

# Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman coming to the Traverse Theatre next month



Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman will be performing at the Traverse Theatre on 19 March

The Dartmoor-based husband and wife have twice won the coveted Best Duo title at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards (2016 and 2013), consistently delivering assured, distinctive performances whether live or recorded.

After a break to have their twin girls the former Equation band members returned in fine form with two acclaimed albums – *Hidden People* (2012) followed by *Tomorrow will follow Today* (2015). The 2012 release included their outstanding song about the South Yorkshire 1980s miners' strike *The Ballad of Andy Jacobs*, nominated for Best Original Track at the 2013 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards.

*Personae*, their landmark fifth studio album is an eclectic emotional see-saw of material, melding 10 tracks of traditional ballads and their own versatile material, not surprisingly produced by Sean.

The album opens with a rousing, percussive folk-rock version of the Child Ballad *The Knight's Ghost*, with Sam Kelly on guest vocals.

The inspiration for their songs is often unexpected and quirky. *Tribute of Hands* is a fast-moving original song for a city – the giant-killing legend of the founding of the Flemish city of Antwerp.

The album closes with the beautiful and enigmatic *Goddess Made Flesh* Asking the question “was she an icon or was she a fraud?” it’s a pensive piece rueing the loss of many young talented performers and wondering how their lives may have unfolded.

Once again Roberts & Lakeman have created an album by turns curious, thought-provoking, moving and magical – a complete cornucopia astutely delivered by one of the most intriguing, uninhibited and popular duos on the scene. Most definitely not personae non gratae.

*Personae* is released on the Iscream label on March 9 and distributed by Proper Records. It will be showcased on a 24-date March-May UK tour with support act Sunjay [www.sunjay.tv](http://www.sunjay.tv)

19 March Edinburgh – The **Traverse Theatre** – 0131 2283223 / [www.traverse.co.uk](http://www.traverse.co.uk)