

THE BRIGHTS

DON BRAY: vocals, guitar, Hawaiian king, dobro, mandolin...

ALYSSA WRIGHT: vocals, cello, accordion, percussion...

Soulful roots music

tinged with blues, gospel, and a touch of gypsy spirit

A couple of musical powerhouses... charismatic charm... experienced, gifted, original and extremely likeable. ...jaw-dropping.

Jim Sinclair, Castlegar News (BC)

The thoughtful lyrics and musicality of the compositions and accompaniments engaged me fully and made the time fly too quickly. Creative, unique approach (and unique is good!).

David Joyce, Newmarket Folk Society (ON)

It's stellar, it's really nice to see quality out there... [they] work together so well, it's such a treat to hear those instruments together... the subtleties, the gorgeous subtleties of every little nuance!

Longevity John Falkner, owner, Duncan Garage Showroom (BC)

Some phenomenal talent! ...an evening of pure entertainment.

SNAP South Simcoe (ON)

A wonderful performance. The best way I could think to open my new venue!

Brigitte Faramin, owner 2nd Street Studio B (BC)

THE BRIGHTS is "an exciting new duo formed by two established singer-songwriters and well-respected instrumentalists, Don Bray and Alyssa Wright" [Orillia Packet & Times]. Roots music, tinged with gospel, country and blues is accompanied by guitar, cello, Hawaiian king, accordion, mandolin, cajon, and whatever new sounds have recently tickled their fancy. With soulful harmonies and sensitive arrangements, The Brights present original songs in an easy-going, timeless style, equally at home in kitchen party or concert hall.

Colleague Paul Court put it best after The Brights' performance at the **Barrie Performing Arts Centre**: "A little him, a little her, a little them. Much more than the sum of the parts."

Guitarist **DON BRAY** has impressed audiences from Toronto's **Hugh's Room** to the **Tuscon Folk Festival** with his finely-crafted songs and high-spirited performances. "A brilliant songwriter... poetry married to an unsurpassed guitar style... lyrics clear as water." [David Francey, singer-songwriter] Cellist **ALYSSA WRIGHT** has been described as "the best thing in a woman's voice since Ruthie Foster or Serena Ryder" [David Zub, concert presenter]. Her rich tone, passionate style and innate musicality have taken her to **Massey Hall**, the **Banff Centre**, and **Harbourfront Centre**.

After years of accompanying each other's solo endeavours, Don and Alyssa were encouraged to make a more lasting collaboration, and **THE BRIGHTS** was officially created in 2007. Since then, The Brights have shared their rootsy musical stylings and playful banter with audiences across Canada, in such venues as BC's **Duncan Garage Showroom** and **Merlin's Sun Theatre**, Alberta's **Haven Social Club**, Saskatchewan's **23 Main**, Manitoba's **Bhigg House**, Ontario's **Toronto City Roots**, **Vital Spark Folk Society**, **BarrieFolk**, **Staircase Theatre**, **Live From the Rock Festival**, **Blue Skies Festival** and **Mariposa Folk Festival**, Quebec's **Church Street Concerts**, Nova Scotia's **Harbour Folk Society**, **The Carleton** and **Company House**, New Brunswick's **Broadway Cafe**, as well as numerous house concerts from coast to coast.

The Brights released their debut CD, **LIVE LOVE DREAM**, in 2009 at **Hugh's Room**. **LIVE LOVE DREAM** is a collection of twelve original tunes, staying true to their live duo sound, albeit with Patrick McPhail's bass and a few harmony and instrumental layers thrown in on the occasional track.

As their fan Robert Rountree exclaimed: "drop everything but your drawers and go see this group!"

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