

Baltic Crossing is the first folk music band to be part of ECHO's "Rising Stars program"!

Rising Stars want to promote young European musicians every season. Every year maximum 6 Rising Stars are selected. Non-classical music styles stay an exception. It was accepted that jazz or other styles can occasionally be proposed. But the artistic comity suggests that it will stay an exception and that a formula might be 5+1 or 6+1.

BALTIC CROSSING's ECHO tour:

December 15th, Athens Concert Hall, Greece

January 12th, Cité de la musique, Paris, France

January 13th, Philharmonie / Salle de Musique de chambre, Luxembourg

February 3rd, L'Auditori Chamber Music Hall, Barcelona, Spain

March 13th, Bozar Salle Henry Le Boeuf, Brussels, Belgium

March 16th Concertgebouw, Kleine Zaal, Amsterdam, Netherlands

April 1st, Konserthuset, Stockholm, Sweden

April 30th, Laeiszhalle / Musikhalle, Hamburg, Germany

May 2nd, Wiener Konzerthaus, Vienna, Austria

May 19th, Birmingham Town Hall, UK

May 22nd, The Sage Gateshead, UK

The Rising Stars Programme exists since 1997. It was for all these years the most successful and continued initiative of ECHO (European Concert Hall Organisation). The programme tries to give an answer to the complex problems for younger artists to access the highest standard Concert Halls in Europe and to find an attentive audience: Many local artists have the qualitative potential to aim for a larger audience but are not detected by foreign concert halls and do not achieve the interest of an international programmer.

On the new CD "Firetour", The 5 musicians in Baltic Crossing, Esko Järvelä, Antti Järvelä, Andy May, Ian Stephenson and Kristian Bugge, plays a collection of folk music from the Danish Islands, Lolland and Falster. There is music from 18th century manuscripts of Bast, Ålholm and Reventlow and music from various 19th century collections like those of the Adrian family (Hillestrup, Falster), Niels Christian Andreasen (Sandby, Western Lolland), and Hans Hansen (Toreby, Eastern Lolland). And last but not least, the CD includes a new composition, a polska tune by Frede Nielsen from Flintinge, Lolland.

Like the band's first CD, "Firetour" is released by GO Danish Folk Music (www.gofolk.dk) and is available online via www.folkshop.dk, Itunes ect...

Besides the ECHO tour, Baltic Crossing will also be touring around England in March:
March 17, 18, 19th, Worcestershire Village Hall Tour, UK
March 23, 24, 25, 26, 27th, Northamptonshire Village Hall Tour, UK

- and festivals around Europe during the summer, follow the calendar on
www.myspace.com/balticcrossing

Baltic Crossing is:

Ian Stephenson [UK]: guitar & button accordion

Andy May [UK]: Northumbrian bagpipes & piano

Esko Järvelä [FI]: five-stringed violin

Antti Järvelä [FI]: mandolin & double bass

Kristian Bugge [DK]: violin



www.myspace.com/balticcrossing

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Read article about the band on <http://www.newnordic.org/?p=5>

In Danish on <http://www.rootszone.dk/interview/firetur-fra-falster-til-europa>