

Eel House Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE [today's date]

CONTACT: [your local publicity person's name, address, phone, fax, email and organization's website if any]

HEADLINE: Eel House To Appear At \_\_\_\_\_

BODY: \_\_\_\_\_ [organization] \_\_\_\_\_ is proud to present Fairbanks, Alaska band Eel House, in concert on \_\_\_\_\_ [date] \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ [time] \_\_\_\_\_. The concert will be held at \_\_\_\_\_ [venue name with location] \_\_\_\_\_ and tickets are \_\_\_\_\_ [price] \_\_\_\_\_ and available at \_\_\_\_\_ [ticket sale details] \_\_\_\_\_.

Take whatever you think you know about contra dance music and toss it out the window... at least that's what this playful and talented quartet from Fairbanks, Alaska does! Eel House strips contra dance music to its fundamentals and rebuilds it anew with Irish fiddle, jazz, rock, ragtime, funk, and whatever got left out in the cold last night!

Eel House sprang from the icy hills of Fairbanks, Alaska. The band features Susie Hallinan (fiddle), Eric Barker (keyboards, trumpet, vocals), Ryan Bowers (upright bass, vocals), and Alisa Williams (drums, percussion, vocals). After years playing in traditional contra dance bands, they joined together to forge an entirely new sound with original compositions and startling arrangements of traditional tunes, constantly striving for new ways to energize the dance floor. Eel House has toured in halls across Alaska and the southeastern US. They're currently working on their second studio album; the first is available at eelhouse.net and iTunes. A music video for the track "Snakeskin" was shot in the summer of 2013 and can be seen on YouTube.

#### [INDIVIDUAL BIOS FOR LONGER ARTICLES]

Susie Hallinan is an accomplished fiddler and composer, best known for teaching Irish fiddle to a generation of young fiddle players. She is currently pursuing her masters in violin performance and composition at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Eric Barker (keyboard, trumpet, voice) began composing music at a very young age, focusing on jazz and contemporary classical, though later becoming immersed in progressive rock. He received his undergraduate in electronic music composition from Oberlin Music Conservatory in Ohio. [Upon] returning home to Fairbanks, Eric was introduced to contra dance by A [an old] friend and began playing in local dance bands.

Ryan Bowers (upright bass, voice) began singing at an early age, and picked up the bass about ten years ago, developing an intense love of establishing and developing deep grooves. He's performed with a myriad of roots music groups from bluegrass, old time, contra dance, and folk rock, but he also maintains a strong interest in many other musical styles. Ryan studied voice at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and currently studies bass at Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Alisa Williams (drums, percussion, cello, guitar, voice) comes from an active musical family out of the deep south, rooted in traditional country music and harmony singing. An accomplished multi-instrumentalist, vocalist and songwriter, she grew up playing music and has recorded and performed around Alaska and the East Coast with her sister and mother in the band O Tallulah and has played and collaborated with bands from bluegrass to jazz. She studied music and cello performance at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and as an avid dancer (and occasional instructor) of many styles, loves creating driving rhythms for fellow dancers.

[A PARAGRAPH HERE ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION OR VENUE OR ANYTHING SPECIAL ABOUT THE CONCERT SUCH AS A BENEFIT FUNDRAISER OR ANNIVERSARY EVENT. INCLUDE DIRECTIONS IF THE LOCATION IS OUT-OF-THE-WAY]

Eel House is available for phone interview.

Please contact Eric Barker at [907-590-2125](tel:907-590-2125).

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