

WELCOME TO THE 43RD TØNDER FESTIVAL

It's been five years since the Tønder Festival reinvented itself as a universe of music wrapped in a total experience of art, food, and the well-known friendly atmosphere that we all look forward to at the end of August each year. Tønder Festival is still built on the same foundation: the music, the friendliness, the audience, the vast army of volunteers, the local and regional support.

In 2017 we are proud to present new developments on the Festival site, bringing surprises while preserving traditions. This year, you can explore two new theme zones and enjoy concerts in improved settings.

Outlaw Village is a new area on the Festival site, inspired by North America in the 1800s, and symbolised by a later era's mountain and bluegrass music. The Green Street (Grønnegade) neighbourhood centres on healthy, organic foodstuffs and on the Wadden Sea area with its unique natural vistas, culinary adventures and cultural experiences.

Our music programme, too, offers surprises in the form of new, exciting names you can hear at Tønder Festival and only at Tønder Festival, as well as the pleasure of reviving old acquaintances and hearing bands we have heard before and love to hear again. Improvements to the concert experience include moving some of the stages round to achieve optimal sound. And two new stages, Bolero and the Pump House (Pumpehuset) make their debut.

We hope you can take the time to come to Tønder on Sunday 20 August already, when the 4+ Project proposes a variety of entertainment in the Tønder area in the days up to Tønder Festival. Many thanks for choosing Tønder Festival this year. Thanks too to all the volunteers, sponsors, supporters and our musicians for making Tønder Festival possible. Best wishes for a fantastic Festival experience - we are looking forward to seeing you!

Maria Theessink, Artistic Director and Kirstine Uhrbrand, Administrative Director.

A. J. CROCE (USA)

The return of American singer and songwriter A. J. Croce, who first played at Tønder Festival in 2016. With musical roots in the vast American traditions of blues and jazz, A. J. - Adrian James - Croce was born in 1971, son of the well-known songwriter Jim Croce. After a childhood spent picking up the song and piano basics listening to Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder, A. J. Croce started playing in public and won his first record contract aged 19. His first releases were produced by notabilites: T-Bone Burnett and Jim Keltner, and he has always availed himself of established names in the studio. His latest album, Twelve Tales from 2014, was produced by the eminent, late Allen Toussaint and Jack Clement. A. J. Croce is an original American songwriter who found his musical feet at a very early age.

www.ajcrocemusic.com

KLUBSCENEN • SATURDAY 10:00 PM | TELT 2 "GENTLEMEN'S CIRCLE" • SUNDAY 3:15 PM | BOLERO • SUNDAY 10:00 PM

AFENGINN (DK) & GLAS (DK, NO, FO, FI)

Their latest album *Opus* confirms that Afenginn is one of the most courageous and original bands on the Danish music scene. Constructed along the lines of a classical symphony, the recording reveals a vibrant, virtuoso group playing fearlessly across musical frontiers. *Opus* is Afenginn's sixth album, and suitably enough it won six stars from the Aarhus music magazine *Gaffa*'s reviewer. Many other media sources at home and abroad have given *Opus* full marks. Afenginn have been around since 2002. They blend Eastern European and Scandinavian folk music, and their combination of advanced time signatures and scary outbursts with classical inspiration has won them many prizes, among them eight Danish Music Awards. Afenginn has toured Europe, USA, Canada and Australia. At Tønder Festival 2017 Afenginn will be appearing with the Scandinavian vocal group GLAS, who are influenced by the Bulgarian choral song tradition. GLAS numbers six female members: Elisabeth Vik (Norway), Katrina Petersen, (Faroes), Tine Refsgaard, (Denmark), Marte Schau, (Norway), Else Schantz Juutilainen, (Finland) and Maria Kynne, (Denmark).

www.afenginn.dk

TELT 2 • THURSDAY 11:30 PM

ALLAN OLSEN (DK)

As a songwriter and performer, Allan Olsen is forever pushing the envelope. His live shows can be solo, with surrealistic tales and acoustic accompaniment, or with a full rock band. "I write and sing about all the stuff the others won't touch. That's fine by me," he says. Allan Olsen has always followed his own, winding road. In 2013 he set new standards for record releases in Denmark. His album *JØWT* (Fine) was published exclusively in Northern Jutland, for sale only in local grocers' shops. Nonetheless *JØWT* was one of the biggest-selling releases of the year in Denmark. In a 40-year career, Allan Olsen has put out 18 recordings and books, and won many awards, including 6 Danish Music Awards.

In the autumn of 2016, Allan Olsen toured with his band for the first time in 10 years. Århus free music magazine *Gaffa* gave the show five stars and wrote, "Allan Olsen and his top-flight band give a performance that commands respect." The new Allan Olsen album *Hudsult* is released in May 2017.

www.allanolsen.dk

PUMPEHUSET "ARTIST TALK" • THURSDAY 1:00 PM | TELT 1 • FRIDAY 11:30 PM

ALTAN (IRL)

Altan was founded by the married couple Frank Kennedy and Mairéad Ni Mhaonaigh and grew through the 90s to a position among Ireland's top traditional bands. Their musical source was the traditional fiddle music played in countless sessions in Donegal kitchens and pubs, mixed with obscure flute tunes collected by Frank Kennedy in the north. This combination, added to the fact that not many people were familiar with Donegal music, meant that Altan were a breath of fresh air on Ireland's traditional music scene. In 1992 Frank Kennedy was diagnosed with cancer, but he continued to play, record and tour with the band until his death two years later. After Frank Kennedy's death, Altan went on to release the album *Blackwater* on Virgin Records, the first time a traditional Irish band had been signed by a major record label. This is Altan's sixth appearance at Tønder Festival, and to add to the festivity of the occasion, 2017 marks Altan's 30th anniversary.

<http://altan.ie>

TELT 1 • SUNDAY 7:00 PM

ANDERSON EAST (USA)

In 2016, American Anderson East and his rocking band had the temperature in the red in Tent Two. Blues, country, soul and rock in generous helpings, served in Anderson East's soulful power vocal. The good news is, he's back this year. His popularity has grown even more, partly thanks to the song *What Would It Take*, which features on the soundtrack to the film *Fifty Shades Darker*. He has sung Bob Dylan's *Forever Young* for an advert for Ram Trucks. Anderson East won fame in USA in 2015 with the album *Delilah*, produced by Dave Cobb, who also has worked on productions for some of the current big names in country rock, Jason Isbell, Sturgill Simpson and Chris Stapleton. In a video interview backstage last year at Tønder Festival, Anderson East said: "I have no great dreams about the future. The main thing for me is to do shows and contact the audience. So far, we have gone way beyond my dreams. So no more dreams. The surprises are much better."

www.andersoneast.com

TELT 2 • SATURDAY 0:45 AM | OPEN AIR • SUNDAY 3:15 PM

BEOGA (IRL)

If you have heard Ed Sheeran's *Galway Girl*, then you have heard Beoga. The Northern Irish group with flute player Brian Finnegan provide the Irish tones that open the Sheeran song that charmed the world in early 2017. The music is Minute 5 from Beoga's album *How to Tune a Fish* (2011). The band also play on the Ed Sheeran song *Nancy Mulligan*. But long before Ed Sheeran fell for them, Beoga was one of the bands that launched the new wave of Irish traditional tunes and songs set in magnificent arrangements that won a new audience for Irish music. Beoga's special sound derives from the two accordions, played by Damian McKee and Seán Óg Graham - who also plays guitar in the band - piano from Liam Bradley, bodhran by Eamon Murray and Niamh Dunne, who sings and plays fiddle. Beoga have toured all over the world and released their seventh *Before We Change our Mind* in 2016.

www.beogamusic.com

TELT 2 • THURSDAY 8:15 PM | OPEN AIR "SKOLEKONCERT" • FRIDAY 11:15 AM | VISEMØLLEN • FRIDAY 6:45 PM |

BOLERO • SUNDAY 1:00 AM

COLTER WALL (CAN)

Only 21 years old but already the object of wide appreciation of his manifest musical talent, Colter Wall from Saskatchewan in Canada sets about the traditioners and comes up with new angles in folk, bluegrass and country. His voice is a raw, emotive baritone, his guitar and banjo fingerpicking top class, and the songs are classical story-telling. Colter Wall's inspiration comes from the masters: Hank Williams, Robert Johnson, Johnny Cash and Bob Dylan, and from newer sources: *Shovels & Rope*, Jack White and Ray Lamontagne. In 2015 Colter Wall released an album of seven songs *Imaginary Appalachia*, and in 2017 a full length album *Colter Wall*. *Rolling Stone* magazine includes Colter Wall on their 2016 list of "Ten new country names you have to know." Popular in USA, opened for Lucinda Williams at the legendary Ryman Auditorium in Nashville and on an extended tour in 2017 that will bring him to Europe, Colter Wall is giving his only Danish concert this summer at Tønder Festival.

