

PRESS RELEASE

07 December 2018

For Immediate Release

Catrin Finch & Seckou Keita announce UK tour to accompany the release of their new album 'SOAR' in April 2018

Welsh harpist Catrin Finch and Senegalese kora player Seckou Keita are delighted to announce the release of their much-anticipated second album *SOAR* on 27th April 2018 on the bendigedig label. The release will be followed by a Spring UK tour in April and May with further festival dates and autumn dates due to be announced shortly.

The new album takes flight on the wings of the osprey, the magnificent bird of prey recently returned to Wales after centuries of absence, which makes its annual 3,000-mile migration from the coasts of West Africa to the estuaries of Wales, soaring like music and dreams over man-made borders, in an innate and epic journey of endurance.

Drawing deep on their own diverse traditions and transforming them with remarkable synergy, Catrin and Seckou have built a formidable reputation for extraordinary performances over the past four years. Entrancing, mesmeric, intricate and ethereal, this critically acclaimed and multi award-winning collaboration between two adventurous virtuoso musicians delivers a stunning exhibition of world-class musicianship and a thrilling live experience.

The tour will take in dates in Machynlleth, Truro, Bangor, Cardigan, Cardiff, Milton Keynes, London, Sheffield, Bangor, Swansea, Bath, Derby and Swaledale, and will be supported on selected dates by singer-songwriter Gwyneth Glyn.

The release date will be marked by a special intimate performance for just 45 people at the Observatory at the Dyfi Osprey Centre near Machynlleth in mid Wales. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Dyfi Osprey Centre to support the work of the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust. Tickets for this one-off event are £50 per head and will include refreshments and a signed copy of the new album (tickets available via mwldan.co.uk).

See individual venue websites for tickets and on-sale dates, or visit catrinfinchandseckoukeita.com for details. The tour is produced by Theatr Mwldan mwldan.co.uk, and *SOAR* will release on the 27th April on bendigedig, a label partnership between ARC Music Productions International Ltd and Theatr Mwldan – see bendigedig.org for further information.

ENDS/

Notes for editors:

Please contact Tamsin Davies for further details Tamsin@mwldan.co.uk / 01239 623 925.

bendigedig is a label partnership between ARC Music Productions International Ltd and Theatr Mwldan – see www.bendigedig.org for further details.

The tour is produced by Theatr Mwldan, Cardigan, www.mwldan.co.uk

The performance on 27th April is a benefit gig to raise money for The Dyfi Osprey Project, Machynlleth, which is managed by the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust. More information on the work of the trust can be found via their website www.dyfiospreyproject.com.

TOUR DATES APRIL / MAY 2018

April 26 **Y Tabernacl, Machynlleth, with support from Gwyneth Glyn**
tickets via mwldan.co.uk

April 27 **The Observatory, Dyfi Osprey Centre, Machynlleth**
Benefit performance – tickets via mwldan.co.uk

April 29 **Hall For Cornwall, Truro**
hallforcornwall.co.uk

May 2 **Theatr Mwldan, Cardigan, with support from Gwyneth Glyn**
mwldan.co.uk

May 3 **St David's Hall, Cardiff, with support from Gwyneth Glyn**
stdavidshallcardiff.co.uk

May 4 **The Stables, Milton Keynes**
stables.org

May 12 **Union Chapel, London, with support from Gwyneth Glyn**
tickets on sale Friday 8 December from 10am via serious.org.uk

May 15 **Crucible Studio Theatre, Sheffield**
musicintheround.co.uk

May 17 **Pontio, Bangor, with support from Gwyneth Glyn**
pontio.co.uk

May 18 **Canolfan y Celfyddydau Taliesin Arts Centre, Swansea, with support from Gwyneth Glyn**
taliesinartscentre.co.uk

May 22 Bath Festival, Bath

Tickets on sale from 13 December via Bathfestivals.org.uk

May 25 The Guildhall, Derby, with support from Gwyneth Glyn

derbylive.co.uk

May 28 Swaledale, Grinton

Tickets on sale to 5 March for 'Friends' scheme subscribers, and on general public sale from 26 March via www.swalefest.org

Further quotes:

"oh my God, incredible... you're witnessing a state of rapture, it's entrancing" **Toby Jones, actor**

"Absolutely hypnotic" **Guy Garvey, BBC 6 Music**

"intricate, ethereal and entrancing, an elaborate pas-de-deux... remarkable" **Neil Spencer, UNCUT Magazine *******

"This, I suspect, will be remembered as one of the classic concerts of the year"

Robin Denselow, The Guardian *****

"a sublime duo of two artists who are masters of their instruments...musicality and architecture at work" **Simon Broughton, London Evening Standard *******

"an intriguing collaboration that really works... the interaction is remarkable...an elegant, gently exquisite set". **Robin Denselow, The Guardian ******

"Blissful" **Financial Times *******

"gorgeous, eloquent, elegant music" **Thomas Brooman CBE**

YouTube links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aawwpS7-s0I>

(performing 'Bamba' at their WOMEX showcase in Cardiff 2013)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hcjmD4bqm_4

(performing 'Ceffylau' at Forde Festival, Norway, 2015)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtRfMOmG-tM>

('Les Bras de Mer' - nominated for Best Traditional Track, Radio 2 Folk Awards 2014)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vIDgG3AKrMc>

('Bamba')

Further information and clips here: <http://catrinfinchandseckoukeita.com/>