

LIZ KNOWLES

"Every time Knowles laid into one of her foot-stomping reels, she'd set the auditorium ablaze." Channing Gray, Providence Journal-Bulletin Arts

"Liz Knowles' fire and vibrant energy shine through every track, and she will keep your toes tapping throughout the whole recording." Jo Morrison, Rambles Magazine

The Riverdance band is "a nine-piece band which marvelously performs a wide array of music for the various dance forms. Most impressive was hell-for-leather fiddler Liz Knowles.." Rick Pender, *CityBeat*



Liz Knowles has brought her distinctive sound--the fire and finesse of Irish fiddle music combined with the tonal richness of the classical violin--to concert stages and festivals across the world. Her auspicious beginnings as the fiddler for **Riverdance** and as soloist on the soundtrack for the film **Michael Collins** established her as a virtuosic and versatile performer, and she has since performed as soloist with such orchestras as the **New York Pops** and the **Cincinnati Pops**. Liz was a member of the renowned **Cherish the Ladies** and today she performs with another all-star female super-group, the highly acclaimed **String Sisters**. She also travels the world as music director of the wildly popular **Celtic Legends**, the Irish music and dance show based in France.

Liz first distinguished herself as a violinist in New York City, performing in such prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and Broadway, with such artists such as **Marcus Roberts**, the **Bang-on-a-Can Orchestra**, **Bobby McFerrin**, **Paula Cole**, **Steve Reich**, **Eliot Goldenthal**, **Rachel Barton**, **Don Henley**, and **Tim O'Brien**. It was also in New York that she discovered her true passion for Irish music. Today, she is well respected on both sides of the Atlantic as a player, composer and teacher. Her compositions and arrangements of tunes and songs have been recorded by **John Whelan**, **Liz Carroll**, **Beolach**, **J.P. Cormier**, **Michael Black**, **John Doyle**, **Dennis Cahill**, and **Flook**.

Her newest release, "**Making Time**", the first in eleven years, is a snapshot of two decades of living and breathing Irish music. The album is an exploration of both familiar and obscure Irish tunes from various old collections, Irish, Scottish and Medieval, arranged with Liz's unique sensibility for strings and harmony. Her strong solo playing, signature string arrangements, and the powerful bouzouki of Pat Broaders provide the lush palette and landscape of this album. Guest musicians include Donna Long, Johnny Connolly and Kieran O'Hare.

Liz is established as a well-known and sought-after teacher of Irish music. She has taught at the **Catskills Irish Arts Week**, she is a regular at the **Swannanoa Gathering** for their Celtic and Fiddle weeks, and has taught at many Irish piping festivals, with her husband Kieran O'Hare, across the US and in Ireland. Her latest endeavor is the Fiddle Blog (www.lizknowles.com). Drawing from her foundations in classical music and her knowledge of Irish music, the blog includes posts about how to practice, tunes, ornamentation and bowing, as well as interviews with other established fiddlers.