

Mad Folk News

Don't miss Joel Malbus at the Wil-Mar Center!

You want to see a folk singer in a sequined cummerbund rotate into view on a fifty foot turntable with mirrored insets framed by cyan neon and red LED twinklers? You want to hear his operatic baritone backed by nineteen electric guitars plus eleven french horns and a fife, while behind him dancing lads and lasses in skimpy seersucker tutus do a riverdance on a rising translucent platform with burgundy bunting?

Well then you might want to pass up the Joel Mabus concert. Joel could entertain you in a coat closet during a power outage. He and his instruments are all you need for a full, rich, often screamingly funny, extremely musical night of words and music.

Though Joel Mabus is one of the finest and most varied and interesting songwriters in the midwest, or anywhere for that matter, he is also a great believer in the folk tradition. His latest recording, released just months ago, is, in fact, a collection of traditional American songs from Betsy from Pike to Get Along Little Dogie. He accompanies his mellow, understated, but mesmerizing singing with guitar, or banjo, or, as with the beautiful "Sweet Evelina," on autoharp.

Joel could perform all night long on his instruments without singing a note and the concert would be a complete success. But he sings with such attention paid to the lyrics and with such an understanding and understandable delivery, it would be a cryin' shame. Joel's singing, his writing, his playing, and his song collecting all come together to truly fill any musical empty spot you might have in some overlooked corner of your brain. While Joel is a completely engaging entertainer, with marvelous stories and song introductions, he also manages to give you the exciting feeling that making music is a lifelong gift available to everyone. Somehow Joel leaves

you vibrating with this feeling long after he has driven back across the Tristate to his Michigan home.

The Kent State Folk Festival says of Joel, "He treats his subject gently, with empathy and grace, allowing his mellow voice to color the lyrics just enough to make you feel privileged to have heard his viewpoint. That's a rare talent for ANY performer."

Rich Warren, writing in Sing Out! magazine, has this to say about Joel: "Joel Mabus sings with sincerity and character, he writes with veracity and vision. ...this is a refreshing return to the folk side of singer-songwriters, full of heartfelt music honestly performed."

And there's this from the Kalamazoo Gazette: "For nearly two -and -a -half hours the audience laughed, cried, and sang along with the minstrel's image-laced songs. This is the way acoustic music was meant to be played - up close and personal. And few do it better than Joel Mabus."

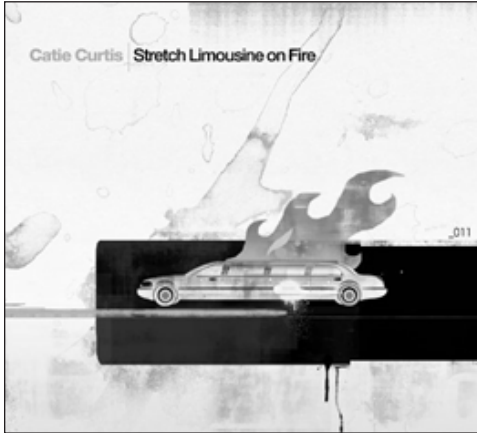
Joel Mabus has played every important folk festival in the US and Canada, from Ker-ville in Texas to the Winnipeg, from the great Philadelphia Folk Festival to the San Diego Folk Heritage Festival. He has played all the top folk venues from Berkeley's Freight and Salvage to the

legendary Passim in Cambridge, MA. He has taught courses from the Puget Sound Guitar Workshop to the Augusta Heritage in West Virginia. He has played on every radio show from A Prairie Home Companion to Dr. Demento.

Mad Folk is absolutely giddy to be able to have Joel back in Madison on Saturday, November 5, at 8:00 pm, at the Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer Street. Tickets \$14 advance, \$16 day of show, available at www.brownpapertickets.com. More info, and a clickable link to tickets for Joel, at www.madfolk.org.



