

# The Road to Peterloo

## Pete Coe, Brian Peters and Laura Smyth

A moving and passionate concert performance to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Manchester's notorious Peterloo Massacre, telling the story through street ballads and folk songs of the time. Presented by first-class singers and multi-instrumentalists Pete Coe, Brian Peters and Laura Smyth.

**Pete Coe**, from Cheshire, has been a professional musician since 1971, playing at festivals, concerts and clubs throughout the world. During the 1970s he toured and recorded with Chris Coe, was a member of the legendary New Victory Band, and formed the folk supergroup Bandoggs with Nic Jones, Tony Rose and Chris Coe. More recently as a soloist he has earned an enviable reputation, enhancing his strong, distinctive voice with instrumental versatility on bouzouki, dulcimer, banjo and melodeon.

**Laura Smyth** is a talented young singer and musician specialising in repertoire from her home region of Manchester. With clear strong vocals accompanied by English concertina and 'cello, she delivers stripped-down, uncompromising and heartfelt songs. Usually performing as part of a duo with Ted Kemp, their EP and subsequent album, *The Poacher's Fate*, received high praise from fRoots, Rock'n'Reel, and *The Living Tradition* magazine alike.

**Brian Peters** cut his teeth in the Manchester folk music scene of the 1980s, working on several projects with the legendary Lancashire singer Harry Boardman. He's a true all-rounder, a top ballad singer, and a multi-instrumentalist acknowledged as one of England's leading exponents of the concertina and melodeon, to which he adds skills on guitar and fiddle. He regularly tours in America, Europe and Australia, but always retains a deep commitment to the musical traditions of England, particularly the North West.

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