

For Immediate Release

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## ***Laura Cortese & the Dance Cards*** **Tour to Perform at Orkney Folk Festival and** **Select U.K. Venues This Spring**

April 30, 2017: *Laura Cortese & the Dance Cards*, Laura Cortese (fiddle, vocals), Jenna Moynihan (fiddle/vocals) Valerie Thompson (cello/vocals) and Jeni Magana (bass/vocals) are pleased to announce their tour to Orkney Folk Festival to support their forthcoming album. The tour will run from May 17, 2017 to June 3, 2017. Fans can hear a few of the new songs at select dates along the tour. Tour dates: <http://lauracortese.net/tour>.

They were hailed as one of the most outstanding acts at 2016's Shetland Folk Festival and after touring the UK earlier, R2 magazine writer David Innes declared that Laura Cortese & The Dance Cards had been his "most memorable gig" of the year, saying they "swung and rocked with constraint-free exuberance, tugging at and capturing the hearts of everyone." The accolade was the latest in a long line of positive critical responses to both the 'live' shows and recorded material.

Laura Cortese has built a distinguished career following a path that led her to be one of the most in-demand musical partners and collaborators on the circuit while continuing at the same time, to make her own music... Reviewers have always loved her performing style and panache, Songlines magazine stating: "This was a celebration of American string playing par excellence," while fRoots magazine called her "powerful and gutsy."

In August 2016 Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards had a fruitful first recording session with producer Sam Kassirer at The Great North Sound Society in Parsonfield, ME. Kassirer has produced notable folkpop acts including Lake Street Dive, Elephant Revival, and Josh Ritter. The new record has a wide emotional and sonic scope. The four voices are just as much instruments as they are providers for lyric and harmony. At times it's rowdy, delicate and cinematic. The result is a sound that can start as a string band, and morph into a string quartet, female acappella group, or indie band; all while staying honest and true to their identity as folk instrumentalists. Watching them on the main stage at a summer folk festival, or tearing it up late-night at a club, you get the sense that they might snap some fiddle strings or punch a hole in the bass drum. This is post-folk that seriously rocks.

With the forthcoming album, the band has captured the tight sound and energy they cultivated while touring all over the world in 2015-16. They've continued touring the East and West USA, Canada, Sweden, and the UK. The band raised over \$30,000 during their Pledge Music campaign to support the recording, production, and distribution of Laura Cortese and the Dance cards 2017 release.

Please visit: <http://lauracortese.net/>