

Willie McArthur

Musician & Music
Facilitator

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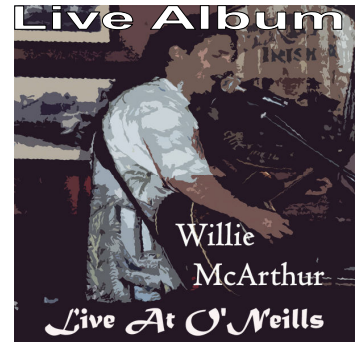
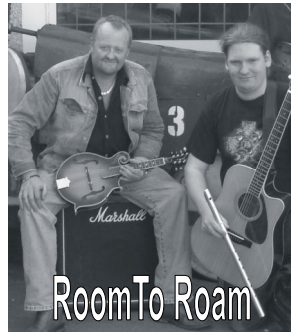
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*Guitar, Mandolin,
Tin Whistle,
Low Whistle
Harmonica,
Bodhran and vocals*

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My name is Willie McArthur. I am originally from Kirkcaldy in Fife, Scotland.

I have been involved in professional music now for twelve years. During my time in New Zealand, I played mostly in the Celtic music scene. From 1994-2002 I lived and worked in Christchurch and around the south island.

I returned to Scotland and from Nov 2002 to 2006, established myself as a musician and performer in the Glasgow area.

As a solo entertainer, I present myself as a "solo act that sounds like a duo", using harmonica as a lead instrument and playing guitar both rhythmically and percussively. My large and varied repertoire (see song list) ranges from Scottish and Irish traditional to Celtic rock, Rock, Country, Jazz and Blues. I also have a variety of poems, humorous songs and stories. From sensitive soul seeking ballads to rip roaring pub songs, I'm your man!! Influences from "Christy Moore" and "Silly Wizard" to "The Levellers", "The Pogues", "The Water boys", "Creedence Clearwater Revival", "Eric Clapton" and many more. I play instrumentals and some of my own compositions and traditional arrangements.

I have recently released a live album titled "Willie McArthur Live At O'Neill's", which has sold over 500 copies throughout the U.K and Europe

I have my own acoustic based P.A system, (AER Domino), which is very compact, so I can fit into any area.

My performances are strictly live and acoustic. I feel that with the depth and clarity of sound I can achieve, I prefer not to use MIDI or DAT Backing. As I play by ear, I can fit easily into any musical situation, for example providing backing for another artist or band. I consider myself to be an entertainer rather than just a musician, who can add life to any party.

When bookings are made, I will liaise with the client and go to lengths to give advice and make the event perfect.

In 2003, I played at a local festival (www.zeltcafe.de) outside Stuttgart, Germany and after receiving good reviews I was invited back in 2004. During 2005, I embarked on a European tour, which saw me visiting Denmark, Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Slovenia, Slovakia, Czechoslovakia and the Netherlands. I have good contacts around Europe due to this trip. On New Years eve 2002, I appeared on GMTV 's Hogmonay special, which was broadcast live, nationwide on ITV from Loch Lomond. I featured in numerous slots throughout the duration of the three hour broadcast.

As well as my solo performances I have played with a number of other acts. A description of these bands are below.

The Doghouse Roses- Five piece Celtic rock band that played regularly at Duck Bay Marina, Loch Lomond. I played mainly mandolin, harmonica and vocals.

Room To Roam- An energetic duo comprising of another solo performer Stevie Thompson on guitar and vocals and myself on vocals and mandolin, harmonica and whistles

Shebeen / The Dublin Street Band- (NZ) Played guitar, bodhran, harmonica and vocals in a very popular five piece Celtic rock band. I have recorded four C.D's with this band, three live recordings, and a studio album, "*Black is The Cover.*"

Origin (NZ) Played guitar, mandolin, bodhran and vocals in a traditional four piece band. Performed concerts and appeared at the Whitestone folk festival and Waihi Bush, NZ. We wrote our own material and traditional arrangements.

Celtic Groove- (NZ) Guitar, mandolin and bodhran, from traditional to Celtic rock, this band played as three, four and five piece as required. I recorded studio album "*Fedora*" with this band.

As from Feb 2006, I am based in Christchurch. New Zealand. I can provide a duo and can provide a full service for weddings and private functions, including playing instrumentals on low whistle for walking down the aisle. I will consider all contracts and tour proposals

For further information, free downloads & contacts, go to www.williemcarthur.com