

True to her ROOTS



Martha Redbone's musical journey stretches from Appalachia to the presidential inauguration and beyond

By Heather Salerno

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When indie singer-songwriter Martha Redbone began working on her latest project six years ago, the plan was to focus on the Appalachian music of her childhood, spent partly in the coal-mining region of Harlan County, Kentucky.

So she and her husband, British musician Aaron Whitby, started putting together original songs, until a collection by 18th-century English poet William Blake caught their attention. The book fell open to "A

Martha Redbone's family is from the mountains of Kentucky where she grew up listening to everything from Tanya Tucker to the Jackson Five. She'll perform in Kent this weekend and at the Clearwater Festival in June. FABRICE TROMBERT

See REDBONE, Page 4B