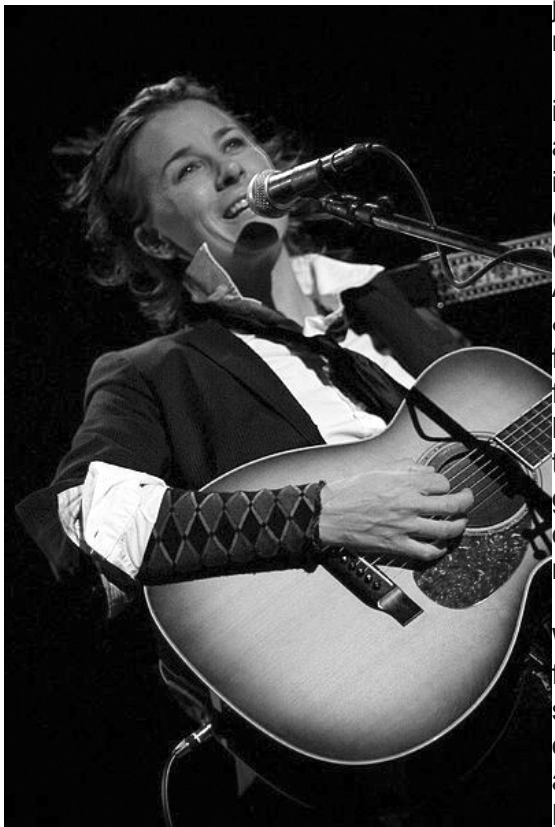


Mad Folk News

National Women's Music Festival July 4 - 7

Since you are a fan of folk music, there is no doubt that you will also enjoy taking in this year's very conveniently-located 38th National Women's Music Festival that kicks off Thursday evening, July 4 at the Marriott Madison West.



Women's music is created by women, for women and is usually about women. It emerged as a genre during the second wave of feminism in the 1970's and incorporates virtually all musical styles including folk, mountain music, gospel, inspirational, jazz, classical, new age, rock and rap.

Music headliners this year include Chris Williamson, creator of the best-selling album in women's music (*The Changer and the Changed*), Voices of Africa and Sharon Katz & the Peace Train. The festival moves beyond folk to include Alt-rocker Melissa Ferrick and sisters June and Jean Milligan, founding members of the first all-female rock band, Fanny.

Sponsored by Women in the Arts, the festival nurtures and supports women in various arts so will include award winning writer Ellen Hart, author of

28 crime novels included in two series featuring sleuths Jane Lawless and Sophie Greenway. Comedians this year will include Canadian Elvira Kurt and Last Comic Standing finalist, Gina Yashere. A total of 24 musical and comedy acts will perform.

The National Women's Music Festival will run from July 4-7. Information about scheduled performers, workshops and other Festival activities can be found at <http://wiaonline.org/>



Single Day Tickets (Price includes the Evening Main Stage also. Available online in advance or at the door) Friday, \$115; Saturday, \$115; Sunday \$60 (festival ends mid-afternoon)

Ticket Prices for Evening Main Stage (Available at the door only and after 5:00 pm)

Thursday Night, \$50; Friday Night, \$50; Saturday Night, \$50

July Brings Us House Concert For Three Songwriters in the Round

Three noted performers are touring together as a trio for the first time, and they will make only a small number of stops in the Madison area. Songwriters Karen Mal, Laurie McClain, and David Stoddard each have careers in their own right, but they are combining their unique talents for a series of house concerts and listening room experiences in late June/early July. The tour will take them from Chicago to Door County, and Madison-area opportunities are available on June 30, July 1-3.

Here's the local itinerary:

Sunday, June 30 4:30 \$20 Donation, Living Room Concert, Wauwatertown, WI, contact: jaemusiclover@gmail.com

Monday, July 1, Shockrasonica, 1218 E. Mifflin, Madison, 7:30, \$10, contact: thistle@riseup.net

Tuesday, July 2, 11 a.m. Madison, For the Sake of the Song with Jim Schwall WORT Radio

Tuesday, July 2 7 pm \$10 donation Living Room Concert in Madison, WI host: Mike Tuten and Carol Huber, 608-274-6340 mnchu2101@charter.net


Wednesday, July 3 7 pm, \$15 donation, Trainsong House Concerts, Van Dyne, WI, contact: 920-960-7436 Tomotteimaging@gmail.com

"Laurie McClain turns each venue into her own living room, and each listener into a new friend with her disarming humor and passionate performance. Laurie's songs explore the themes of identity, growth, friendship and love in a way that always honors the fundamental mysteries of the human journey. She is a gem of uniqueness and authenticity."-JM Kearns. Laurie comes to us from Nashville via California and Nebraska.

