

The Routes Quartet - Bio 2020

The Routes Quartet is an exquisite blend of folk, classical, jazz and fiddle traditions, featuring evocative arrangements of folk tunes and stunning original compositions. The Routes Quartet is made up of the classic string quartet instrumentation of Cello (Rufus Huggan), Viola (Emma Tomlinson), and two Fiddles (David Lombardi and Madeleine Stewart). With a love of Scottish Music, Routes bring different approaches from classical, jazz, blues and Scandinavian influences to combine with their original compositions and arrangements of existing tunes. Routes set out to arrange and explore the vast textures, tones and intimate musical qualities that are characteristic of the string quartet, but with a folky, rootsy accent.

Routes were nominated for Folk Band of the Year in the 2017 MG ALBA Scots. Trad. Music Awards after their successful debut album *Windrose* (produced by Patsy Reid), and subsequent 24 date tour. Routes are adept at improvising, composing and interpreting in a variety of styles. They collaborated with Phamie Gow at Celtic Connections in 2018. More recently 'The Routes Sessions' have seen collaboration with Tim Edey, Fraser Fifield and Amy Papiransky. These sessions have taken on the form of improvised concerts in front of a live audience. This versatility lends Routes to be an excellent band for cross-genre collaboration in addition to their own creative work.

'Scots string quartet with a true folk music understanding' - Tim Woodall, Songlines Magazine

'Different and exceptional in approach and scope.' - Tim Carroll, Folkwords

'Profound learning in both the Celtic traditions and Classical music has left this group respectful of their roots yet complex in their composition.' - Marty Cullen, BBC Radio Ulster

For more information on how to book the band contact Emma, David, Madeleine and Rufus by emailing routesstringquartet@gmail.com

Routes look forward to hearing from you!