

Thursday, 5 December 2019

## Starting line-up revealed for the annual Towersey Festival

Folk favourites **Kate Rusby**, **Steeleye Span** and **Show of Hands** are some of the confirmed acts that will welcome festivalgoers at Towersey's new home of Buckinghamshire, in August 2020.

The iconic folk and roots festival will celebrate its 56<sup>th</sup> year from 28-31 August 2020, in Buckinghamshire's stunning Claydon Estate, in Middle Claydon.

Joining these folk greats are more contemporary names such as **This Is The Kit**, **Grace Petrie**, London's ground-breaking Brass ensemble **The Hackney Colliery Band** and Scottish power trio **Talisk**. Also, on the initial roster are **Ferris and Silvester** who were one of the discoveries of Glastonbury this year and are set to make real waves on the music scene in 2020. Plus, new band **The Magpie Arc**, featuring guitar great Martin Simpson, English folk singer Nancy Kerr and leading musicians from Scotland.

Four years since her last visit to Towersey, Kate Rusby was described by The Guardian as "*one of the superstars of the British acoustic scene*". Forever proud to call herself a folk singer, Kate's beautiful, expressive vocals never fail to connect the emotional heart of a song to that of her audience. The crossover appeal Kate enjoys is unprecedented for a folk singer and has been achieved without resort to compromise.

Among the most commercially successful and influential traditional artists, thanks to their hit singles 'Gaudete' and 'All Around My Hat', Steeleye Span changed the face of folk music forever. After 50 years, they are as creative and vital now as ever, with a new album that is garnering rave reviews and taking their live performances to new levels.

Also returning to Towersey 2020 is the multi-award-winning Show of Hands, with their new four-piece line-up including master percussionist Cormac Byrne, who returns with his blistering additions by popular demand. There's no doubt that Show of Hands the four-piece, now something of a supergroup, and their combined musicianship is guaranteed to sound nothing short of magical.

Towersey is renowned for staging artists that are not often seen at bigger music festivals so it should not be a surprise to see one of the country's leading choral groups, **The London Welsh Male Voice Choir**, amongst the first artists revealed.

Others joining the line-up include indie-folk band **Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards**, girl power bluegrass band **Midnight Skyracer** and 2019 BBC Radio 2 Folk Award 'Best Album' winners, **The Trials of Cato**.



[www.towerseyfestival.com](http://www.towerseyfestival.com)

Festival Office

PO Box 10753, Nottingham, NG16 9FZ Tel 07908 190949 Email [info@towerseyfestival.com](mailto:info@towerseyfestival.com)

Founder Denis Manners MBE Towersey Festival LTD COMPANY No. 3140102 (England & Wales)

Registered Office Northgate Hoise, North Gate, New Basford, Nottingham, NG7 7BQ VAT No. 448 6885 87

Towersey Festival Director Joe Heap said: *“After a record-breaking 2019 festival we are very excited to be moving to an incredible new site and working with Claydon Estate. 2020 will be such a special year - our new and stunning location provides such a fabulous backdrop for our festival, and with these first-named artists, we have the beginnings of what could be our greatest line-up to date.*

*“There’ll be loads of other surprises and more great names to come in 2020, but we are so excited to be sharing these first artists now as well as announcing our **exclusive Circus and Music Show ‘Circocentric’** which will premiere at Towersey.”*

Towersey is the UK’s longest-running independent music festival, with seven venues featuring an extensive music programme, over 30 hours of ceilidh, and a packed schedule of daily workshops. 2020 will feature many of the regular favourites plus the introduction of new circus shows and workshops, well-being & mindfulness activities and outdoor experiences with Backwoods.

With a dedicated and acclaimed programme of activities for children and younger festivalgoers, as well as street theatre performers, arts and crafts, film screenings, late-night sessions, real ale and cider bars and street food, there really is something for everyone.

Tickets for Towersey Festival, which runs from **Friday 28 to Monday 31 August 2020** at Claydon Estate, Middle Claydon, Buckinghamshire ([claydonestate.co.uk](http://claydonestate.co.uk)), are now available from £144 (adult), £134 (concessions), £70 (young person 5-17). For information or to book see: [www.towerseyfestival.com](http://www.towerseyfestival.com)

## **FULL LINE-UP (ANNOUNCED TO DATE – MORE TO COME!):**

### **Friday 28 August:**

Steeleye Span ([steeleyespan.org.uk](http://steeleyespan.org.uk))

Show of Hands ([showofhands.co.uk](http://showofhands.co.uk))

Laura Cortese & The Dance Cards ([thisislauracortese.com](http://thisislauracortese.com))

**Ferris and Sylvester (TBC)** ([ferrisandsylvester.com](http://ferrisandsylvester.com))

Forest of Fools ([forestoffools.com](http://forestoffools.com))

Whapweasel ([whapweasel.com](http://whapweasel.com))

Honey and The Bear ([honeyandthebear.co.uk](http://honeyandthebear.co.uk))

### **Saturday 29 August:**

This Is The Kit ([thisisthekit.co.uk](http://thisisthekit.co.uk))

Talisk ([talisk.co.uk](http://talisk.co.uk))

Midnight Skyracer ([midnightskyracer.com](http://midnightskyracer.com))

The Trials of Cato ([thetrialsofcato.com](http://thetrialsofcato.com))

Jackie Oates & John Spiers ([jackieoates.co.uk](http://jackieoates.co.uk)) ([squeezyjohn.com](http://squeezyjohn.com))

Smith and Brewer ([smithandbrewer.com](http://smithandbrewer.com))

  
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**Sunday 30 August:**

Kate Rusby ([katerusby.com](http://katerusby.com))

Hackney Colliery Band ([hackneycollieryband.co.uk](http://hackneycollieryband.co.uk))

The London Welsh Male Voice Choir ([londonwelshmvc.org](http://londonwelshmvc.org))

Ranagri ([ranagri.com](http://ranagri.com))

Jez Hellard & The Djukella Orchestra ([jezhellard.com](http://jezhellard.com))

**Monday 31 August:**

Grace Petrie ([gracepetrie.com](http://gracepetrie.com))

The Magpie Arc ([TheMagpieArc](http://TheMagpieArc))

Matthew Byrne ([matthewbyrne.net](http://matthewbyrne.net))

Circocentric – EXCLUSIVE TO TOWERSEY! A newly created Circus show by The Chipolatas and The Pirates of the Carabina! ([piratesofthecarabina.com](http://piratesofthecarabina.com)) ([chipolatas.com](http://chipolatas.com))

**TICKETS:**

**Weekend Tickets with camping (4 days)**

Standard: Campsite access from 9am on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

Adult £169; Conc £159; Young Person (5-17yrs) £85; under 5s FREE.

**Weekend Tickets without camping (4 days)**

Standard: Site access from 9am on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

Adult £144; Concession £134; Young Person (5-17) £70; under 5s FREE.

**Day Tickets without camping**

**Fri** Adult £45; Young Person (5-17) £30; under 5s FREE.

**Sat/Sun** Adult £50; Young Person (5-17) £35; under 5s FREE.

**Mon** Adult £35; Young Person (5-17) £25; under 5s FREE.

Day ticket camping Adult £15; Young Person (5-17) £10; Under 5s FREE

Box office: **0115 807 7900**

Web: [www.towerseyfestival.com](http://www.towerseyfestival.com)

Twitter: [@towerseyfesti](https://twitter.com/towerseyfesti) #Towersey2019

Facebook: [TowerseyFestival](https://www.facebook.com/TowerseyFestival)

Instagram: [towerseyfestival2019](https://www.instagram.com/towerseyfestival2019)

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