

## Next Event – Leon McCawley

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022, 3:00pm

We are delighted to present the renowned pianist Leon McCawley. Since bursting on to the scene with international prize wins in 1993, Leon has been acclaimed as “unfailingly communicative” and “bringing freshness and vitality” to new interpretations of the repertoire.

He will play Bach, Beethoven, Mozart and Schubert. Don't miss it!

*“One of today's most impeccably musical pianists”* International Piano, 2021

## Want to Know More?

Further information about Music in Dollar and up-coming events can be found on our website:

[www.musicindollar.org.uk](http://www.musicindollar.org.uk)

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Questions or suggestions? Just pop us an email at:

[info@musicindollar.org.uk](mailto:info@musicindollar.org.uk)

or phone Peter McClelland on 07946 481350

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# Music in Dollar



## Martin Simpson

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022, 7:30pm  
Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy FK14 7DU



*Ashley Yu will play piano in our pre-concert supporting performance, from 7:15pm.*

## Martin Simpson

Martin Stewart Simpson (born 5 May 1953, Scunthorpe, England) is an English folk singer, guitarist and songwriter. His music reflects a wide variety of influences and styles, rooted in Britain, Ireland, America and beyond. He builds a purposeful, often upbeat voice on a spare picking style.

Martin has appeared solo (21 albums), as a session musician (16 albums), in collaboration (9 albums), in compilations, live, and on performance and instructional DVDs (7). He has also published a book.

He has been nominated 23 times in the 11 years of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, including 9 times consecutively as Artist of The Year (won twice). His album *Prodigal Son* was named album of the year in 2008 and a song from that album, *Never Any Good* was named best original song of the year. The fRoots critics poll voted it as the 7th best new album of 2007. It is a mixture of traditional songs and Simpson originals, the highlights of which possess a distinctly southern American flavor. Jackson Browne, Kate Rusby and Kellie White guest star here.

Martin took an early interest in music, learning to play the guitar and banjo and performing at local folk clubs. In 1970, he dropped out of John Leggott College to become a full-time musician.

In 1976 his first solo album *Golden Vanity* was released and he opened for Steeleye Span's UK tour. He also toured with folk singer June Tabor, who did not play an instrument herself. They later recorded 3 albums together.

In 1987, he moved to the USA and married American singer Jessica Radcliffe. He continued recording a mix of traditional and more contemporary material, including several entirely instrumental albums.

2003 saw the release of *Righteousness and Humidity*, a set focusing almost exclusively on music from the Deep South, played on a variety of instruments and featuring Steeleye Span's Rick Kemp. This recording was a nominee for BBC folk awards album of the year in 2004, when he also won Best Musician. In 2005 *Kind Letters* appeared in which he mines once again the rich seams of English folk music which proved so fruitful for *The Bramble Briar*.

*"I got my first guitar at Christmas when I was 12 years old. Since then I have never ceased to strive to improve my playing, my understanding of music and my ability to communicate my love of what I do. I consider myself massively fortunate to have such a clear picture of how my life should go. Over the years I have made so many friends in the course of gigging, recording, conducting workshops, and sharing my love and enthusiasm for musical instruments."*

<https://martinsimpson.com/>

## Programme

Martin will play a selection from his extensive repertoire, with a blend of styles from English and British folk traditions to American blues.