www.colterwall.com

BOLERO • FRIDAY 7:00 PM | KLUBSCENEN • SUNDAY 12:15 PM | TELT 2 "GENTLEMEN'S CIRCLE" • SUNDAY 3:15 PM

DALLAHAN (SCO/IRL)

Dallahan are based in Scotland, but their musical roots are definitely in Irish traditional music. The four members of Dallahan have very varied backgrounds: Scots traditional music, Balkan, jazz, funk and classical, so this band presents everything from Transylvanian songs to Irish dance music. Dallahan are Irish-born singer and guitarist Jack Badcock, Ciarán Ryan on banjo, mandolin and violin, Hungarian Jani Lang on violin and Andrew Waite on accordion. They are also bringing Bev Morris on bass to Tønder Festival. Dallahan's first album *When the Day is on the Turn* had music critics reaching for superlatives, and was nominated Album of the Year 2015 at MG Alba Scots Trad Music Awards. Their second offering *Matter of Time* appeared in April 2016 and is nominated Album of the Year at this year's Scots Trad Music Awards. Dallahan tour USA, Canada, Britain and Europe, and have appeared at major festivals like Celtic Connections, Perthshire Amber and Milwaukee Irish Fest.

www.dallahanmusic.com

PUMPEHUSET • THURSDAY 9:00 PM | TELT 2 • FRIDAY 11:30 PM

DANIEL NORGREN (S)

This 33 year-old Swedish musician fills venues all over Europe with his dynamic yet emotional songs accompanied in simple style. Daniel Norgren is inspired by folk, blues and the American singer – songwriter tradition, adding a melancholic, nordic tone to the mix.

Daniel Norgren, from Borås in Sweden, made his debut in 2006 with the album *Kerosene Dreams*, an album mainly performed on home-made instruments, with Norgren's raw, tremolando vocal prominent in the acoustic picture. There have been six subsequent releases, the most recent being *The Green Stone* from 2015. Music critics praise Daniel Norgren, as do his growing audience. He has often played in Denmark, in September at Atlas in Aarhus and at Vega in Copenhagen in October 2016. The band at The Tønder Festival: Daniel Norgren, guitar, vocal, Anders Grahn, bass, Erik Berntsson, drums.

www.superpumarecords.com/danielnorgren

TELT 2 • THURSDAY 6:30 PM

DANNI NICHOLLS (UK)

British singer and songwriter Danni Nicholls has country, folk and American roots music in her bloodstream. She is a musician with two well-reviewed albums out, both recorded in Nashville with some of the best players in the capital of country. Danni Nicholls, from Bedford in England, fell passionately in love with American folk, country and rock'n'roll thanks to her granny's record collection. Then she inherited a guitar, started playing, writing and composing, and at 16 Danni Nicholls was performing in pubs and clubs. Through a friend she contacted the top American producer and musician Chris Donohue (Emmylou Harris, Elvis Costello, Robert Plant et al.) She went to Nashville, and Chris Donohue produced her studio album *A Little Redemption* in 2013. One of the session musicians is dobro and lap steel legend Al Perkins (Dylan, Stones, Stephen Stills et al.) The album was well received. Its successor, *Mockingbird Lane* (2015), also recorded with Nashville musicians and produced by Donohue, won even more praise.

<http://danninicholls.com>

VISEMOLLEN • THURSDAY 3:15 PM | PUMPEHUSET • FRIDAY 7:30 PM | TELT 2 "WOMEN'S CIRCLE" • SATURDAY 2:15 PM

DAOIRÍ FARRELL TRIO (IRL)

All that talk about him in Ireland and out in the world could be what's making Daoirí Farrell a hot name on the traditional Irish music scene. In April 2017 he won two prizes at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards: Best Traditional Track Award for the song Van Diemen's Land from his album True Born Irishman (2016) as well as the Horizon Award, given to the best newcomer.

Daoirí (pronounced Derry) Farrell sings his Irish heart out and is a gifted bouzouki player. He grew up in a family where names like Christy Moore, Andy Irvine, Planxty and The Bothy Band studded daily talk. In 2009 he put out his first album The First Turn. He has since worked at developing his music skills, studying Music Performance at the World Academy of Music at the University of Limerick. On the live scene, Farrell has toured in a variety of groupings in Ireland, France, Germany and Canada. This summer, Daoirí Farrell will be appearing at festivals all over the world, in Denmark exclusively at Tønder Festival.

<http://daoiri.com>

VISEMØLLEN • SATURDAY 0:00 AM | KLUBSCENEN • SUNDAY 8:00 PM

DARLINGSIDE (USA)

Gathered round a single microphone, the four members of Darlingside seem a closely-knit unit of fine vocal harmony. At last year's Folk Alliance International in Kansas City, Darlingside won the title of Artist of the Year, and their album Birds Say was praised by, among others, Huffington Post, who called it "one of the great albums of 2015." Darlingside is Don Mitchell, guitar, banjo and vocal, Auyon Mukharji, mandolin, violin and vocal, Harris Pasettiner, guitar, cello and vocal, and David Senft, bass, bass drum and vocal. They all live in Cambridge, Massachusetts. They play intelligently arranged indie folk and their lyrics are the humorous products of a shared stream of twisted consciousness.

www.darlingside.com

BOLERO • THURSDAY 1:00 AM

DORTHE GERLACH (DK)

Dorthe Gerlach is known as half of the duo Hush, but since 2014 she has been focusing on her solo career. In 2015 Dorthe Gerlach put out a solo album Natlys (Night Light), 11 songs in Danish. While Hush plays country pop in English, Dorthe Gerlach's own songs in Danish are more of a personal statement. "A dark pop record from deep within the echo chamber" is how Dorthe Gerlach herself describes the album. Besides this solo release and a long tour in 2015, Dorthe Gerlach has also been working with jazz bassist Chris Minh Doky. Now it's Tønder Festival's turn. Dorthe Gerlach will appear solo and with Hush, back on the live stage after a longish break. The other half of Hush is guitarist Michael Hartmann, who also produced Gerlach's Natlys. Hush had a major hit with their debut album A Lifetime in 2004 and have five Danish Music Awards nominations to their name.

<http://dorthegerlach.dk>

BOLERO • SATURDAY 10:00 AM | TELT 2 "WOMEN'S CIRCLE" • SATURDAY 2:15 PM

THE DUSTBOWL REVIVAL (USA)

Last year, when Dustbowl Revival first appeared at Tønder Festival, our audience learned that this was a serious party band. So they're back this year. Dustbowl Revival update bluegrass, swing, hot jazz, blues, soul and New Orleans funk: eight musicians on stage, fronted by singer Liz Beebe and guitarist and singer Zach Lupetin, welting out their undisguised love of American roots music on guitar, mandolin, ukulele, washboard, violin, trumpet and miscellaneous other instruments. Dustbowl Revival found each other in Venice Beach by Los Angeles in 2007. They seized on the US string band and brass band traditions and quickly made a name for themselves. Dustbowl Revival's new studio album - their fifth - appears in June 2017. In 2013, LA Weekly crowned Dustbowl Revival Best Live Band, and recent years have seen them winning front page raves and audience hearts in both USA and Europe.

www.dustbowlrevival.com

TELT 1 • THURSDAY 3:15 PM | OPEN AIR • FRIDAY 9:30 PM

FARA (SCO)

Fara is four young female Scottish musicians from Kirkwall in Orkney. They played at Tønder Festival in 2015, then released the album *Cross The Line* and were nominated at BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards 2017. Fara members Jennifer Austin, Kristan Harvey, Jeana Leslie and Catriona Price have a fresh take on Scots folk music, particularly music from Orkney. They mix traditional Orkney tunes and their own compositions. The band's musicians have known each other since early childhood and grew up with traditional music. They trained at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and The Royal Academy of Music. Fara began as The Chairettes, an occasional backing band for veterans The Chair. Very soon, however, the young musicians found their own feet and Fara was born. Subsequent career highlights include BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award and BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year.

www.faramusic.co.uk

PUMPEHUSET • THURSDAY 7:30 PM | VISEMØLLEN • FRIDAY 8:30 PM

FOLKBALTICA ENSEMBLE (DK, D)

