

FITKINWALL



The Background

Our planet houses over 8 billion humans at the moment, and we move around an awful lot. Migration is not new. It's been going on for millenia. The reasons for migration may be geological, climate based, oppressive, work related or voluntary. This performance focuses on one small aspect of migration, the eviction and subsequent migration of farmers and crofters from the Scottish highlands during the Clearances. FitkinWall have produced a new work using Scottish melodies from this time, remoulded and recomposed, and interspersing interviews from recent migrants in to Scotland.

The Performances

Internationally renowned harp and electronica duo **FitkinWall** follow threads of migration, loss and longing in their new show **Harpland**. Scottish harpist **Ruth Wall** and composer **Graham Fitkin** perform captivating new versions of old Gaelic songs and Highland tunes conjuring up mesmerising soundworlds on three wildly different harps, moog synth and electronica. The concert tour also features a specially commissioned light installation from acclaimed artist Peter Freeman.

The Music

It is strong immediate music - pulsating patterns, eery melodic fragments, sumptuous harmonies - all constructed with care and precision. Allusions can be drawn to new-classical, folk, even ambient and systems music, with hints of artists such as Steve Reich, Philip Glass, Lau or Haushka somewhere in the ether.

The Guardian *"FitkinWall conjured a haunting sense of longing and loss, wringing contemporary resonance from traditional tunes. A quietly dynamic duo, reinventing themselves with every project, yet always true to their individual musical identities while implicitly attuned each to the other."*

HARPLAND FITKINWALL

Press Release

Product: UK Concert Tour

Artist: FitkinWall

Title: Harpland

Dates: 5 May-11 June 2024

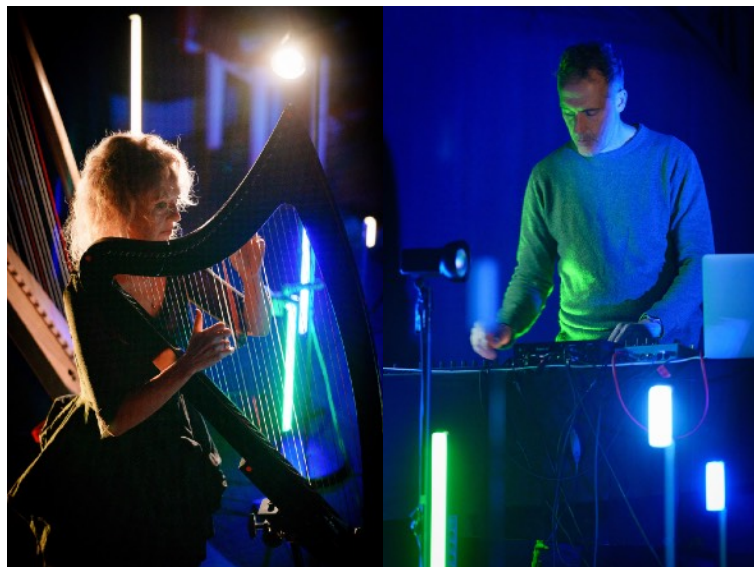
Territory: UK

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The Summer Dates 2024

5 May	Ashburton Arts, Ashburton
15 May	Howard Assembly Rooms Leeds
17 May	Tolbooth, Stirling
18 May	The Queens Hall, Edinburgh
19 May	Eden Court, Inverness
23 May	Shetland Arts, Shetland
28 May	NCEM, York
29 May	The Stables, Wavendon
5 June	Lakeside Arts, Nottingham
11 June	The Haymarket, Basingstoke
	<i>More in the autumn</i>



Songlines *“the combination works lyrical wonders. It’s a music of reverie, one that moves like vapour, thickening and clearing, never staying still.”*

FitkinWall

Ruth Wall performs on three different harps - Gaelic wire-strung, Bray and Electro harps. Graham Fitkin uses a Moog Voyager, Ableton and various FX modules. Their work combines the very old with the very new. They provide unusual contexts for these ancient instruments. Their previous albums *Still Warm* and *Lost*, with live VJ, toured through the UK and Europe, before heading out to Japan.

Both artists work independently too. Ruth has worked with Goldfrapp, Kathryn Tickell, RLPO, BBC Orchestras and film composers John Lunn and Clint Mansell. She tours extensively in venues from Radio City New York and Glastonbury Mainstage to Sydney Opera House and Roskilde Fest. Graham’s music has been performed by artists such as Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, New York City Ballet, BBC Philharmonic, Yo-Yo Ma, Will Gregory, choreographer Wayne McGregor and artist Shezad Dawood. His music has been released by Decca, Sony, BIS, Naxos and many others. He has won three BASCA Composer Awards, an International Grand Prix Dance Music Award and the Royal Philharmonic Society Composer Award.

Additional Information

Other projects include ‘Geography’, a new GPS audio-mapping app for the city of Brussels, and ‘Treeline’, a tree based project stretching across 11 European countries.

To interview Graham or Ruth, or check availability for a radio/video/zoom session, please contact **Genevieve Martin** (full details at top of page 1 of this press release)

