuosity from a master craftsman at the peak of his abilities... I couldn’t recommend an album more highly”. **** **MAVERICK** “The exuberance of Newman’s dazzling playing... would leave you open-mouthed if you weren’t too busy smiling. A genuinely uplifting album of some of the most remarkable – yet accessible – guitar playing you’re going to hear all year”. **** **ROCK N REEL** “Dazzling” **ACOUSTIC GUITAR (USA)** “His playing boggles my mind” **FLATPICKING GUITAR MAGAZINE (USA)**

“An eclecticism and spirit of adventure that is quite thrilling” **THE TIMES** “Dazzling virtuosity” **THE DAILY TELEGRAPH** “In a class of their own” **THE GUARDIAN** “Music of fire and brilliance from the high-wire act in traditional music” **THE IRISH TIMES** “Blazing guitar and dancing harp” **DIRTY LINEN (USA)** “Sublime” **SYDNEY MORNING HERALD** “Brilliant, innovative harping and guitar-playing of astonishing virtuosity and versatility” **** **SONGLINES** “Remarquables de virtuosité et de grâce” **TRAD Magazine** (France) “Their stagecraft was masterly and their introductions informative and funny” **THE CHRISTCHURCH PRESS** (New Zealand) “This celebrated duo took the place by storm. Stately Carolan tunes, jazzy Django-ish numbers, dazzling Doc Watson style flat picking fliers, driving Irish dance tunes - this pair can nonchalantly do the lot. Guitar players applauded and went sadly home to burn their instruments!” **THE BELFAST TELEGRAPH** “Their blinding technique, sizzling Irish reels and hot jazz improvisation brought an extended standing ovation... Newman has the great gift of being informative and hilarious simultaneously” **THE WEST AUSTRALIAN**