FolkBaltica Ensemble consists of around 50 young musicians from Schleswig-Holstein in Germany and from south Denmark. The orchestra began as part of the annual folkBALTICA Festival, which takes place this year in late April. FolkBaltica Ensemble is the festival's youth orchestra and it crosses borders both geographically and musically, spanning both traditional and contemporary folk music. Tønder Festival has long encouraged the growth of talent in the folk music world, and so it is natural that FolkBaltica Ensemble be invited back to appear here. Violinist Harald Haugaard, artistic director of folkBALTICA Festival, leads the ensemble, aided by his two capable colleagues Andreas Tophøj and Rasmus Zeeberg. At the past three Tønder Festivals, the FolkBaltica Ensemble has delighted audiences and this year will surely be no exception. FolkBaltica Ensemble will also play a concert for a huge assembly of schoolchildren from both sides of the Danish/German border.

www.folkbaltica.de/ensemble-2

OPEN AIR "SKOLEKONCERT" • FRIDAY 10:30 AM | TELT 2 • SUNDAY 10:30 AM

FOLKEKONS (DK)

Folk music in Denmark is alive and well, not least thanks to the folk music school at the South Denmark Academy of Music and Drama department in Esbjerg, better known as FolkeKons. The school has produced many talents through the years, fostered by the passion of the musicians and teachers involved. Tønder Festival's audience can experience this for themselves when nine students from FolkeKons take the stage in the Old Mill on the Friday. This will be a concert of traditional and contemporary music with roots in the Danish tradition and feelers out to all manner of other music. "Folk music is a communal affair - that's what distinguishes it from other styles. It is inclusive," say the FolkeKons musicians.

www.sdmk.dk/uddannelser/uddannelser/folkemusiker.html

VISEMØLLEN • FRIDAY 6:45 PM

FOLK SPOT 2017: FLOATING SOFA QUARTET (DK,S,SF), WORLD ON A STRING (DK), SPØKET I KØKET (S,DK), MALLEBROK (DK), DET YDERSTE HAV (DK), ZENOBIA (DK), ANDREAS TOPHØJ & RUNE BARSLUND (DK), JULIE ALAPNES (N)

Nordic traditions meet the wide world when Folk Spot Denmark 2017 presents eight Danish and Scandinavian folk bands. Folk Spot Denmark, besides giving concerts for the Tønder Festival audience, is also an international showcase for the music business abroad. Key professionals come to Tønder Festival from Norway, Germany, England and Canada to hear world-class Danish and Scandinavian music, as well as to see one of the world's best festivals for themselves. The Folk Spot concerts on Friday and Saturday provide an excellent opportunity to take the pulse of the current Danish and Nordic folk and roots scenes. The Norwegian contribution is part of an exchange deal between Folk Spot Denmark and the Norwegian showcase festival FolkeLarm. All eight bands and soloists will be playing showcase concerts at Tønder Festival 2017 as part of Folk Spot Denmark.

KLUBSCENEN • FRIDAY & SATURDAY, SEE PROGRAM

FOY VANCE (IRL)

The world has noticed Ulster songwriter Foy Vance, whose breakthrough album is his most recent, *The Wild Swan*. Foy Vance's artistry has many influences, but American roots music is fundamental. Now 41, Foy Vance has been round the block as a touring musician, releasing his first album in 2007. His renown began to spread among musicians like Bonnie Raitt, Elton John and Ed Sheeran. Foy Vance's second album *Joy of Nothing* (2013), whereon Bonnie Raitt and Ed Sheeran are among the guest performers, was praised by the music media. Ed Sheeran invited Foy Vance as support on tours and diverse tv shows. In the summer of 2016, Foy Vance opened for Elton John on part of his *Wonderful Crazy Tour* in Europe. Tønder Festival, once again, is first across the line: here comes an artist of high international class for the first time at a Danish festival.

<http://foyvance.com>

TELT 1 • THURSDAY 9:45 PM | TELT 2 • FRIDAY 6:30 PM

FRIGG (FIN)

A Frigg concert is a storm of acrobatic turbocharged fiddle at supersonic speed. We saw it in 2011 when the Finnish power folk group had the Tønder Festival audience screaming with excitement. Now Frigg are back. The group builds around Antti Järvalä and his cousins Esko and Alina. The Järvalä clan are the royalty of Finnish folk music, and for several generations the family have been producing great folk musicians who have had indelible influence on Finnish folk music traditions. Frigg play true to the tradition, but their tunes are inspired by a multitude of different expressions. Since 2002 Frigg have released four studio albums and have been extremely active on the live stage, where the band's real qualities are given free rein. Frigg have travelled the world and its members are to be heard in other constellations, such as JPP, Tsuumi Sound System and Baltic Crossing.

www.frigg.fi

OPEN AIR • SATURDAY 12:30 PM

GENTLEMEN'S CIRCLE (USA, CAN, IRL)

Sunday afternoon offers a unique opportunity to see and hear a selection of top international songwriters on the same stage. You've heard of Women's Circle: now here comes Gentlemen's Circle. This is a series of male songwriters who take turns of stepping forward to present and perform, who play along on each others' songs, and tell lots of good stories. From USA, Nick Panken of Spirit Family Reunion and A.J. Croce. From Canada we have William Prince and newcomer Colter Wall. And from Ireland Aodán Coyne of Socks in the Frying Pan. To break the male line, the Danish singer and songwriter Dorthé Gerlach will introduce the musicians and coordinate the afternoon.

TELT 2 • SUNDAY 3:15 PM

GRANT-LEE PHILLIPS (USA)

At 53, Grant-Lee Phillips has worked his way into the elite of American indie folk rock, building his solo career since 2000. Before that, he fronted Grant Lee Buffalo, a band that saw significant success up through the 90s. The band's debut album *Fuzzy* (1993) was hailed as the album of the year by R.E.M.'s Michael Stipe. Grant Lee Buffalo put out several more albums before breaking up in 1999. Grant-Lee Phillips' first solo album was *Ladies Love Oracle* (2000). The following year came *Mobilize*, with Phillips mixing electronica and conventional instruments, notably playing everything himself. The album won broad recognition, and Grant-Lee Phillips has subsequently consolidated his position on the americana scene as a great singer and an important songwriter. His latest effort *The Narrows* (2016) simplifies the acoustic picture with a return to the traditions of a bygone USA, not least the native America with which Phillips identifies through his First Nation ancestry.

www.grantleephillips.com

TELT 2 • SATURDAY 7:45 PM | BOLERO • SUNDAY 1:00 PM

GREG RUSSELL AND CIARAN ALGAR (UK)

Two young talents with rapidly-growing careers, Greg Russell, guitar and vocal, and Ciaran Algar, violin and vocal, have established themselves in the past few years as names to be noted on the British folk scene. Both grew up with folk music, and they inject freshness, energy and daring into the traditional mix. Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar met in 2011, formed a duo and soon had a recording contract. Their debut album *The Queen's Lover* appeared in 2012, and in January 2013 they won a BBC Radio2 Young Folk Award. In November 2013, they put out *The Call*, which was very well received by the critics. BBC Radio2 awarded them another prize, *The Horizon Award*, for best newcomer in 2014. In 2016 Russel and Algar released *The Silent Majority*, and their engagement diary for 2017 is well-packed with concerts and festivals all over Britain. Tønder Festival's audience can look forward to this second chance (they were here in 2015) to hear a stunning duo.

www.russellalgar.co.uk

TELT 2 • SUNDAY 5:45 PM

HANS THEESSINK & TERRY EVANS (NL, USA)

Born in Holland in 1948, guitarist and songwriter Hans Theessink has a huge, loyal following in Denmark. He has toured for over 40 years and has made countless recordings. Hans Theessink shares a lot of Tønder Festival's story, for he has attended most years since the mid-70s. This year, Hans Theessink is coming to Tønder Festival with his American colleague, singer and songwriter Terry Evans, who has worked with Ry Cooder and Bobby King. Terry Evans (born 1937), has released many solo albums, and his contribution to the film soundtrack for *Crossroads* from 1986 gave added impetus to his career. Theessink and Evans have often toured together and have made numerous albums, the most recent being *True & Blue*, nominated for an Austrian Amadeus Award in 2016.

