

## About Mairearad



Having grown up in the West Coast Coigach peninsula of the Scottish Highlands – an area steeped in culture and local traditions – Mairearad was introduced to folk music at an early age. Renowned for her deft and lyrical accordion style, as well as her dextrous piping, Mairearad is in great demand not only as a performer, but also as a composer.

Mairearad regularly performs alongside multi-instrumentalist Anna Massie, creating *“music much more than the sum of just two parts”* (The Scotsman) whilst she is also a member of “the UK’s finest all-female outfit” The Poozies. She has previously toured with Eddi Reader, Karine Polwart, The Unusual Suspects, Box Club, and Matilda Brown’s ensemble, and her most recent project sees her joining forces with fellow tunesmiths Ross Ainslie and Simon Bradley.

With composition a lifelong passion of Mairearad’s, many of her tunes are fast becoming staples in sessions throughout Scotland, and further afield, with “Maggie West’s Waltz” and “Dram Behind the Curtain” amongst the favourites. The latter was recorded on Eddi Reader’s deluxe Robert Burns album, with Eddi claiming it to be *“the best Scottish tune [she has] heard in years”*. By popular demand, Mairearad released an EP of five self-penned tracks in 2013. “Maggie West’s EP” also showcases Mairearad’s love of art, with handmade covers encasing each of the physical, numbered copies. It can also be downloaded at:

<http://mairearadgreen.bandcamp.com>

In 2009, Mairearad scored a five star review for “Passing Places”, her suite of tunes commissioned by Glasgow’s Celtic Connections festival, for their New Voices series. The concert was recorded and released on CD/DVD – featuring images from her native Achiltibuie and the surrounding area – alongside a book of her original compositions, which includes the full suite as well as many others. The project’s success led to Mairearad being named the PRS Composer of the Year, at the Scots Trad Music Awards the same year.

Such is the influence and inspiration that the Coigach area has been on Mairearad’s career, in 2012 she was moved to start the Summer Isles Festival in her home village of Achiltibuie – adding festival director to her list of credits.

You can buy Passing Places CD/DVD and tune book directly from Mairearad on this website and please join the mailing list for the most up to date news.