



FESTIVAL
of the
ARTISAN
at home



Artisan
Creative
Books | Recordings | Performance



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



For immediate release

Artisan Club winners complete stellar Festival of the Artisan line-up

The stellar Festival of the Artisan line-up is now complete as four exciting and talented emerging acoustic musicians have been selected as part of the Artisan Club session to join the other confirmed performing artists in bringing the UK's best acoustic music straight to your home.

Calon, Ed Ramsey, Jana and Paul Bunting were the eventual successful applicants after an original call-out was made on social media to up-and-coming musicians to apply for a paid performance slot at the Festival of the Artisan on Saturday 27 March.

All the chosen musicians met the entry criteria, namely writing and performing their own material and holding the values of Artisan Music (authenticity, artistry, connection and inspiration) close to their heart and will now go on to have their performance livestreamed worldwide from the Venture Theatre in Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire as part of the Festival of the Artisan 2021.

Calon Having similarities to Jeff Buckley, Elliot Smith and the guitar influence of Johnny Marr, Calon's songwriting blend of alternative rock and jazz/blues makes for an unconventional but nonetheless exciting style of playing. In Welsh, Calon means 'Heart', something that is reflected through the emotive and honest nature of his original songwriting.

Calon said: 'I am well excited to be playing live music again, its been far too long! As someone who loves the UK music scene, it means a lot to be invited along to an event that showcases authenticity and connects like-minded musicians across the country.'

Ed Ramsey is a singer-songwriter and producer from London, whose interests span folk, indie, pop, jazz, soft/hard piano rock, improvisation.

Ed said: 'I'm just so excited to finally perform again, it's something that brings so much joy and I'm delighted to have the opportunity to help prove what music can do!'

Jana is a London-based singer songwriter and multi instrumentalist. In her native Slovakia she started her musical journey as a classical flautist and later studied in France too. Her pure Karen Carpenter-like vocals and the ability to mix genres like folk, country, pop and Americana have been praised by UK magazines and blogs.

Jana said: 'It's great to be part of a festival that pushes live music in hard times like these, especially folk and roots, which are so important in our culture.'

Paul Bunting is a singer-songwriter and pianist from Derbyshire, whose main career has been as a mental health nurse. Having written songs with 'sharp, witty lyrics and gorgeous melodies' for many years, he finally got round to recording an album in 2019, Half Written Songs, which was released in early 2020.

Steve Bonham, Festival Director said: 'We're so pleased to have Paul on board. His songwriting and delivery are so engaging and insightful, we can't wait to share this with our audience around the world.'

The festival, supported by Arts Council England, will also feature two evening Headline Concerts. Joining the Artisan Club acts is Steve Bonham and The Long Road, the band behind the 'Artisan Music' concept who have story-telling and the spirit of adventure at their heart. They will be accompanied by other exciting talents including: past BBC Radio 2 Folk Award winners Blair Dunlop and Bella Hardy, founder of the legendary R Cajun Chris Hall and the Lil' Roosters, and highly regarded English folk singer Elaine Davidson.

The festival will be livestreamed worldwide through the Festival of the Artisan website and social media channels. Viewers will be asked to make a "pay-what-you-feel" contribution, with a suggested donation of £5.

- ENDS -

Contact details:

Ellen Farrell, communications and press officer

ellen@festivaloftheartisan.co.uk

07760 884218 (Monday and Tuesdays)

Steve Bonham, festival director

steve@artisan-creative.com

07711 788248 (anytime)

- Notes to Editors -

Festival of the Artisan is a two-day virtual celebration of the most exciting artists on the acoustic scene, which will be streamed worldwide on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 March. It is hosted by Artisan Creative, which was created to provide a platform for developing distinctive recordings, books and performances from the raw materials of experience and the extraordinary lives of ordinary people.

festivaloftheartisan.co.uk

artisan-creative.com

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in Let's Create that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. www.artscouncil.org.uk

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million Emergency Response Package, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of the bodies administering the Government's unprecedented £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Funds. Find out more at www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19