

J Eoin CV

Acoustic guitar and mandolin - Irish Folk singer - Songwriter

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1984 - I played professionally during the early 80's in Ireland and performed solo support slots on national tours for acts including Clannad, Scullion and John Martyn. A personal highlight was sharing the stage with Leonard Cohen at the National Stadium, Dublin during his 1985 'Various Positions' international tour.

1987 - Moved to London with Irish indie rock band 'A Bit More Left' to secure a deal with EMI. Produced a number of original songs with Jon Hall (Kissing The Pink) at Unit 4 Studios in Holloway. Worked in production at Sarm West for Mute Records under Jill Sinclair (ZTT).

1991 - Met with Sunderland fiddler Ashley Reed (Albion Band) and toured as a duo on the folk circuit around the UK through the music agency Peter Wilson. Attracted the attention of Mike Trim of Isis Records who had recently signed 'Show Of Hands'. Recorded an EP of self penned songs and traditional tunes called 'Kissing Stone'.

1994 - Formed the 5 piece band 'Ribbonmen'. Described by Time Out London as 'The Irish Waterboys'. Performed regularly at venues across the city including the 12 Bar Club in the West End and Camden's Dingwalls. Showcased for Island Records at the Sunday School in London.

1996 - Toured a number of times in Europe with Donegal fiddler Gerry Diver on the international folk circuit. It was around this time that I began developing my skills as a traditional accompanist and started exploring open tunings including DADGAD and other advanced guitar techniques.

1998 - Toured internationally with the Irish Folk Ballet Company during the 'Riverdance' revival. Played as an accompanying guitarist with the stage band and performed a number of solo set pieces as part of the main show. Tour schedules covered most of mainland Europe including the Balkans. There were a couple of special Russian tours organised for the company at the invitation of the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra.

1999 - Joined Irish crossover folk band 'The Tide' who played mainly on the Scandinavian circuit. Founding members included Sligo fiddler Aidan Burke. Produced the debut album 'Rip' for the Norwegian folk market.

2001 - Set up independent record label Natural5Four Records with business partner Peter Kenny.

2004 - Began the process of recording my first studio album 'Exiles'. 12 new songs were developed at the Cowshed in London and co-produced by engineer Joe Leach.

2005 - 'Exiles' was released by Natural5Four Records and showcased at the 12 Bar Club in London's West End in May 2005.

2008 - Worked with flautists Keith Waithe (Ghana) and Jacquelyn Hynes (UK) in the 'Caribbean Celtic Crossover' project which fused African and Irish traditions and involved incorporating music and dance from both cultures as part of a theatrical setting.

2010 - Joined 'Avalonia', a cross cultural World Music band fronted by flautist Jacquelyn Hynes and Indian vocalist Najma Akhtar. Performed at festivals across London and the South East.

2012 - Began recording my second studio album with former colleague turned producer Gerry Diver in London. Initial pre mixes were picked up by a music agent in the Czech Republic and led to my first tour there in September 2012 with a pick up band from Prague.

2013 - 'Acrobat', produced by Gerry Diver, was released by Natural5Four Records and showcased at the Irish Cultural Centre in Hammersmith, London in January 2013.

'The Sound of Irish Footprints', performed by the 'Sound Irish Dance Company', showcased in Oslo in February 2013. The show was choreographed by Norwegian dance tutor Hilde Juul and was inspired by the song cycle from my 2005 album 'Exiles'. I was invited to play the songs from the album live as part of the main stage performance.

2014 - Joined with flautist Jacquelyn Hynes to form the folk duo 'Simply Ruath' performing across the UK and Europe at various festivals and venues.

Met with Czech radio journalist Jitka Stichauerova at an event in Italy and was invited to appear on her radio show in the Czech Republic to perform some of my songs in September 2014. The event was broadcast live on national radio and led to a number of other radio and concert appearances. The album 'Acrobat' was eventually featured as the number one choice on Czech Republic National Radio during December 2016.

2015 - Set up a fiddle/guitar duo with Aidan Burke for a series of concerts in Norway and the UK. Recorded 'Sean One Shoe', a tribute to the Irish Navvies, and 'The Happy Jig', an original composition by Aidan Burke as a promotional release.

2016 - Formed the band 'Murray Well' with Aidan Burke, Spanish percussionist Luis Landa-Schreitt and Norwegian bass player Dag Henning Kalvøy. Debuted the band in Oslo, Norway in June 2016.

Performed solo at the legendary folk club in Toogenblik, Brussels as part of a Belgian tour in the summer of 2016. The concert was recorded by Daithi Rua who engineered the live show.

2017 - Recorded the album 'Sunshowers' at the Rua Room in Ghent, Belgium in June 2017. The songs were delivered 'live in the studio' and specially arranged for solo acoustic guitar and voice

2018 - Performed with fiddler James Patrick Gavin on his debut album release at the Union Chapel, London in February. One of my songs, 'The Lady O'Dreams' was featured on the album and showcased live at the concert.

Released the album 'Sunshowers' on the Natural5Four label in March. This was followed by a tour across Belgium in March/April and the album was also the centrepiece of a Czech Republic tour in September with guitarist Vojtech Jindra and double bass player Petr Tichy which included a number of live sessions on national radio.

Recorded 'The Nail', a song inspired by the UK Brexit vote of 2016, with Murray Well in April 2018. The song was released as a single through Natural5Four Records in September 2018. The band performed a series of summer concerts in Norway during July and October.

2019 - Natural5Four Records has scheduled the release of 12 songs from the live recording of the concert in Toogenblik from 2016 for spring 2019. This new solo live album has been remastered by Dag Henning Kalvøy in Oslo and features songs from my previous studio albums as well as some unrecorded original material which will be available for the first time.