Hans Theessink tours Denmark regularly, and in March and April 2017 is again on tour here with his Danish guitar partner Knud Møller. This is Theessink and Evans' only Danish festival in 2017.

www.theessink.com

TELT 2 • SATURDAY 9:30 PM | BOLERO • SUNDAY 7:00 PM

HOMESICK HANK (DK)

The Danish band Homesick Hank formed in 2002, finding their feet instinctively in what was then known as alternative country. Their debut album *Hey* from 2004 introduced the concept of nordicana. In 2006, their second album *Leave It Behind* appeared, recorded in Kentucky by Paul Oldham, brother of William Oldham, better known as Bonnie Prince Billy, who performs on the record. Continuing their work with prominent American names, Homesick Hank have, on their latest album *Beautiful Life* from 2015, assistance from Mary Gauthier, well known to Tønder Festival audiences since she appeared here in 2015 and 2016. Also singing on the recording is Camilla Munck, who was the singer in Wynona, another Danish band who set high standards for alt.country. Homesick Hank deal with the darker sides of life, and as a reviewer on the Århus music magazine *Gaffa* wrote, a battered Hank seems most at home in the sad and shady northern woods.

www.homesickhankmusic.com

VISEMØLLEN • THURSDAY 6:45 PM

HUSH (DK)

Danish band Hush have been on a long sabbatical, but now they are back, and it will be Tønder Festival that welcomes this fine country rock band back to the live stage. The leading roles in Hush are played by singer Dorthe Gerlach and guitarist Michael Hartmann, who began working together in the late 90s, moving musically from rock to the pop, country and folk blend that have made Hush famous. It was their debut album *A Lifetime* that established their name in 2004. Hush went on to make four other albums, among them a live recording with the Radio Denmark Light Orchestra in 2012. Hush have sold over 100000 albums, been nominated for five Danish Music Awards, won the European Border Breaker Award and toured Europe and Canada. In 2015, Dorthe Gerlach published her solo album *Natlys (Night Light)* and has worked with jazz bassist Chris Minh Doky, among others.

www.hush.dk

TELT 2 • FRIDAY 1:45 PM | PUMPEHUSET "ARTIST TALK" • FRIDAY 11:00 AM

ÍMAR (SCO, IRL)

From Glasgow, this new quintet numbers members of Mànran, Rura and Talisk. The band works with traditional Irish and Scots music, and according to bodhrán player Adam Brown, "It's just functioned perfectly from the first time we sat down and played together." The style Ímar has to offer is undiluted, authentic traditional music. Individually and in their various band contexts, these five musicians have won an imposing array of awards including BBC Young Folk Awards and numerous All-Britain and All-Ireland titles in the world of traditional music. All five know each other through Glasgow's vibrant live music scene, and through Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Éireann, an Irish traditional music network. Ímar's members are: Adam Brown, bodhrán, (Rura), Ryan Murphy, uilleann pipes, flute, (Mànran), Tomás Callister, violin, Adam Rhodes, bouzouki, (both Barrule/Mabon), and Mohsen Amini, concertina (Talisk).

www.imarband.com

KLUBSCENEN • FRIDAY 10:45 PM | TELT 1 • SATURDAY 1:45 PM

JACOB DINESEN (DK)

In a fairy-tale like sequence of events, Tønder boy Jacob Dinesen, who played at Tønder Festival for the first time in 2012, has gone on to win national fame. Now 21 years old, singer, songwriter and guitarist Jacob Dinesen has released his second album *Brace Against The Storm*, which came out in 2016. The hit from the album *Roll With Me* was the most played number on Radio Denmark's P4 for many weeks, and has so far been watched over 300,000 times on YouTube. Jacob Dinesen's 2017 diary contains over 80 concerts, among them, of course, an appearance at Tønder Festival. Alex Nyborg Madsen of DR's P4 said the year before last that Jacob Dinesen was "one of the biggest talents Denmark has seen for years." That talent has taken off, and Tønder Festival, Jacob Dinesen's home ground, is proud to present, once again, our local star.

<http://www.jacobdinesen.com>

OPEN AIR "SKOLEKONCERT" • FRIDAY 12:00 PM | TELT 1 • SATURDAY 0:30 AM

JOHN MORELAND (USA)

It was Steve Earle's song Rich Man's War that moved John Moreland from hardcore metal to folk music. From Tulsa in Oklahoma, with a voice graced in the same dust that tinted Woody Guthrie's Dust Bowl ballads, John Moreland's songs are rooted in that very same soil. His lyrics tell of crushed hopes and dreams of life on the fringes of a US town hit by recession and despair. John Moreland has released six albums and three EPs in under ten years, both in his own name and with rock bands Black Gold Band and The Dust Bowl Souls. Steve Earle's inspiration is clear. The most recent album, called High on Tulsa Heat (2015), offers both quiet folk ballads and more rocking arrangements. John Moreland played in Denmark in January 2016, when he opened for Jason Isbell at Vega in Copenhagen. Now he is back, and his concert at Tønder Festival is his only performance in Denmark in the summer of 2017.

www.johnmoreland.net

TELT 1 • FRIDAY 9:45 PM

JONAH BLACKSMITH (DK)

By now, we know them well, the brothers Simon and Thomas Alstrup from Thy in north west Jutland. Along with family and friends they celebrate their grandfather Johannes, the blacksmith in question. Last year, they rocked the Club Stage at Tønder Festival and gave us an unforgettable concert on the Open Air Stage with videos and other visuals. This year, Jonah Blacksmith will top the bill, closing the Tent One Sunday night show. Since Jonah Blacksmith last played Tønder Festival, things have developed. The autumn was spent opening for Allan Olsen, and Simon and Thomas played in Allan Olsen's band. In February this year, the follow-up appeared to their debut album Northern Trail from 2014. This is Jonah Blacksmith ploughing their own furrow, stadium roots with shades of Band of Horses and Sigur Rós. They themselves call it Thy folk music. Music scouts have spotted Jonah Blacksmith, and they are on the Canadian Winnipeg Folk Festival poster, part of their Canadian tour in the summer of 2017, a tour that originated at Tønder Festival last year.

www.jonahblacksmith.com

TELT 1 • SUNDAY 8:45 PM

KAIA KATER (CAN)

23 year old Kaia Kater from Québec is a musician we will definitely be hearing more about. Her banjo playing rests firmly in the tradition, her songwriting is superlative, and her singing voice is warm and melodious. Kaia Kater straddles various cultures. She grew up in Toronto, with an Afro-Caribbean father. Her musical inspiration is partly Canadian folk music, partly traditional Appalachian music. She studied at Davis & Elkins College in West Virginia, where she specialised in the culture and music of the Appalachians. Kaia Kater's songwriting tackles the realities of the day: school shootings and Black Lives Matter are among her topics. Kaia Kater's latest album is Nine Pin, from the spring of 2016. The Guardian's review described the album as "a triangle between bluegrass, Nina Simone and Toni Morrison." Rolling Stone put Kaia Kater on their 2016 list of "ten new country names you ought to know."

www.kaiakater.com

BOLERO • THURSDAY 10:00 PM | PUMPEHUSET • FRIDAY 3:00 PM | TELT 2 "WOMEN'S CIRCLE" • SATURDAY 2:15 PM |

VISEMØLLEN • SATURDAY 10:15 PM

KARL BLAU (USA)

The title of his latest album *Introducing Karl Blau* is a bit misleading, since singer and songwriter Karl Blau has over 40 releases to his name. He comes from the north-west, halfway between the cultural hotspots of Seattle, USA, and Vancouver in Canada. As part of the Knw-Yr-Own/K Records collective, Karl Blau has worked his way through many styles of musical expression in his 20-year career, and they call him one of the heroes of the north-western indie scene. A trip through Karl Blau's impressive back catalogue reveals a wide range, testifying to his intense curiosity for trends in music. On *Introducing Karl Blau* he has changed track again, and with top-notch producer Tucker Martine (of The Avett Brothers, The Decemberists and *My Morning Jacket*, among others) at the controls, we meet a tuneful country crooner interpreting great songwriters like Townes van Zandt, Waylon Jennings and Tom Rush. Tønder Festival is the only Danish festival in 2017 for Karl Blau and his band.

www.karlblau.com

VISEMØLLEN • SATURDAY 5:00 PM | KLUBSCENEN • SUNDAY 10:30 AM

KENTAUR (DK)

The Danish band Kentaur were warmly praised for their first recording, the EP *Vertebra By Vertebra*, published in June 2015. They have subsequently filled many of the concert halls and are definitely on the way up. The Tønder Festival audience has a treat in store in this new formation on the Danish music scene. Kentaur's music is atmospheric, original, sometimes melancholic, opening impressive musical vistas infused with soul, pop, electronica and classical music. Their deep roots in the Scandinavian tradition are always discernable. Kentaur comprises Marc Bjørn Roland, vocal, and producers Mikkel Juul Jensen and Søren Stenager. When Kentaur play live, the group adds Nicolai Kaas Claesson, bass, Matias Wolf, drums, and Maria Jagd, violin. The Århus music magazine *Gaffa* gave five stars for the Kentaur concert in Jazzhouse last year, writing: "The instrumentation may be mainly acoustic, but this group have the format to touch their listeners emotionally with their songs and build their compositions to a powerful climax. A band with enormous class."