STRETCH LIMOUSINE ON FIRE CATIE CURTIS ~ 2011 COMPASS RECORDS



Review by Darcy Greder

It seems almost unbelievable that Catie Curtis has been on the music scene for almost 20 years—and whether one describes her as a folk-singer, urban acoustic musician or “folk-rock goddess,” she has been making great music for a good long time—and *Stretch Limousine on Fire* shows why Catie Curtis has not only endured through the years but flourished. She has recorded ten critically acclaimed solo albums and has had songs featured in numerous TV shows including *Dawson’s Creek*, *Felicity*, *Grey’s Anatomy* and *Alias*, as well as in films such as *500 Miles to Graceland* and *A Slipping Down Life*. In *Stretch Limousine on Fire*, it is evident why Catie’s career sustains a loyal fan base and continues to engage new listeners. She deftly delivers ten well-crafted songs that keep her clear, clean vocals above instrumentation that interests but never over-power. As it should be—to lose any nuance of her signature voicing that break to reveal a heartbreak laying just beneath the sunny lilt of lyric and melody would be a loss, indeed. As with previous releases, there is something very intimate and warm about *Stretch Limousine* that invites multiple plays as the listener mines something new from each spin. There is a spare quality in this recording that invites one to lean forward a bit and listen a little more intently. It is like that moment in performance when the artist dials down the volume and brings up the intensity. Indeed, the recording reads like a performance with great musicians who know when to nuance their playing—like when a drummer


reaches for the brushes instead of the sticks mindful of the sonic nature of the room. Together with the musical contributors to this CD, Catie respects the sonic experience of the listener.

Catie is well-known for upbeat and positive lyrics and for the ability to write love songs about relationships that are working sound interesting and thoughtful. On this disc, too, she deals effectively with themes of mortality, loss and longing—never drifting into the maudlin. Reflecting on the project, Catie says, “For me, the whole experience of recording it was very passionate and emotional. It has more of a raw, edgy sound to it and people have responded to that.” Those who enjoy great instrumentals will not be disappointed—the musicians on *Stretch Limousine on Fire* have their moments to shine as they work to illuminate Catie’s vocals, never eclipsing the lyric or that voice! The first cut of the CD, “Let it Last,” features Thomas Julian’s evocative slide guitar supporting the work of Catie and guest vocalist Mary Chapin Carpenter, and the effect is a beautiful interplay of instrument and voice. Pianist Glenn Patscha provides lovely piano accompaniment on two of the disc’s best offerings—“River Wide” and the last track of the CD, “Seeds and Tears.” “Riverwide” comes at the midpoint of the disc and is a reflective piece that melds childhood memory with the desire for change and growth using birds and taking flight as metaphor. One of the strengths of Catie’s songwriting which is evident throughout *Stretch Limousine on Fire* is her ability to write songs of universal truths that also give voice to small, intimate moments. In “Seeds and Tears,” Catie sings about life after death—with imagery matching meaning while carefully avoiding cliché. Other notable tracks include “Highway del Sol” and the title track, “Stretch Limousine on Fire.” It is this writer’s belief that you can ever go wrong when Julie Wolf sits in, and her solids keyboards on *Highway del Sol* combine with Jay Bellerose on the drums giving the track just the right match for Catie’s lyrics of wonder and possibility. “Stretch Limousine on Fire” offers a jaunty reminder that despite the trappings of those seem-

ingly living a charmed life, “everybody has those days, even when they have it good...” Throughout *Stretch Limousine on Fire* are songs of intimacy and truth delivered with the confidence of a seasoned artist who is as at home fronting a band as she is doing a solo gig.

Local audiences will have the opportunity to hear and see Catie Curtis in concert when she comes to Madison on November 4 at 8:00 PM. Appearing at the Brink, Catie will play songs from *Stretch Limousine on Fire* along with favorites from previous projects. Tickets are \$20 in advance / \$22 at the door. Tickets are available at the Brink Lounge (bar), the Outreach Center, or online at www.javanotes.org. All proceeds benefit The Outreach Community Center.

