



THE CROOKED FIDDLE BAND

"The Crooked Fiddle Band are completely surprising. The music is original and quixotic, and yet has the strength of some deep and strong roots. I can't say I've ever heard anything else like it!" **Brian Eno**

The Crooked Fiddle Band have built a reputation as one of Australia's most intense live music experiences. Delivering high-octane future-folk, this Sydney-based violin-led quartet twists trad folk into intense cinematic soundscapes with medieval battle-axe climaxes, transforming dance floors into post-apocalyptic hoe-downs.

Following three tours to Europe/UK, the band recorded their second LP in Chicago with Steve Albini (Nirvana, The Pixies, Gogol Bordello, Jonanna Newsom). **"Moving Pieces of the Sea" is due for release in late-2013.**

Many of the tunes were written during their mammoth 2012 tour of European festivals, including **Fusion** (Germany), **Urkult** (Sweden), **Telemarkfestivalen** (Norway), **Olympic Games Celebrations** (UK) and **Dranouter Festival** (Denmark). Inspired by fjords in Norway, lakes in Finland, the backstreets of Berlin and the deep forests of Sweden, the wild settings gave the band's already ecstatic and twisted high-energy, an epic cinematic quality. From whirling dances to intense battle-scene climaxes, their music has been described by Brian Eno as "...completely surprising: the music is original and quixotic. I can't say I've ever heard anything else like it!"

Driven by the beautiful and furious fiddling of Jess Randall, and underpinned by a rhythm section featuring Gordon Wallace (bouzouki and acoustic guitar), Mark Stevens (double bass) and Joe Gould (drum kit, vocals), their sound blasts, rocks and grooves, roaming across a wide range of styles and influences yet maintaining an intense, vivid energy.

"For us, there is a direct link between folk traditions and blast beats: it is the unstoppable energy, that intensity that hits you in the chest and forces you to move," says guitarist, Gordon Wallace.

WEBSITES :

<http://www.crookedfiddleband.com>

<http://crookedfiddleband.bandcamp.com/>

<http://www.facebook.com/crookedfiddleband>

<http://www.reverbnation.com/thecrookedfiddleband>

BAND MEMBERS :

Jess Randall – violin, nyckelharpa, vocals

Gordon Wallace – acoustic guitar, bouzouki, vocals.

Mark Stevens – double bass

Joe Gould – drums, vocals

YOUTUBE LINKS:

Live at Peats Ridge 2013, 'The Deepwater Drownings Pt II'

<http://youtu.be/ZiCfsMPKuds>

"The Rom Rebellion" (filmclip) :

http://youtu.be/ex-D9_TmRVg

"Countess Bathory's Finishing School for Girls" (filmclip) :

<http://youtu.be/OgNI6t3yTA4>

Live at URKULT, SWEDEN (2012):

<http://youtu.be/txgfPJHQCs>

Live at The Factory Theatre, Sydney (MOSHCAM) :

www.moshcam.com/artists/the-crooked-fiddle-band.aspx

REVIEWS :

"When The Crooked Fiddle Band took to the stage, it was as though someone had put 10,000 volts through the dance floor. Fusing an array of folk and world styles and completely turning them on their head, this band certainly lived up to their crooked name. There was no restraining the four-piece; creating incredibly diverse, original and complex tunes with an energy and sound that could have rivalled groups ten times their size. The beautiful and well-crafted set was almost exclusively instrumental, and yet their story telling ability through their instruments created a vibrant, magical world that kept the audience enthralled from start to end. "

: *Kat Chish, BEAT Magazine.*

"This band really is a national treasure and testament to the infinite talent that keeps manifesting in our backyard... this group have re-invented folk music as it is known... The Crooked Fiddle Band charmed the audience into submission."

: *Vanessa Lahey, Australian Stage.*

"It is rare to hear genuinely original music these days, but when you listen to The Crooked Fiddle Band, your mouth will drop open. "

: *Bruce Elder, Sydney Morning Herald.*

"Crooked Fiddle Band continue their musical manifesto, rallying around the incendiary fiddle of Jess Randall to make music that will make grandmas mosh, punks tango and metalheads hoe-down... ..Anything from chainsaw sounds to Nordic fiddling are all grist to the music mill for this dynamic young band."

: [Andrew Ford – The Music Show – ABC Radio National](#)

"...I'm taken by how effortlessly it appears that they are masters and mistresses of the mood, playing with and for dancers as if we are flexible puppets – willing eager recipients of the ebbs and flows... They are so totally in charge of the audience in the most generous way..."

: *Severin, Cuturazi.com*

"Great fiddling, top-notch rhythm section, ethereal female vocals and male guttural shouts. It's obvious that the Crooked Fiddle Band know what they want and they do it perfectly."

: [Kinks Markham – celticfolkpunk blog.](#)

"Their live show crackles with an energy few other bands can match and their frantic brand of gypsy-instrumental music had the audience up and dancing immediately."

: *Gareth Evans, Timber and Steel.*

DISCOGRAPHY :

Moving Pieces of the Sea (2013) : CD
Overgrown Tales (2011) : CD and vinyl
Rise (2008) : EP
The Crooked Fiddle Band (2006) : EP

TOURS AND FESTIVALS :

Falls Festival (2013)
Peats Ridge Festival, NSW (2006/7, 2008/9, 2009/10, 2011/12, 2012/13)
Newtown Festival (mainstage) (2013)
Apollo Bay Music Festival, VIC (2012)
Adelaide Fringe Festival, Garden of Unearthly Delights (2012)
The Famous Spiegeltent, Victorian Arts Centre, VIC (2012)
Woodford Folk Festival, QLD (2010/11)
National Folk Festival, ACT (2008, 2011)
Corinbank Festival, ACT (2008, 2009, 2012)
Cygnet Folk Festival, TAS (2012)
Bellingen Jazz Festival, NSW (2011)
Dragon Dreaming, ACT (2011)
Port Fairy Folk Festival, VIC (2010)
Blue Mountains Folk Festival, NSW (2010)
Brian Eno's Luminous Festival, Sydney Opera House, NSW (2009)
The Famous Spiegeltent, Sydney Festival, NSW (2009)
Sydney Fringe Festival (2010)
High and Dry Festival, NSW (2007/8, 2009, 2010)
The Bosco Theatre, Sydney Festival, NSW (2009)
Spiegeltent, Brisbane Festival, QLD (2009)
Newtown Festival, NSW (2007, 2009)
National Multicultural Festival, ACT (2009)
Westbury Festival, TAS (2009)
Bellingen Global Carnival, NSW (2008)
Brunswick Festival, VIC (2008)
Earthdance Festival, NSW (2008)
Tamworth Country Music Festival (2007)
Illawarra Folk Festival (2006, 2007)

INTERNATIONAL TOURS :

2012 : June-August : Europe and UK tour including :
Fusion Festival, Germany
Telemarkfestivalen, Norway
Urkult, Sweden
Dranouter Folk Festival, Norway
BT River of Music, UK

2011 : June-July : Europe and UK tour including :
Ulmer Zelt Festival, Germany
Arteganza Festival, Netherlands
TFF Rudolstadt, Germany
Chichester Festival, UK
Lichfield Festival, UK

2010 : July-September 2010 : UK tour