
FRASER FIFIELD BAND & NEDYALKO NEDYALKOV QUARTET



Scotland meets Bulgaria as top musicians from each country lead their respective bands on a tour that will also see extensive collaborations between all eight musicians involved.

Fraser Fifield leads one of the most distinctive groups in Scotland today. Featuring Fifield on low whistle, soprano saxophone and bagpipes; Graeme Stephen (guitar) and percussionists David Robertson and Guy Nicholson, the group evolved from a trio that made a big impression in concert and at festivals including Celtic Connections, Big Big World, and Edinburgh, Islay and Baku jazz festivals. The trio also toured Spain and Denmark successfully and released the CD *Slow Stream* on Tanar Records to critical acclaim.

Now expanded to a quartet, the group, presenting Fifield's own highly developed, melodic compositions as well as reworking music from the Scottish tradition and reflecting his long-standing interest in Bulgarian music, will release a new album featuring Nedyalko Nedyalkov and Georgi Petrov to coincide with the tour.

An experienced musician whose resume includes concerts and albums with Salsa Celtica, Old Blind Dogs, Mick West Band, The Unusual Suspects, Mr McFalls Chamber and Donnie Munro, Fifield released his debut album, *Honest Water*, in 2002. This showcased a talent combining his roots as an award-winning young piper with his status as one of the most adventurous composers and improvisers working within the Scottish tradition.

Nedyalko Nedyalkov on kaval, the expressive end-blown flute, Georgi Petrov on the bowed-string gadulka, Angel Dimitrov on the lute-like tambura and Stoimenka Nedyalkov on vocals, make up the Nedyalko Nedyalkov Quartet - Four of the most talented and respected musicians in Bulgaria today.

Born into a family with a long musical tradition, Nedyalkov began playing music at the age of seven and progressed through Bulgaria's most prestigious music conservatories to become soloist with the Folk Orchestra of Bulgarian National Radio. He has toured internationally with the choir Angelite, Bulgarian-Norwegian collective Farmer's Market, and with the group of Bulgarian master musicians Grupa Maistori. This will be the first opportunity to see and hear him perform in Scotland.