

Mad Folk News

Point 5 playing Mother's Day at Folklore Village

Point 5, an Americana acoustic band, is one of Southwest Wisconsin's best kept musical secret and on Friday, May 10th, they'll perform a Mother's Day Weekend concert at Folklore Village. While the secret is coming out (they were highlighted on WPR's Simply Folk this year), the band still loves to play local Dodgeville and Mineral Point bars, benefit concerts and local southwestern stages. The band consists of Monica and Aaron Dunn (harmony vocals, rhythm guitar), Paul Biere (banjo, dobro, harmony vocals), Andy Hatch (mandolin) and Carole Spelic (stand up bass, harmony vocals). With impeccable and soothing vocal harmonies from the Dunn partnership and tasteful instrumental



breaks from Andy, Paul and Carole, the band moves seamlessly through an array of songs and acoustic styles,



including bluegrass, folk, originals, and gospel, with creativity and smoothness. They truly let the songs and lyrics shine through, leaving the listener with the emotional impact of the song itself. Aaron's original songs conjure up picturesque scenes of the landscape of Southwest Wisconsin and

lately, Point 5 has been performing more and more of these heartfelt originals. Bring the mother in your life for a memorable concert Friday, May 10th at Folklore Village. Concert: 7:30, doors: 7:00

Details: www.folklorevillage.org

Reserve your tickets at 608-924-4000 \$12 adults, \$10 current members, \$5 youth 17 and under

Mother's Day Tailgate Bash


What's more Madison than the Yahara Fest, the Fete De Marquette, Orton Park and The Willy St. Fair? We spend our summers planning our schedules around these unique events, but most of us have never been inside the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center; in fact, besides Wild Hog in the Woods, the Neighborhood Center is best known around the Isthmus for these events that don't happen at the center. All that is about to change early this May when the first-ever Mother's Day Tailgate Bash opens the summer festival season with a bang-and, of course, beers, brats and bands.

The Mother's Day Tailgate Bash will bring together music lovers throughout Madison for an evening of fun festivities to celebrate mothers. Taking place Friday, May 10th from 5-10 p.m. at the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center, guests can look forward to enjoying a variety of music both outside under the summer night's sky and inside for a traditional Wild Hog in The Woods throw down. Music at two stages will offer a hybrid of Latin jazz and Malian melodies from Tony Castaneda and Tani Diakite, West-

side Andy with the Mel Ford band, and as a special addition to the event, free admission to see KG & the Rangers at the Wild Hog in The Woods!

Come on by for brats and ribs fresh off the grill and marvelous music-and all for a great cause. The Mother's Day Tailgate Bash will support the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center, Porchlight, Inc., and Partners in Foster Care. PFC All three local, non-profit organizations serve the vulnerable, at-risk and homeless populations within the Dane County region. Through food and refreshment sales, the Mother's Day Tailgate Bash will produce revenue that will help fund critical assistance programs, emergency shelter, foster care and supportive services. The Mother's Day Tailgate Bash is an expansion of the ever-popular Children's Benefit Plant Sale, taking place in the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center basketball court on Friday, May 10th from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Saturday, May 11th from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. This is a one of a kind Madison affair that you don't want to miss!

Mad Folk 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.

THE COMING TIDE

LUKE WINSLOW-KING ~ 2013 BLOODSHOT RECORDS



Review by Darcy Greder

There are timeless artists and then there are those who are just old-timey. It remains to be seen if Luke Winslow-King is a member of the former group, but despite the fancy hair, he doesn't fall into the latter. Everyone seems to be jumping on the folk-rocking, suspender-wearing, Mumford-driven bandwagon these days, but Winslow-King sounds like the real deal. He has a real love of this music, and he skillfully blends folk and blues with the jazz and gospel you hear on the streets of New Orleans. He came to the city in 2002 to present the songs and stories of Woody Guthrie, only to have his car and all the band's instruments stolen. The weeks spent recovering his property led to an unlikely love of the city. Since then he's paid his dues, busking in the streets during the day and playing jazz in the clubs at night.

His first release on Chicago's Bloodshot Records (third overall), *The Coming Tide*, draws from all these influences, creating something that sounds familiar but also manages something brand new. There are recognizable elements here, standards by Blind Willie Johnson and Huddie Ledbetter (better known as Leadbelly), and they sit comfortably, sometimes

indistinguishably, next to Winslow-King's originals. His version of Johnson's spiritual "Keep Your Lamp Trimmed and Burning" stays true to the original, right down to the female backing vocals, while Leadbelly's "Ella Speed" gets a more somber remake. Though you may not recognize it immediately, the most familiar song here was written by Rudy Clark, a name much less well known than that of the man who made "Got My Mind Set on You" popular. George Harrison had a number-one hit with it, but Winslow-King acts like he's never even heard that version. Instead of Harrison's lighthearted sugary pop, his is much less innocent. The slithering slide guitar and half-sung vocals hint at something darker, almost obsessive. He disguises it, and subsequently makes it his own, by switching the emphasis from "you" to "set," changing the meaning in the process.

