

## Peter Donegan – Bio

Peter Donegan was born circa 1983 in England, but along with his younger siblings David and Anthony, the offspring of Lonnie's third and final marriage, Peter was raised in the Spanish Costa del Sol town of Fuengirola, where his musician father, Lonnie Donegan, had chosen to reside. Donegan Sr.'s commercial success in the UK, as a recording artist and touring musician, began in 1956. Lonnie [b. 29<sup>th</sup> April 1931 in Glasgow, Scotland], himself the son of a professional violin player, passed on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2002 in Peterborough, England while undertaking a U.K. concert tour. As teenager Peter, mainly a keyboard player and occasional guitarist [he also plays banjo and harmonica], became a member of his father's touring band.

Following Lonnie's passing, a tribute concert took place at London's Royal Albert Hall, and Peter found himself performing alongside rock music icons such as Mark Knopfler, Joe Cocker, Roger Daltrey and Van Morrison. In 2000 Van and Lonnie had recorded "**The Skiffle Sessions: Live In Belfast**," a collection that featured many of Donegan's best-known songs. Soon afterwards their father's passing Peter and David became part of a stage show, "**Lonnie D - The Musical**." The initial part of the show's title came from a tribute song composed by Chas Hodges [Heads, Hands & Feet] and Dave Peacock – aka the Cockney performing duo, Chas 'n' Dave - and their song opened the show. Subsequently, Peter Donegan, now based in the N.E. of England, formed a band that included his brother David [drums, percussion], Michael Bailey [bass, vocals] and his wife Rachael Bailey [fiddle, accordion], and Mark Anderson [guitar, vocals], and they began performing material from Lonnie Donegan's extensive recording career in venues around the U.K. Peter has also written a number of songs, and doubtless they will appear on his second solo recording.

Peter's band performed at the 2006 Americana Festival in Newark, Nottinghamshire, and were so well received that they were immediately been booked for 2007 event. On 31<sup>st</sup> August 2006 Peter and his band, augmented by drummer Ray Laidlaw [Lindisfarne], recorded "**Live At The Elephant**" CD at 'The Elephant on the Tyne' in Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, England and the twenty-four track album – mostly featuring songs his father made famous, plus Peter's "Just One Kiss" - was released on John Tobler's independent label The Road Goes On Forever Records [ <http://www.rgfrecords.demon.co.uk> ] a matter of weeks later.

Discography - "**Live At The Elephant**" [2006] :

### Arthur Wood

Kerrville Kronikles 12/06 & 01/07.

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