MadFolk Concert Tickets

When you see this symbol –  – you’ll know that you’re reading about a Mad Folk sponsored event. Advance tickets for Mad Folk shows are available online at www.madfolk.org and at these outlets:

- Orange Tree Imports, 1721 Monroe Street
- Spruce Tree Music, 851 East Johnson

Purchase tickets ONLINE for Mad Folk concerts via Brown Paper Tickets:

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/10879>

You can also purchase advance tickets by mail. Send a stamped self-addressed envelope with your check payable to Mad Folk, PO Box 665, Madison, WI 53701. If all else fails, call 608-846-9214 for information.



Rhyme Time

When I was a kid my dad used to call me "Peato-Wheato" and my sister "Mary O'Lary." Who knows, maybe that's what got me interested in rhymes. That was many, many years ago, but still rhymes interest me so much I often wake up with one on the tip of my lip. The other morning it was the phrase "geezers with tweezers," which made me think of stamp collectors. And when I Googled the phrase, I was presented with almost 300 hits, most of them referring to stamp collectors, as a matter of fact. Had I heard this before? I suppose I probably had, but it still was a rhyme.

But even though the phrase was common, I was off and running with a new stupid game for myself. These really dumb games actually help me get rolling in the lyrics department, or so I like to tell myself. You'd be appalled at the things I like to tell myself help with songwriting.

Anyway, these were the rules I decided upon, after absolutely no deliberation: The answer must use the rhyme form ABA, where B is usually a preposition. The clue must be one or two words. Give it a try!

Sitting bruises: Bears on chairs.
Tavern outsiders: Folks with smokes.
British comics: Blokes with jokes.
Donald Drivers: Ducks in trucks.
Jogging nuns: Sisters with blisters.
Laughing Wiccans: Witches in stitches.
Crawl spaces: Bumpers for plumbers.
Champagne hangovers: troubles with bubbles.

Rich rabbit: Bunny with money.
Stoned rabbit: Bugs on drugs.
Drugged bunny: Rabbit with habit.
Nun bunny: Rabbit with habit.
Copper teapot: Kettle of metal.
Shoehorn: Handle for sandal.
Quiet instrument: Flute with mute.
Old miser: Coot with loot.
Hot violin: Fiddle on griddle.

Electronic horse: Pony by Sony.
Sailor clippers: Barbers in harbors.
Music stores: Places with basses.
Beer stores: shops with hops.
Driving woes: Stops by cops.
Lazy captains: skippers in slippers.
Surfing Friends: Quakers on breakers.

Dinner talk: Chatter over platter.
Cancer gossip: Rumors of tumors.
Dogwoods: Trees with fleas.
Dreaming carp: Fishes with wishes.
Minimal houses: Sheds with beds.
Housed oinkers: Pigs in digs.
Housed bounders: Cads in pads.
Housed writers: Hacks in shacks.
Housed pooches: Mutts in huts.
Housed kitties: Cats in flats.
Housed rodents: Voles in holes.
Scary desserts: Cakes with snakes.
Online therapists: Shrinks with links.

Useless idea: Mimes with rhymes.
Dangerous vehicles: Cars with bars.
Painful shoes: Pumps with lumps.
Drunk artists: Lushes with brushes.
Yuppie visionaries: Dreamers with Beemers.

Smelly winds: Breezes from cheeses.
Flower garden: Sector with nectar.
Bear cafes: Trees with bees.
Parrots: Birds with words.
Dog toys: Yoyos for Totos.
Cattle boats: Scows with cows.
Tiny boats: Pails with sails.
Bedbug times: Nights with bites.
Jed Clampett: Actor with tractor.
Menswear shoppers: Browsers through trousers.

Depantsed leaders: Chiefs in briefs.
Sleeping broadcasters: DJs in PJs.
Xeroxing Communists: Pinkos in Kinkos.

Oarlocks: Thingies in dinghies.
Dead rowers: Stiffs in skiffs.
Boat tales: Stories of dories.
Coffee warmers: Mugs with plugs.
Featherbedding example: Hearse with nurse.
Paranoid poets: Bards with guards.
Lucky tellers: Clerks with perks.
Ping pong: Battles with paddles.
Farm work: Toils with soils.
Milk route: Udder to butter.