The originals run the gamut from the infectious ragtime of "Moving On (Toward Better Days)" to the sweet waltz of "Staying in Town" to the gospel (Old Testament style) of the title track. "Moving On" features one of trumpet player Ben Polcer's star turns as he trades lines with Rick Trolsen on trombone. He does it again on "I Know She'll Do Right By Me," where he also pulls double duty on the piano. Vocalist and washboard player Esther Rose is deserving of her "featuring" designation on the CD cover. Not only does she help "Lamp" stand up to the original, but she's nearly omnipresent throughout. Winslow-King has a great voice, a slow-burning, sexy drawl, but the record

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is often at its very best when Rose shares the lead with him, as on "The Coming Tide," "Staying in Town" and that remarkable version of "Got My Mind Set on You."

I don't have much patience for musicians I perceive as posers, but don't get me started on that. The point is, I get the feeling this is the exact record Winslow-King would have made no matter which way the winds of musical trends were blowing. He's fortunate to have it come at a time when it may get some rightful recognition.



ASMR and Warm Kitty

The other day I heard Andrea Seigel, in a segment titled *A Tribe Called Rest*, on public radio's *This American Life*. She said that as a girl she had been fascinated by her friend Mindy who would go through Andrea's seashell collection, describing in a "murmur" every shell in detail. This would give Andrea a "starburst effect;" a sort of tingle that radiated down from the top of her skull and throughout her body. At the library she experienced the same effect from listening to people turning pages, and to the librarian reading stories in a low voice. Later she found herself transfixed by the gentle voice and brush stroking of the late Bob Ross, quiet-voiced painting instructor on TV's *The Joy of Painting*. As an adult she would watch the *Home Shopping Network* for hours, as the hosts went over in soothing detail the features of pieces of jewelry. Eventually she turned to YouTube for videos of tutorials by murmuring women about applying makeup. These pursuits took hours out of her day, and soothed and relaxed her like nothing else. She never told anyone, even her husband, about her obsession.

Then one day she happened upon a video by a woman who whispered descriptions of her late grandmother's jewelry, spoke of something called "ASMR" and even referred to Bob Ross.

Andrea was stunned, and Googled ASMR to find she was not alone in her compulsion. ASMR is a pseudo-scientific acronym coined in 2010 by Jennifer Allen of an organization called *ASMR Research & Support*, and stands for "Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response." That's an academic-sounding name for something not yet scientifically explained, but I can personally vouch for its occurrence. I even wrote about it way back in 2001, suggesting they change the name of the Bob Ross show from *The Joy of Painting* to *The Joy of Watching Bob Ross Painting*.

Common trigger-lists of ASMR vary, but

usually contain these points: Slow, soft, whispery speech; lip and mouth sounds; clicking and brushing sounds; the process of painting or drawing; gentle instructional videos; people performing simple tasks (I think of Mr. Rogers tying his shoes); close, personal attention (eye exam, haircut, hair brushing), and almost all lists include Bob Ross.

These triggers pretty much add up to having someone spatially close, speaking in a quiet, comforting, and mildly educational way, while often having a tactile interaction with some simple object. I can't help thinking this sounds like how a good parent comes across to a young child.

I read about a study by biological anthropologist Leslie Seltzer of the University of Wisconsin showing that young girls who were faced with a fearsome exam show increased oxytocin levels when soothed by their mother either live or over the phone, but not by texts sent by the mother. I couldn't help wondering if those ASMR triggers, by viscerally mimicking the parental presence, aren't causing the release of oxytocin in our systems, which may contribute to ASMR.

Oxytocin has been nicknamed the "love hormone," the "hug hormone," and the "cuddle chemical" because it plays such a role in childbirth, maternal bonding, social bonding, romantic attraction, and so forth. By working on the amygdala — the brain's fear center — it also seems to increase trust and reduce fear.

Now since I'm a folk musician, I had to wonder what ASMR might have to do with acoustic music. Researchers claim that the "frisson" caused by a glorious piece of orchestration is NOT the same as ASMR. It's a different kind of willies. (And incidentally, though some refer to an ASMR as a "braingasm," everyone stresses that it is nonsexual.) But after watching YouTube ASMR videos, I do think that some folk singers (though not yours truly) can trigger ASMR in intimate situations. After all, many folkies sing in a quiet voice while having a tactile interaction with their instrument.

The key word is "intimate." The YouTube videos are almost all of people literally whispering, or at least speaking in VERY quiet tones. The miracle of today's sound reproduction can have it seem like Bob Ross (or Garrison Keillor, another popular ASMR trigger) is inches from your ear, and in a concert setting, a good PA can bring the plucks, secondary clicks, and string-slide squeaks of a dulcimer, not to mention the subtle breathy mouth sounds of the singer, right up into your Beltone. And of course the natural acoustics of intimate house concert settings can do the same.