<https://da-dk.facebook.com/kentaurofficial>

KLUBSCENEN • THURSDAY 10:00 PM

KING JAMES & THE SPECIAL MEN (USA)

The Tønder Festival audience have already had two helpings of fun served by the seven-man musical dynamo, New Orleans band King James & The Special Men with singer Jimmy Horn. Funky, classic rhythm 'n' blues directly from the streets of New Orleans feeding off Roy Brown, Fats Domino and Professor Longhair. Horns, guitar, piano, bass and drums: this is old school rhythm 'n' blues. King James & The Special Men are a live band that can wake even a tired festival audience to life and get them dancing. Their album *Act Like You Know* appears in 2017, and you can find them every Monday at the Saturn Bar in New Orleans. At Tønder Festival this year, we have the added punch of Young Seminole Hunters: King James & The Special Men joining forces with real Mardi Gras Indians (see article on page 104).

specialmanindustries.com

BOLERO • FRIDAY 1:00 AM | KLUBSCENEN • SATURDAY 11:45 PM | OPEN AIR • SUNDAY 5:00 PM

LAURA MO (DK)

An original Danish singer and songwriter who fills the stage with wild energy, thoughtful lyrics and a voice which one critic called "delicate, almost tender, but with deep overtones," Laura Mo comes from the north of Jutland and has contributed to the Danish music scene since the mid noughties. She released her debut album *Alkymi* in 2007 and *Motel* in 2012. Both releases won stacks of fine reviews, two Danish Music Awards nominations and two Gaffa Prize nominations. Laura Mo has also made the album 1717, on which her famous Danish colleagues Povl Dissing, Allan Olsen and Rasmus Lyberth sing choruses. 2017 sees new music from Laura Mo, who has travelled the country delighting clubs and festivals with her music, either solo, armed with banjo, guitar and bass drum, or with her trio, who supply bass and guitar.

www.lauramo.dk

TELT 2 "WOMEN'S CIRCLE" • SATURDAY 2:15 PM | KLUBSCENEN • SUNDAY 6:15 PM

LEYLA MCCALLA (USA)

Her music curls elegantly and with assured respect round the folk traditions of Louisiana and Haiti. Leyla McCalla was born in New York in 1985, of Haitian parents. Haitian culture and the fight for human rights loomed large in the home, and consciousness of her roots and cultural background became a natural element in Leyla McCalla's musical universe. Leyla McCalla is a classically trained cellist and she plays banjo and guitar as well. Today she lives in New Orleans, and cajun and Louisiana culture in general have won their place with this versatile musician. She has recorded and toured with the Carolina Chocolate Drops (who played at Tønder Festival in 2013) and, in 2014, she released a solo album *Vari-Coloured Song* – a tribute to the Afro-american poet and activist Langston Hughes. In the spring of 2016, her second album appeared, *A Day For The Hunter, A Day For The Prey*. For the first time solo in Denmark and her only Danish festival in 2017.

www.leylamccalla.com

OPEN AIR • THURSDAY 2:15 PM | BOLERO • FRIDAY 10:00 AM

LION BEAR FOX (CAN)

Out of Vancouver in Canada, this storm of a trio is raging over Canada's music scene right now. The three musicians are highly qualified in their genres: folk, rock, pop and a spoonful of West Coast growl. Their sound is massive, the vocals powerful and the songs relevant. All three - Christopher Arruda, Ryan McMahon and Cory Woodward - are songwriters and can perform solo. They united in 2012 and the following year produced and released their EP *We'd Be Good Men* with six of their own songs and one cover number: Ray LaMontagne's *Henry Nearly Killed Me*. The record gained attention from Vancouver to Halifax, and the trio subsequently toured all over Canada. In February 2017, Lion Bear Fox released a full length album. The Tønder Festival audience will surely love this scoop from Canada, and, as so often before, see that Tønder Festival is ahead of the game in presenting musicians on their way to the top.

www.theionthebearthefox.com

VISEMØLLEN • THURSDAY 10:15 PM | PUMPEHUSET • FRIDAY 9:00 PM | OPEN AIR • SUNDAY 1:30 PM

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III (USA)

Turning 70 has not slowed US songwriter Loudon Wainwright III down one bit. He is still touring, writing and publishing albums as lustily as ever. His first studio album appeared in 1970, his most recent, Haven't Got The Blues (Yet) is from 2014. Loudon Wainwright III is a songwriter, folk singer and humourist of a classic American stamp. His early inspirations included Tom Lehrer, and lyrical political commentary with a smile on its lip and a sting in its tail is Loudon Wainwright's trade mark. Try for instance the song I Had A Dream, a priceless salute from one septuagenarian to another: Donald Trump. Loudon Wainwright III is the father of Rufus and Martha Wainwright, both major artists in their own right, whose mother, Canadian songwriter Kate McGarrigle, is known as half of the famous 70s duo, Kate & Anna McGarrigle. Loudon Wainwright III was a guest at Tønder Festival in 2000 and is making this exclusive return visit in August 2017.

www.lw3.com

TELT 1 • SATURDAY 5:00 PM

LUCINDA WILLIAMS (USA)

The American singing star Lucinda Williams is playing her only Danish concert of summer 2017 at Tønder Festival. The concept of americana neatly covers what Lucinda Williams does. This 63 year-old singer and songwriter has, since her first live concerts and record releases in the 70s, been firmly rooted in the ground of country, folk and blues. Gradually Lucinda Williams has built up her reputation, through albums such as Lucinda Williams (1988). The song Passionate Kisses off that album became a smash hit for Mary Chapin Carpenter, and Lucinda Williams won a Best Country Song Grammy for it in 1994. Then, in 1998, came Car Wheels On A Gravel Road, that really made her name. Lucinda Williams' subsequent eight albums, the most recent being The Ghosts of Highway 20 from 2016, have secured her Grammys and Americana Awards and numerous nominations. Lucinda Williams' Tønder Festival concert is her fifth in Denmark. In 2013 she appeared in the Radio Denmark Concert House, in 2009 at Roskilde Festival, and in 2007 at Vega in Copenhagen and Voxhall in Aarhus.

www.lucindawilliams.com

OPEN AIR • THURSDAY 8:45 PM

MARC COHN (USA)

In 1991 Marc Cohn had a massive hit, Walking In Memphis. The song appeared on his debut album Marc Cohn and placed the songwriter and singer among the US music elite. Born in Ohio in 1959, Marc Cohn moved to New York as a young man and worked as a session musician. In 1989 he backed Tracy Chapman on her second album. This brought him into contact with producer and multi-musician John Leventhal, whom the Tønder Festival audience met in 2016, playing guitar with Rosanne Cash. Marc Cohn's career took off after the release of his debut album in 1991, and he has played and recorded with Bonnie Raitt, David Crosby, Graham Nash and Jackson Browne. In August 2005, Marc Cohn got shot in an attack after a concert in Denver, Colorado. Miraculously, he survived, but was stricken by post-traumatic stress. He fought his way back to the music and the stage, and today Marc Cohn is back on the road as an active musician.

www.marccohnmusic.com

OPEN AIR • SATURDAY 7:00 PM

MICK FLANNERY (IRL)

33 year-old Mick Flannery from Ireland was on the bill at Tønder Festival in 2016. This singer and songwriter has a lot to tell, and a voice of rare intensity and passion to tell it. Tønder Festival audiences can look forward to hearing him again, and enjoying some of the songs from his new album *I Own You*, from October 2016, into which he has inserted, in his own words, "50 per cent more social awareness." This comes to light in the words of his songs about modern digital life and Black Lives Matter. Mick Flannery's songwriting career began when, on a trip round USA, he entered a song-writing competition in Nashville. He put out his first album *Evening Train* in 2007, and has since established his reputation both in Ireland and internationally. Inspired by Leonard Cohen, Bob Dylan and Tom Waits, Mick Flannery has made five albums and toured massively: hence his place at the top of the Irish music scene.

