

THE SCOTSMAN Festival

MONDAY, 22 AUGUST 2005



'If the oxygen runs out,
karaoke mics drop
from the ceiling.'
Are you ready to get
high with Pam Ann?

PAGE 8

REVIEWS • VENUE MAP • HOUR-BY-HOUR GUIDE • 2-FOR-1 TICKETS

The Scotsman Monday 22 August 2005 | FESTIVAL 9

In association with



TOYOTA

PRIUS

MUSIC
REBECCA
CARRINGTON - ME,
MY CELLO & I ★★★★★
ASSEMBLY @ GEORGE
STREET (VENUE 3)

THE GORGEOUS, talented and very funny Rebecca Carrington takes us around the world on a journey - accompanied by her long-term partner, Jo, her 224-year-old cello, to whom she tries to introduce diverse musical cultures.

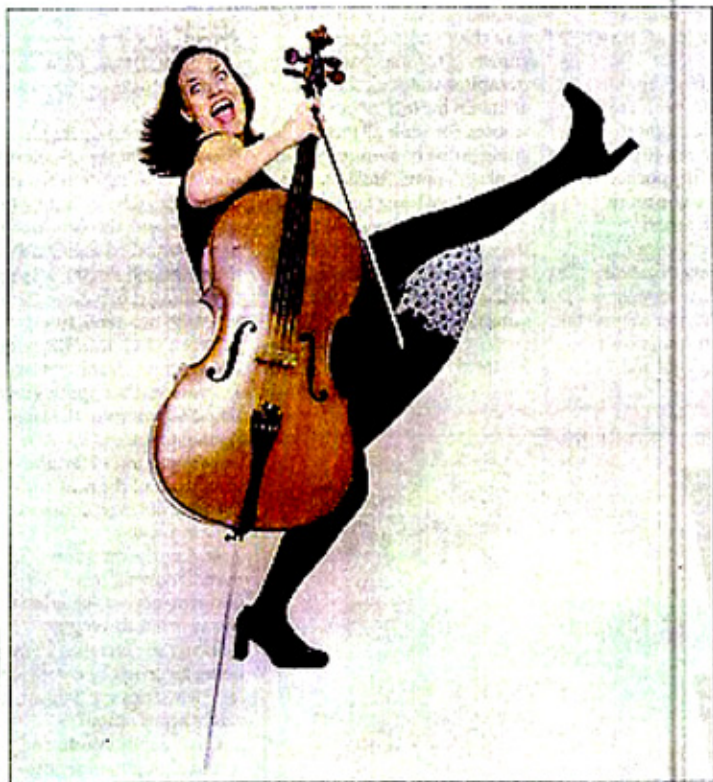
First she has to break out of the orchestra and string quartet - allowance, one to five notes a day - via Classic FM. Then comes the experience of sitting behind the bulk of Pavarotti while he sings a street-cred translated version of *Nessun Dorma* - how could one have missed before the fact that the culminating line is 'Tiramisu'? Finally released from drudgery, she and Jo dip into Scottish piping, Irish jigs, Bulgarian polyrhythms, Indian sitar, French chanson and more.

Never one to be perturbed by the natives' incredulity that she and Jo are capable of playing their music, Rebecca has a bash at everything she encounters, with great aplomb. And she gets away with it - her rendition of the classic folk song *Waly Waly* over one of Bach's unaccompanied cello suites is a tour-de-force.

Aided by big mobile eyes, natural ham-it-up acting ability - she's as nifty with witty one-liners as she is at imitating styles from China to Brazil - she creates a great show: a Joyce Grenfell character for the 21st century. The closing sung version of Chopin's *Minute Waltz* deserves a place in musical history.

JAN FAIRLEY

Until 28 August. Tomorrow 4.30pm



LEFT:
Rebecca
Carrington
and Jo, her
224-year-
old cello