

Galloway News
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Tune Up tour in town

GUITARIST Graeme Stephen joins some of the most creative and in-demand players on the UK folk and jazz scenes for the Tune Up tour which stops off at Lochside Theatre, Castle Douglas on Thursday, March 4, (doors open 7.30pm).

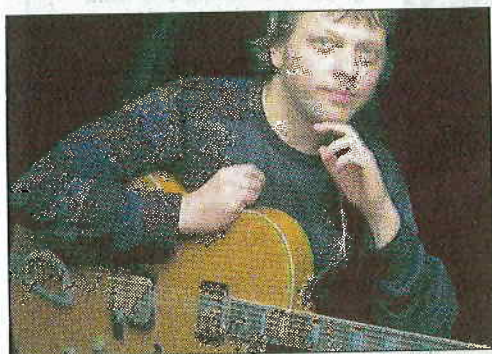
Born in Aberdeen and based in Edinburgh, Stephen is a sensitive and inventive player, influenced by the pre-bop guitar style of Charlie Christian as well as contemporary masters like Bill Frisell.

Stephen currently performs with his own trio, as well as the free-improvisation outfit Newt, and is a regular guest with the eclectic Fraser Fifield band.

Stephen's compositions for the Septet reflect the diversity of the musicians, drawing on jazz, Celtic and world music influences.

Alongside shorter pieces, they will also be performing Stephen's new suite 'Vantage-Points', based on his impressions of different parts of Scotland.

Graeme Stephen to play the Eastgate



GUITARIST Graeme Stephen joins some of the most creative and in-demand players on the UK folk and jazz scenes to play the Eastgate on Friday March 5, as part of a Tune Up tour.

Tune Up provides artists such as Edwyn Collins and Frightened Rabbit the rare and wonderful opportunity to take their live show right off the beaten track; to a host of different Scottish cities, towns, villages and islands often neglected on conventional tours. This innovative programme benefits not just the bigger cities and towns, but also the more remote and rural communities of Scotland; allowing them the opportunity to hear brave and exciting live music from artists who would otherwise be unable to reach them.

Born in Aberdeen and based in Edinburgh, Stephen is a sensitive and inventive player, influenced by the pre-bop guitar style of Charlie Christian as well as contemporary masters like Bill Frisell.

Having already won a number of awards, including the Jazz Services Promoters Choice Award 2006, in 2008 he was chosen for the Serious/PRS Take 5 initiative.

Stephen currently performs with his own trio, as well as the free-improvisation outfit Newt, and is a regular guest with the eclectic Fraser Fifield band.

This Septet includes London-based cellist Ben Davis of Mercury Music Prize nominees Basquiat Strings, saxophonist Phil Bancroft, violinist Chris Stout, Brazilian bassist Mario Caribe and Scottish Jazz Drummer of the Year Stuart Ritchie.

Stephen's compositions for the Septet reflect the diversity of the musicians, drawing on jazz, Celtic and world music influences.

Alongside shorter pieces, they will also be performing Stephen's new suite 'Vantage-Points', based on his impressions of different parts of Scotland.

The suite takes you on a journey to the far-flung towns of Calanish and Ardnamurchan, concluding in a flight – by ostrich – over the Scottish landscape.