

## IN COLLABORATION: THE MILK CARTON KIDS & SARAH JAROSZ

FEATURING ACCLAIMED MUSICIANS ALEX HARGREAVES, PAUL KOWERT AND NATHANIEL SMITH UNITE FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF ENGAGEMENTS THIS FALL



Grammy-nominated folk artists **The Milk Carton Kids & Sarah Jarosz**, along with Alex Hargreaves, Paul Kowert and Nathaniel Smith will offer a very special evening of collaborative performance in front of one microphone at some of the country's finest acoustic music venues.

Following their meeting at the renowned Telluride Bluegrass Festival in 2013, Sarah Jarosz and The Milk Carton Kids have pursued a collaboration with a depth and identity all its own. Their initial performances (on Austin City Limits and at Lincoln Center's American Songbook Series) have been widely heralded for the seamless harmony of the three singers, the unassailable virtuosity of the players, and the obvious if uncommon chemistry the young artists have found with one another. This Fall, they are presenting it, fully realized for the first time, in a limited tour of some of the country's finest performing arts centers and symphony halls.

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**Sarah Jarosz** is a multi-Grammy-nominated singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist who hails from just outside of Austin, TX and makes her home in New York City. Now 23-years-old, she graduated in 2013 from New England Conservatory with a degree in contemporary improvisation in the same month her third album, *Build Me Up From Bones*, was released. Jarosz, who fits comfortably where contemporary folk, Americana, and roots music intersect, has long been embraced for the depth and

maturity of her songwriting, her pure and nuanced vocals, and her instrumental mastery—switching between octave mandolin, banjo, guitar, and mandolin as the songs dictate. *Build Me Up From Bones* received two Grammy nominations and appeared on NPR’s Top Ten Folk and Americana albums for 2013. She has appeared on *Conan*, *Austin City Limits* twice, *A Prairie Home Companion*, and the BBC Series *The Transatlantic Sessions*.

Grammy-nominated flat-picking harmony duo **The Milk Carton Kids** have emerged in the last three years as a powerful voice defining the continuing folk tradition. An understated virtuosity defines The Milk Carton Kids to the delight of traditionalists and newcomers to the folk movement alike. Garrison Keillor has called them “absolute geniuses in close-harmony.” *The Los Angeles Times* lauds their latest Anti-Records release, *The Ash & Clay*, as displaying “absolute mastery of their craft” while Paste emphasizes the “intellectual sophistication of their songs, making The Milk Carton Kids an option for purists unsatisfied with some of the pop tendencies seeping in to the genre.” The band has appeared on *Conan*, *A Prairie Home Companion*, *Austin City Limits*, and the Coen Brothers’ & T Bone Burnett’s “Another Day/Another Time” concert film.

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Violinist **Alex Hargreaves** of Corvallis, Oregon, has been mentored by some of the greats in acoustic roots music and jazz. He has toured with Jerry Douglas, David Grisman, Bela Fleck, Danilo Perez, Darol Anger, Bruce Molsky, Noam Pikelny and has shared the stage with many others including Chris Thile, Mumford & Sons, Tim O’Brien and Sam Bush. Hargreaves performs regularly with Sarah Jarosz, appearing on her three acclaimed albums, as well as being featured on her Grammy-nominated instrumental, “Mansinneedof.” In February 2010, Hargreaves’ debut album, *Prelude*, was released featuring master acoustic musicians Mike Marshall, Grant Gordy and Paul Kowert, and special guests Bela Fleck and Noam Pikelny.

Bassist **Paul Kowert** grew up in Madison, Wisconsin. Upon graduating from The Curtis Institute of Music in 2009, he joined the band Punch Brothers and moved to Brooklyn, NY. Since then the band has made two albums and toured extensively throughout the US, UK and Europe, contributed music to “The Hunger Games,” “This is Forty,” and “Inside Llewyn Davis,” and appeared on *Conan*, *Leno*, *Letterman*, *Jools Holland*, *A Prairie Home Companion*, and *Austin City Limits*. In addition to playing with Punch Brothers, Paul has toured with Mike Marshall’s Big Trio, Dave Rawlings Machine, and Haas Kowert Tice.

Cellist **Nathaniel Smith**, a native of Brandon, Mississippi, now residing in Nashville, began studying the cello at the age of five. Mr. Smith has an impressive list of artists he has toured and/or collaborated with, most recently Sarah Jarosz, renowned Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster, and Jeremy Kittel. Sought after as a teacher, he has taught at Christian Howes’s Creative Strings Workshop in Columbus, Ohio; Leahy Music Camp in Ontario, Canada; and Mark O’Connor’s String Camp at Berklee College of Music in Boston.