

A full-page photograph of Ronn McFarlane, a lutenist, standing in a field of tall green grass under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. He is wearing a cream-colored cable-knit sweater, a black scarf, and dark trousers. He is holding a reddish-brown lute over his shoulder with his right hand. The lute has a dark fretboard and a soundhole with a decorative pattern.

Ronn McFarlane

GRAMMY-NOMINATED LUTENIST

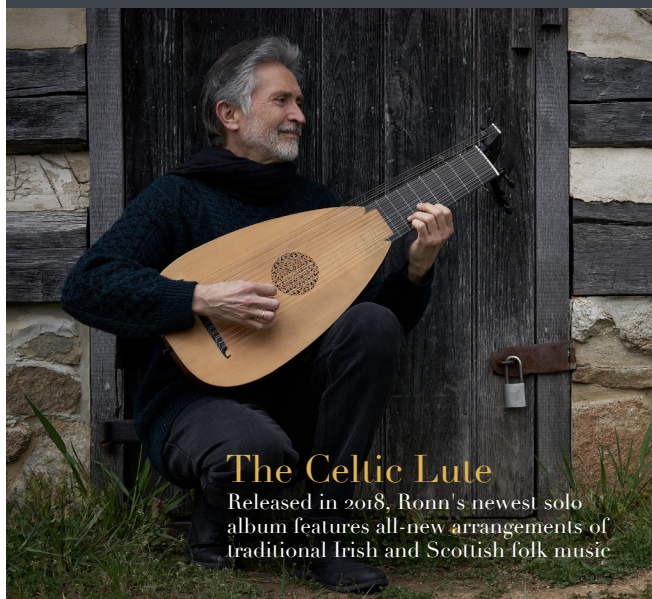
“...some of the most ravishing lute
playing to be heard anywhere”

~The Washington Times

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“A beguiling recording by the US lutenist which beautifully balances traditional Scottish and Irish tunes with works by Turlough O’Carolan

~BBC Music Magazine



The Celtic Lute

Released in 2018, Ronn's newest solo album features all-new arrangements of traditional Irish and Scottish folk music

SOLO DISCOGRAPHY

THE CELTIC LUTE

Irish & Scottish Folk Music for the Lute (DSL-9225)

INDIGO ROAD

Original Compositions for the Lute (DSL-90701)

THE ART OF THE LUTE

Selected Favorites of Ronn McFarlane (DOR-90022)

HIGHLAND KING

The Scottish Lute, Volume II (DOR-90257)

A DISTANT SHORE

Music by Bach, Kellner, Weiss (DOR-90242)

BETWEEN TWO HEARTS

Renaissance Dances for the Lute (DOR-90255)

THE RENAISSANCE LUTE

Music by Byrd, Francesco da Milano, Dalza, et al. (DOR-90186)

THE LUTE MUSIC OF JOHN DOWLAND

Compositions by Dowland (DOR-90148)

THE SCOTTISH LUTE

Lute and Mandora (DOR-90129)

“probably the finest living exponent of his instrument”

~The Times Colonist, Victoria, B.C.

Ronn McFarlane

GRAMMY-nominated lutenist, Ronn McFarlane brings the lute - the most popular instrument of the Renaissance - into today’s musical mainstream making it accessible to a wider audience.

Since taking up the lute in 1978, Ronn has made his mark in music as the founder of Ayreheart, a founding member of the Baltimore Consort, touring 49 of the 50 United States, Canada, England, Scotland, Netherlands, Germany and Austria, and as a guest artist with Apollo’s Fire, The Bach Sinfonia, The Catacoustic Consort, The Folger Consort, Houston Grand Opera, The Oregon Symphony, The Portland Baroque Orchestra, and The Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra.

Born in West Virginia, Ronn grew up in Maryland. At thirteen, upon hearing “Wipeout” by the Surfaris, he fell madly in love with music and taught himself to play on a “cranky sixteen-dollar steel string guitar.” Ronn kept at it, playing blues and rock music on the electric guitar while studying classical guitar. He graduated with honors from Shenandoah Conservatory and continued guitar studies at Peabody Conservatory before turning his full attention and energy to the lute in 1978.

McFarlane was a faculty member of the Peabody Conservatory from 1984 to 1995, teaching lute and lute-related subjects. In 1996, Mr. McFarlane was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Music from Shenandoah Conservatory for his achievements in bringing the lute and its music to the world. He has over 40 recordings on the Dorian/Sono Luminus label, including solo albums, lute duets, flute & lute duets, lute songs, the complete lute music of Vivaldi, a collection of Elizabethan lute music and poetry, and recordings with the Baltimore Consort.

Ronn has composed new music for the lute, building on the tradition of the lutenist/composers of past centuries. His original compositions are the focus of his solo CD, Indigo Road, which received a GRAMMY Award Nomination for Best Classical Crossover Album of 2009.

In 2010 Ronn founded Ayreheart, an ensemble brought together to perform new compositions as well as early music. Ayreheart’s first CD release, One Morning, consists of all-original music by Ronn McFarlane. Ayreheart’s 2016 release, Barley Moon, blends folk music and art music from Renaissance and Medieval England, Scotland and Wales.

Ronn's newest solo album, The Celtic Lute, features his arrangements of traditional Scottish and Irish music from the 17th and 18th centuries.



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