

## 29 STRINGS

29 Strings was founded in 1998 by aspiring, young musicians wanting to play traditional bluegrass songs and original material.

Within five years they reached their goals - recording a CD, playing at festivals in the Czech and Slovak Republics, and collecting several Slovak Bluegrass Music Association Awards. Despite a promising beginning, 29 Strings disbanded in 2003.

Banjo player Richard Cifersky started his full time musical career touring extensively in the USA and Europe with Fragment. Mandolin player Michal Barok and Resonator guitarist/Vocalist Milan Benkovic joined Meantime, making their IBMA debut in 2007. In 2008 these three founding members, with rekindled spirit, revived 29 Strings. Joined by Guitar player/Vocalist Martin Vitasek, and former Meantime bass player Anton Naroda, they ventured out on a new journey.

By December 2008 the band recorded a demo Cd, with five original cuts, and began plans for upcoming tours. Their goal for 2009 is to introduce the music of 29 Strings to the international audience at EWOB (Netherlands), IBMA (Nashville, USA), and festivals in Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

### *List of members:*

Milan Benkovic – lead and harmony vocals, resophonic guitar  
Martin Vitasek – lead and harmony vocals, guitar  
Michal Barok – harmony vocals, mandolin  
Anton Naroda – double bass  
Richard Cifersky – banjo

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