www.mickflannery.com

BOLERO • THURSDAY 7:00 PM | TELT 1 • FRIDAY 3:15 PM

MUIREANN NIC AMHLOIBH WITH SEAMUS BEGLEY AND DONOGH HENNESSY (IRL)

After many years as Danú's singer, Muireann Nic Amhloibh has left the band to concentrate on her solo projects. She grew up in the west of Ireland, and as a child she went along with her fiddler father to sessions at local pubs. At first she sang traditional Irish Sean Nós, later her talent spilled over on to tin whistle and wooden flute. Muireann Nic Amhloibh has won a stack of prizes, both with Danú and alone, as well as appearing on TV, for instance on the famous BBC series *Transatlantic Sessions*. Accompanying Muireann Nic Amhloibh are two well-known musicians from the Irish traditional folk music scene, Seamus Begley and Donogh Hennessy. Seamus Begley has a long and illustrious career behind him as a master of the two-row accordion and as a singer, while Donogh Hennessy was for many years Lúnasa's guitarist. Danú have played at Tønder Festival many times, Lúnasa have been here thrice, and the same is true for Seamus Begley.

www.muireann.ie

TELT 2 • FRIDAY 8:15 PM | TELT 1 • SATURDAY 12:00 PM

NIELS HAUSGAARD (DK)

He'll be here again this year, don't worry. Niels Hausgaard has been an indispensable part of Tønder Festival for decades. As usual, he brings his razor-sharp wit, his songs and his satire, ably supported by Christian Alvad, guitar, Signe Svendsen, vocal, and Sara Indrio, percussion. Plus guests as yet unannounced. Niels Hausgaard's annual tour of Denmark is a unique phenomenon. For the first four months of the year, he fills halls all over the country. This year his tour was entitled *God is Great (and jealous and vindictive but great.)* Audiences love Hausgaard, so be quick if you want a ticket to his shows at Tønder Festival. This entertainer's need to publish is not so great. His most recent studio album was in 2006, and a live dvd was released in 2009. It is live, in front of his huge audience, that Niels Hausgaard feels most at home.

www.nielshausgaard.dk

BOLERO • THURSDAY 4:00 PM | BOLERO • SATURDAY 7:00 PM

NIVE NIELSEN (GR)

Greenlandic singer and songwriter Nive Nielsen has toured all over Europe and USA and is currently making a name for herself in Denmark. Her music is indie folk inspired by americana, but the musical raw material stems from Nive Nielsen's Greenland home. The 37 year-old singer released her debut album *Nive Sings!* in 2012. The album was produced by British John Parish, known for his work with P J Harvey, among others. That same year, Nive Nielsen was awarded the Danish Crown Prince's Stardust Prize. Nive Nielsen studied politics in Canada and was a late starter in the music business. At home on the international scene, Nive Nielsen had a role in Terrence Malick's film *The New World*. Album number two is *Feet First* from February 2016. Nive Nielsen tours with her band *The Deer Children*, whose colourful instrumentation uses ukulele, guitar, saw, drums, bass, keyboard, cello, melodica and glockenspiel.

www.niveandthedeerchildren.com

KLUBSCENEN • THURSDAY 4:00 PM

PARKER MILLSAP (USA)

There's no denying 24 year-old Parker Millsap has star quality. With his third and critically-acclaimed album *The Very Last Day* from 2016, he has made a name for himself as one of the most exciting new musicians on the American roots rock scene. Parker Millsap is from Oklahoma and was first influenced by the electric blues of Eric Clapton and Stevie Ray Vaughan. This grounding in rock, blues and country, plus a musical ballast from playing in a cover band led Millsap to song writing. In 2012 he released the album *Palisade*. Two years later came the album *Parker Millsap*, accelerating the rumours of a new talent with a great voice. Recent accolades for Parker Millsap include Artist Of The Year at the 2017 International Folk Music Awards. Parker Millsap has also been cooperating with another of this year's Tønder Festival musicians, Sarah Jarosz. He plays and sings on and co-wrote the song *Comin' Undone* on Jarosz' 2016 album *Undercurrent*, and in the spring of 2017 the two songwriters have released two songs together, *Your Water* and *The Glory Of Love*.

www.parkermillsap.com

KLUBSCENEN • FRIDAY 0:30 AM | TELT 1 • SATURDAY 10:45 PM

RÉALTA (IRL)

From Belfast in Northern Ireland comes a new take on traditional Irish music. The Réalta quintet play uilleann pipes, flute, guitar, piano, bass, bouzouki and bodhrán and sing brilliantly. The Scottish paper *The Herald's* music critic wrote, "Réalta carry on the Bothy Band tradition of taking tunes by the scruff of the neck and firing excitement through them like hot flames." Réalta have toured Germany and Switzerland with their countrymen Altan and have given concerts all over Europe, in India, South Korea and New York. They won the Danny Kyle Award at the famous Celtic Connections Festival in Glasgow and are well on the way to establishing the name Réalta on the international Irish music scene. The group's debut album *Open The Doors For Three* appeared in 2012, and their second album *Clear Skies* is a 2016 release.

www.realtamusic.com

VISEMØLLEN • THURSDAY 8:30 PM | VISEMØLLEN • FRIDAY 12:00 AM | BOLERO • SATURDAY 1:00 AM

RED HOT CHILLI PIPERS (SCO)

Their own name for it is bagrock: a heaving, frenetic blend of Highland pipes and familiar riffs and hits from the rock and pop charts. Red Hot Chilli Pipers from Scotland put on a priceless show bubbling over with musical verve and bags - yes - of humour. Several of the members of the Red Hot Chilli Pipers are graduates of The Royal Scottish Academy of Music And Drama, and there is no shortage of drama when the Red Hot Chilli Pipers hit the stage. This is a world-class show, with bagpipes in screaming overdrive on the shoulders of sweaty hunks in kilts. The set includes spectacular covers of Queen's We Will Rock You, Deep Purple's Smoke On The Water and Coldplay's Clocks. Founded in 2002, Red Hot Chilli Pipers won the BBC talent show When Will I Be Famous?, went on to release eight albums, tour the world and play hundreds of concerts each year. In 2007 and 2010 Red Hot Chilli Pipers won the Scottish Live Act Of The Year award. This is their only Danish festival in 2017.

<https://rhcp.scot>

OPEN AIR • SATURDAY 8:45 PM

ROD (DK)

ROD means root and is the name of a youth music organisation that has a huge influence on the development of folk music in Denmark. At their annual easter folk music rally for 15 to 25 year-olds, they welcome both near-beginners and advanced musicians. Working with the Folk Music Department at the South Denmark Academy of Music and Drama, ROD has succeeded in promoting young people's interest in folk music. ROD has doubled its membership in recent years, indicating that there is a growing movement among young people involved in playing and enjoying folk music in Denmark. ROD embraces musicians at all levels, from those starting out to those who have mastered more than the basics. What unites them is their love of folk music, playing and listening together. As in previous years, ROD is at Tønder Festival 2017.

www.rodfolk.dk/2017

PUMPEHUSET • SATURDAY 6:00 PM

ROMENGO (HU)

World class Hungarian Roma music: five-piece Romengo is one of Hungary's best bands, and they master traditional olah gypsy folk music. Romengo play the traditional folk songs and music of the Roma culture, plus their own songs and compositions. Romengo have been playing together since 2004, touring all over Europe, Korea and India, among other places. The band have put out two albums, Kétháné (2010), and Nagyecséd-Budapest (2014), both of which have topped European world music hit lists. The group's lead singer, Mónika Lakatos, has won several awards, for instance the Ethnic Minority Award in 2014 and the Anna Lindh Award in 2007. Romengo are true representatives of real, traditional Roma music, but they have also expanded the genre through collaboration with other types of music. For example, Romengo have performed with the German Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra and the Indian singer Sumitra.

www.romengo.com

KLUBSCENEN • THURSDAY 5:45 PM | PUMPEHUSET • FRIDAY 6:00 PM

SAM KELLY & THE LOST BOYS (ENG)

Has any good ever come of those talent shows on tv? The surprise answer is yes. Aged 19, Sam Kelly faced Simon Cowell and the other judges in the show Britain's Got Talent. Here he reached the final, to be beaten by a dog called Pudsey. Sam Kelly has a voice that grabs an audience, whether he sings his own songs or Irish folk favourites. The fresh energy he summons recalls indie folk names like Mumford & Sons and The Lumineers. With two EPs and an album to his name so far, Sam Kelly has won praise from English folk notabilities like Kate Rusby, Cara Dillon and Sean Lakeman. With the The Lost Boys he has toured extensively, and 2017 sees new material from these new darlings of the English folk scene.

