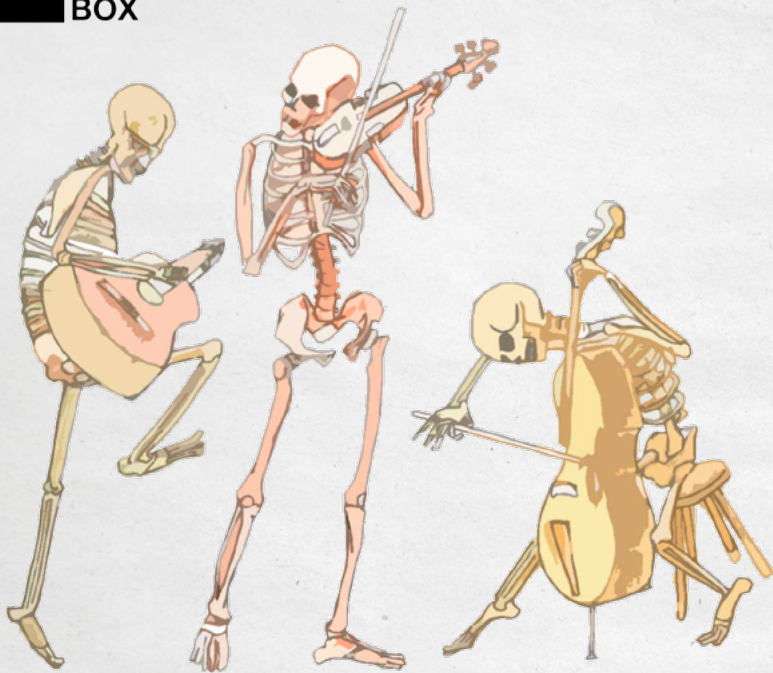


SNUFF ████
████ BOX



PLAYING FOR FREE

Snuffbox

The musicians in Snuffbox met on Glasgow's vibrant trad music sessions and have created a style that harnesses the energy of the city with Perthshire's rich musical tradition.

In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century the great Perthshire fiddler-composer Niel Gow and his son, Nathaniel favoured the drive and harmony of a fiddle and cello partnership as they played for dances around the country. In Snuffbox, their fellow Perthshire native, fiddler and BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician 2017 winner Charlie Stewart joins cellist Rufus Huggan and guitarist-singer Luc McNally as the Gows' natural successors.

Tunes such as the opening Reels and the rugged Limerick show all the character, fluency, depth of expression and sense of melodic adventure that Stewart displayed in his triumphant Young Trad Final performance.

All three musicians' responsiveness and ability to change roles as a set of tunes progresses, as best exemplified by Lucy's, keep their arrangements fresh from intro to coda.

It's this musicianship and flair that have placed these three players among the most in-demand musicians of their generation in Scotland.

In addition to Snuffbox, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland student Stewart brings his keening sensitivity and muscular attack to Techno Trad Collective Sketch. Huggan, also a Royal Conservatoire of Scotland student, is equally at home in chamber ensembles and folk sessions, and McNally, who provides the album's two thoughtful, gently turned vocal tracks, also appears with Sketch and Glasgow quintet Dosca.



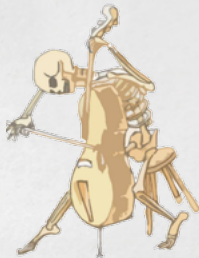
1. Reels

Anne Lacey's (L. Carroll)

Johnny Willmott's Fiddle (Trad)

The Girls at Martinfield (P. Cunningham)

This track was put together in an attempt to make 'just a normal set of reels'.



2. Playing For Free

Playing for Free (R. Huggan/C. Irving/C. Stewart)

Originally put together by Charlie, Rufus and the guitarist Craig Irving; this tune is named for something we have all had to do from time to time, as part of our pursuit of a career in music.



3. Limerick

Unknown Jig (Trad)/*Brian O'Lynn* (Trad)

These are two tunes that Charlie learned from listening to the amazing Caoimhín Ó Raghallaigh at the North Atlantic Fiddle convention in Derry.

4. Chazza's Circus

Whistle O'er the Love o' It (Trad)
Charlie Stewart's (M. Fielding)

The second tune in this set was written by Charlie's teacher, Marie Fielding, just before his lesson. Named after him as he was the first person to hear it!

5. Lucy's 25

Lucy's Lament (R. Huggan)
Feis Rois 25 (L. MacColl)

This set is comprised of two modern tunes: Lucy's Lament which was written by Rufus for Lucy Doogan and Feis Rois 25 which was written by another of Charlie's teachers, Lauren MacColl.



6. A Harsh February

A Harsh February (P. Cunningham)

Despite being known to us as 'Irish B minor reel' until very recently, it transpires that this is yet another excellent tune written by Scotland's own Phil Cunningham.

7. Down The River

Down The River (R. Huggan)

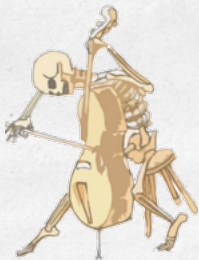
A dark song written on a morbidly hot day in New York; it pays homage to a bygone age where children in stories and song were met with tragic ends.



8. Onions

Onions (C. Stewart) // Ne'er Shall Wean Her (Trad)

Charlie's eponymous slow air was named as such for want of a more appropriate title which, unfortunately, has not materialised.



9. Yer Maw's

*Yer Maw's (R. Huggan
C. Stewart)/Dawted Mary (Trad)*

Dedicated to all the
mothers out there.



10. Sleeping Stars

Sleeping Stars (R. Huggan)

Written in anticipation of
visiting the Celtic Colours
festival in Canada, this song is
about sleeping as long and often
as possible to shorten the days
leading up to the trip.

Thanks to

Sheona, Rory and Ewan Stewart, Elizabeth McClay, Lauren MacColl, Pete Clark, Marie Fielding, Iain Copeland, Keir Long, Andrea Gobbi, Eliza Gearty, Tracy Gillman, Drummond Orr, Ellen McNally, Craig Irving, Audrey Scott, Peter Rose, Jamie, Ronald Shaw, Joshua Dickson and Yaffa.

Recorded at Carrier Waves, Glasgow

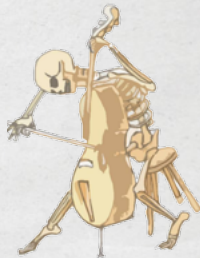
Engineered, Produced – Iain Copeland, Skye Records.

Mastered by Denis Blackham, Skye Mastering

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Snuffbox

Luc McNally - Guitar

Rufus Huggan - Cello

Charlie Stewart - Fiddle

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