



# Michel Griffin Press Pack

Michel Griffin was born near Oxford, in England. All attempts to give him a musical education came to a grinding halt when, at the age of 7, he had to abandon piano lessons because, as he put it - "It made my brain ache to have to simultaneously do something different with each of my hands!"

He took up the guitar at the age of 14. Entirely self-taught, he started playing regularly in folk-clubs and wine-bars as a student, and inspired by artists like Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen, Paul Simon, and Joni Mitchell, he started writing his own songs. After a spell performing weekly on BBC radio (where one of his songs was a *Pick of the Week*), his career took him to Paris, New York and Switzerland.

He finally settled in the Lot valley in SW France, in 2000 and since 2008 has been organising the critically acclaimed Cahors Folk Club, which he co-founded. He performs at venues all over the area, a tune of his was featured in the American film *Married Men*, and he has recorded 8 CDs.

In concert, Griffin charms his audiences with self-deprecating wit and, like most clowns, he's alive to pathos. His lyrics share stories and insights, and his accomplished finger-picking is a perfect foil for his smoky, evocative voice. He gives concerts solo, or in duet with the talented harmonica player Frenchie Dègre.

## Discography:

2022 ***Mornings Like This*** - 12 Love songs, 10 originals and 2 covers.

2019 ***Dance Me to the End of Love*** - A collection of 14 Leonard Cohen songs.

2017 ***Feel My Love*** – A collection of Bob Dylan lovesongs - 14 tracks, "51 minutes of pure joy" [Music-News.com]

2013 ***Atlantic Avenue*** - 9 original songs, including 'New York Kaleidoscope' & 'Another Way of Looking', and 5 covers.

2013 ***Ballads & Blues*** - 22 live tracks, 14 covers, 8 originals, all recorded in concert.

2008 ***Who Knows Where the Time Goes?*** - 5 covers and 7 original songs, including 'One Way Conversations'.

2006 ***Russian Dolls*** - 10 original songs, including 'Strangers Once Again' & 'Children of Circumstance'.

2005 ***Echoes, Waves or Ricochets*** - 14 original songs, including 'America, Come Weep' & 'Freeze the Moment'.

## Reviews:

"The songs positively shimmer and shine ... impeccable mastery of the guitar" - Skope Magazine

"... elegiac, romantic delivery and dexterous acoustic guitar picking..." - The Big Takeover.com

"The audience let themselves be carried away by Michel's gentleness and charisma, which received lengthy applause." - La Dépêche

"Most memorable was ... the poetry of Michel Griffin's songs." - La Semaine du Lot

"Respectful of the originals while offering his own take on these true-blue American classics, Michel Griffin's *Feel my love : Michel Griffin Sings Bob Dylan's Finest Lovesongs* simply stuns." - Skope Magazine