

Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones

Press Release

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Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones are known throughout the world for their quality musical presentation of Irish patriotic songs and traditional music featuring top class fiery introductions from their lead singer, songwriter and storyteller, Derek Warfield.

An outstanding singer, stage personality, composer and historian of the music and song tradition, Derek Warfield is a legend wherever Irish roots have been put down. He enjoyed phenomenal success for some 40 years with the Wolfe Tones, including best-selling albums, number one hits, television appearances and shows in Carnegie Hall, New York and the Royal Albert Hall, London. Added to that, Derek has been prolific as a solo artist, with an astonishing twelve albums in just over a decade.

Ten years on from the beginning of his solo career, the man often described as 'Ireland's greatest ballad singer' is bringing an old tradition with a young sound to his legion of fans across the world.

The Young Wolfe Tones feature some of the finest Irish musicians and singers from a younger generation and bring guaranteed excitement, fun and passion to every performance.

Damaris Woods hails from Co. Meath and is recognised as one of the finest tenor banjo players in Ireland, but perhaps more importantly she is also an expert teacher, as many of her pupils in the communities of Kildare, Meath, Cavan and Tyrone will attest. Her annual summer music camp in Cavan town, now in its tenth year is recognised as one of the most important musical events for the transmission of our music, song and dance heritage.

At 21 years of age, Dublin native **Fintan Warfield** has toured extensively throughout Ireland, Europe and the United States as well as having numerous recordings and radio appearances to his credit. Fintan is one of Ireland's finest up and coming balladeers and is quickly following in the footsteps of the famous Warfield clan, sharing the same passion of his family mentor, Derek Warfield.

Irish-American musician **Dan Lowery** completes the Young Wolfe Tones' line up. Although hailing from Dallas, Texas, his family origins lie in County Cork. Dan's family may have left Ireland generations ago but they brought their love of Irish culture with them and gave Dan the

wonderful gift of Irish music. Dan brings a wealth of musical talent to The Young Wolfe Tones and is a multi-talented flute and tin-whistle Player, guitarist and vocalist.

Derek explains, “We all share the same passion and enthusiasm for our heritage. I have always believed that because of our history there is something very profound in our song and musical tradition. I have long considered it a privilege to carry its message of inspiration but perhaps most importantly, it has been fun and enjoyable and every performance gets better. The experience has reinvigorated me and has given these young players and singers the opportunity to display their skills and talents around the world.”

‘Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones’ have performed to great acclaim at all major Irish music festivals in the United States including ‘The Great American Irish Festival’ in New York, the ‘Dublin Irish Festival’ in Ohio, ‘Kansas City Irish Fest’ and the largest Irish music festival in the world, Milwaukee’s ‘Irish Fest’. These events regularly see attendances of over 100,000 and are a musical showcase for the finest Irish bands.

ENDS.

See the following page for a selection of quotes from a range of journalists and festival organisers.

Selection of Quotes:

“Derek has always set high standards for his performances and this band raises the bar. The people loved them and gave them an unbelievable rousing and appreciative reception. These Young Wolfe Tones and their legendary leader were given a standing ovation. The ‘Dublin Ohio Festival’ were delighted to have them perform and the band were thrilled to be here, and that’s as good as it’s gets for any band.” - **Pat Byrne - Dublin Ohio Festival organising committee**

“Since the Old group disbanded, The Wolfe Tones’ front man and founder member Derek Warfield has hit a particularly creative streak. The impeccable versatility of ‘The Young Wolfe Tones’ propels fresh and invigorating workings of old and new numbers with masterful arrangements of songs and highly absorbing tune sets.”

- **Sean McGhee – Editor of Rock ‘N’ Reel Magazine**

“Derek has performed at festivals for The Irish Cultural Club of Florida for over twenty years and he has delivered some memorable performances with his old band. With his new band ‘The Young Wolfe Tones’ he brings a youthful and energetic passion and spirit to the music and songs of Ireland.” - **Sheila Hynes - Director of West Palm Beach Irish Festival**

“They had an audience of four thousand students singing, swinging and cheering after the first song and they stayed that way for over an hour. The reaction to their music was electric! The UCD Ball has never seen or heard anything like it.” - **UCD Students Union**

“Derek has long been the best front man in the country. There is no performer that can move an audience with words and song with such natural ease. His talented young band ‘The Young Wolfe Tones’ are the best ballad band in Ireland and lends an extra dimension to Irish song, music and history.” - **Liam Murphy - Former National Editor of Hibernian Digest**

“Ireland has lately been full of compliments to our Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney, who has just celebrated his 70th birthday. Lyric poetry is a grace, said Famous Seamus, who hails from Derry. Quite so. But there are other kinds of poetry and when a national identity is challenged, all poetry becomes political. As you might expect, there’s no lack of it here, and since Derek has got this fine professional group together, it’s proof there’s no lack of an audience.”

- **John Brophy - Irish Music Magazine**

...“The Young Wolfe Tones bring a youthful energy to songs like Some Say the Devil Is Dead and Get out Ye Black and Tans. I happened to be in the audience with my parents and two daughters who liken Irish music to Chinese water torture. Everyone enjoyed themselves, and it is a rare feat indeed to keep three generations of Irish people engaged. Some say this devil is dead, but I say he would be a welcome addition to your festival.” - **Mile Farragher – www.irishcentral.com**