



st agnes fountain

DAVID HUGHES - JULIE MATTHEWS
CHRIS LESLIE - CHRIS WHILE

St. Agnes Fountain are about to embark on their 18th sell out Christmas tour. Since the group's first recording of the eponymous St Agnes Fountain album in 2001, founder member David Hughes, Fairport Convention's Chris Leslie and BBC Folk Awards Best Duo 2009, Chris White and Julie Matthews, have brought musical invention and laughter to the star-dust atmosphere of the season. They have now released twelve treasured albums; eight studio albums and two live CDs as well as a couple of 'Best Of' albums, but it is, without question their magical live performances that have endeared them to an ever-growing audience (tickets were actually being sold for this year's tour as the curtains fell last year).

They hope to bring you this December, more of their sparkling musicianship, humour and heartfelt renditions of your favourite Christmas tunes both original and those you know so well (or thought you did!).

www.stagnesfountain.com

Chris Leslie - Chris is a multi instrumentalist and singer-songwriter based in Oxfordshire UK, primarily known for the past nineteen years for his work with Fairport Convention. He has toured and recorded with, amongst others: Steve Ashley, the Albion Band, Jez Lowe, Ian Anderson, Chris White and Julie Matthews, Whippersnapper, Alan Stivell, Feast of Fiddles and St. Agnes Fountain. Chris has provided music for a number of Radio Four plays and classic serials. His fiddle playing has also been heard on the TV series Heartbeat, Midsommer Murders and Billy Connolly's World Tour of Scotland.



Chris plays: *Fiddle, Mandolin, Tenor Guitar, Bouzouki, Ukulele, Banjo, Oud, Whistle and Native American Flute.*

www.chrislesliemusic.co.uk

David Hughes is an acoustic guitarist, songwriter, author and playwright. His six albums include, *Active in the Parish*, which, in 1997 was named by Q magazine as one of their albums of the year. His five published books include, *The Maldonians*, and the diary of a UK tour supporting Fairport Convention. His plays, with a determinedly local focus, regularly selling out in Maldon, Essex.

His sharp, half-spoken delivery and rhythmically-percussive finger-style guitar earned him regular slots on BBC Radio Four's Loose Ends with the late Ned Sherrin.

He has recorded and performed with some of the finest musicians in the UK including *Gerry Conway, Jacqui McShee, Danny Thompson and Bert Jansch.* www.davidhughesmusic.co.uk



Chris White: vocals, guitar, bodhran, darbuka and percussion, and Julie Matthews: vocals, piano, guitar, accordion and gazouki have been nominated ten times in the BBC Radio 2 Folk music awards in the 'best song, best duo, best live act' categories and winning best duo in 2009.

Next year they will be celebrating 25 years together. There will be a brand new album and an extensive tour of the UK to celebrate as well as numerous summer festival performances.

Last year saw them perform at the Royal Albert Hall as part of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards alongside *Boo Hewerdine, John McCusker and Kris Drever* and many others. They were performing songs from the Ballads Of Child Migration, a project that covers the sad history of forced child migration. This project will be touring in November 2018 across the UK.

In 2018, Chris and Julie are more powerful than ever and remain at the very top of their game. In the spring they returned to Australia make their 12th tour of a country that they love and in return, are much loved. This year they were named 'Artists of the Year' at the prestigious Port Fairy Music Festival, one of the biggest events of its kind in Australasia.

In May last year Chris and Julie toured the UK with all-female super group '*Daphne's Flight*', after a 21 year gap bringing audiences across the country not only to their feet, but also to tears. They have just completed the second tour... the story continues... www.daphnesflight.com

Though internationally acclaimed, Chris and Julie continue to be a leading force on the UK's acoustic/roots arts circuit. Their songs cover life as they see it, from the industrial waste lands of the north, to injustice and freedom, matters of the heart and everything in between. Their songs are covered by many revered singers the world over but it is White & Matthews' musical partnership and obvious joy of performing together that really brings their songs to life. As performers they are unrivalled and their audiences leave their concerts having been through every emotion possible.

The duo already have ten studio albums, the latest one being 'Shoulder to Shoulder', two live albums and their latest release of the 'Best Of White and Matthews - Vol 2' last year. They also have a songbook to their credit as well as eight solo albums between them.

www.whileandmatthews.com

