

LINLITHGOW FOLK FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION

LINLITHGOW HONOURS SCOTLAND'S "KING OF FOLK"



The twelfth Linlithgow Folk Festival will take place from the 8th to the 12th of September this year. Fundraising for the popular event, which has become firmly established on the UK Folk scene, will get underway on SATURDAY MARCH 6th when fans pay tribute to the memory of the late great Matt McGinn at an evening of songs and music in the Linlithgow Academy Theatre at 7.30pm.

The Glasgow singer, songwriter, poet and raconteur was Scotland's undisputed "King of Folk" in the 1960s and 70s. The humour, uncanny perceptiveness and rare talents of Matt McGinn made him a household name in Scotland and in Folk circles throughout the world – in 1962 he sang in a Carnegie Hall concert with Pete Seeger and a young Bob Dylan. Matt went on to be regarded as one of Britain's most powerful folk writers and became one of Scotland's leading folksingers of his time. He died in 1977 at the age of only 49, but left some 500 songs, many of which have become classics.

Matt McGinn's work is currently enjoying something of a revival. A major concert took place at the CELTIC CONNECTIONS Festival in Glasgow in 2007 to mark the thirtieth anniversary of his untimely death, and events have taken place in Scotland and at the Carnegie Hall in New York.

The Linlithgow Folk Festival Association has played an important role in bringing Matt's work to life again in an innovative and entertaining way. Eight previous tribute nights in the town have played to packed houses. The 2010 event promises to be bigger and better than ever, with singers and musicians from throughout central Scotland interpreting their favourite Matt McGinn songs, stories and poems. The Matt McGinn Night is a major fundraiser for the Linlithgow Folk Festival and all entertainers give their services free as a gesture of support.

Tickets for the Matt McGinn Night, priced £8, can be obtained from Blast Off Books , 105 High Street, Linlithgow Tel. 01506 844645, the Black Bitch Tavern, Tel. 01506 842147 and from Linlithgow Folk Festival Association on 01506 510132. They can also be booked through the website www.linlithgowfolk.com

More Information is Available From: Murdoch Kennedy, Chairman, Linlithgow Folk Festival Association - TEL. (Daytime) 0131 659 6111 ext. 3738.