



Scotland has a vibrant traditional and indigenous music scene brimming with some of the most talented instrumentalists, vocalists and composers in the world. WOMEX 2023 will feature two showcasing artists from Scotland- electrofolk powerhouse Elephant Sessions and distinctive saxophonist Matt Carmichael.

Find out about the influential representatives who will be in attendance at WOMEX 2023 throughout this guide.

Tha saoghal ceòl traidiseanta agus dùthchasach beothail ann an Alba a tha Ioma làn de chuid den luchd-ciùil, seinneadairean agus sgrìobhadairean ciùil as tàlanta san t-saoghal. Bidh WOMEX 2023 a' taisbeanadh luchd-ciùil à Alba bho Elephant Sessions a nì folk dealanach, agus bhon chluicheadair sacsafoin air leth, Matt Carmichael.

Faigh a-mach barrachd mu na riochdairean cudromach a bhios an làthair aig WOMEX 2023 anns an stiùireadh seo.

Cover: Kim Carnie Photo: Douglas Robertson



#### **Elephant Sessions**

Hailing from the Highlands of Scotland, Elephant Sessions won the coveted BBC Alba Album of The Year in December 2022. The band create a progressive blend of intricate tunes, engulfing guitars, bass and drums, combining the very best of trad, funk and electronica resulting in a new and exciting sound. Renowned for their breath-taking live shows, the band gained success not just within the UK, but across the globe performing at some of the world's most prestigious festivals, including Glastonbury, Byron Bay Bluesfest, Port Fairy, Womadelaide, Merlefest, Colours of Ostrava and multiple sell-outs at Celtic Connections.

With their latest album "For the Night" entering the UK Folk charts at no 3, the band are now firmly established as one of the UK's leading "new folk" artists. This year, they were amongst a handful of bands from the UK to be selected for SXSW 2023. The band were recently signed to Madison House for representation in the USA and Canada and they are currently planning their debut US and Canadian tours for 2024. This WOMEX they are hoping to secure partners in Asia, Europe, Japan and South America.

www.elephantsessions.com



#### **Matt Carmichael**

Heralded by BBC Music Magazine as 'a distinctive new voice in a crowded scene', saxophonist and composer Matt Carmichael continues to move from strength to strength and grow his reach globally with his powerfully emotive blend of Jazz and Folk music. He has performed throughout Europe at Celtic Connections, Ronnie Scott's, Love Supreme as well as being a guest soloist with the Grammy Award winning WDR Big Band in Germany were his music was arranged by Bob Mintzer.

Matt's debut album 'Where Will The River Flow' was critically acclaimed and was subsequently signed to the renowned Jazz label Edition Records who released his second album 'Marram' in October 2022. His band features Mercury Award nominee Fergus McCreadie (piano), Ali Watson (Bass), Tom Potter (Drums) and Charlie Stewart (BBC Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year) on fiddle, as well as collaboration with Brìghde Chaimbeul.

www.mattcarmichaelmusic.com



# **Siobhan Anderson**

Siobhan is a Music Officer at Creative Scotland, the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works and visits there, by distributing funding from the Scottish Government and The National Lottery.

Specialising in traditional music, she works with artists and organisations to support recordings, touring, festivals, showcases, multi-arts venues and research and development, as well as offering industry sector support.

www.creativescotland.com



## **David Clark**

David works at Active, a booking agency and events management company based in Scotland. Since 2013 he has assisted the delivery of tours for artists such as Elephant Sessions, Breabach, Caperaillie, Fara, The Langan Band and The East Pointers.

Active also produce Showcase Scotland Expo and Showcase Scotland @ Celtic Connections. In 2022, David project-managed Scotland on Tour, an initiative funded by the Scottish Government to aid the recovery of the live music industry from the COVID-19 pandemic, through the creation of new concerts in towns and villages across the country.

www.activeevents.org.uk



### Craig Corse

Craig is director of CCM Live, one of Scotland's foremost booking agencies, representing artists throughout the world.

His roster includes many leading names from Scotland, including previous WOMEX showcasing artists Talisk and RURA, as well as Blazin' Fiddles, Siobhan Miller, Ímar, Jenna Reid, Gnoss and Mec Lir. He also represents international artists touring to the UK, including Canadian groups Genticorum and Madison Violet, and Finland's world-renown Frigg.

Craig is also Festival Producer of the Orkney Folk Festival, which marked its 40th anniversary with record-breaking sales in 2023; a co-director of Showcase Scotland Expo, Scotland's export body for folk, roots and acoustic music; and a board member of Showcase Scotland at Celtic Connections, Scotland's largest international music conference. Through his work with Showcase Scotland Expo, Craig was also one of the core team behind the 2021 edition of Global Music Match (WOMEX Professional Excellence Award 2021).

With a wealth of experience in booking, artist strategy, marketing and programming, Craig has been an invited industry panellist at music conferences and events throughout the world – from Canada and the USA, to Malaysia, Australia and throughout Europe and the UK.

www.ccmlive.co.uk



# **Kate Deans**

Kate Deans is Creative Scotland's International Officer, working across music, literature, visual arts, theatre, dance and other artforms on Creative Scotland's international projects and partnerships.

