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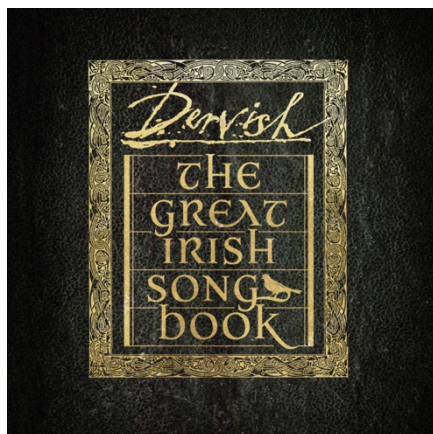
Rounder Records, 1201 Demonbreun Street, Suite 600, Nashville, TN 37203

Irish Folk Icons Dervish To Release *The Great Irish Songbook* on April 12, 2019

Rounder Records Debut Features Guests

Steve Earle, Rhiannon Giddens, Vince Gill, Brendan Gleeson, Jamey Johnson, Kate Rusby, The SteelDrivers, Abigail Washburn, and others

US Tour Announced



January 29, 2019 - Nashville, TN - As one of the world's most renowned and imaginative interpreters of Irish folk music, Dervish have devoted the last three decades to gently reinventing the traditional songs of their homeland. On their debut release for Rounder Records, the Sligo-based band join up with over a dozen luminaries across an eclectic range of genres.

Featuring guests Steve Earle, Rhiannon Giddens, Vince Gill, Brendan Gleeson, Jamey Johnson, Kate Rusby, The SteelDrivers, Abigail Washburn, and others, *The Great Irish Songbook* both preserves the spirit of each song and brings a new vitality to iconic traditional songs of their homeland.

Throughout *The Great Irish Songbook*, Dervish build off the dynamic they've brought to their 13 previous albums and dazzling live performance: a kinetic union of technical brilliance and undeniable soul, endlessly fortified by their immense creativity. With the help of their guest artists, Dervish's intricately sculpted sound expands and widens and takes on new textures, revealing the limitless possibilities within a single song. The result is an album that instantly



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transports you to a more charmed state of mind and-like all the most illuminating journeys-imparts a deeper understanding of what's most essential in life.

Produced by Graham Henderson (a musician known for his work with artists like Sinéad O'Connor), *The Great Irish Songbook* delivers some of the best-loved songs in the Irish tradition. In assembling their lineup of featured guests, Dervish reached out to the many artists with whom they've bonded over a shared passion for Irish folk, then called on each musician to select their most cherished song within the genre. Recorded mainly at The Magic Room in Sligo, the finished product finds each collaborator imbuing the album with their own distinct sensibilities while lovingly upholding the time-honored character of the songs.

The Great Irish Songbook encompasses everything from lovelorn ballads to traditional dance music to songs customarily sung at funerals, its moods continually shifting from longing to joy to delicately rendered heartache.

Within its first few tracks alone, *The Great Irish Songbook* shows the extraordinary scope of the album and the musicianship behind it. On "There's Whisky in the Jar," Nashville-based bluegrass band The SteelDrivers channel their freewheeling energy into one of the most widely performed traditional Irish tunes of all time (recorded by everyone from Thin Lizzy to Metallica to Jerry Garcia).

Poetry also infuses much of *The Great Irish Songbook*, such as on the Kate Rusby-sung rendition of "The Sally Gardens" (a W.B. Yeats-penned serenade) and the D.K. Gavan-authored "Rocky Road to Dublin," a 19th-century story-song delivered with unabashed brio by famed Irish actor and part-time fiddle player Brendan Gleeson. Meanwhile, "On Raglan Road" transforms Patrick Kavanagh's lovesick verse into a moment of sublime melancholy, thanks in no small part to the tender tenor of country star Vince Gill.

One of the two newly written pieces on *The Great Irish Songbook* has Steve Earle accompanying Dervish for a wistful yet rousing version of "The Galway Shawl," closing out the track with a full-hearted sing-along.

Through the years, Dervish have toured the globe and shared stages with the likes of James Brown, Neil Young, and Sting, becoming the first Irish band ever to play Rock in Rio (the world's most massive music festival), and steadily making their name as one of the foremost purveyors of Irish folk music.

As they approach their 30th anniversary, Dervish again prove the enduring significance of even the most timeworn songs. And in a way not unlike the folk revival of the 1960s, much of *The Great Irish Songbook* celebrates a spirit of togetherness, with a conviction that's gracefully



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understated but powerfully felt. For Dervish, that sense of community and connection is both an ideal takeaway for the album and the driving force of its creation.

Accordianist Shane Mitchell, a founding member of the band, noted, "With this record we brought in people from genres sometimes totally unrelated to what we do, but still found a way to create some beautiful music together." He reflects, "I think that's an incredibly important thing to consider in life as well, especially now: everyone can find a way to collaborate, even if you're coming from what feels like completely different places."

In the coming weeks, Dervish will announce full details of *The Great Irish Songbook Live*, a show that will begin touring internationally in late 2019 and will feature guest from the album.

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For more information, contact Regina Joskow or Ashley Moyer at Rounder Records. Regina.joskow@rounder.com, 917-532-5687 or Ashley.Moyer@rounder.com, 615-928-4777

Dervish US Tour 2019

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| March 1 | Adelphi University Performing Arts Center, Garden City, NY |
| March 2 | Belleville Roots Music Concert Series, Newburyport, MA |
| March 3 | One Longfellow Square, Portland, ME |
| March 5 | Iron Horse, Northampton, MA |
| March 7 | Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA |
| March 8 | Irish American Heritage Center, Chicago, IL |
| March 9 | Milliken Auditorium, Traverse City, MI |
| March 10 | Blue Note Ballroom, Winsted, MN |
| March 12 | Focal Point, St Louis, MO |
| March 14 | Berea College, Phelps-Stokes Auditorium, Berea, KY |
| March 15 | Saint Anselm College, Dana Center, Manchester, NH |
| March 16 | Barre Opera House, Barre, VT |
| March 17 | Spire Center for Performing Arts, Plymouth, MA |
| March 18 | Triple Door, Seattle, WA |
| March 20 | Florence Event Center, Florence, OR |
| March 21 | Alberta Rose Theatre, Portland, OR |
| March 22 | Sebastopol Community Center, Sebastopol, CA |
| March 23 | Grange Hall, Aromas, CA |
| March 24 | United Irish Cultural Center of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA |