



Saturday 15 July 2023, 7.30 – 9.40pm

St Mary's Church, Petworth

Catrin Finch (harp) & Cimarrón

Celebrating 16 years of their ongoing partnership with a UK tour for summer 2023, this is a fascinating collaboration between two musical power-houses; much-celebrated Welsh harpist Catrin Finch and the massed strings (cuatro, bandola, harp etc) of terrific Colombian folk artists Cimarrón.

Catrin Finch is one of the world's greatest harp players, an extraordinary talent and musical adventurer whose career includes both solo performances with the world's top orchestras and, more recently, sensational award-winning collaborations with some of the greatest global musicians including Edmar Castaneda (Colombia), Toumani Diabaté (Mali), Seckou Keita (Senegal) and Ireland's Aoife Ní Bhriain.

The 6-piece Grammy-nominated Cimarrón, led by vocalist Ana Veydo, perform joropo dance music from the cattle-rearing plains of the Orinoco, rooted in a deep tradition defined by the mestizo mixed heritage of African, Spanish and indigenous cultures. Cimarrón make wild, untamed music that preserves the spirit of freedom found in one of the world's most untouched regions. Fast-paced and powerful, their music combines impetuous singing, amazing stomp dancing and fierce instrumental virtuosity of strings and percussion.

- Born along the Orinoco River plains of eastern Colombia and western Venezuela is the region's crown jewel: joropo. Cimarrón is a Joropo music ensemble led by Ana Veydó, a virtuous voice that defies the male-centric traditions from the cattle ranches.
- Catrin Finch is one of the world's greatest harpist. Catrin has performed with many of the world's leading orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, the Royal Philharmonic, the Boston Pops, the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields and the English Chamber Orchestra.
- Catrin has graced the stages of A-list classical music festivals, including Salzburg, Edinburgh, Spoleto and MDR Musiksommer in Leipzig Her collaborations with Bryn Terfel, Sir James Galway, Julian Lloyd Webber and composer Karl Jenkins have appeared on Universal Records, Deutsche Grammophon, EMI and Sony Classical.
- Famed for her adventurous international collaborations with artists such as Toumani Diabaté, Edmar Castaneda, Aoife Ní Bhriain and Seckou Keita, she has also appeared at leading global music festivals including WOMAD, Shambala, Sfinks, Chicago World Music Festival, Hay Festival, Lorient Interceltic Festival, Sydney Opera House and the BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall.
- Finch had the honour of being asked to revive the ancient tradition of Royal Harpist in the UK - last held during Queen Victoria's reign in 1873 – becoming Harpist to H.R.H, the Prince of Wales, between 2000-04.
- Cimarrón means 'untamed bull' in the Orinoco Plains and the band took this name as an allegory of freedom in music. Led by the singer Ana Veydó and founded in partnership with the harpist Carlos Cuco Rojas (1954-2020), Cimarrón takes joropo tradition to another level.
- This Grammy-nominated six-piece (*Best Traditional World Music Album*) celebrates their Indigenous and African roots in a profound ethnic show, with a magnificent display of

rapidfire strings and drums, intense footwork dancing and the strong voice of Ana Veydó accompanied by young master instrumentalists and dancers.

- Cimarrón have received standing ovations in over 40 countries. Forbes magazine called them “the band that takes the music from the Orinoco across the world”.
- The band gained international recognition after performing at Mawazine Festival in Morocco, Malaysia Rainforest World Music Festival, Switzerland Paléo Festival, Rajasthan International Folk Festival, Rudolstadt Festival, Globaltica Festival, Abu Dhabi Culture & Heritage Festival, Førde International Folk Music Festival, Flamenco Biennale Nederland, Newport Folk Festival, San Francisco International Arts Festival and worldwide renowned performing art centres such as Japan Musashino Concert Hall and China National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing.
- Their energetic and infectious music includes harp, four-stringed cuatro, guitar-like tiple and bandola, maracas, Afro-Peruvian cajón, Brazilian surdo, Afro Colombian tambora, ancient deer-skull whistles from the Orinoco River, and all the power of the stomp dance from Los Llanos (Colombian and Venezuelan Plains).
- Cimarrón was Latin Grammy nominated for Best Folk Album (Orinoco, 2019), and also earned 2020 Songlines Music Awards as Best Group in the UK after their fourth tour alongside the acclaimed Welsh harpist Catrin Finch. The band has won Independent Music Awards (Best Instrumental, 2019), Transglobal World Music Chart (Best Album of South America, 2019).
- Cimarrón recently released their new album La Recia with a Europe Summer Tour (Germany Rudolstadt Festival, Poland Globaltica Festival) and a wonderful cover in Songlines magazine, with photographs by Ruven Afanador (world-renowned photographer: Oprah, the Dalai Lama, Antonio Banderas, Al Pacino, Robert De Niro, Jennifer Lopez, Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera).
- Cimarróns album La Recia (2022) has been awarded 4 stars by The Times (Clive Davis) and Financial Times (David Honingmann) in the UK. The album reached the number 1 on Transglobal World Music Chart (July 2022) and also blasted in Top 20 World Music Charts Europe. La Recia has also been high praised by The Bangkok Post (Thailand), Maailman Kuvalehti (Finland), Radio Belgrade (Serbia), Woxx (Luxembourg), Heaven (Belgium), Folk (Italy), Planeta Radio (Greece), Radio Ostrava (Czech Republic), Konzertender Radio, New Folk Sounds and Heaven Magazine (Netherlands), New Model Radio (Slovakia), Sveriges Radio and Lira Magazine (Sweden).
- Cimarrón have received two Grammy nominations 2005 (Best Traditional World Music Album) and 2019 (Best Folk Album), are twice winners at the New York Independent Music Awards, and were awarded Best South American Album in the Transglobal World Music Charts in 2019. They recently won Best Group in the Songlines Music Awards for 2021, and the Financial Times named their most recent album La Recia as one of their top 10 Best Folk and World Music Albums.

This event is kindly sponsored by Peter Little & Louise Cartledge and the Mersey Trust