

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

22 June 2017

Musicians raise the roof at Robert Burns Birthplace Museum

Two Scottish acts 'warmed up' for this year's Upside Doon music festival by playing a surprise gig on the roof of the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum in Alloway.

Talented singer-songwriter Colin Hunter and acclaimed six-piece Have Mercy Las Vegas took to the roof in spectacular fashion last Tuesday to show the public what they could expect at the festival, which takes place at the museum on Saturday 24 June.

Events Manager, Claire Grant said: "This was the first ever roof-top performance at the Burns Museum, which was incredibly exciting. We're very proud to play host to this great festival, and to showcase some of Scotland's best musicians."

Upside Doon made its first appearance on Scotland's festival scene in 2016 with an eclectic bill and boutique feel and all set in Alloway, the town that provided so much inspiration for Robert Burns.

The line up

The BMX Bandits are one of Scotland's most influential indie bands. They've been creating and performing their inimitable fusion of 60s-inspired melodies and deceptively simple lyrics that are equal parts humorous and heart-breaking for 30 years.

Colin MacIntyre – better known as Mull Historical Society – is one of the UK's most respected songwriters & performers. Also a multi-instrumentalist, programmer, producer, and now award-winning novelist, MacIntyre released his seventh MHS album '*Dear Satellite*' in 2016.

Have Mercy Las Vegas play a rowdy and eclectic mix of folk and blues, with a Celtic flair. Their debut EP *That's Life* was released in September 2016 to rave reviews. Live, their foot-stomping hoe downs and harmonious laments really sing.

Kilmarnock's The Stumblers combine Celtic melodies, with lyrics inspired by protest-era folk and bluegrass instruments with a chaotic punk rock sensibility to create something totally unique.

C. Macleod's album *Bloodlines* has the spirit of a modern-day folk record, but is at home in the indie guitar world alongside bands like My Morning Jacket, The National and The War On Drugs. Hailing from Stornoway, Colin's songs are influenced by local folk tales.

Tickets for Upside Doon are on sale now at <https://nts.cloudvenue.co.uk/upsidedoon> and cost £17 for adults, £14 for concessions.

Just an hour from Glasgow by train, the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum is a cultural hub in Ayrshire, bringing the best in art, music and literature to the public. Generously supported by the Scottish Government and the Heritage Lottery Fund, the museum commemorates the life and works of Robert Burns.

