



L2F Lichfield Festival of Folk – Songwriting Challenge 2020

Sadly, we have had to cancel L2F Lichfield Festival of Folk 2020, and that means that we can't run again this year our well-established and successful Songwriting Competition. Nor will we require the services of a panel of judges, which in the past have included Julie Felix (2017), Blair Dunlop (2018) and Anthony John Clarke (2019).

However, our passion for encouraging and introducing new music remains. We may not be able to showcase new talent this year with the offer of a live performance, but we want to continue to provide an opportunity for both established and budding songwriters to bring a new composition to L2F Lichfield Festival of Folk followers and the wider world. So we are throwing open a challenge to songwriters.

Given the unprecedented events that have had such an impact on the music business during 2020, we are seeking songs that explore aspects of the theme of 'Lockdown to Freedom' or LtoF. L2F wants your LtoF creations, and we invite you to explore and interpret that theme in its widest sense. Our challenge to you is to write something that we can share with a wider audience. We want to hear *your* interpretation of our chosen theme.

We want you to write a song, record it yourself (or get another performer to record it for you) and put it on any of the established music-sharing platforms. Be part of L2F for this year by sending us a link to your work. Remember that L2F is a folk festival – but folk is a broad church. So as long as the song is your own work and fits the broad theme of LtoF, we will promote and share your link on the L2F website and social media accounts, and elsewhere on Lichfield Arts platforms.

We're really looking forward to receiving your entries and sharing your work with a wide audience, so get your creative hats on and let us hear what you've come up with.

The Songwriting Competition in its traditional format will be back for L2F Lichfield Festival of Folk 2021, which will run from the 22nd to the 24th of October.

Lockdown to Freedom (LtoF) Songwriting Challenge Rules

1. Entry to the L2F “LtoF Songwriting Challenge” is free, and is open to anyone resident in the UK.
2. Song entries will be broadly in the Folk genre (‘folk’ being defined in the widest sense, encompassing both traditional and contemporary styles).
3. Songs should consist of your own work and should not infringe any copyrights or any other rights of third parties.
4. Songs may have multiple co-writers. All co-writers’ names and ages should be entered on the participation entry form.
5. Participants may submit **one** song with a maximum duration of five minutes.
6. Submitted songs should not be commercially released before November 2020.
7. Entries must be uploaded to Soundcloud, YouTube or similar platforms, with the appropriate link being provided via the entry form.
8. By sending us a song you are giving permission, if it is selected, for the L2F Lichfield Festival of Folk and the Lichfield Arts websites to publish the link you provide to the song.
9. The quality of performance, vocals and production is not taken into consideration - we are primarily interested in promoting creative song writing. However, we will be screening for suitability of content, and an indication of a “folk sensibility” in the style of the music, before promoting a link on our website. Our decision on this is final and not open to appeal.
10. You will be advised by e-mail whether we are publishing your link on the L2F Lichfield Festival of Folk/Lichfield Arts websites.
11. Participants aged under 18 years of age must advise of this on the entry form.
12. Closing date for entries is midnight on Monday, 19th October, 2020.
13. By participating in the Songwriting Challenge entrants agree to be bound by these rules and any subsequent published revisions of these rules, and by the decisions of Lichfield Arts which are final in all matters relating to the Challenge.