

Brandon Music presents The Promise is Hope

Ashley and Eric L'Esperance first felt the electricity of their undeniable chemistry at an impromptu song swap. A year and a half later they were married and, as 'The Promise is Hope', released their debut album "Where We've Been & Where We're Going". Jessica Phaneuf, at WUMB, says "I listen to A LOT of music, and this [album] would be at the top of the pile." They perform at Brandon Music on December 16 and as a special seasonal treat, will add a few of their favorite Christmas songs to the program in celebration of the holidays.

The Promise is Hope has earned their place among New England's finest emerging indie-folk duos. Their live performances are often described as beautifully moving, inspired, and connected. With great songwriting, the duo's music explores the mysteries of love, spirituality, and the joys and struggles of life's journey. These "hometown heroes" won two 2017 Worcester Music Awards and a nomination for 2017 Best of Central Massachusetts "Best Entertainer." They were invited to perform at the 2017 Connecticut Folk Festival, and have shared the stage with national performers such as Gaelynn Lea. They have captured the hearts of listeners in hundreds of crowds all over New England and the Mid-Atlantic, and are currently writing material for a sophomore album set for release in early 2018.

The duo's music marries two distinctly talented songwriters. Ashley performs "subtle yet stunning" melodies with a classically-trained, but often folksy, voice. Her poetic lyrics explore the deep mysteries within nature and human relationship. Eric's obvious reverence for the great folk songwriters of the 60s and 70s shines through his sweetly deep voice. His prose-like lyrics "take what appears to be freeform and make it flow beautifully" into well-crafted pieces. Ashley's soft finger-picking style lays comfortably beneath Eric's bright electric Washburn, and their voices blend effortlessly. Boston music blog, Red Line Roots, says, "...there is an effortless feel to how they sing together, like they were made to create music as a seamless grouping."

This event is a part of Vermont Arts 2017, celebrating arts in Vermont.

Concert begins at 7:30pm. Concert tickets are \$20. A pre-concert dinner is available for \$25. Reservations are required for dinner and recommended for the show. Venue is BYOB. Call (802) 247-4295 or e-mail info@brandon-music.net for reservations or for more information. Brandon Music is located at 62 Country Club Rd. Brandon, VT 05733 www.brandon-music.net | www.thepromiseishope.com