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# Mad Folk NEWS

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Newsletter of the Madison Folk Music Society

Volume 31, No. 1 / January 2005

## Mad Folk welcomes back Christine Kane Jan. 29

Christine Kane grew up in the northeast and attended college in Boston. After finishing college and working a standard 9–5 job in the Washington, D.C., area, she realized that this track was not her thing. So she sold most of her belongings and moved to Asheville, North Carolina, to play music. She did not know a soul there, but it did not take long before people started to know her.

Besides playing festivals, concert halls, and listening rooms across the United States, she also is regularly invited to appear at conferences and writing seminars across the country. Christine performs for humanitarian causes and charity concerts, including Girls On The Move, an Outward Bound program for at-risk teens, and concerts for a Landmine Free World.

Singer-songwriter Christine Kane

### Folk Ball Festival

You and yours are warmly invited to roll that holiday energy into the New Year with three days of dance parties, workshops, performances, and fast-moving fun with friends old and new at the Folk Ball, the Midwest's largest and liveliest folkdance festival, whose 17th edition is slated for January 14–16 at the UW Memorial Union. This is earlier than usual, so help us get the word to everyone!

Note that BOTH the kickoff dance events on Friday night (Contra and Int'l Dance) are at the Union this year. The Folk Ball Contra with music by Duck for the Oyster is in Tripp Commons (8–11:30), and the International Dance Party (7:30–midnight in Great Hall) has music by Cajun Strangers, Malo Selo, Izvor, and Maritza, plus early evening performances by Madison Scottish Country Dancers and Tri Bratovchedki singers.

Workshops Saturday in Great Hall offer Balkan dance and Klezmer Dance,

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last played for a Mad Folk-sponsored concert during the 2000 Mad Folk festival. For the last 10 years, Christine's performances and songs have been a compelling portrait of what's real and what's true. Christine is currently touring in support of her latest release, *Right Outta Nowhere*, a follow-up to *Rain & Mud & Wild & Green*, which was named "Best of 2003" (Folk Category) by Borders Books & Music. Christine has released a total of five CDs on her own record label, Firepink Music, with continued growth of record sales and increasing national exposure.

Christine's performances go well beyond your typical acoustic revue; they are filled with energy, creativity, and hu-



mor. Her songs continue to reveal the many facets of her artistry, personality, and spirit. And as Rosanne Cash said, "Christine's voice and her eye on the world are a real inspiration and joy to me." Come out and see Christine to hear a refreshingly real work of art that has secured her a place among the most popular singer-songwriters.

Christine will be performing at First United Methodist Church, located at 203 Wisconsin Ave. (Watch the website for information for free parking the night of the performance). Showtime is 8 p.m. and tickets are available at Borders Bookshops East & West, B-Side Records, Spruce Tree Music, Orange Tree Imports, Steep & Brew (Odana Rd.) and are \$14 advance and \$16 the day of the show at the door.

## Bryan Bowers starts off 2005

One more time, we're reminding you that Bryan Bowers will be making one of his very rare stops in Madison on January 7, 2005. Last month's *Mad Folk News* told you all about him, so we just will say a BIT more, to urge you not to miss this concert.

Bryan has been a major presence on the North American folk music scene since the mid-1960s. He is a powerful singer and a gifted performer but is best known as one of the world's masters of the autoharp.

Whether playing a rousing instrumental with such dexterity that he sounds like a four-piece string band, telling a moving story from his eventful life, or singing one of his heartfelt ballads, this native Virginian entralls and delights audiences with his virtuosity and genuine warmth.

Join us in welcoming Bryan Bowers back to Madison. The concert is being co-sponsored with The Wild Hog in the Woods and will start at 8 p.m. at the Wil-Mar Center, 954 Jenifer St. Tickets are available at Borders Bookshops East & West, B-Side Records, Spruce Tree Music, Orange Tree Imports, Steep & Brew (Odana Rd.) and are \$14 advance and \$16 the day of the show at the door.



# FOLK BALL

(continued from front page)

Transylvanian Couple Dances, Celtic Dance, Courtly Dances, Scottish Country Dance, Argentine Tango, and Balkan Singing. Full schedule details

are on the Folk Ball website <http://plantpath.wisc.edu/~tdd/FB2005.htm>

The Folk Ball Dance Party (Saturday 7 p.m.–1 a.m. in Great Hall) features Orkestar Bez Ime, Yid Vicious,

Reptile Palace Orchestra, and Sloboda. There will be early evening performances by MILA Vocal Ensemble, Courtly Cadenza, Narodno, and Argentine Tango.

Sunday dance workshops are at Grace Guildhall (116 W. Washington), 1–5 p.m. Survivors Dance Party commences 8 p.m. at 1127 University Avenue.



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