

# “What more could you ask for in a fabulous gig?”

**Imogen and the Knife, supported by Canty  
The Louisiana, Bristol, 28.05.26**

Imogen and The Knife, as comforting as a friend humming melodies from a hand-me-down living room piano, is a kind and compelling storyteller. She crafts orchestral ballads with delicate hands, beautifully arranged alongside a haunting brass section, and holds a space of compassion in her lyric that touches emotions and gritty topics in a way that feels raw and genuine - a trait very hard to come by in modern music so much more concerned with the hardcore.

Haunting and distinctive, multi-faceted creative Canty took to the stage as Imogen's support for the night. They truly are an artist with a natural capacity to play, using only an electric guitar and vocal to underpin their unique sound so deep rooted in that indie, shoe-gaze atmosphere - breathing emotion into a genre that oftentimes becomes overly pondering and prosaic. Canty holds the stage in a trance, gently rocking side to side as if reciting a spiritual verse, then reaching into the depths of something devotional to expand melodies into guitar bridges that are gentle and fresh. Alongside a soulful rendition of *The Power of Love* originally by Frankie Goes to Hollywood, Imogen steps up to join them in a chillingly romantic duet, pausing to ask the sound for some 'chilli daddy' reverb and gently giggling, they are artists who aren't afraid to be kind and caring live.

Jumping onto the stage accompanied by a fabulous brass section fanfare, we were certainly in for a treat. Bristol-born songwriter hailing from the North East, Imogen and the Knife establishes her music as an art form expressing a striking sense of self, enveloped by her relationships, family, home and experiences. Yet, with her first EP release in 2024, her songs hold a visible through line of love in all its forms, exploring the pain, joy, memories and comfort that this brings. Her first headline tour is strikingly beautiful, with crowds gathering after her success as a support for *The Last Dinner Party* in their 2025 tour and eager to hear more.



Beginning the set with a sensual slow beat likened to Massive Attack, Imogen and the Knife are undoubtedly dynamic in their range of inspirations. Adrienne Lenker and Joni Mitchell style scenic lyricism holds clarity against the crashing baritone saxophone and trumpet, and the amazing blues-y base carries melodies through with ease. Her sound comes straight from emotion, slow yet abrasive, and allows these darker topics to be explored in a way that is optimistic and carefully placed. The audience gently swayed and hummed along, a kind crowd who felt at ease and conscious of the talent they were watching. It was undoubtedly a magical atmosphere, with Imogen picking up on friendly small talk in the crowd and admitting to her post-gig plans - “I'm gonna have a bit of a cry because its been so lovely”. We rocked out to *Mother of God*, tears fell to *Paris Night*, sung to *Red (Is My Colour)*, witnessed some new unreleased music of hers: what more could you ask for in a fabulous gig?

