

1 **THE INTERVIEW Part 1**

- a Read the biographical information about Eliza Carthy. Have you ever heard any English, Scottish, or Irish folk music?

Eliza Carthy is a folk musician known both for singing and playing the violin. She is the daughter of singer / guitarist Martin Carthy and singer Norma Waterson, who are also folk musicians. In addition to her solo work, she has played and sung with several groups, including as lead vocalist with Blue Murder. She has been nominated twice for the Mercury Music Prize for album of the year and has won seven BBC Folk Awards. In 2010, she released an album of collaborations with her mother, entitled *Gift*. A reviewer wrote: "The gift in question here...is a handing of talent from generation to generation."



- b **1.18** Watch or listen to Part 1 of the interview. What is her overwhelming memory of her childhood?

- c Now listen again. What does she say about...?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 her father in the 50s and 60s | 5 <i>The Spinning Wheel</i> |
| 2 The Watersons | 6 the farm where she was brought up |
| 3 her mother's grandmother | 7 her parents' friends |
| 4 her mother's uncle and father | |

Glossary

Bob Dylan (b.1941) an American singer-songwriter, who has influenced popular music and culture for more than five decades

Paul Simon (b.1941) an American singer-songwriter, at one time half of the duo Simon and Garfunkel

Hull a city in Yorkshire, England

travelers / gypsies people who traditionally travel around and live in trailers

banjo a musical instrument like a guitar, with a long neck, a round body, and four or more strings

The Spinning Wheel an Irish ballad written in the mid-1800s

▶ **Part 2**

- a **1.19** Now watch or listen to Part 2. What do you think Eliza Carthy was like as a child? What do you find out about her as a mother?

- b Listen again and answer the questions.

- Did Eliza Carthy originally want to become a musician?
- Why did her mother retire?
- How old was she at her first public performance?
- How much did she sing during the concert?
- How has she reorganized her life because of having her own children?
- What does she feel she's lacking right now?

**Glossary**

the Fylde an area in western Lancashire, England

Fleetwood a town in the Fylde

the Marine Hall a venue in Fleetwood

▶ **Part 3**

- a **1.20** Now watch or listen to Part 3. How has Eliza Carthy's family influenced her approach to music?

- b Listen again. Mark the sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false). Correct the false sentences.

- Eliza Carthy thinks the reason she doesn't like working alone is because of being brought up surrounded by people.
- Right now she has a 30-piece band.
- Her father understands that working with family members is different.
- Her father was a blood relation in the group The Watersons.
- Eliza Carthy's daughter Florence plays three musical instruments and also sings well.
- She thinks there's a close link between foreign languages and singing.
- Her younger daughter Isabella is not yet interested in music.
- She would rather her children didn't become touring musicians.

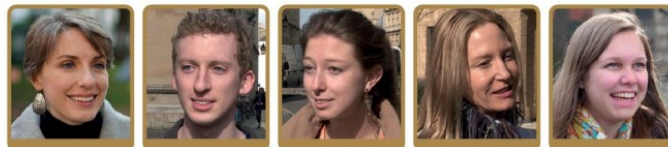
Glossary

Twinkle, Twinkle a well-known children's song (*Twinkle, twinkle little star, How I wonder what you are...*)



3 ON THE STREET

- a **1.22** Watch or listen to five people talking about their family trees. Who mentions foreign ancestors? Where were they from?



Sarah American Kent American Alison English Marylin American Hannah American

- b Watch or listen again. Who (**S**, **K**, **A**, **M**, or **H**)...?

- ☐ has an ancestor who died in a famous disaster
- ☐ has a family member who was adopted
- ☐ has tried unsuccessfully to contact some distant relatives
- ☐ has used ancestry.com to research their family tree
- ☐ thinks their ancestors worked on the land

- c **1.23** Watch or listen and complete the Colloquial English phrases. What do you think they mean?

- 1 "Uh, I actually know _____ about my family tree on my dad's side..."
- 2 "Um, 'cause I think they were farmers, I'm not _____"
- 3 "Um, I know a _____ because, um, my dad's done some research..."
- 4 "Um, well, _____, it's precisely those relatives..."
- 5 "...but it doesn't _____ than that and that's only on my dad's side."

Glossary

The Mayflower a ship that sailed from Plymouth, England to what is now the US, in 1620.

Cornwall a county in southwestern England

4 SPEAKING

Answer the questions with a partner or in small groups.

- How much do you know about your family tree? Have you ever researched it?
- Is there anyone in your family that you'd like to know more about?
- Do you know anyone who works in a family business? How well do the relationships work?
- Would you like to work with your parents or with your siblings? Why (not)?
- Do you think it's easier or more difficult for the children of successful parents to be successful themselves?

2 LOOKING AT LANGUAGE

Discourse markers

Eliza Carthy uses several discourse markers when she speaks, that is, adverbs (e.g., *so*, *anyway*) or adverbial expressions (e.g., *in fact*, *after all*) that connect and organize language, and help you to follow what she is saying.

- a **1.21** Watch or listen to some extracts from the interview and fill in the blanks with one or two words.

- 1 "and they were also instrumental in the beginning of the 60s folk revival, the formation of the folk clubs, and the, the beginning of, _____, the professional music scene that I work on now."
- 2 **Interviewer:** "And were your parents both from musical families?"
Eliza: "Um, _____, both sides of my family are musical..."
- 3 "My mum retired in 1966...65...66 from professional touring to raise me. _____, the road is a difficult place..."
- 4 "But yes, _____ I just—the first song they started up singing, tugged on his leg..."
- 5 **Interviewer:** "Has having children yourself changed your approach to your career?"
Eliza: "Uh, yes, _____ a _____, yes, _____ a _____, it has."
- 6 "The Watsons was a brother and two sisters, and he joined that, and _____ he was married to my mum, but he wasn't related to her."
- 7 "And Isabella, my youngest as well, she's really, she's really showing interest in it, I love it when they do that. _____ whether or not I'd want them to be touring musicians..."
- 8 "But, you know, I think the—I think the world is changing _____, I don't know how many touring musicians there are going to be in the world in 20 years..."

- b How do the discourse markers affect the meaning of what Eliza says in each extract?