Then of course you can take out the preposition and just have the AA rhyme form:

Narrow waist: Little middle.
Piccolo career: Fife life.
Butter school: Learning churning.
Equine school: Horses courses.
Fish school: Bass class.
Epoxy school: Glue U.
Doctor school: Med Ed.
Muck school: Muddy study.
Crash course: Wreck tech.

Pancake mess: Batter splatter.
Plate break: Platter shatter.
Dog buss: Pooch smooch.
Fish: Seal meal.
Worm: Fish dish.
Insect love: Bug hug.
Carptet pull: Rug tug.

Bone dessert: Gelatin Skeleton.
Daddy's problems: Father's bothers.
Joyous daddy: Happy pappy.
Certain uncles: Mother's brothers.
Appropriate cork: Proper stopper.
Crook drool: Robber slobber.
Wet hobo: Damp tramp.
Lantern: Camp lamp.
Fashionable turtle: Dapper snapper.
Herring spatula: Kipper flipper.
Nerd utensil: Dork fork.
Thunderhead: Loud cloud.
Charm bracelet: Bangle dangle.
Bargain gherkin: Nickel pickle.
DEET: Skeeter beater.
Slug plugger: Meter cheater
Bargain lyric: Dime rhyme
Sad friend: Glum chum.
Happy wino: Chipper sipper.
Burdened girl: Laden maiden.
Sewer's packages: Tailor's mailers.
Big boat: Large barge.
Ocean storm: Clipper tipper.
Beach treat: Sandy candy.
Boxcar: Cheaper sleeper.
Flunking seamanship: Failing sailing.
Spam: Sham ham.
Wendy's Frosty: Fake shake.
Counterfeit: Faux dough.
Zippo shopper: Fire buyer.
Sham tram: Trolley folly.
Pulpit: Preacher feature.
Animal trainer: Creature teacher.
Silly gesture: Odd nod.
Silly column: Whither Zither.



FOLKLORE VILLAGE ...passing it on

Folklore Village House Party *Extravaganza!*

Saturday, November 5th, **6:00-10:30pm** Potluck at 6:00

A fundraiser to honor 20 years of Doug Miller's leadership as FLV's Executive Director

Suggested Donation: \$15

Performances: Mike Wolkomir; Folklore Village International Dancers with music by the Madison Scandi Band; Doug & Bonnie Miller; Bill & Bobbie Malone

Participation Dancing: Mixers called by Greg Winz
Contra Square Set called by Catherine Baer/music by Peter Gorman & Friends

Delicious Desserts: Provided by the Folklore Village Board

www.folklorevillage.org

608-924-4000

** Please help spread the word **

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

November 2011

Mad Folk Events



Joel Mabus

Saturday Nov 5
Wil-Mar Center -- 953 Jenifer St -- 8pm
\$14adv/\$16d.o.s.

Bryan Bowers

Friday Jan 6
The Brink Lounge -- 701 E. Washington Ave -- 7pm
\$14adv/\$16d.o.s.

Tim Grimm

Friday Jan 20
The Brink Lounge -- 701 E. Washington Ave -- 7pm
\$14adv/\$16d.o.s.

David Francey

Friday Feb 17
The Brink Lounge -- 701 E. Washington Ave -- 7pm
\$15adv/\$17d.o.s.

Venues



Wild Hog in the Woods

Weekly Friday night folk music in intimate setting
All shows at 8pm unless indicated otherwise.
\$2 for members, \$3 for non-members

- Nov 4 -- Bill and Bobbie Malone
- Nov 11 -- Luther Gette
- Nov 18 -- Ken Lonquist
- Sat. Nov 19 -- Hootenanny!

