

THE DUPLETS - 'Tree of Strings' Album Review

Pond Chicken CHIK 001 (46m)

BURGEONING Scottish youthful talent continues apace with harp and song duo, Gillian Fleetwood and Fraya Thomsen. Their list of 'Inspirational Folks' reads like a Who's Who of Scottish harpies. It's headed by Corrina Hewat, and it's easy to see her influence not only in the harping style but, more particularly, in Gillian's vocal technique with its delicate breathiness in the higher registers. Tune sets such as The Green Set are given an extra dimension with some fine guest musicians.

The familiar Burns song Ca' the Yowes has a fresh and original interpretation. Catch them on YouTube with their brilliant version of The Queen of All Argyle and its amusing video. The song Love with its powerful yet fragile emotion puts me in mind of a Scottish version of The Be Good Tanyas, but taking pride of place is the final track Craobh nan Teud (Tree of Strings) where the two harps entrance with their poise and beauty.

- Delyth Jenkins