www.samkelly.org

VISEMÖLLEN • FRIDAY 10:15 PM | BOLERO • SATURDAY 1:00 PM | TELT 1 • SUNDAY 12:00 PM

SAM OUTLAW (USA)

Hugely successful concerts in 2015 with Sturgill Simpson and last year with Jason Isbell and Margo Price have already apprised the Tønder Festival audience of some of the key players in today's American country music. Sam Outlaw is on his way to joining them with his powerful, honest and poignant songs. His debut album Angeleno appeared in 2015, produced by Ry and Joachim Cooder. Here, Sam Outlaw creates his own South Californian country sound, with a Bakersfield Telecaster twang and shades of late sixties country rock from Los Angeles, such as Gram Parsons, The Byrds and The Flying Burrito Brothers gave us. The buzz raised by Angeleno has taken Sam Outlaw on tour: hundreds of concerts in USA and several European tours. In February, the album was named International Album of The Year at the UK Americana Awards 2017. Sam Outlaw is coming to Tønder with a new record to his name. Entitled Tenderheart. This will be Sam Outlaw's only Danish festival in 2017.

www.samoutlaw.com

TELT 1 • THURSDAY 11:30 PM | TELT 1 • FRIDAY 5:00 PM

SARAH JAROSZ (USA)

Newly proclaimed double Grammy winner for her album Undercurrent, Sarah Jarosz is without a doubt one of the biggest names on the US folk scene right now. The Tønder Festival audience fell under her spell in 2011 when Sarah Jarosz appeared and had the whole of Tent 1 yelling out the chorus to Tom Waits' Come on Up to the House. Back then she was virtually unknown in Denmark, but taking off at home in USA. Sarah Jarosz was just 16 when she signed with the renowned record company Sugar Hill Records, and her debut Song Up in Her Head was nominated for a Grammy in 2010. Sarah Jarosz set out at the age of ten playing mandolin, then branched out into guitar, mandocello and banjo to accompany her gentle, clear voice. She has been compared to great singers like Alison Krauss and Gillian Welch, but her uncompromising musical touch is all her own. Only at Tønder Festival this summer can you enjoy Sarah Jarosz' atmospheric lyrics.

www.sarahjarosz.com

TELT 1 • SUNDAY 1:45 PM

THE SAVAGE ROSE (DK)

One of the most important and most resilient of all Danish bands, The Savage Rose, with Annisette Koppel's signal vocal in front, are celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2017. The story of The Savage Rose is as fantastic and incomparable as Annisette is on stage. This band has been in constant development their whole career, and never compromise. Musicians have come and gone, without tainting the instantly recognisable identity. It is now ten years since composer and keyboard player Thomas Koppel died, but The Savage Rose have persisted, with Annisette Koppel as front figure and guarantor for the band's history, sound and expression. A true line can be traced from debut album The Savage Rose in 1968 to the most recent Roots Of The Wasteland from 2014. Among the many recordings in their production, milestones can be named: Dødens Triumf (Death's Triumph) (1972), Wild Child (1973) and Black Angel (1995). The Savage Rose have made Danish music history. Their music is impossible to categorise: classical, rock, blues, soul, folk, The Savage Rose have it all.

www.thesavagerose.net

OPEN AIR • THURSDAY 7:00 PM

SCANDINAVIAN ROOTS (DK, S)

We present the result of an intensive, two-week folk music seminar at Jyderup Folk High School arranged in conjunction with Skurup Folkhögskola in Sweden. Entitled Scandinavian Roots, the seminar invites participants with a grounding in folk music, songwriting and world music to work together towards a performance at Tønder Festival 2017. The seminar unfolds at Jyderup Højskole and at Tønder Festival from 14 - 28 August. Scandinavian Roots is open to anyone with an interest in taking part in a comprehensive Nordic music project. The seminar highlights songwriting, ensemble work and live performance. In charge are three of the leading lights on the Scandinavian music scene: Anders Wallin, Bebe Risenfors and Jens Ulvsand.

www.jyderuphojskole.dk/skandinaviske-roedder-kort-kursus

VISEMØLLEN • FRIDAY 3:15 PM

SHOVELS & ROPE (USA)

"Outstanding Americana," wrote The Guardian of Shovels & Rope's latest album, Little Seeds, giving the duo five out of five stars. Shovels & Rope, the married couple Cary Ann Hearst and Michael Trent, employ simple means to create a big sound that stretches from punk blues to rooted folk to beautiful, low-key ballads. Their 2012 album O Be Joyful took Shovels & Rope out of the club circuit on to bigger American stages. Jack White had the duo open for him at a couple of shows in late 2012, and since then they have supported major US folk, country and rock acts such as The Avett Brothers, Willie Nelson and Drive-By Truckers. In 2013, Shovels & Rope won an AMA Emerging Artist of the Year Award, and their hit Birmingham won Song of the Year. Today, Shovels & Rope are among the top names in US roots music. Tønder Festival takes great pleasure in presenting Shovels & Rope for the first time in Denmark.

<http://shovelsandrope.com>

OPEN AIR • FRIDAY 7:45 PM

SIGNE SVENDSEN (DK)

This Danish singer and songwriter's career is charging ahead, both in its solo version and supporting Niels Hausgaard on his massive tours. In 2016, Signe Svendsen released her third studio album, *Rift*, the subsequent tour taking in an appearance at Tønder Festival. The album's songs prove that Signe Svendsen is not afraid to draw on her personal experience, nor does she shy away from social criticism. Signe Svendsen comes from eastern Fyn, and graduated from the Academy for Rhythmic Music in 2003. In 2007 she began working with Niels Hausgaard, while cultivating her own songwriting talents. In 2010 she released her debut album *Ny passager (New Passenger)*, in close collaboration with producer and guitarist Lars Skjærbæk. He also produced the next album *Kun de faldne rejser sig igen (Only the Fallen Rise Again)* from 2013, and on the latest *Rift*. This year Tønder Festival presents Signe Svendsen both solo with her own songs, and in the company of Niels Hausgaard.

www.signesvendsen.dk

PUMPEHUSET • FRIDAY 4:30 PM

SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN (IRL)

Irish traditional music has found new international ambassadors in this young trio from County Clare. Socks in the Frying Pan master authentic vocal work and instrumental virtuosity, which has established them firmly on the international scene. In 2017 their long tour has taken them to Canada, USA, Germany, Switzerland, and Denmark, where Tønder Festival is their destination. The band has harvested fine reviews for their three recordings, the latest being *Without A Paddle* from 2016. They won the title New Band of The Year at The Irish Music Association in 2014 and have toured a lot in USA. Socks in the Frying Pan numbers Aodán Coyne, guitar and vocal, and brothers Shane Hayes, accordion, and Fiachra Hayes, violin and banjo. They have won their individual spurs, too: for example, Shane Hayes was named Best Accordion Player by The Irish Music Association in 2015.

www.socksinthefryingpan.com

TELT 2 • SATURDAY 11:00 AM | TELT 2 "GENTLEMEN'S CIRCLE" (AODÁN COYNE) • SUNDAY 3:15 PM |

KLUBSCENEN • SUNDAY 9:45 PM

THE SMALL GLORIES (CAN)

Cara Luft, banjo and vocal, and J D Edwards, guitar and vocal, come from Winnipeg on the Canadian prairies, and each has had a successful career on the Canadian folk roots scene. J D Edwards has fronted his own rock band, J D Edwards Band, while Cara Luft with her soft voice is a lauded singer-songwriter, who has won two JUNO Awards with The Wailin' Jennys. In 2015, The Wailin' Jennys appeared at Tønder Festival, but that was without Cara Luft. In the duo The Small Glories, contrasts meet, and with fine harmonies bring us ear-catching songs. Their debut album, *Wondrous Traveler*, appeared last year, and here it is not the contrasts, but the wide diversity that strikes us. The album comprises folk and bluegrass ballads and a rocking version of Woody Guthrie and Billy Bragg's *Way over Yonder In The Minor Key*.

www.thesmallerglories.com

VISEMØLLEN • THURSDAY 5.00 PM | VISEMØLLEN • SATURDAY 3.15 PM

SPIRIT FAMILY REUNION (USA)

