

Will McNicol & Luke Selby

multi-award-winning acoustic guitarist, and critically acclaimed session drummer

Since their formation as a duo in mid 2013, multi award-winning acoustic guitarist *Will McNicol* and drummer *Luke Selby* have been gaining rave reviews for their live performances up and down the country. Both highly respected and in-demand instrumentalists in their respective fields, the combination of Will's intricate melodic fingerstyle playing on both steel and nylon string guitars and Luke's explosive rhythms on kit and percussion has been making a unique impression.

“ spellbinding...extraordinary ”

The News, Portsmouth

Setting themselves a mission of traversing the globe in their live performances, the duo draw on influences from Brazilian sambas through to driving West-African rhythms, Celtic folk melodies to North American foot-stamping blues numbers. Combining this worldwide diversity with Will & Luke's virtuosic instrumental ability and sensitive musicality has created an exhilarating live show, full of surprises which have gained them more than a few standing ovations. Their passion for musical traditions from around the world has culminated in a collection of diverse original compositions, as well as re-workings of seminal works in a variety of genres, which have been released as their debut album *Hitchhiker* (Feb 2015).

“ a pair of the brightest musicians currently performing ”

GuitarJar Magazine

After an acclaimed UK tour promoting *Hitchhiker*, Will and Luke continued with multiple festival appearances. Recent festival highlights have included sell-out performances at the *Harare International Festival of the Arts in Zimbabwe*, *Roman River Festival* in Colchester, *The IGF London Guitar Summit*, *Larmer Tree Festival* in Wiltshire and *Ullapool Guitar Festival* in the Highlands of Scotland to name a few.

Along with their busy performance schedule, both Will and Luke are in-demand tutors and providers of workshops and masterclasses. They have enjoyed pooling their knowledge to deliver informative and vibrant classes together at festivals and beyond to everyone from GCSE music students through to seasoned professionals.



A little more about Will McNicol

Will has won multiple awards for his playing and compositions and holds an Associate, Licentiate and Fellowship with *Trinity College London* in Guitar Recital. Notable accolades include *Guitarist Magazine's* "Acoustic Guitarist of the Year 2011" along with *Acoustic Guitar Magazine's* "30 Under 30 Best Acoustic Guitarists from Around the World".

A prolific composer of guitar music with influences from around the world, Will's compositions bridge the gap between nylon-string and steel-string playing, whilst incorporating a broad spectrum of musical genres and techniques. His most recent albums, *Hitchhiker (Released 2015)*, and *The Wake Up (Released 2013)* have been widely critically acclaimed and are testament to the sheer joy the diversity of both classical and steel-string guitars have to offer.

“ at once soothing and uplifting ... exceptional ”

Acoustic Guitar Magazine

Will is a well-respected tutor and provider of guitar workshops and masterclasses. One example would be this year's *London Guitar Summit*, where Will ran the *Contemporary Acoustic Course* alongside one of the world's most respected acoustic guitarists - *Antonio Forcione*. Below are testimonials from that event:

“ for me, this was the best musical experience I had ever had ”

Martin, student of the course

Will is proudly endorsed by *Fylde Guitars*, *LR Baggs* pickups and *G7th* capos.

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A little more about Luke Selby

Luke started playing the drums when he got his first toy drum kit at the age of three. Being born into a musical family Luke was surrounded by Country music, and by listening and watching Country music greats drummers Eddie Bayers and Paul Leim, he learnt from a very young age the discipline needed to be a working musician. Luke enjoys playing with numerous groups across the country in a variety of styles and balances this with being a drum tutor at the Academy of Contemporary Music's regional centre.

“ incredible feel and groove ”

Vincent Ingala

Luke has studied with some of the best drummers in the country including Steve White, Paul Brodie and Craig Blundell and in October 2013 was featured as *DRUM! Magazine's* Cyber Artist Spotlight. Luke completed his first professional session for R'n'B artist Ebonie G (JLS, Tinie Tempah and Craig David) at just 18-years-old that was nominated for 'Best UK RnB/Soul Video'. Luke is now one of the most in-demand session drummers on the South Coast and can be seen playing for some of the most recognisable acts in the area.

Luke is proudly endorsed by *Bosphorus* cymbals and *ACS Live*.