

GALLERY CIRCUS PLAY SPLIT FESTIVAL



Gallery Circus are back in their native North East, ready to bring their unique mix of indie, rock and blues to the stage at Sunderland's Split Festival, when it returns to the city on August 9 and 10.

Hailing from South Tyneside, identical twins Gaeme and Daniel Ross have earned a reputation for delivering breathtakingly powerful and energetic live shows, and their debut performance at the North East's biggest festival is set to bring their distinctive sound to Sunderland.

Alongside names such as Dizzee Rascal, Ocean Colour Scene and Tom Vek, Gallery Circus will take to the stage on Saturday August 9, as part of Split Festival's most ambitious line up to date.

Gaeme Ross, Gallery Circus, said: "I've never been to Split Festival before so I'm really looking forward to it - I've always been state-side whenever it's been on. Dan's played it before with O'Messy Life and he says that it is really fun. Home crowds are always good as there's no pressure which makes performing a lot more enjoyable. There are also loads of great local bands playing at the festival that I really like and who are friends of ours including Lilliput, Lisbon, Boy Jumps Ship & Lake Poets. It will be fun to see everyone."

Having played together in bands since the age of five, Gallery Circus evolved when the brothers moved to Chicago in 2010, to write and experience new music. The lads quickly built up a keen following and earned a reputation for holding DIY gigs across the city. Despite securing a loyal fan base in the US, the siblings are pleased to be back in the UK.

Gaeme said: "It's great to be back in the North East. We had an amazing time in the states - both in Chicago and San Francisco, but it feels good to be back home and grounded again. We can't wait to

play at Split Festival, this will be our first one playing as Gallery Circus. It's great how the North East has an event like this which allows local artists to be showcased to wider audiences."

With a summer of high profile festival performances in the pipeline, including Split Festival, 2014 is proving to be a great year for Gallery Circus. They have already played the BBC Introducing Stage at Glastonbury and their single Supercell was named track of the week on Fearne Cotton's BBC Radio One show.

Graeme added: "We've played lots of great festivals this summer with Glastonbury being the highlight and there's lots more to come. We're currently in the process of recording our new EP 'Little Gun', which will be released this September. We will also be touring later this year. We have a November tour penned in with the amazing Kill It Kid and there's a couple more before the year is out."

Keen to remain true to their original ethos, Split Festival, which has received support from both Arts Council England and Sunderland City Council, will provide a stage for a wealth of prestigious home-grown acts such as School of Language, Lilliput, and Hyde and Beast, as well as Frankie & The Heartstrings – proving that the festival continues to showcase the North East's finest acts.

Split Festival Organiser, Martyn McFadden, said: "Split's ethos is to bring the next generation of bands from the region through. I worked with our Sunday headliners Maximo Park and bands like The Futureheads in their early days and it gave me great satisfaction to see them go on to play world tours and stadium gigs. With the wealth of local talent we have on at Split this year, it's only a matter of time before the next phase of local acts go global and Gallery Circus are all ready on their way down that path after playing Glastonbury. I'm looking forward to catching up with the lads at Split."

As Gallery Circus prepare to take to the stage at the North East's biggest music event, which is planned to be held in Mowbray Park, the city can look forward to an eclectic mix of their unique blues-rock sounds.