

## PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE USE

### **A treasure chest of new music made from ancient melodies, Carreg Lafar is a band breaking the boundaries of Welsh musical identity.**

With their new album *Aur* (Gold), Welsh folk band Carreg Lafar, reveal old traditions and re-imagine them for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Bagpipes, fiddle, flute and ancient melodies are mixed with dynamic vocals and rhythmic guitar, for a contemporary twist on traditional music.

Carreg Lafar are celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the launch of *Aur*, at *Y Parlwr* in Splott, Cardiff, on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017. There will be drinks and refreshments and of course - Welsh cakes, to accompany the band performing tracks from the new album.

*Aur* is the band's fourth album on the Sain label, it had its international release at the Lorient Festival in Brittany, France and is now being released into the UK market April 21<sup>st</sup>. Carreg Lafar have been described by *fRoots* magazine as "a band against which others are measured....This album, like its predecessors, is a treasure chest of Welsh traditional songs and tunes."

The 'treasure chest' of tracks is a collection of some of the band's favourite songs and tunes, including well-known folk songs like *Aderyn Bach* (Rw di Ranno) and *Titrwm Tatrwm*, but also lesser known songs like *Cariad Aur* and *Baban Bach*. We want to 'breathe new life and energy into these old songs and tunes' says bagpiper Antwn Owen Hicks.

Members of Carreg Lafar come from all parts of Wales and comprise the pure-voiced and mesmerising Linda Owen Jones from Wrexham; dynamic and soulful fiddler Rhian Evan Jones from the Rhondda; the breathily atmospheric flute of Llanelli-born James Rourke; self-taught bagpiper and vocalist Antwn Owen-Hicks from Pontllanfraith; and Cardiff-born guitar maestro Danny Kilbride.

Mick Tems of *Folk Wales Magazine* says that *Aur* is "magnetic, immediate, beguiling and so full-on that startled listeners could be soundly forgiven for taking a hasty step back from the speakers." And *fRoots* speaks of "the richly-textured contralto voice of Linda Owen Jones...along with the sweeping, majestic instrumental accompaniment."

Joining Carreg Lafar for the launch party, as special guests, are the captivating folk duo, Olion Byw, Lucy Rivers on fiddle and voice and Dan Lawrence on Guitar.

The launch party will be held at the Splott Old Library, Singleton Road at 7.30pm. Linda Owen Jones said, "It's a free event, for people to join us in celebrating Welsh traditional music and our 20 years as a band."

People can reserve a ticket for the launch party at Eventbrite, via Carreg Lafar's website or Facebook Page. There will be some complimentary refreshments, and don't forget Antwn's homemade special Welsh cakes, and perhaps something *Gold* to discover at the venue.....

Notes for editors:

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[www.carreglafar.co.uk](http://www.carreglafar.co.uk)

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<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/carreg-lafar-aur-parti-lawnsiad-launch-party-tickets-32620181842>