

# Tony Burt and Karen Jones



Tony Burt and Karen Jones bring together a unique blend of instruments and music that crosses the boundaries of Celtic and Americana traditions.

Tony has adapted airs and fiddle tunes for the Dobro and weissenborn to accompany Karen's exquisite harp performance and blistering paced guitar fuelled Scottish jigs.

Meanwhile Karen took up the challenge to adapt the Celtic guitar style and apply it to fast rousing bluegrass, Americana tunes and Tony's original compositions.

The idea was experimental at first to see how the Dobro and Celtic Harp sounded together and the rest is history as together they bring a fusion of music and performance not to be missed.



## **Tony Burt** Resonator (dobro), Weissenborn, Guitar



Versatile musician, composer and filmmaker, Tony's resonator and guitar performances cover a wide range of styles. When he heard the sound of the dobro he was instantly hooked and worked to uncover the mysterious versatility that produces speed, bite and exquisite gentleness.

He now performs solo and with artists such as Rainberry Pie, Carol Bean, Albi, Janet Muggerridge, and many more at festivals, concerts and on recordings.

Tony is the first New Zealand reso player to attend Resosummit in Nashville where he studied under the tutelage of the world's top players such as Rob Ickes, Jerry Douglas, Sally Van Meter and Phil Leadbetter. While there he played the Bluebird Café, presented at East Tennessee Bluegrass University and an Appalachian college on the art of "finding your own voice" and spent time in the hills and hollers of West Virginia with local artists learning more about the traditions and music of the region.

His original music appears in feature films and documentaries such as Ka Mate—the History of the Haka, Cape York, and Te Papa installations. Tony's award-winning short film "Passion and Conflict" screened internationally including National Geographic and the Egyptian Theatre Hollywood. His feature docco "The Snapper Sandwich", a unique mix of live music performance and film, debuted at the New Zealand International Documentary Film Festival "Doc Edge" and continues to engage audiences around the country.

Tony always looks towards the challenge of how music can blend together to create new ideas, for him New Zealand is a melting pot of traditions all worth celebrating with music and song.



## **Karen Jones** Celtic Harp , Guitar



Singer, instrumentalist and educational music specialist Karen got slightly diverted on her OE and spent 14 years in Edinburgh, cutting her teeth in Scottish traditional arts and assimilating any Scottish culture which came her way!

There she began playing the clarsach (Celtic Harp) under the guidance of the wonderful Isobel Mieras, ran a very popular weekly folk and traditional session, set up a music school and became a very active member of the folk community.

With this exposure to the Scottish culture and her own heritage, she received invaluable experience playing among diverse and great Scottish musicians. Consequently, traditional and contemporary Scottish music soon became her inspiration and passion.

Karen guested in the first ever 'Flowers of Edinburgh' and 'Scottish Stramash' concert in Edinburgh and more recently on various stages including the many of the Auckland and Wellington Folk Festivals, concerts and folk clubs.

She co-runs the monthly Tradition Bearer Sessions in Auckland and her passion is to engage pakeha in their own Scottish and Celtic heritage through music and song.