

Ian Melrose

From Celtic Roots to New Acoustic Guitar

Born in Middlesbrough, England, he moved back to Scotland (Ayr) with his Scottish parents and younger brother. Ian's father was a member of the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra, so traditional music was always there somewhere. Based in Berlin since 1981, he has made a name for himself on the European acoustic scene. In 1985 his Berlin-based folk trio **Twilight** won 1st prize at the Edinburgh Folk Festival. A recording deal with the Scottish label „Lismor“ followed - his first album!

In the meantime he has appeared on over 130 CDs and has toured internationally as a **soloist** and with very diverse projects. He was lead guitarist with the Irish cult band **CLANNAD** from 1996 – 1999 (world tour 1996) and can be heard on “**Clannad:Live**” and the grammy-winning album **Landmarks**. In 2004 he produced a CD (“**Rubicon**”) in Dublin for the Duggan brothers of Clannad and did a tour of Ireland as guitarist with the **Mary Black** band. With the Scottish multi-media show **The Island Tapes** he toured Scotland and played at film festivals in New York, Berlin, Munich and Tallinn.

He currently cultivates his Celtic roots in his projects **Kelpie** (*Scandinavian-Celtic mix*) with multi-instrumentalist-singer Kerstin Blodig, and in the pan-Celtic guitar trio **Celtic Guitar Journeys** (with Dylan Fowler and Soig Siberil). Folk, jazz and classical tones are celebrated in the **Leuchter-Melrose Duo** (*World Accordion meets Fingerstyle Guitar*), Literature and music with actor/singer Uwe Neumann in **Heine gets the Groove** and the diversity of the guitar in the trio **Guitar Celebration**, with Nikos Tsiachris (flamenco) and Rüdiger Krause (jazz). Also a producer and arranger, he has done many studio jobs for well-known artists as well as writing film music. He currently writes a fingerstyle column for the national German magazine “Akustik Gitarre” and is endorser for Avalon guitars, G7th capos and Rheingold cables. He has just released his seventh solo album “**Seven**” on Acoustic Music Records.

“..displays Melrose as one of the best Celtic-based fingerpickers on the scene...” **Acoustic Guitar (USA)**

“ .. a first-class guitarist a brilliant fingerpicker!” **The Times (GB)**

“This guitarist of rare sensitivity, with the magic touch, comes from Scotland and a beautiful ethereal mystique fills his whole album. You quickly get the strange sensation that there are two guitarists playing, but that is of course not the case. Ian mixes folk and classical approaches in a uniquely personal way and the result is breath-taking” **La Guitare (F)**

“Bow down -- a guitar god is in the house, or at least in the CD player. In a breathtaking 52 minutes, Ian Melrose graces us with 15 tracks and 21 Scottish fiddle tunes played on the acoustic and slide guitars. When it's all over, we're agog at his virtuosity, but also blessed for the beauty he's brought us, all for the cost of a CD.” **Rambles - online culture magazine (USA)**

website: <https://ianmelrose.com>

Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/@IanMelrose>