

“*Swaggering, euphoric and frenetic…it was an enthralling display of multi-talented musicianship that delivered in no uncertain terms*” - **The Daily Express, 4 stars, Shepherd’s Bush Empire, 6th June 2022.**

**ROACHFORD ANNOUNCE 20-DATE UK TOUR  IN SUPPORT OF INDEPENDENT MUSIC VENUES**

Roachford have announced a 20-date UK tour for February and March 2023 in support of Independent Music Venues.

The dates billed as ‘Evening with Roachford’ will take place from 15th February to 30th March, and follows the band’s recent, much-lauded tour dates and acclaimed new album ‘Twice In A Lifetime’.

Further to Andrew Roachford MBE’s role as a patron for the Music Venue Trust, the tour is aimed to further support Independent Music Venues and bring attention to their latest campaign #OwnOurVenues, which encourages the local music community to buy shares in owning their local music venue to protect and improve UK Grassroots Music Venues.

Andrew said, “*I’m thrilled to be staging this tour in support of Independent Music Venues and getting out to more regional cities across the UK, to some wonderful local venues and connecting with fans and some of the places I’ve enjoyed playing at so many times over the years. These intimate shows will be something special.”*

Roachford has become one of the most compelling and consistent rock and soul artists the UK has produced. He is someone who channels the energy of James Brown before going on stage each night, and who, on record, summons up the spirit of everyone from Al Green to Joe Cocker.

Roachford has released 11 studio albums and several greatest hits collections, been sought-after as a songwriter by the likes of Michael Jackson, Joss Stone & Chaka Khan, and consistently toured on his own and with contemporaries including Terence Trent D’Arby and The Christians. For the past 10 years, he has been part of Mike + the Mechanics, recording with Mike Rutherford’s post-Genesis band, playing live with them across the world, including the upcoming April-June 2023 UK and German ‘Refueled’ tours.

Continuing his three decades of radio airplay - with 1988’s ‘Cuddly Toy’ still a popular recurrent internationally – Roachford’s latest album ‘Twice in a Lifetime’ scored an impressive five weeks of Radio 2 A List airplay for smash ‘High on Love’ and support on singles ‘Love Remedy’ and ‘Gonna Be The One’ saw the LP crowned Radio 2 Album of the Week.

Throbbing with musicality and soul, ‘Twice In A Lifetime’ is the sound of someone at the top of their game, of one who knows his craft inside and out. Produced by Jimmy Hogarth (Paolo Nutini, Duffy and Amy Winehouse) and featuring several members of Winehouse’s band as well as a duet with UK queen of soul Beverley Knight, the album is full of grit and the most tremendous sonic energy.

Joining Roachford on the bill as special guest throughout the tour will be New Orleans-native rising soul songstress Acantha Langas.

The full list of dates for ‘An Evening With Roachford’ are as follows:

15th February   Nottingham      Rescue Rooms

17th February   Wigan              The Old Courts

24th February   Holmfirth         Picturedrome

25th February   Stockton-on-Tees   ARC

1st March         Blackburn        King George’s Hall

2nd March         Bury                The Met

3rd March         Carlisle            Old Fire Station

4th March         Sunderland      Fire Station

9th March         Cambridge       The Junction

10th March       Stroud              The Subs Rooms

15th March       Basingstoke     The Haymarket

17th March       Milton Keynes The Stables

18th March       Margate            Olby’s Creative Hub

23rd March       Eastleigh          Concorde Club

24th March       Cardiff             The Globe

25th March       Buckley           Tivoli

26th March       Shrewsbury      Theatre Severn

29th March       Bury St Edmunds            The Apex

30th March       Lincoln                        The Drill

Tickets are on sale now, available at [www.roachford.co.uk](http://www.roachford.co.uk)

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**About Music Venues Trust:**

The Music Venue Trust is a British charitable organisation that was founded in January 2014 to help protect, secure and improve music venues in the United Kingdom. The Music Venues Trust currently provides support for over 900 venues in the U.K. Music Venue Properties is a Community Benefit Society that purchases freeholds of UK Grassroots Music Venues and rents them back to the operators at a fairer rate than their present landlords, with greater security and better understanding of the sector - to make them more valued and to help them grow. Music fans and ethical investors can buy community shares in Music Venue Properties from £200 to £100,000 and receive 3% APR on their investment. A better rate than a savings bank and allowing to #SaveOurVenues because we #OwnOurVenues. Before the end of 2022, MVP will raise £3.5M to buy the freeholds for 9 UK Grassroots Music Venues.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/own-our-venues>

**About Acantha Lang:**

Acantha Lang, born & raised in New Orleans has already built a name for herself on the live UK circuit since moving to London, while also songwriting for the GRAMMY-nominated Robert Randolph & The Family Band. Acantha’s debut EP, Sugar Woman was selected by Soul Tracks as their featured album of the month upon its August release & also earned her The New Artist of the Year Award for the 2021 Soul Tracks Readers' Choice Awards. Her debut single, He Said/She Said gained praise from Craig Charles (BBC 6Music Funk & Soul Show) who distinguished Acantha as "brilliant… an independent artist destined for world domination" in a recent interview for Blues & Soul Magazine. Her music has over 1 million streams (and counting) and has been playlisted on top Spotify playlists including earning a spot on Spotify’s Best Retro Songs of 2021 playlist. Acantha has built a dedicated legion of fans online through her "Standing On The Shoulders Of…" Soul series (currently over 8 million cumulative views across IG, YT & TikTok). She was accepted into the Recording Academy’s (Grammy) 2022 member class and her last single “It’s Gonna Be Alright” was on the first round ballots in three categories for the 65th Grammy Awards nominations.

Acantha just released her new heart-warming soul ballad Carry the Weight (November 2nd) which was recently made Jazz FM’s Breakfast Track of the Week and Soul Track’s Song of the Month.

**Mike & The Mechanics UK Tour & Ticket Information:**

<https://mikeandthemechanics.com>

**For further information please contact Dave Clarke at Planet Earth Publicity:**

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