



Roo Geddes and Neil Sutcliffe combine their shared experience across Classical, Folk and Jazz to create original music for violin and accordion. Based in Glasgow, they explore the ways in which music can evoke senses of place and community.

After a chance meeting on a beach in the northwest of Scotland, aged 13, the pair started to collaborate at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Almost a decade later, the duo released their debut album 'Homelands', showcasing original compositions inspired by the people and places that create a feeling of 'home'. In 2020 during the first Covid-19 lockdown, some of this collection was selected as winner of Fèis Rois' "In Tune with Nature" competition. The following year, the duo was awarded the prestigious 'Danny Kyle Award' from the Celtic Connections Festival. They now perform their original music regularly around the UK, as well as working closely with the charity Live Music Now Scotland.

Recognition

Danny Kyle Award

Celtic Connections Festival, 2021

"In Tune with Nature" winners

Fèis Rois and NatureScot, 2020

Album: HOMELANDS

Released 26 April 2022. Six works for accordion and violin, recorded at The Old Schoolhouse in Port Appin in October 2021. Engineering, mixing and mastering by Stevie Cossar; photography by Karen Gordon; album design by Axel Borel.

Listen and buy: rooandneil.bandcamp.com/album/homelands

The instruments

Accordion. Neil plays a Bugari Prime piano accordion. As well as the standard Stradella bass system in the left hand, it can be converted to the chromatic free-bass system, which allows polyphonic textures and different chord inversions and plays a major role in the duo's compositions.

Fiddle. Roo plays a violin that has been passed down through his family for five generations. His great-great-grandfather, Jack Hugo, played this fiddle at a "Grand Concert" at the Masonic Halls on Alexandra Parade, Glasgow, on 25 October 1912.

What people say

“Roo and Neil explore a musical landscape of such variety with such skill, it’s a privilege to be taken with them on their musical journey.”

Greg Lawson, 2021

“Roo and Neil were truly amazing. They were immersive with the children and played upbeat music that really engaged the little ones.”

The Yard, Edinburgh, 2022

Contact

Booking and press

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