

25 September 2009
PRESS RELEASE

OYSTERBAND
***The Oxford Girl and Other Stories* tour**
8 pm, Saturday 10 October 2009

Oysterband will perform at Aberystwyth Arts Centre on Saturday 10th October, 8pm.



Once the bad boys of folk and rock, Oysterband now take on the role of musical custodians and godfathers of folk.

"....great tunes, superb voices, clever lyrics and a big dollop of the stuff that turns a band into a Great British Institution. ****" (ROCKnREEL)

The band's recent work includes collaborative tours with rising young stars under the banner of The Big Session: a Big Session 'live' album with June Tabor, Eliza Carthy, The Handsome Family, Show Of Hands and more, and the annual sell-out festival Big Session. And there have been gongs, awards, and nominations...

Oysterband's *The Oxford Girl and Other Stories* is a set of all-new acoustic recordings to mark their 30th anniversary: 14 classic songs from all periods of the band's history, re-imagined and re-arranged for now.

Over recent years the band have been through a process of re-evaluation, culminating in the new album *Meet You There*: "We had to go back to the essential impulse that's kept the band kicking for almost 30 years - making new songs for ourselves," says Ian Telfer. "We put a PA system in a village hall on the Welsh border and got down to some serious playing. It's the doing it together that unlocks it for us," he insists. "It's the only way the songs can grow and breathe, of course. But also, we've always believed that creativity is a collective thing, and that's helped shape the band's politics. Not that we agree about everything, by a long chalk...but hey, that's the spark."

"tremendous, joyous, remarkable..." Rolling Stone

Once new song structures were licked into shape, Oysterband took the best ideas to The Premises in Hackney (Europe's first solar-powered studio) to work on the voices and acoustic instruments. Some late ideas were added in Brighton and at cellist Chopper's house in Sweden. "I think the long, sustained preparation has enhanced *Meet You There* enormously," says Telfer. "The singing - everybody's singing - is better than it's ever been. The raw rush that used to take us out on tour with The Pogues etc has evolved into something more measured, more powerful. We listened to it all

when we'd finished and we all thought: 'Yes! Strong. Rooted.' (And then: 'Cop that!') Literally, it's been refreshing - it's renewed our self-belief."

Meet You There is Oysterband's first full studio album in several years and it is a powerful reminder that they are still an exceptional band in their own right. Since it was released the band seems to have found a new confidence in itself and its songs. They are at ease and at the height of their powers. Catch them on this one-off tour.

Tickets for this production are £16 and can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre ticket office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

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Notes to editors:

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