Wil-Mar Center
953 Jenifer St.
wildhoginthewoods.org
608-233-5687



Cafe Carpe

All shows at 8:30pm unless indicated otherwise

- Nov 2, 2011 @ 7:30pm Tom Freund/Jess Klein
- Nov 4, 2011 -- Tom Waselchuk & Jami Lampkins
- Nov 10, 2011 @ 7:00 pm New Pioneers
- Nov 11, 2011 -- Grey Matter Mechanics
- Nov 12, 2011 -- Bill Camplin & The Novemberists
- Nov 18, 2011 -- Ed Hall
- Nov 19, 2011 -- Julie Macarus/Bill Camplin
- Nov 25, 2011 -- Hayward Williams

18 S. Water St.
Ft. Atkinson, WI
cafecarpe.com
920-563-9391



The Brink Lounge

- Thur. Nov 3 -- Tom Freund/Jess Klein CD Release Concert-- 9pm
- Fri. Nov 4 -- Catie Curtis -- 7:30pm -- \$20adv./\$22d.o.s
- Tues. Nov 9 -- Lorrie Anna, Ida Jo & Beth Kille -- 8pm
- Thur. Nov 10 -- Matt Cranitch, Jackie Daly, and Paul de Grae -- 7:30pm -- \$17adv./\$20d.o.s.

701 E. Washington
thebrinklounge.com
608-661-8599



Mad Toast Live! at the The Brink Lounge

Music, talk and variety show hosted by Chris Wagoner and Mary Gaines

Tues. Nov 1 - \$5 d.o.s.
-- Barb Ryman 7pm

Tues. Nov 8 - \$15 adv./\$18 d.o.s.
-- David Wilcox 7pm

Tues. Nov 15 - Jessi Lynn Band 7pm

Stoughton Opera House

- Blind Boys of Alabama -- Fri. Nov 4th -- 7:30
- Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band -- Sat. Nov 5th -- 7:30
- UW Russian Folk Orchestra Fri. Nov 11th -- 7:30
- Darrell Scott -- Sat. Nov 12th -- 7:30
- Guy Clark -- Fri. Nov 18th -- 7:30
- Blake Thomas -- Sat. Nov 19th -- 7:30

- Sat, Nov 5 -- John Craigie w/ Marty Finkel -- 8pm -- \$6
- Fri, Nov 18 Caravan Gypsy Swing Ensemble 8pm \$6
- Sat, Nov 26 -- Audrey Auld -- 8pm -- \$6

Stoughton Opera House
381 E. Main Street
Stoughton, WI
stoughtonoperahouse.com
608-877-4400

Mother Fool's
1101 Williamson
motherfools.com
608-259-1301

Misc

Madison Ukulele Club -- Singalongs 1st and 3rd Weds 7:00-9:00pm
-- call for location -- 246-8205 (Andrew)

Bob's BBQ Emporium's Open Mic - Thus, Nov 17 -- 7pm
-- 8164 Hwy. 14 Arena, WI

Gigs

Indigo Girls

Thursday, November 10
Barrymore Theatre -- Madison, WI

Fiona Molloy

Saturday, November 12 -- 7:30 pm. Irish Cultural and Heritage Center
2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee 414.345.8800

Jim Schwall

Friday, November 18, Times Cinema, Milwaukee, 8:00 PM -- Jim solo acoustic
Saturday, November 26, Black Bear, Minocqua WI -- with Chris Aaron and friends.
Monday November 28, Crystal Corner, Madison -- solo acoustic, no cover.

Oak Street Ramblers

Saturday, November 5 -- Old Time Jam @9pm The Alchemy Café
1980 Atwood Ave., Madison

On the Air



Simply Folk on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Stephanie Elkins, Interim Host
Sun 5:00-8:00pm
Concerts recorded in Wisconsin, music and dance of people the world over. For playlists, calendars, station listings, and more, visit www.wpr.org/simplyfolk.



