

# Marc Gunn

CATS & CELTIC MUSIC – IRISH DRINKING SONGS AND FANTASY FOLK MUSIC

## Press Quotes:

“absolutely brilliant” – IrishMusicReviews.com

“the most humble and heartfelt set of recordings I have ever heard” – WWPV in Vermont

“one of best folk singers you’ll hear” – Celtic Ways

Voted #2 Best Strings in the 2004 and 2006 Austin Music Awards

## Venues:

Into the West, *Lord of the Rings* Oscar Party, Hollywood, CA

DragonCon Sci Fi Convention, Atlanta, GA

Texas Renaissance Festival, Plantersville, TX

South By Southwest (SXSW) Music Conference, Austin, TX

Opus Fantasy Arts, Denver, CO

Louisiana Renaissance Festival, Hammond, LA

Kansas City Renaissance Festival, Kansas City, MO

Mid-Missouri Renaissance Festival, Sedalia, MO

I-CON Sci-Fi & Fantasy Convention, Stony Brook, NY

Castle Muskogee, Muskogee, OK

King Arthur Pendragon Faire, Stroud, OK

Austin Celtic Festival, Austin, TX

Celtic Harvest Festival, Houston, TX

Excalibur Fantasy Faire, Smithville, TX

Celtic Christmas, Houston TX

UT Austin's Madrigal Dinner, Austin, TX

Texas Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Arlington, TX

Mother Egan's Irish Pub, Austin, TX

B.D. Riley's Irish Pub, Austin, TX

Cats. Irish music. Drinking songs. Nowhere else but from the bright imagination of Marc Gunn would those three elements be so neatly integrated. Yet Gunn, sometimes called “the hardest working man in Celtic music” around his hometown in Austin, is an accomplished musician and entrepreneur who not long ago headlined at the Oscar party for *Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*.

For Gunn, it started small, though not inauspiciously, wearing a kilt on campus at the University of Texas. As the autoharp-playing half of the Brobdingnagian Bards, Gunn and partner Andrew McKee developed a loyal following with weekly performances on campus. This quickly led to gigs at renaissance fairs, science fiction conventions, and Celtic music festivals as well as parties and weddings for the pair.

With the Bards’ calendar busy, Gunn began producing the duo’s recordings. Their first effort in 1999 was *Marked By Great Size* followed by *Gullible's Travels* in 2000. The third release was 2001’s instrumental *Songs of the Muse*, then two theme CDs *A Faire To Remember* and *A Celtic Renaissance Wedding*. 2002 saw the release of *Songs of Ireland*, 2003 brought *Memories of Middle Earth*, and their latest CD is *Brobdingnagian Fairy Tales*. A long-awaited solo album, *Soul of a Harper*, brought Gunn accolades in 2004; he then embarked on work for *Irish Drinking Songs for Cat Lovers*.

Gunn’s activities are not restricted to musical performance alone. He is the brains behind an online resource called the *Celtic MP3s Music Magazine* (<http://www.celticmp3s.com/>). The weekly publication reviews Celtic music of all varieties from Irish traditional music to Celtic rock. Two free, full-length MP3s are offered for download every week on the site. Additionally, Gunn publishes *The Bards Crier's Music Marketing and Promotion Tips Ezine* (<http://www.bardscrier.com/>), a newsletter that teaches musicians about marketing and promotion, and handles webmaster duties for a variety of sites including the Austin Celtic Association.

All that hard work and effort has hardly gone unnoticed. Fans have downloaded more than five million MP3s from him; over one million of those were for the hugely popular “Tolkien (The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings).” The Brobdingnagian Bards were voted “Best Renaissance Men” in the Austin Chronicle’s 2003 Best of Austin poll. In March of 2005, The Bards collected an Austin Music Award for the Bards as Best Novelty Band, the first time any Celtic band has won. Gunn’s solo CD *Soul of a Harper* won the Best Cover Art category that year.

In a town famous for almost every musical genre *except* Celtic music, Marc Gunn has raised the bar and held it high. Using the musical past and a vivid imagination bolstered with ambition and drive, he blazes trails from terra firma to cyberspace, encouraging others to follow.

## Marc Gunn Booking & Press

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For more information about Marc, including upcoming shows, high-quality press photos, please visit the following website:

[www.marcgunn.com](http://www.marcgunn.com)