

Acoustic
Sussex



www.acousticsussex.org.uk

News Release

c/o Martin Snodin,
Farthings, Lion Lane,
Turners Hill,
West Sussex RH104NU

Tel. 01342 716975 (eve/weekends)
mobile: 0780 901 3329
email: martin@acousticsussex.org.uk

For the attention of:

28 December 2009

**Saturday 30 January 2009
at Chequer Mead, East Grinstead**

ANAÏS MITCHELL

Support: Iain Morrison

"The earthiness of Shawn Colvin, the child-like bite of Joanna Newsom, and the urban jumpiness of Ani DiFranco." AllMusic

At a time when the music industry sometimes seems to be using flash and dazzle campaigns to distract from the quality of some the acts they present, Anaïs Mitchell is a US artist who grew up on a Boston sheep farm and makes small-sounding, big-thinking folk albums that play like a front-porch serenade. This show marks her 4th appearance in the Acoustic Sussex programme in as many years, but this is the first time she's headlined at the Chequer Mead theatre.

From her birthplace in Vermont to Beirut cafés, Cairo apartments and time spent in Latin America and Europe, Anaïs Mitchell has been around. Her troubadour-like experience seeped into her music, and she is adept at fusing her passion for literature and journalism in her lyrics, bringing a worldly depth to her writing, which she presents to her audience with a graceful presence of spirit. She spins stories about forgotten old poets, jilted lovers and the Three Wise Men, making each one a distinct chapter of one cohesive body of work. Listening to this young singer/songwriter perform her meticulously written songs, fervently singing them in a distinctive, almost childlike voice, you'd think it was her life mission to rouse the hearts and minds of her listeners with an acoustic guitar.

2010 will see the CD release of *Hadestown*, her unique 'folk-opera' that has already been performed as a full theatre production in America. Expect to hear plenty of samples in this special UK headlining date.



Support for this show is the **Iain Morrison** (all the way from the Outer Hebrides), whose *Sinking Boats* CD is described by Martin Snodin from Acoustic Sussex as 'one of the best of 2009'.

Tickets are £11 (all seats) Box Office 01342 302000 www.chequermead.org.uk

Quotes - what others say:

"She brilliantly intertwines the mundane and the profound, singing with the same intimacy about a carefree night on the town and wandering the warring towns of Israel." Boston Globe

A songwriter of startling clarity and depth, equally skilled at turning a melody or lyrical phrase into what you didn't know you needed until you heard it." Acoustic Guitar magazine

"Not since Bob Dylan's early years has a 23 year old songwriter had such power and meaning. Political and poetic, personal and universal, Anaïs Mitchell's work is my latest obsession." Jonathan Byrd

What is Acoustic Sussex?

Acoustic Sussex is a non-profit making organisation that promotes quality singer/ songwriters and other acoustic musicians in the mid-Sussex area, using different venues. We encourage new and local talent by providing support slots for the main act and other opportunities such as 'open mic' evenings. Any profit we make from events is used for charitable purposes.