Kate works on projects including the Four Nations International Fund; the Made in Scotland showcase; Momentum international delegate programme; Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund. She also supports Arts Infopoint UK, a joint initiative from the arts councils of the UK's four nations.

Hailing from Orkney, Deans was previously the Scottish contact point for the EU's Creative Europe programme for seven years and worked with local and international partners to encourage cross-border connections. Speaking several languages, she has worked in Norway, Germany, Belgium and New Zealand, as well as for several of Edinburgh's international festivals and the European Parliament.

www.creativescotland.com



## Anna MacQuarrie / Anna NicGuaire

Anna MacQuarrie is Gaelic Arts Officer for Creative Scotland, working to support and develop Gaelic arts across the country and further afield.

A native speaker, she was raised in the Highlands in a family rooted in Gaelic tradition. Her role includes working across all artforms and specialisms, providing practical and strategic support for individuals, projects and organisations.

As part of the organisation's Place, Partnerships and Communities team, she has a particular interest in the role minority languages and cultures play in strengthening communities. When not in her arts role, Anna also works across the Scottish Highlands in Gaelic museum development.

Tha Anna NicGuaire na h-Oifigear Ealain Ghàidhlig aig Alba Chruthachail, a tha ag obair gus taic a chumail ris na h-ealain Ghàidhlig agus gus am brosnachadh air feadh na h-Alba agus nas fhaide air falbh.

Tha Gàidhlig aig Anna bho thùs agus chaidh a togail air a' Ghàidhealtachd ann an teaghlach freumhaichte san traidisean Ghàidhlig. Tha a dreuchd a' gabhail a-staigh a bhith ag obair le gach seòrsa ealain agus speisealachadh, a' toirt taic phractaigeach agus ro-innleachdail do dhaoine fa-leth, pròiseactan agus buidhnean.

Mar phàirt de sgioba Àite, Com-pàirtichean agus Coimhearsnachdan, tha ùidh shònraichte aice san àite a th' aig mion-chànanan is mion-chultaran ann a bhith a neartachadh choimhearsnachdan. Nuair nach eil i a' dèanamh a h-obair latha sna h-ealainean, bi Anna cuideachd ag obair air feadh na Gàidhealtachd ann an leasachadh Gàidhlig sna taighean-tasgaidh.

www.creativescotland.com | www.albachruthachail.com



# **Rosie Munro**

Rosie Munro is a booking agent and founder of Venn Music Management, which is a music agency representing some of Scotland's leading musicians.

Her roster includes Hannah Rarity, Hector Shaw, James Lindsay – Torus, Josie Duncan and Staran.

www.vennmusicmanagement.com



# **Blair Parham**

Blair is Founder and Director of Scotia Arts, Producers of Music & Creative Events in Scotland and Beyond, specialising in Trad, Folk, Celtic and Roots music.

He has a particular focus on new collaborations and exploring new markets. He recently returned from China where he coordinated a Scottish Music Week involving 5 Scottish artists performing to thousands in world class venues.

He founded the flourishing online learning portal 'The Scottish Music Academy', and runs other bespoke projects and events, including the Fresh Ayr Folk Fest and Land o' Burns Fiddle Weekend.

Blair has been the Music Director and Conductor of The Scottish Fiddle Orchestra, Scotland's national fiddle orchestra, since 2011.

www.scotiaarts.com



#### **Catriona Price**

Scottish violinist, composer and project leader Catriona Price creates cross-genre music, with a focus on making change through cultural exchange and artistic innovation. Having studied at the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal Northern College of Music after spending her childhood in Orkney sessions and fiddle groups, Catriona is equally at home in a folk or improvisation session as in an orchestra or chamber group.

Catriona is half of the contemporary folk duo Twelfth Day and a founding member of folk band Fara. She is co-artistic director of Thirteen North – a new string ensemble focused on bringing classical music out of the concert hall and to more diverse audiences; and Artistic Director of Routes to Roots – an artist-lead organisation using the power of cultural wealth to strengthen understanding and empathy between communities through the sharing of diverse intercultural musical collaborations. Catriona's debut solo album Hert was released in 2023.

www.catrionapricemusic.com



# Lisa Whytock

Lisa is the CEO of Active Events who are the live managers for Elephant Sessions, an award winning neo- trad band from the Highlands of Scotland, who are showcasing at Womex on Thursday the 26th of October.

Lisa is also the Executive Producer of Showcase Scotland Expo (the export office for Scottish folk, roots and world music), as well the Producer for Showcase Scotland at Celtic Connections, one of the world's leading festivals.

www.activeevents.org.uk www.showcasescotlandexpo.com



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



Waverley Gate 2-4 Waterloo Place Edinburgh EH1 3EG Scotland UK

The Lighthouse Mitchell Lane Glasgow G1 3NU Scotland UK

www.creativescotland.com

