

**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **GLASTONBURY BAND'S PROUD HOMECOMING TO PLAY CHAPEL ARTS CENTRE, BATH**

Alternative folk band The Portraits play The Chapel Arts Centre in Bath on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013, a deeply personal concert for the band, as it marks their return home to the part of the country that shaped their musical future playing to a packed crowd at Glastonbury Festival.

Singer-songwriters Lorraine Reilly and Jeremy Millington formed their first band Sensorypulse in Bristol in the late 1990s and played all the major West Country venues, including The Fleece and Moles. And as the band explain, the West Country heavily influenced their song writing.

*"Trip-Hop loops ran through everything we did," explains Bristolian pianist and producer Jeremy, "and though we eventually stripped back many of the electronics, we retained the warm harmony vocals and ethnic sounds that colour our current style, a warm folk-pop with classical and theatrical elements."*

Today, global influences are central to their band. When Lorraine and Jeremy left Bristol in 2002, they developed a love affair with Asia, and The Portraits were formed out of their wish to relate to audiences back at home their experiences of travel and of helping disadvantaged children in countries such as Burma.

*"We've been lucky enough to meet some incredible people," says Irish-born Lorraine. "Life treats some people very unfairly, and this inspires us to write. But there's also 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."*

**[www.theportraitsmusic.com](http://www.theportraitsmusic.com)**  
**[www.facebook.com/theportraitsmusic](https://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 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2012. The album has been warmly received by critics – Folk London described it in one word: "Epic" – and has led to support slots for jazz legend Courtney Pine and well-known Bristol folk-rock band Stackridge in April 2013 as well as a return invitation to play Glastonbury this summer.

The Portraits' appearance at The Chapel Arts Centre 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 Chapel Arts Centre, St.James's Memorial Hall, Lower Borough Walls, Bath, BA1 1QR on 17th May 2013. Support from local band The Home Fires (<http://thehomefires.co.uk/>) Doors open at 7.30pm. Tickets £7 adv/£8 on the door from [http://www.chapelarts.org/index.php?main\\_page=monthly\\_listing&month=May](http://www.chapelarts.org/index.php?main_page=monthly_listing&month=May)

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