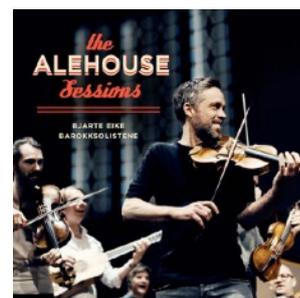


## **BJARTE EIKE and BAROKKSOLISTENE LIVE IN CONCERT and ON CD with "THE ALEHOUSE SESSIONS"**

*"Remember the childhood delight of forming a band and spending hours in your parents' garage, basement or attic practising? Violinist Bjarte Eike and his ensemble have taken all that youthful optimism and compulsive delight in one another's music-making and allied it to some serious musical skills to create an irresistible product."*

The Arts Desk

**The Alehouse Sessions** have been something of an insider's tip until now but with rave reviews, including 'irresistible' [The Times], 'fizzing with energy' (BBC Radio 3) and 'fabulously unrestrained' [The Guardian], Bjarte Eike and his Barokksolistene are ready to take the stage by storm with a **live recording released 9 June on the new Indie label, Rubicon, and a 2017 tour featuring 5 dates in the UK, 8 in Germany, 2 in Switzerland and 4 in the USA.**



Taking inspiration from Cromwell's regime, under which English theatres were forcibly closed, Bjarte Eike has curated a performance which re-imagines a time when culture was driven into the alehouses giving audiences a window into this tumultuous period through a lively combination of Purcell overtures, English sea shanties, and Scandinavian folk songs thrown in for good measure. Using their own arrangement of tunes, these 'Alehouse Boys' combine this unique format with humour, an unrivalled virtuosity and flare for improvisation, 'creating the effect of a late night jamming session' [BBC Music Magazine].

*"I launched the project in 2007" explained Bjarte Eike "and it was an immediate success gaining popularity with audiences from every background. So far we have performed in concert halls, schools, motor-bike clubs and, naturally, pubs of every sort of description. And even though the music, the stories and the dances get their inspiration from historical events, the project has now developed into being the essence of what the Barokksolistene's operation aims to be - a creative energy center, where powerful, virtuosic individuals meet to create something unique, time-less, actual and genre-breaking - something that resonates with a modern and diverse audience."*

From the stillness and introspection of Barokksolistene's 2014 recording *The Image Of Melancholy*, Bjarte Eike exchanges the music of refined solitude, inspired by the Elizabethan court, for some rather less noble company in London's pubs, exemplifying the ensemble's diversity and sheer delight in exploring music across the ages.

For further press information please contact:

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**BJARTE EIKE and THE BAROKKSOLISTENE**  
**LIVE IN CONCERT and ON CD with**  
**"THE ALEHOUSE SESSIONS"**

**THE ALBUM**

*Wollom Green* (John Playford)  
*Curtain tune* (Henry Purcell)  
Aria: '*Lead me*' from *Bonduca* (Purcell)  
+ *Italian Rant* (Playford)  
*Haul Away Joe* (trad. English sea shanty)  
*Johnny Faa* (trad. Scottish 17th century)  
*The hole in the wall* - Hornpipe from Abdelazar  
*Virgin Queen, Stingo, Bobbing Joe* (Playford)  
*Pass around the grog* (trad. sea shanty)  
Travel set - Norwegian, Scottish/Shetland  
*I drew my ship* (trad. English 19th century)  
*Carolan's Cup* (Turlough O'Carolan)  
The Canadian set (trad Canadian Reels)  
*Leave her Johnny* (trad. English sea shanty)

CD: RCD1017

LP: RLP1017 (limited edition)

**THE TOUR**

10 June	Salisbury Festival, UK	5 October	Princeton, USA
12 June	Bush Hall, London, UK	6 October	Chicago, USA
14 June	Dresden, Germany	8 October	Washington, USA
17 & 18 June	Lenzburg, Switzerland	9 October	Sub-Culture, NY, USA
28 June	Harsad, Norway	12 October	Minnesota, USA
30 June	Kloster Michaelstein, Germany	15 October	Cork, Ireland
2 July	Rheingau Festival, Germany	26 October	Edinburgh, UK
5 September	Stuttgart, Germany	27 October	St Andrews, UK
8, 9 & 10 Sept.	Hannover, Germany	29 October	The Globe, London, UK

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