



**SHELBURNE**  
C O U N T Y  
**ARTS COUNCIL**

## Yola and Forbes Christie



### *About Yola and Forbes*

Windward Flutes is a flute manufacturing company in Shelburne, Nova Scotia, where Forbes and Yola Christie make taper-bore wooden flutes, like those made in the 1860s in England.

Though the instruments are made primarily for the Celtic musician, Windwards are appreciated by fine players around the world, for their accurate tone, voicing and exquisite craftsmanship. The majority of the dense tropical hardwoods used for making these flutes comes directly from a certified sustainable cutter in South Africa. Basing their instruments on 19th century English flutes, which they have studied and measured in US and European collections, Forbes and Yola apply modifications, to modernize the balance and tuning of their own instruments. As Yola says, "We are continuously evaluating new methods and materials, as we strive to make the best possible flutes of this kind."

Windward Flutes returns annually to the National Flute Association convention, selling flutes to clients all over the world, and has sold many flutes in Nova Scotia and across Canada. In June 2013, they attended the Inaugural Canadian Flute Association convention in Oakville, ON. They can also be found at other festivals such as Irish Arts Week in New York State and the Boxwood Festival in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, where they repair participant's instruments in return for donations to the Boxwood Scholarship Fund.

Since establishing Windward Flutes in 2004, Yola and Forbes have made over 500 instruments, including Pratten D instruments, keyed and keyless, C flutes, Eb flutes and "Combos", which are an Eb/D convertible pitch flutes with a patent pending. They are currently working on an F flute and an F/E combo.



Yola and Forbes at their workshop

Visiting the workshop is by appointment, please call: 902-875-3207.

