

Tales Of otherness



Information for organisers

Tales of Otherness brings together a wonderful array of traditional ballads, songs and stories from Britain and other countries, to explore a twilight zone of deception and masquerade, trickery and betrayal, transformation and enchantment, where creatures and people are seldom if ever what they seem! Witch-hares, were-foxes, swan maidens, dragon ladies, female pirates and many more appear in a magical, sometimes scary, and frequently thought provoking experience in words and music.

“What could be more enjoyable than listening to a good story – listening to a good story sung in harmony by three fabulous singers. Craig; Morgan; Robson are wonderfully entertaining.”

Geraldine McCaughrean (winner of the Guardian Children’s Fiction Prize, Whitbread Prize for Children’s Fiction and the Carnegie Medal)

“The audience emerged, buzzing about the glorious singing and about the atmosphere that really drew people into the performance – fantastic work!”
Carmen Hunt, Cornwall Folk Festival

“Your show with its unique combination of excellent songs and great stories seemed to evoke just the right atmosphere.” Ruardean Village Hall. Forest of Dean

“A capacity audience at Newbury Library sat, almost literally spellbound, by “Tales of Otherness.” Craig;Morgan;Robson gave a thoroughly professional performance, presenting the songs in beautiful harmonies and the stories with wit and style”. Newbury Library, Berks.

The Cast

Tales of Otherness is devised, produced and performed by Craig;Morgan;Robson. Moira Craig, Sarah Morgan and Carolyn Robson have between them a wide experience of performing which encompasses film, TV, radio, theatre, folk festivals and concerts, and village halls. Their singing has been described as “A mix made in Heaven” (Keith Kendrick).

Duration

The show is performed in two sets with an interval just over half way. Including an interval, running time is about two hours.

Target audience

Tales of otherness is suitable for adults and older children who enjoy listening to stories and music (9+).

Venue

The show can be performed even where space is quite limited, as our set is very flexible. The ideal size for performing area is approximately 10ft deep x 20 ft wide. The show is normally performed without amplification. If you feel that your venue needs PA because of size or acoustics please advise us when booking. Our fees do not include cost of PA hire.

We will also need

- access to a mains electrical socket.
- somewhere for performers to change.
- a table for merchandise, and if possible, someone to keep an eye on it !

Lighting

The show can be performed without any special lighting equipment. However, the availability of even the most basic adjustable lighting will add to the atmosphere.

Get in / get out

We will need approximately an hour before doors open to the public, and 45 minutes after the show.

Cost: may be more affordable than you think! We are happy to work out arrangements such as a “box office split”. If you’d like to know more, contact one of us at the addresses below.

Contact:

Sarah Morgan 01264 738629 sarah.bourne@andover.co.uk

Carolyn Robson 01252 722938 carolyn.robson@virgin.net

Website: www.CMR-harmony.org.uk

Tales of Otherness

The performers

Moira Craig

Moira has long been recognised by club and festival goers for her superb interpretations of Scottish, Irish and English traditional songs. She comes from East Kilbride, where her family have lived for generations. Her grandfather, father and brothers were all singers and musicians. At family parties Moira and her brothers took turns singing and entertaining; everyone sang or played - anything from the latest "pop" song, to the old songs and ballads. A former winner of the "Sidmouth Singer of the Year" award, Moira became more widely known through her contributions to the Pastimes albums, in particular the best selling "Celtic Airs and Ballads". She also has a solo album, "Ae Bonny Day". Moira has appeared in Britain, Germany and the USA, charming audiences with her clear ringing voice and wonderful repertoire.

"Press the play button and the enchantment begins..." Roy Harris – Living Tradition

Sarah Morgan

Sarah has more than thirty years experience as a performer of folk music. Her background includes working with Appalachian singer Mary Eagle, with Bread and Roses, and with Hen Party (described by English dance and Song as "unaccompanied harmony at its best"). She has toured in England and Ireland with Mick Ryan and others in Fieldwork's production of "A Tolpuddle Man" and "A Day's Work". She has also appeared on Hampshire's Rural Touring Theatre Scheme in "Wine, Women and Song" an anthology of poetry and music about women. A brilliant harmony singer and arranger, Sarah has published two songbooks, one of arrangements of traditional songs and one of her own material. She has been described as "a natural storyteller" who *"involved her listeners totally with her confident and sensitive delivery, eliciting an enthusiastic response from them."* Bodmin Folk Club.

Carolyn Robson

Carolyn Robson is now widely recognised as one of country's finest female singers. Her extensive repertoire consists of songs from her native Northumberland and Scotland as well as from other parts of the British Isles. She has worked as a radio presenter for the BBC, and regularly sings on radio. In 2004 she appeared as actor and singer in HTV's documentary about Cecil Sharp, as well as appearing on Tyne Tees Television, singing Northumberland's favourite folksong – Waters of Tyne. Carolyn's first album, 'Banks of Tyne' was on the Dingle label. She can also be heard as "guest singer" on [Kathryn Tickell's CD 'The Northumberland Collection'](#). Her recent albums, '[All the fine young men](#)' and "Dawn Chorus" were produced by her own company, Reiver Records. Carolyn has made countless appearances at major folk festivals throughout the UK including Sidmouth and the National Festival.

"Consummate skill as a singer and musician" Folk South West

"Carolyn Robson's voice which has a maturity and calm that carries the listener easily through an album of fifteen lovely songs." Living Tradition