WORT 89.9 FM community radio

Sun -- 3:00-5:00pm

- On the Horizon (world music) w/Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak & Dan Talmo
- Weekdays 9:00am-noon
- Mon - Global Revolutions (folk from the world over) w/ David & Martin Alvarado & Eugenia Highland
- Tue -- For the Sake of the Song (traditional American folk) w/Jim Schwall
- Wed -- Back to the Country (country music on a theme) w/Bill Malone
- Thur -- Diaspora (folk and international) w/Terry O'
- Fri -- Mud Acres (bluegrass and acoustic) w/Chris Powers

Madison Dance

- African/African-American Dance classes with live drumming -- Sun, 7:00-9:00pm -- Metro Dance, 3009 University Ave. -- 255-3677 / 251-4311
- Cajun Dance - Sun 11/20 - dance instruction at 6:15 PM, dance 7:00 to 10:00 PM - Harmony Bar & Grill, 2201 Atwood Ave, 249-4333
- SpiritMoves Ecstatic Dance 2nd and 4th Weds, 7:00-9:00 pm -- The Center for Conscious Living, 849 East Washington Ave. -- \$7 min. donation
- English Country Dance taught -- 1st and 3rd Mon, 7:30-9:30pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 238-9951 or 238-9951
- International Dancing -- Wed and Sun; classes 7:30-8:30pm, request dancing 8:30-11:00pm -- The Crossing, 1127 University Ave. -- 241-3655
- Irish Dancing -- Monthly Ceili and set dance events are posted at celticmadison.org/dance
- Italian Dancing -- Tue, 7:00-9:00pm, no experience or partner necessary -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 838-9403 (Philana)
- Madison Contra Dance Cooperative -- Tue; 7:30 jam band practice, intermediate level dancing 7:45-9:40pm -- \$5 for non-members -- Gates of Heaven, 302 E. Gorham -- 238-3394 (Steve)
- Morris Dancing -- Wed, 7:00pm -- call for location -- 238-9951
- Scottish Country Dancing -- Sun, 7:00pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 835-0914

MadFolkNews is published monthly by the Madison Folk Music Society, a non-profit, volunteer-led society dedicated to fostering folk music in the Madison area. Contact us at madfolk@charter.net. Learn about concerts, membership, scholarships, and volunteer opportunities at www.madfolk.org.

Madison Folk Music Society Board

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Fiona Molloy at Irish Cultural and Heritage Center on Nov. 12

Some of southeastern Wisconsin's finest Celtic singers, musicians and dancers will be featured when Irish singer Fiona Molloy and special guests Dublin O'Shea perform in the Hallamor of the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, on Saturday, Nov. 12, at 7:30 p.m. They will be joined by bodhran player David Klawes, Highland bagpiper Sean Cavanaugh, and the Kinsella Academy of Irish Dance.

Although she now calls Wisconsin home, Molloy is originally from Derry, Northern Ireland, where she was dubbed the Songbird of Peace for her performances during the "troubles" in the 1970s. Her "angelic" voice has been heard by many world leaders and she has been a favorite of Milwaukee Irish Fest audiences. Molloy's songs range from original ballads and rowdy pub favorites to songs by other artists including Joan Baez. An engaging performer, she can make an audience laugh one moment and bring a tear to their eyes the next.

Accompanying Molloy will be David Klawes on the handheld Irish drum. Klawes has performed at Irish Fest and plays regularly with the well-known duo Frogwater.

The beauty and precision of Irish step-dancing will be showcased by champion dancers from the award-winning Kinsella Academy. The dancers have earned top honors at local, national and international level competitions.

Opening the night's entertainment are the freewheeling and fun-loving band Dublin O'Shea, known for energizing audiences with songs from Ireland, Scotland and the nautical tradition played on guitar, fiddle, mandolin and bodhran.

Sean Cavanaugh will add the thrilling swirl of the bagpipes to the evening's festivities. Cavanaugh is a member of the Milwaukee Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes, and Drums.

Reserved seat tickets are \$19. To order tickets and also view the full Hallamor concert series, visit www.ichc.net. Tickets may also be ordered by calling (414) 345-8800.

Madison Folk Music Society

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Send your check, payable to MFMS to: Mad Folk c/o Tracy Comer, P.O. Box 930446, Verona, WI 53593-0446

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Way #2 – unplugged

Visit www.madfolk.org and click on "Join MFMS"

Way #1 – online

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