

**Luke Daniels – The Polyphon Chronicles**  
**21<sup>st</sup> century troubadour with a 19<sup>th</sup> century mechanical music machine**  
**[www.lukedanielsmusic.com](http://www.lukedanielsmusic.com)**

There is a truly fascinating show visiting venues throughout the UK in 2019, featuring musician Luke Daniels and a new instrument he has created from an 19<sup>th</sup> Century mechanical music machine called a polyphon.

Luke has designed and built his brand new musical instrument - the 'Electrophon.' It uses 20" steel discs plus new technical wizardry and Luke combines this with traditional source material to create new instrumental music and songs.



Luke plays guitar and melodeon alongside the Electrophon, augmenting the simple tunes from the steel discs with vibrant arrangements.

Luke is a folk musician and singer who has performed at Celtic Connections and Cambridge Folk Festival among many others. His past work as a soloist with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, member of the Riverdance band or with singer Cara Dillon sets his pedigree at the very highest level and promises a night of outstanding acoustic songs and instrumental music.

In addition to music performed with the Electrophon, Luke will be playing songs from his latest album, *Singing Ways to feel more Junior*, a wonderful exploration of contemporary issues which is a reminder that folk songs can be inspirational, comforting even, and needn't be the preserve of the exponents of authenticity.

Described by fRoots magazine as "*a genius*", by Songlines as "*a future classic*" and by The Guardian as "*an enchanting delight ★★★★★*" award-winning singer and composer Luke Daniels, with his Electrophon machine, beautifully crafted songs and intriguing instrumental music should not be missed.

Luke is performing at Cambridge, Warwick, Broadstairs, Folkeast, Stonehaven and Gate to Southwell Festivals this summer in addition to a busy touring schedule including solo and or double header/duo shows with Nancy Kerr, Tim Edey, Will Pound and Jack Harris.

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## LUKE DANIELS

Luke developed a passion for Irish traditional music in his early teens, learning to play the button accordion whilst working in an Irish bar owned by a six-time Connaught champion but also remembers being enthralled by the songs and tunes of his own Scottish and English parents who played wooden flute and concertina. His abilities as a finger style guitarist and singer flowered in his late teens via a love of acoustic songwriters such as Nick Drake and John Martyn. In his early twenties whilst touring as a member of the Riverdance band he also taught himself to play piano on the concert grand Steinways he found stored in the bowls of large theatres across Canada and the US.



Over twenty years Luke has recorded and produced nineteen acclaimed records, had numerous live sessions and airplay on BBC Radio 2 and 3, and performed at many of the UK's top festivals. The Guardian describes him as "a musical force to reckon with." Originally from Oxfordshire, though now Glasgow-based this folk singer, producer and multi-instrumentalist was featured in fRoots and hailed as "a *genius*" whilst his songs have been described as "*future classics*" by Songlines magazine.

His passion for folk/acoustic music and a voice described by Acoustic Magazine as 'honey coloured' has led Luke to produce some of the most interesting and innovative music on the British folk scene in recent years. With folk luminaries such as Lau and Cara Dillon both strong supporters of his music, alongside past work with The London Philharmonic Orchestra and the composer Howard Shore on the *Lord of the Rings* and *Hobbit* soundtracks it was no surprise when he was awarded an official showcase at the International Folk Alliance conference in Kansas city in 2016.

In addition to a busy festival season and two concert tours this year to promote his latest album "Singing Ways," Luke has found time to design and build a brand new musical instrument - the 'electrophon,' a 20" diameter steel disc-playing device that combines original 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century music technology. With a beguiling blend of heartfelt lyrics and instrumental virtuosity, Luke breathes new life into traditional music, letting it mix with contemporary originals and even the occasional rock cover. Expect haunting vocals, tunes and songs, endearing anecdotes and instrumental performances of the highest quality led by a unique musical voice and imagination.

### VIDEOS:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCBF6tJSqBmRtBqSUagzRfkjibTa8PLM>

"Daniels is a musician with his finger on the pulse and an uncanny ability to impart genuine warmth through his songs. The man is clearly a bona fide original" Folk Radio UK

"A melodeon virtuoso" Mark Radcliffe BBC R2 Folk Programme

"An enthralling combination of the aural tradition with the digital and mechanical ages" Acoustic Magazine

"Stunningly gorgeous" Maverick

"An enchanting delight" ★★★★★ Songlines