

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE 2004
James Seabright for Festival Highlights presents

GRAFFITI CLASSICS

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED
ANARCHIC STRING QUARTET
MAKES EDINBURGH FRINGE DEBUT

Graffiti Classics have moved the classical string quartet into the 21st century. Not gypsy, not jazz, not trad, not classical but 16 strings, 8 dancing feet and 4 voices. Scintillating slap-stick combine with brilliant arrangements and mischievous humour, allowing every item in the programme to reveal unique talents through individual and group performance. **Graffiti Classics** perform a wide variety of music from Hungarian folk to hornpipes and polkas, with a little Mozart, Bach and Strauss added for good measure. The group is making their Edinburgh fringe debut with a limited run of only four performances, owing to their busy international touring schedule.

Founded in 1997 by four young professional musicians, who met whilst busking in London's Covent Garden, **Graffiti Classics'** unique style has developed a refreshing insight into the world of classical music for everyone, whatever their age. Since their debut on Ireland's *Late Late Show* with Gay Burne in 1998, the group have been in regular demand on TV and radio featuring on Lyric FM, *The Gay Burne Hour*, *The Saturday Show*, *Live at Three*, *PM Live*, *Open House* and *Den 2*.

They were accepted onto Yehudi Menuhin's *Live Music Now!* scheme in 1998, enabling them to tour extensively throughout England and Wales and gain valuable experience working with children and the elderly. In 1999, they gave their Welsh Prom debut at St. David's Hall, Cardiff and in 2000 helped launch Bryn Terfel's Faenol festival to a vast audience and great acclaim.

As well as their cabaret-style performances, **Graffiti Classics** are known extensively throughout Ireland and Britain for their educational workshops, having performed to over 200,000 children in the last six years. They have had several sell-out concerts at The Ark, Dublin and have toured Ireland thoroughly including repeat visits to high-profile festivals.

After successful tours to Norway in 2001 and 2002, Skipper Music and the record company Naxos approached **Graffiti Classics** to arrange and record a CD of childrens' songs composed by Thorbjorn Egner. In June 2003 the CD was launched and Graffiti Classics toured Oslo and south Norway appearing in national and regional newspapers and opening the Egner Festival at the Deer Parken, the greatest attraction in Norway.

As well as their Edinburgh fringe debut, **Graffiti Classics** has also been touring Singapore, India, Australia, USA and Europe this year, including a residency on the QE2.

Read more about **Graffiti Classics** and download audio and video at www.graffiticlassics.com

LISTINGS

GRAFFITI CLASSICS

At Pleasance Ace Dome (Venue 23) 15-18 August 2004 at 3.10pm (1h)

Tickets £8.50 (£7 concessions)

Box Office: 0131 556 6550

For further information and interview requests, please contact Guido Goetz
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