

Press Kit – The Remarkables

On the web at: www.theremarkablesmusic.com

The Remarkables are a 4 piece unit from Auckland, New Zealand, playing music that can only be described as bluegrasscountryswing.

The repertoire varies wildly from the hot swing sounds of Paris in the 1940s to the smoky bar-rooms of Texas, with Bob Wills overtones and then mixed with the bluegrass sounds of East Kentucky.

Neil Finlay plays guitar and is the lead singer. He is well known as a bluesman, but is equally at home in Country Music and Jazz. In 2008 he released his debut solo blues album, Stop and Listen.

Bryan Christianson plays 5-string banjo with The Remarkables. He has appeared as a session musician on many NZ recordings in addition to his work with the Tui Award winning Wires & Wood.

Pete Parnham, one of the original founding members, re-joined the Remarkables on guitar and dobro in 2016, bringing a new feel to the band. Pete is well known in the bluegrass and folk scene in Auckland for his versatile and accomplished playing and singing.

Garry Trotman plays double bass in the band and sings the high vocal parts. He is an accomplished songwriter having recently released ‘Brand New Tradition’, an album of original songs. He is also a member of Wires & Wood.

The band has previously appeared at the 2014 Hamilton Acoustic Music Club festival, 2013/14 Whare Flat Folk festival, 2013 Auckland Folk Festival , the 2012 Wellington Folk Festival, various bars and folk-clubs around Auckland and also at the more intimate settings of House Concerts in the greater Auckland area. They were a headline act at the Oparau Acoustic Festival (November 2014), The Auckland Folk Festival (Jan 2015) , the Canterbury Folk Festival (Easter 2015) and the Wellington Folk Festival (October 2016)

Their debut album **Swinging On The Gate** has met with critical success, Graham Reid commenting: “No barriers hurdled, envelopes pushed or parameters breached, just damn fine stuff from people who know what they are doing . . . and how to do it very well indeed.”