

CHARLES MACDONALD

GUITAR

Nationality: British
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Artists I have worked with include The Shires, Callum Beattie, Nina Nesbitt, High Contrast, Ward Thomas, Catherine McGrath, Sam Palladio, Tina Guo, Milly Pye (MD), Dennis Rollins' band 'Badbone & Co' and Mike Walker amongst others. Experience has included performing at Hyde Park, supporting ELO at Wembley Stadium, CMC Rocks Brisbane, supporting: The Corrs on their White Light Arena Tours, Tom Jones' outdoor arena gigs, Carrie Underwood at Apple Music Festival and Little Big Town on their sold-out UK tour as well as five headline tours with The Shires and three headline tours with Callum Beattie. My TV and radio experience includes the Graham Norton Show, BBC One Show, BBC Andrew Marr Show, STV Live at 5, Chris Evans Show and Ken Bruce Show. As well as performing live I have recorded in studios across the UK with producers Ken Nelson, Cam Blackwood, Tom Fuller, Toby Smith, Roy Kerr, Tim Bran and One Bit. My first co-write release 'Man Behind The Sun' became the most played record on BBC Radio 2 during August 2017 as well as breaking into the 'Top 40 UK Airplay Chart' whilst on the 'A-list' at Radio 2.

EXPERIENCE

2018

- Recording with Callum Beattie (Producer Steve Chrisanthou) at Distant City Studios
- Songwriting with Callum Beattie and Jim Duguid
- Eurosonic (Noorderslag), Berlin and Hamburg headline shows with Callum Beattie

2017

- BBC Hogmanay 2017 performing 'Man Behind The Sun' with Callum Beattie
- UK tour with Callum Beattie supporting Clean Cut Kid including shows at Nottingham Rescue Rooms and Sheffield The Leadmill
- UK tour with Callum Beattie supporting Fickle Friends including shows at 02 ABC Glasgow and Bristol Thekla
- Co-write on single release of 'Man Behind The Sun' by Callum Beattie, BBC Radio 2 'Single of the Week' and 'A-listed'
- Isle of Wight main stage with The Shires
- Wembley Stadium and KCOM Stadium supporting ELO with The Shires
- Supporting Una Healey with Catherine McGrath
- UK tour with Callum Beattie including King Tuts and Parr Street Studio 2
- TV including CBBC, Late Late Show, STV Live at 5 and 'ITV Weekend with Aled Jones' with Callum Beattie
- Private showcases for Spotify, Apple Music and Universal Ireland with Callum Beattie
- Festivals including Glastonbury, Barn On The farm, Great Escape, Dot 2 Dot and Live at Leeds with Callum Beattie
- Acoustic sessions including Sofar Sounds and Bebox with Callum Beattie
- 11 date theatre tour with The Shires including London Palladium, Blackpool Opera Theatre and Edinburgh Usher Hall
- C2C at the Indigo 02 Arena with The Shires
- CMC Rocks Brisbane and headline shows in Sydney and Melbourne
- Performance with Grammy Nominee Tina Guo
- The One Show with The Shires

2016

- Sold-out UK headline tour with The Shires (20 date bus tour including Shepherds Bush Empire and Birmingham Institute)
- Performances with Jazz singer AJ Brown including the Royal Albert Hall
- BBC Radio 2 Chris Evans Show performing 'Angels' to Robbie Williams
- Reeperbahn Festival, Hamburg with Oliver Sebastianelli
- Acoustic recording at Pool Studios with The Shires and Nina Nesbitt
- Recording for Malarkey
- Demo recording with High Contrast
- Co-write single to feature on debut album of Callum Beattie
- Songwriting with The Shires, Callum Beattie, Max Wolfgang and Manchester band Barron
- Studio work with Callum Beattie, producer Ken Nelson (Coldplay, Paolo Nutini and more)
- Live and mimed TV with The Shires in Germany on ZDF TV
- Festival gigs with The Shires including Glastonbury (headlining the Acoustic Stage) and Portsmouth Summer Show
- Festival gigs with Callum Beattie including Great Escape and Ocean Fest
- MD for gigs with Milly Pye supporting Rationale and Causes
- Germany Arena tour supporting The Corrs with The Shires
- UK Arena tour supporting The Corrs including the O2 Arena London, Dublin 3 Arena and Manchester Arena with The Shires

2015

- Recording album with The Shires at One Bit Studios
- Recording with Callum Beattie (3beat, Universal) at Elevator Studios
- Sold-out UK headline tour with The Shires (18 date bus tour including Sheperds Bush Empire and Birmingham Institute)
- Apple Music Festival supporting Carrie Underwood
- BBC Radio 2 at Hyde Park with The Shires and Ward Thomas performing to 55,000
- Graham Norton Show, BBC One Show, Andrew Marr Show, Chris Evans Breakfast Show and Radio 2 Ken Bruce with The Shires
- Sold-out UK headline tour with The Shires (19 date bus tour including Union Chapel and Manchester Academy 2)
- Outdoor arena summer tour supporting Sir Tom Jones with The Shires capacities 5,000 to 13,000
- Festival season including Country to Country in the O2 London main arena, Glastonbury
- Acoustic Stage with Sam Palladio featuring and Isle of Wight Big Top
- Recording video covers at Rak Studios with The Shires
- Support tour with Little Big Town including Shepards Bush Empire, Glasgow ABC and Manchester Ritz
- Recording album with Milly Pye at Angelic Studios with Toby Smith (Jamioquai)

Pre 2014

- Sold-out UK joint headline tour with Ward Thomas (18 date splitter tour including two nights at Bush Hall London)
- Recording 'The Green Note EP' with The Shires
- Guitarist for The Shires (Decca) First UK Country band to go Top 10 in the UK
- Major Label showcases (Decca, Sony AVT, Virgin, Warner and more)
- MD and guitarist for up-and-coming artist Milly Pye (Columbia, First feature single released with Marc Kinchen)
- Performance with Dennis Rollins' band 'Badbone & Co' (Blur, Jamiroquai)
- Live video recording with Gospel band Ace Notes performing with Nigerian Hip Hop artist L.A.X Starboy (Starboy Records)
- Performing with the MLF Big Band featuring Mike Walker
- Performances with renowned jazz performer Jeremy Sassoon
- Performing as guitarist for singer-songwriter Sophie Morgan including recording with Si Jones (The Verve) and performing at the Royal Albert Hall
- Guitarist for function band Under The Covers performing regularly until present
- Performances with the Royal Northern College of Music Session orchestra including performing at the Royal Courts of Justice with HRH Prince Edward in attendance

Education

2012 – 2015 1st Class Honors Degree from Royal Northern College of Music (BA Hons Electric Guitar) Studying with Johnny Heyes and Mike Walker. Undertaking units in ensemble performance, theory and aural training, sight-reading and improvisation, professional development.

2010 – 2012 Triple Distinction* BTEC from Mid Cheshire College

Testimonials

"Thanks Charles for your fabulous playing... It was a real pleasure to hear how much work you'd put into the charts. 'keep on it' you're doing the right thing!" Dennis Rollins (Badbone & Co)

"Lovely slide guitar work Charles, that was absolutely brilliant." Chris Evans (Chris Evans Breakfast Show)

References

Andy Stott (BA Popular Music Course Director) andy.stott@rncm.ac.uk

