

Faramach Performance Review

by Graeme Scott K107FM, Blues Matters Magazine, VRN1287

Faramach & Connla

Acoustic Music Club, Kirkcaldy April 27th 2017

What an interesting evening the Acoustic Music Club presented last night. Sometimes things just happen and turn out differently to what might have been expected. What am I talking about? Well it is hard to write about a headline act Connla who, through difficult circumstances, were not at full strength and the support act Faramach who made us all re-evaluate the old saying never judge a book by the cover.

Faramach turns out to be Gaelic for Noise Making and this very young school band certainly packed a punch. A lot of the audience were most likely thinking oh no children however from the off these kids rocked the house. Opening with a cover of Amy MacDonald's This Is The Life through to the closer Home To Donegal their youthful exuberance carried the day over the lack of "professional" stagecraft. Comprising two keyboards, drums, bass, one lead acoustic guitar and two vocalists playing fiddle and, second guitar there was no taking away from the fact that these kids could play and play well.

Most striking was the blend of the vocals. Emma has the sweeter voice but she can ramp it up when required. However in Ali the band have one of the most extraordinary young voices I have ever heard. I could not even be sure where this young lass's range lies. Contralto for sure but leaning heavily towards baritone bass tenor, if such a category exists. It was certainly very dark and rich packing the kind of punch redolent of the likes of Janis Joplin and Maggie Bell and I'm sure, should she want it, that music will continue to be a major factor in her life.

A very entertaining well balanced selection of songs, I think all covers, drew a warm response from the packed audience.

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