

Megson – Bio

Megson was formed in 2003 and is a folk duo composed of twenty-something's Stuart "Stu" Hanna [vocals, guitar, mandolin, bouzouki] and Debbie-Ann Palmer [vocals, whistle] who hail from Stockton-on-Tees in N.E. England. Hanna and Palmer met during the early/mid nineteen-nineties and played together in various guises over the ensuing years. They played their first gig as Megson in November 2003 at The Bedford in Balham, London. In Great Britain's capital city they have also performed regularly at The Troubadour in Earl's Court and Soho's Spice Of Life. They performed in Glasgow on the open stage at the annual Celtic Connections festival in late January 2004, and subsequently played the Priddy Folk Festival [and again in 2005], Broadstairs Folk Week, Worthing Fringe Festival and Solway Folk Festival.

Megson's music is a marriage of folk, pop and classical influences, and their sets include arrangements of traditional material as well as band composed songs. In 2004 the duo issued a self-titled EP that contained the songs "Oak And Ash," "Freefall," "Butternut Hill" and "Just Stay" which reappeared on their debut album, and "So Much" which didn't. Their eleven-track debut album, featuring four duo originals and seven songs drawn from traditional sources, appeared on the EDJ label in the early summer of 2005. In recent times the duo has begun playing venues outside of London, including gigs at Cambridge's Acoustic Routes venue which singer-songwriter Bernard Hoskins began four years ago. Megson played a Club Tent session for Acoustic Routes on Saturday 30th July, during the 2005 Cambridge Folk Festival, England's premier folk festival.

Discography : **"On the Side"** [2005] :

Arthur Wood

Kerrville Kronikles 08/05

[260 words]