

ELIZA CARTHY - BIOGRAPHY

2 x Nominee - Panasonic Mercury Music Prize

Winner – Paul Hamlyn Award for Composers

7 x Winner - BBC Radio 2 Folk Award

Nominee & co-presenter - BBC Radio 3 World Music Awards

Judge – Q Awards

Judge – Ivor Novello Awards

Judge-Penderyn Music Book Prize

Presenter/Judge - MOJO Magazine Awards

"Not the Messiah, but a very naughty girl" - Stewart Lee

During a nearly thirty year journey/career Eliza Carthy MBE (b.1975) has become one of the most dazzling and recognised pioneer folk musicians of a generation. Whether solo or in one of many collaborative projects, Eliza has managed to capture the most hardened of dissenters with charismatic and boundary-crossing performances. Her talent, imagination and pioneering spirit helped in no small part to bring folk music to wider audiences and to influence a whole new generation of musicians.

Eliza has made several appearances on BBC TV's 'Later... With Jools Holland', as well as various TV shows across the World. She has presented a series on the history of English folk music on BBC R2, and has been the subject of two hour-long TV documentaries (ITV's 'Heaven and Earth' and Channel 5's, 'My Music'). Eliza was the only folk musician to feature in the multi-artist 'God Only Knows' video for BBC Music and Children in Need (2014) which featured Brian Wilson, Pharrel Williams and Elton John, among other music luminaries.

Not only enthralled by folk music from the UK, Eliza featured on Billy Bragg's Grammy Award winning albums with Wilco, 'Mermaid Avenue', which celebrated the work of Woody Guthrie.

She was a part of Hal Wilner's concerts in Los Angeles and London celebrating the work of the American archivist Harry Smith, alongside Elvis Costello, Beck and Van Dyke Parks.

This led to her inclusion in the Rogue's Gallery rock/folk fusion project associated with the Pirates of the Caribbean movie franchise, also featuring Bryan Ferry, Sting, the Wainwright/McGarrigle family, Richard and Teddy Thompson and actors Tim Robbins and Jonny Depp.

Other noted collaborations include work with Paul Weller, jazz legend Bill Frisell, Joan Baez and Cerys Matthews.

Touring since the age of fourteen Eliza has appeared at a huge number of live events, multi-artist concerts and benefits, from Robin Hood's Bay Village Hall to the Royal Albert Hall.

Eliza is Vice-President of the English Folk Dance and Song Society based at Cecil Sharp House in London.

She is known for her peerless interpretations of the folk canon, in which she often subverts genre and form by working with everything from electronica

to brass. She is, if all that wasn't enough, also an astonishing violinist and singer of rare soul and grit.

Eliza produces or co-produces most of her own records.

Yorkshire-born and now based once again at the family home in Robin Hood's Bay with her children and legendary parents guitarist/balladeer Martin Carthy MBE (renowned influencer and friend of both Bob Dylan and Paul Simon) and singer, Norma Waterson MBE, Eliza Carthy grew up immersed in the world of traditional English music reimagined for new generations.

She has lived a life based on the philosophy that it is a genre worthy of and equal to any other. To her, all music is connected. This makes for a kaleidoscopic body of work which straddles genres and is always fascinating and adventurous, never static or predictable.

After receiving an MBE from Buckingham Palace in 2015 (complete with blue hair), Eliza Carthy, released 'Big Machine', a monster of an album with her new 12 piece, The Wayward Band (Topic Records- 2016). They have since toured the UK and are festival favourites.

2019 looks set to be another exceptional year in the life of this peerless artist. Eliza has recently released 'Anchor', a second special album with her celebrated mother, Norma Waterson, and "Restitute", her first solo work in fourteen years.

Media work includes:

FILM

Historical Music Advisor/performer-"Far From the Madding Crowd" movie (Fox Searchlight) 2015

Gypsy Girl/Live on-set violinist-"Tulip Fever" movie (Paramount Pictures) 2017

THEATRE

Composer-"The Two Noble Kinsmen", (Dir.Barrie Rutter OBE) Shakespeare's Globe Summer season 2017

Composer-"Jack Lear", (Dir.Barrie Rutter OBE) Hull Truck Theatre/Northern Stage 2018

TV

Theme Composer "The Dave Gorman Show"

Theme Composer "The Squirrel, the Hare and the Little Grey Rabbit"

All media enquiries please contact Harriet Simms at Glass Ceiling PR – 07958 539951 / glassceilingpr@btconnect.com. For management please contact Liz Lenten on liz@scarletrecording.co.uk / 07500 600062