

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2020 Brings Live Music to Small Halls



Australia's largest regionally-dedicated music tour, Festival of Small Halls, today announces the 2020 Summer Tour, featuring one of Scotland's foremost singers Siobhan Miller and critically-acclaimed Australian songwriter Jack Carty.

Produced by Woodfordia Inc, the wide-ranging regional music tour rekindles the time-old tradition of gathering in the local small hall for a special night of live music, storytelling and community connection.

The Summer Tour 2020 departs from the Woodford Folk Festival with one of the first concerts of the ground-breaking *Year of Scotland in Australia*, before crossing country to the deep south of Tasmania on January 4th. The tour circles the island state over two weeks with a showcase at the iconic Cygnet Folk Festival at the heart of the schedule. Performances at New South Wales institution Illawarra Folk Festival kick off two weeks of ambitious touring across coastal, central and northern New South Wales.

Executive Producer, Eleanor Rigden said "This tour has traditionally been extremely popular, with shows selling out across two states in previous years. But what has most struck me in these towns is the diversity of the histories held in the halls – we hear stories of convicts and bushrangers, artistic pioneers of the early settler years, of secret cake recipes that go back generations and of local legends whose stories are meticulously preserved."

"We feel very close to the communities we work with as a result of these shared experiences. I think they will really feel a kinship with these artists."



Excited to create their inaugural musical pairing for the Summer Tour 2020, Siobhan Miller and Jack Carty are preparing for a unique tour of Australia's small halls.

"I spent most of the last 3 years travelling and making music in the UK and Europe", said Jack Carty.

"It was amazing, but by the end of it I definitely missed home. To be starting 2020 with such a special tour here in Australia, playing such eclectic and beautiful venues in so many places I've never been before is beyond exciting, it's a dream", said Jack

Ms Rigden said, "Apart from their stunning musicianship, Siobhan Miller and Jack Carty have been chosen because they have the ability to really connect with people through storytelling, they're up for a laugh, and have a wonderful

warmth and real interest in visiting places a little off the beaten track.

"The quality of music we tour is taken whole-heartedly by these hard-working communities and proudly made their own for one glorious night of magic.

"That's what it's all about. Courageous, inspiring, beautiful shows for people who fit that exact description."

The Festival of Small Halls Summer Tour 2020 starts the 1st of January 2020 at Woodford Folk Festival then continues to Southport Community Centre, Tasmania on the 4th of January 2020.

Tickets on sale now at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com

Proudly presented by Woodfordia Inc in partnership with Woodford Folk Festival, Cygnet Folk Festival and Illawarra Folk Festival.

The Festival of Small Halls Summer Tour 2020 is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts and Create NSW.

Woodfordia Inc in partnership with Woodford Folk Festival, Cygnet Folk Festival and Illawarra Folk Festival presents:

**FESTIVAL OF SMALL HALLS SUMMER TOUR 2020:
Cygnet to Illawarra
Feat. Siobhan Miller (SCO) and Jack Carty (AUS)**



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