The type of song that most lends itself to ASMR is undoubtedly the lullaby, which is, after all, a song ostensibly sung by a parent in close proximity to a child. "Soft kitty, warm kitty, little ball of fur..." (*Warm Kitty*; Words by Edith Newlin, ©1937, melody traditional) as sung on the show *The Big Bang Theory*, is a great example, having so much tactile reference even in the meaning of those first words. When Penny sings that song softly to Sheldon, I would bet that the oxytocin level of the viewing public shows a measurable bump.

It's complicated. What gives one person an ASMR rush can often give another person the creeps, which, I would say, is a negative version of the same sensation. Often, the manipulation of paper is mentioned as a trigger for example, but David Copperfield says of Uriah Heep, "...his lank forefinger followed up every line as he read, and made clammy tracks along the page (or so I fully believed) like a snail."

Not only that, some people like the creeps; millions pay good money to see creepy movies. And some people can't stand close whispering ever, and call the ASMR triggers too "touchy-feely" for them. I suspect that for most people there's a fine line between ASMR and the creeps. In discussion groups, you even find people who say, "I can't stand Bob Ross; he makes me want to scream, but I can't stop watching him." So there you go. We are tyrannized by our chemistries.

WZ, May 2013

<http://www.asmr-research.org/>
<http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/491/tribes?act=2>
<http://io9.com/5830665/a-soothing-voice-can-change-your-hormones-but-a-text-message-wont>
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxytocin>
http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=asmr

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

May 2013

Venues



The Brink Lounge

Wed, May 1 -- 8pm -- Aaron Williams and the Hoodoo

Wed, May 2 -- 8pm -- Briana Hardyman Trio

Wed, May 15 -- 8pm -- Aaron Williams and the Hoodoo

Thu, May 30 -- 7pm -- Nashville Artist, James Steely
Mad Toast Live

Tue, May 7 -- 7pm -- Shaman Juan Band -- \$10 cover

Tue, May 21 -- 7pm -- The Matt Murchison Mutiny -- \$5-10
sliding scale cover
-- 8pm -- Wook

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



Cafe Carpe

All shows at 8:30pm unless indicated otherwise

- Fri, May 3 -- Roxanne Neat -- \$8 -- 8pm
- Sat, May 4 -- Jim & Vivian Craig w/ Fred Campeau & Mitch Thomas -- 8pm
- Fri, May 10 -- Cold Satellite w/ the pines -- \$25 adv
- Fri, May 17 -- Cold Satellite w/ the pines -- \$25 adv
- Sat, May 25 -- Larry Penn / John Sieger / Mark Dvorak -- 8pm -- \$12

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

Folklore Village

- May 4 -- Maypole Dancing Saturday Night Social
- May 7 -- Open Mic
- May 10 -- Point 5 Mother's Day Concert

3210 Cty Hwy BB
Dodgeville, WI
folklorevillage.org
608-924-4000



Wild Hog in the Woods

- Fri, May 3 -- Nancy Rost, Kyle Greer and Ian Wilson -- 8pm
- Fri, May 10 -- KG & The Ranger -- 8pm
- Fri, May 17 -- Greg Boerner -- 8pm
- Sat, May 18 -- Hootenanny! -- 2pm
- Fri, May 24 -- Tracy Beck -- 8pm
- Fri, May 31 -- Bill and Bobbie Malone -- 8pm

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

Mother Fool's

- Fri., May 3 -- Le Gran Fromage w/ Boo Bradley - \$6 -- 8pm

Mother Fool's
Coffeehouse
1101 Williamson St.
motherfools.com
608-259-1030

Misc

Mother's Day Tailgate Bash -- May 10th, 5-10pm -- @ the Wil-Mar center

Bardstock Music Festival -- Sept 27-29 -- \$45 full weekend, \$30 Sat. only -- tickets include lodging. featuring Andrew Heinrich, Tom Kastle, David HB Drake, February Sky, and Michael Longcor. Also playing will be Stephen Rodriguez, Rosaleen Dbu, Pat Kaping, and more.
-- White Lake Beach Resort, N4785 19th Ave, Montello, WI.
<http://www.whitelakebeachresort.com>

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 - Thu, May 16 -- 7pm
-- 8164 Hwy. 14 Arena, WI

Cajun jam held every first Sunday 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
At the Froth House: 11 N. Allen St., Madison We welcome all levels of experience with instruments and Cajun music.
kcholden@wisc.edu for more info. www.prairiebayoucajun.com

On the Air



Simply Folk on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Stephanie Elkins, 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 Strangers- Sun 3/10 - Harmony Bar, Madison. -- 7pm Donation
- 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

Is this your last copy of *Mad Folk News*?

There are two ways to renew your **tax-deductible** membership

Way #1 – online

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

Way #2 – unplugged

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| Family | \$15 | _____ |
| Friend | \$25 | _____ |
| Contributing | \$50 | _____ |
| Life | \$500 | _____ |
| Scholarship fund donation (optional) | \$ | _____ |
| Total | \$ | _____ |

GOING GREEN - Send my newsletters electronically by email

Send your check, payable to MFMS to: Mad Folk c/o
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