

Andy M. Stewart and Gerry O'Beirne

Songs from Scotland and Ireland



Scottish singer **Andy M. Stewart**'s voice and songs have graced the Celtic music scene for over 30 years. As the singer for the Scottish traditional band Silly Wizard for 12 years, he gained much recognition for his beautiful interpretations of the traditional songs of Scotland and Ireland and became known a master of songwriting in the traditional style. Original gems such as "The Ramblin' Rover", "The Queen of Argyll", and "Where are You Tonight, I Wonder" have become almost instant classics.

Known for his wicked wit and sterling live performances, Andy M. Stewart is among the finest singers in the Scots/Irish traditional genre, with a voice that "conveys more emotion in one line than most singers do in a lifetime." -Beacon Herald

Hailing from the West of Ireland, **Gerry O'Beirne** is a self-taught master of the six- and twelve-string guitar, accomplished songwriter, and skilled arranger/producer. He's toured around the globe with several bands and artists including Patrick Street, Waterboys, Sharon Shannon Band, Kevin Burke and Andy Irvine.

Gerry's first solo album, *Half Moon Bay*, featured his own songs and instrumental compositions. *Half Moon Bay* was cited as one of the 12 best releases of the year by Performing Songwriter magazine and was chosen as one of Folkworld's Top Ten Albums of the year. He has now released his second album *The Bog Bodies And Other Stories: Music For Guitar*, which was named CD of the Month for April 2008 on the NPR radio show *Echoes*.

In Concert

In concert, Andy and Gerry play songs from throughout their legendary careers. The Los Angeles Times described the duo's performances as "moving from achingly gorgeous ballads to romping jigs and trenchant, surging songs based on historic lore." Andy's hilarious introductions have become as treasured as his music, and his enthusiasm shines through on stage. "Traditional music still has the ability to surprise and move me," he says.

Moved by words and moved by music, the songs wouldn't be the same without Gerry's outstanding arrangements. His accompaniment brings freshness and rich texture to traditional standards, and paints brilliant moods to underscore Andy's poignant lyrics on songs such as "Where Are You Tonight, I Wonder?" and "The Echo Mocks the Corncrake."

A reviewer for *Scotland on Sunday* wrote, "Stewart refuses to take himself too seriously, then delivers those same classic songs with riveting strength and grace. Appearing with guitarist Gerry O'Beirne, whose magically inventive and sympathetic accompaniment fleshed out the songs into complete, beguiling soundscapes, he alternated nimbly between austere compelling ballads of love and exile and heartache, ancient and modern, and mischievous comic numbers filled with those daft ingenious rhymes."

