



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 19, 2012

A MUSICAL MIGRATION TO NEWPORT

NEWPORT, OR - Members of the Portland, OR based quartet "*Stringed Migration*" will be in Newport performing their lush synthesis of Celtic and international roots music with a twist of jazz. Comprised of talented multi-instrumentalists whose individual careers have garnered regional, national and international Recognition, the band is enjoying a rapidly growing reputation in the Northwest folk world.

Stringed Migration features a cast of musicians whose diverse backgrounds touch upon Latin music, Balkan music, Americana, rock, Medieval music, classical Indian music, Western classical music, and jazz, yet all have deep roots in traditional Irish and Scottish fare.

With harp, vocals and guitar, *Elizabeth Nicholson* is at the vanguard of a new generation of Celtic musicians. Considered among the top American interpreters of Irish traditional music for harp, her studies have also included classical, Paraguayan, and mediaeval harp, and she has stretched the traditional boundaries of the instrument into rock music and country blues. Her recent CD of traditional and original music, *Sink or Swim* (Waterbug Records) was released to widespread critical praise and international airplay, including a spot on Fiona Richie's *Thistlepod*, which highlights outstanding new Celtic releases.

"The idea," says founder Elizabeth Nicholson, "is to allow everyone in the band to draw from the full spectrum of their experience, rather than conforming to a rigidly defined idiom." The resulting sound pays true homage to the American melting pot, revealing technical mastery, nuance, spontaneity and heart.

Bob Soper plays bouzouki, fiddle, and guitar along with vocals is counted among Portland's most astonishingly versatile multi-instrumentalists. A rock and jazz drummer from a young age who also studied classical Indian percussion at the Ali Akbar College of Music, he went on to learn the Irish fiddle, ultimately becoming one the Northwest's most sought after players. Also an accomplished bouzouki player and vocalist in both Irish and American traditional styles, he's been a member of some of the

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region's most beloved and successful ensembles, including the Irish bands *Cul an Ti* and *Grafton Street*, as well as the old-time/country-blues group *The Pagan Jug Band*. Bob is also studying classical Indian Sarod and Irish tenor banjo. Fans can visit their web page at www.stringedmigration.com to sample their music.

Don't miss out on this unique and exhilarating musical experience at the "Harvest by the Sea" concert hosted by the Celtic Heritage Alliance on November 3, 2012 at the First Presbyterian Church at 227 NE 12th Street, Newport. To purchase advanced tickets online, please visit www.newportcelticfestival.com.

PHOTOS:



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