In 2016, Tønder Festival's audience discovered Spirit Family Reunion. The six-piece band from Brooklyn is back this year, and there are many reasons to rejoice. Spirit Family Reunion master the American musical traditions and the acoustic instruments they demand. Country, bluegrass and traditional folk music from the Appalachians are given expert, loving treatment, on acoustic guitar, banjo, violin, bass, percussion and multiple layers of vocals. Two of the band's members worked in a bar in Brooklyn and started playing music together. In 2010 they set up Spirit Family Reunion, releasing their debut album *No Separation* in 2012. In 2015 the band put out the album *Hands Together*. Today, they tour constantly, including this long European tour in August and September 2017. Spirit Family Reunion have performed at the legendary Newport Folk Festival and shared stages with Alabama Shakes, The Felice Brothers and Tedeschi Trucks Band. This is their only Danish festival in 2017.

www.spiritfamilyreunion.com

BOLERO • FRIDAY 10:00 PM | OPEN AIR • SATURDAY 2:15 PM |

TELT 2 "GENTLEMEN'S CIRCLE" (NICK PANKEN) • SUNDAY 3.15 PM

TALISK (SCO)

In 2015, Talisk won the prestigious BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award. Mohsen Amini picked up the concertina at the age of ten and today is one of Scotland's leading concertina players. He won the title of BBC Scotland's Young Traditional Musician of The Year in 2016. Guitarist Craig Irving hails from Inverness, but settled in Glasgow, where he plays with various up-and-coming folk bands. Hayley Keenan has been playing fiddle since she was 11, and today is a student at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Together, they form a tight, virtuoso trio who have the tradition at their fingertips, but also dare seek out new routes. Talisk's debut album *Abyss* was produced by Barry Reid of the Treacherous Orchestra. Guest musicians on the album are members of Mànran and Rura, and the recording delivers the energy and creativity of a Talisk live concert, something the Tønder Festival audience will now have a chance to enjoy once more.

www.talisk.co.uk

BOLERO • FRIDAY 1: PM | VISEMOLLEN • SATURDAY 8:30 PM

TAMI NEILSON (CAN/NZ)

Powerful singing and old-school country style mark Tami Neilson's music. One critic called Tami Neilson "a red-hot honky tonker somewhere between Patsy Cline and Wanda Jackson, with a sophisticated dash of Peggy Lee." Another reviewer wrote that Tami Neilson brings the same to country music as Amy Winehouse brought to R&B. This makes sense, because Tami Neilson takes country music's central 50s core and drags it up to date. Tami Neilson is tried and tested. At an early age she performed with the Canadian family country group The Neilsons, who were very successful in the 90s in Canada. In 2007 she moved to New Zealand and began her solo career. Since then, things have grown: particularly the two latest releases, *Dynamite!* from 2014 and *Don't be Afraid* from 2015, have won prizes and launched tours for Tami Neilson.

www.tamineilson.com

KLUBSCENEN • THURSDAY 11:45 PM | OPEN AIR • FRIDAY 3:00 PM | TELT 2 "WOMEN'S CIRCLE" • SATURDAY 2:15 PM

TRAD.ATTACK! (EST)

Trad.Attack! are on a mission: they want to play in every country in the world. So far, they have 28 countries on their list, which leaves 168. Denmark was added in 2015, when they performed in Balders Square in Copenhagen as part of ROSA's Copenhagen Jazz Festival programme. A couple of hundred people hopped and bopped to this revamped Estonian folk music, which melds samples of ethnic music recordings with pumping rhythms and fast tunes. Estonia has strong folk music traditions, both songs, tunes and dance, and there is moreover a powerful drive to experiment with the music. In the town of Viljandi, in particular, with the important Viljandi Folk Music Festival, the traditions live on. Trad.Attack! are the top Estonian folk band, and with several Estonian Music Awards on the mantelpiece, they enjoy star rating in their homeland.

www.tradattack.ee

OPEN AIR • THURSDAY 12:30 PM

ULAI D (IRL)

With a background in some of the major Irish bands, these three musicians have already established their credentials as exponents and interpreters of traditional music. John McSherry, described by The Irish Music Magazine as "the true master" of the Irish uilleann pipes, has been in at the start of bands like Lúnasa and Tamalin, and was part of Donal Lunny's cross-over project Coolfins. Fiddler Dónal O'Connor began his career in the group Lá Lugh, where his mother sang. He has also a reputation as one of Ireland's most talented producers and has worked with Mary Dillon, Bob Brozman and John Spillane. Guitarist Seán Óg Graham was a founder member of the acclaimed group Beoga and also plays in the Scots supergroup Fiddler's Bid. Together, the three weave a magic spell. The blinding precision with which improvisation and experiment flow into hectic jigs and reels is guaranteed to bring any audience to their feet. This is Ulaid's only Danish festival in 2017.

www.ulaidmusic.com

TELT 1 • THURSDAY 5:00 PM | TELT 1 • FRIDAY 10:30 AM

WILLIAM PRINCE (CAN)

With his soft baritone, William Prince has taken the prairie by storm. In april 2017 he won the prize Contemporary Roots Album of the Year at the Canadian JUNO Awards. In 2016 his debut record was nominated in two categories at the West Canadian Music Awards, winning the award for Aboriginal Artist of the Year. William Prince is of the First Nation people who live on the Peguis reservation north of Winnipeg on the prairies of Manitoba. You'll hear traces on William Prince's latest single 7, a tribute to the students of Peguis. The number refers to the sacred teachings basic to aboriginal law: love, courage, humility, truthfulness, respect, discipline and honesty. William Prince's debut, Earthly Days, produced by his friend and colleague Scott Nolan. This summer, William Prince is making his first journey to Denmark, and his concert at Tønder Festival is his only appearance in Denmark in the summer of 2017.

www.williamprincemusic.com

BOLERO • THURSDAY 1:00 PM | TELT 2 • FRIDAY 12:00 PM | TELT 2 "GENTLEMEN'S CIRCLE" • SUNDAY 3.15 PM

WOMEN'S CIRCLE (UK, CAN, NZ, DK)

One of Tønder Festival's many rare traditions is a collective singer-songwriter concert. In 2017, our audience can enjoy something unique: the Women's Circle show, presenting female songwriters from home and abroad, a fascinating, one-off concoction of artists from Canada, New Zealand, England and Denmark. From Canada we have banjo player and songwriter Kaia Kater and from New Zealand country singer Tami Neilson. From England Danni Nicholls, and from Denmark Dorthe Gerlach and Laura Mo. Hosting this special songwriter session will be Søren Rebbe, radio and long-term Tønder Festival presenter. "This is an event I am really looking forward to: hosting six female soloists at one go. It's a dream job, introducing and presenting one beautiful woman singer after the other. This will be a musical occasion of rare carat. In short: a unique affair!" says Søren Rebbe.

TELT 2 • SATURDAY 2:15 PM

YOLA CARTER (ENG)

In early February 2017, British singer and songwriter Yola Carter won the title of UK Artist of The Year at the UK Americana Awards 2017. This was well-deserved recognition for a singer whose solo career took off only recently, but who is no blank page. Her power soul vocals and musical talent have been put to good use with big names like Massive Attack, Katy Perry, Will Young and Bugz In The Attic. Country and soul music have always been her bag; a few years ago she teamed up with roots band Phantom Limb as their lead singer. After two album releases with them, Yola Carter opened a new chapter in her story, as a solo americana singer. Her EP Orphan Offering has won high critical praise, not least in USA. The Guardian wrote of Yola Carter: "Country and gospel with the same aggressive energy as good old-fashioned soul music." This is Yola Carter's first time in Denmark, and Tønder Festival is her only stop.

www.yolacarter.com

BOLERO • SATURDAY 10:00 PM | BOLERO • SUNDAY 10:00 AM

YOUNG SEMINOLE HUNTERS (USA)

This year, Tønder Festival invites our audience to the very heart of New Orleans, when Young Seminole Hunters' show kicks off. These are dancers and musicians clad as real Mardi Gras Indians, with the full colourful kit. Mardi Gras Indians take part in the parades at the annual Mardi Gras carnival, sporting imaginative, garish versions of the historic garb of America's original inhabitants. There are about 30 Mardi Gras Indian 'tribes', who perform at the annual carnival and add a valuable contribution to the city's historical musical culture. The TV series *Treme*, about New Orleans after Katrina, gives a good insight into the Mardi Gras Indians' role and influence. Young Seminole Hunters perform with King James & The Special Men, the New Orleans band who have shaken Tønder Festival with party funk the past two years. Don't miss this special experience - it's their only Danish festival in 2017.

specialmanindustries.com

BOLERO • FRIDAY 1:00 AM | KLUBSCENEN • SATURDAY 11:45 PM | OPEN AIR • SUNDAY 5:00 PM
