

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

GLASTONBURY SINGER'S APPEAL: COME AND SING ON OUR SONG FOR LEICESTER

Alternative folk band The Portraits play The Musician in Leicester on 3rd March 2013, and are bringing with them the gift of a 'Song for Leicester' to pay tribute to a city that laid the path for their singer's future playing to a packed crowd at Glastonbury Festival. And they are appealing for Leicester voices to help them complete the song.

The song, 'Difference', about the bonuses of living in a truly multicultural city such as Leicester, will be heard in public for the first time at their Musician concert, where the audience themselves will record the final layer of voices to complete the song, and the finished version will be released as a free digital download on the band's website the day after the show.

For Irish-born singer Lorraine Reilly, the city provided the first real taste of other cultures when she made her home here while studying at De Montfort University in the mid-1990s.

"To get to the centre from where I lived," Lorraine explains, "you'd walk down Melton Road. Everywhere I moved there were exotic sights, sounds and scents. My limited experience suddenly exploded into something magic and I was captivated."

From there began Lorraine's love affair with Asia, and The Portraits were formed out of her wish to relate to audiences back at home her experiences of travelling and helping disadvantaged children in countries such as Burma.

"We've been lucky enough to meet some incredible people," says Lorraine, "and to see how life treats some people very unfairly, and that is what inspires us to write. But actually, there is a very positive, upbeat message behind our songs, and our gigs are usually great fun - people tell us they are moved, entertained and inspired, which is what we hope. For me, our Leicester appearance will represent a true homecoming, and our brand new song is my way of expressing thanks to a brilliant city."

www.theportraitsmusic.com
www.facebook.com/theportraitsmusic

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Notes to editor

The Portraits' were formed in 2005 by Lorraine and Bristolian pianist Jeremy Millington. In 2010 their penchant for writing politically charged songs was highlighted by the release of their song 'Liberty' for Burma's democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi, which was presented to her just after her release from house arrest in 2010, and which led to an invitation to play the Glastonbury Festival in 2011. The band were crowned Best International Artist 2011 by respected U.S. station Radio Crystal Blue, and their new album, 'Counterbalance', was released on CD and download formats on 5th November, 2012.

The Portraits' appearance at The Musician will be the latest in a series of adventurous, lyrical, emotionally enthralling performances at which the band will showcase their new songs, described as "musical exclamation marks" following the inequalities in the lives of so many. The Portraits play at The Musician, Clyde Street, Leicester, LE1 2DE, Tel 0116 251 0080 on 3rd March 2013. Support from Bellawave. Doors open at 8.00pm. Music starts 8.30pm. Tickets: Tickets £6 from <http://www.wegotickets.com/event/195696> or £8 on the door.

Hi resolution photos are available from <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6ao5y799jnz90ti/K8XHjsSmGM> or upon request.