

Cape Breton Fiddling at Chandler!

Wendy MacIsaac and Andrea Beaton, two of Cape Breton's brightest fiddling stars, bring their considerable talents to the **Esther Mesh Room** in Chandler's **Upper Gallery** in Randolph, Vermont on **Sunday March 4 at 7:30 PM**.

Wendy MacIsaac is a fiddle, piano player and stepdancer from Creignish, Cape Breton, Canada. For the last ten years she has toured all over the world as a solo performer, with Mary Jane Lamond, Ashley MacIsaac, and with Beolach, her current band. Wendy began performing as a stepdancer at age 5 and began fiddle lessons with Stan Chapman when she was 12. By the age of 15, Wendy was playing dances all over Cape Breton and forming the sound that makes her so recognizable today.

MacIsaac has also developed a solid reputation as a piano player and has accompanied just about all of the Cape Breton fiddlers of her generation. She's also performed with such notable musicians as the Chieftains, Capercaillie and Buddy MacMaster. Her skills as a teacher are also in high demand at festivals worldwide, whether for fiddle, piano, or stepdancing.

Andrea Beaton is the youngest of generations of Beaton musicians and has a stellar musical pedigree. Her father Kinnon is one of today's most influential Cape Breton fiddlers, and her mother Betty Beaton is one of the great piano accompanists of her generation. Her uncle Buddy MacMaster is the most revered fiddler on Cape Breton Island, and her cousin Natalie MacMaster is an enormously popular entertainer. Her paternal grandfather Donald Angus Beaton was one of the strongest and most popular players of his generation, and his powerful style is evident in her playing.

Even with these extraordinary performers in her family tree, Andrea doesn't rest on their laurels. She's making her own name for herself in dance halls, concerts, ceilidhs and festivals with the power of her bow, the drive and swing of her timing, and the crispness of her attack. Her music is at once her own and deeply rooted in the tradition associated with the Mabou Coal Mines. And like her father and grandfather, she is a composer in that tradition, adding fine new music to the island's repertoire.

General admission tickets are \$17 in advance and \$20 day of show, and can be ordered by calling the Chandler Box Office at 802-728-6464. Seating is limited and reservations are encouraged. Chandler's Upper Gallery is wheelchair accessible.