

Iain Forbes

Guitar Virtuoso & Singer/Songwriter

Iain Forbes is considered by those who know of him as one of the UK's finest virtuoso guitarists and is often described as a world class guitarist. He effortlessly fuses blues, classical, jazz, and folk styles on an acoustic guitar. To hear him playing an electric guitar with soaring lead solos will have any Jimi Hendrix, Santana or rock aficionado shouting for more.

'Iain Forbes is one of the best guitarists to come out of Scotland in a very long time' - Tom Russell / World renowned Rock DJ.

Some of his accolades as a musician include many appearances at festivals such as Celtic Connections and Scotland's Festival for the 'Guitarists' Guitarist' – The Ullapool Guitar Festival. He has graced the stage with many top performers and big names.

Since 2001, he has recorded 10 albums of his own music and has just released 'A Singing Birdbox' in June 2021. He has also recorded, produced and guested on other albums too.

His first recognition as a Virtuoso solo guitarist was in 2003 at the Celtic Connections festival. Iain won a prestigious Danny Kyle award for his solo performance in which he competed with bands and musicians from all over the UK. 2020 has been a very difficult year for performance but Iain did play 2 socially distanced concerts in September opening for Mike Peters (The Alarm) at Lowther Pavillion and Steve Harley (Cockney Rebel) at Gisburne Park.

Iain has dazzled audiences at many festivals and music venues around the UK with his multi-styled guitar playing. Some notable concert venues he has played include The Royal Concert Hall, The Barrowlands, The SECC and the Fruitmarket in Glasgow. He has played on bills with many world class artists such as Don Powell/Slade, Steve Norman/Spandau Ballet, Eddie Reader, Brian Kennedy, Gerry McAvoys Band of Friends, Donnie Munro/Runrig, John Renbourn, The James Brown Band, Ally McErlaine/Red Sky July, Horse McDonald, Ricki Lee Jones, Bruce Molsky, Joscho Stephan, John Goldie, Tony McManus, John Doyle, Fraser Speirs, Elliot Randall/Steely Dan, Jerry Donahue/Hellecasters and Carl Verheyen/Supertramp.

Iain used to play an annual event for Gibson Guitars and The Nordoff Robbins Charity and was given an artist deal by Gibson.

He has worked with award winning Film maker Jim Brown and B4 films providing the music for a 2 part film/documentary featuring HRH Prince Charles and other members of the Royal Family. The Prince's Vision had its TV premiere in Australia in July 2016. **'His beautiful music and extraordinary playing has lifted the film to another level' - Jim Brown/B4 Films - Award winning Film maker**

Iain formed Melodic Rock band The Auditorayz in 2015 as frontman/guitarist with an excellent line up of musicians behind him. See their facebook page or check the album out on iTunes or Spotify. www.facebook.com/theaudiorayz

Iain appeared on STV Glasgow Riverside Show on 28th April 2015. He played a track of his own called 'The Weegie Jig' on Solo guitar and also closed the show with his new band 'The Auditorayz'. **"Stunning performance of The Weegie Jig" - STV Glasgow.**

Iain also appeared on National television news stations and newspapers in 2015 alongside Nicola Sturgeon. The 1st minister of Scotland Re-opened The Clutha Bar in Glasgow on the 24th July 2015 and paid respect to families and victims of the tragedy that occurred in 2013. Iain was happy to be in the 1st act to replay the venue and play for the families and the 1st minister on this important occasion.

For more info - www.iainforbes.com and www.facebook.com/theaudiorayz or www.facebook.com/fingerbusting