Karen Mal is a captivating, arresting figure. An individual with that rare star quality, her very manner commands silence when she performs, and no one can hear her without being profoundly affected. Originally from Wisconsin and Connecticut, she's got roots firmly planted in Austin, Texas.

David Stoddard has been called the George Carlin of folk music. He's got a way of making us see things that suddenly become obvious and deeply, deeply funny. That, and he's more earnestly devoted to his audience than any other performer out there. Period. In the words of radio legend John St. Augustine, "The world is a far more musical and vibrant place because of David Stoddard." He's a Wisconsin native who currently lives in Minnesota.

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.

CHEATER'S GAME

KELLY WILLIS & BRUCE ROBISON ~ 2013 PREMIUM RECORDS



Review by Kiki Schueler

Songbird Kelly Willis, who should be a country megastar, and her husband, the criminally underrated Bruce Robison, have been happily married nearly twenty years, and have had independent music careers for just as long. They've appeared on each other's records, and Willis has done several of Robison's songs, but until now they have never done a full record together. After listening to the addictively wonderful *Cheater's Game*, I can only wonder what took them so long. They've said in interviews that it didn't feel like the right time till now, but they sound so natural and comfortable together that it seems a little hard to believe. To be fair, neither of them has put out a record in five years, as they took time off to raise their four kids, which include twin boys.

Robison is known as a great songwriter. He's had songs recorded by the Dixie Chicks ("Travelin' Soldier") and George Strait ("Wrapped"), and another married couple, Faith Hill and Tim McGraw, had a hit with his "Angry All the Time" (which Willis and Robison also recorded as a duet), so it seems surprising that half the songs on this record are covers. Until you hear them, that is. The half dozen songs are impeccably chosen from the last fifty years of Americana and country music. The song voted most likely to get stuck in your head for days at a time is Razy Bailey's "9,999,999

Tears." It's a honky-tonk, tear-in-your-beer (make that nearly ten million tears) classic, and Willis belts it like it actually happened to her. If you're wondering, that's how long it will take before "I'll be over you." I'm more familiar with Eric Clapton's version of "We're All the Way" than I am with Don Williams's more popular original version, so their interpretation was a pleasant surprise. They speed it up a little and add a mandolin and pedal steel, but the brushed snare as well as the vocal interplay is charmingly, nostalgically, nearly identical. The percussion fiesta on the Blasters' "Border Radio" is a feel-good moment in the sun. Lawrence Shoberg's "Born to Roll" recalls the heyday of trucking songs, except that it's better than anything on the *Truckin'* On record we wore out as kids.

Unfortunately the album is front-loaded with the covers; only one of the first five songs is an original, which leads to shortened attention spans later in the record when the songs aren't as immediately familiar. Which is too bad, since the second half of the record boasts Willis sounding genuinely empathetic to a friend whose life falls apart in the wake of infidelity on "Ordinary Fool." There's a good reason she's so understanding, because "that fool would ordinarily be me." Meanwhile, the record closes with two Robison original, straight-up duets: the defeated, still-in-love song "Waterfall" ("I know I'm still in love with you, you've just been gone for too long") and its still-hopeful counterpoint "Dreamin'" ("I'm still hanging on, hoping you might show, I don't want to stop and I can't let go"). Earlier in the record, the habitually g-dropping Robison shines during his turn on lead vocals for "Leavin'," which astutely observes that "the girls all look the

Mad Folk News 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. [Learnaboutconcerts.com](http://www.learnaboutconcerts.com), [membership.com](http://www.membership.com), [scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com), and [volunteeropportunities.com](http://www.volunteeropportunities.com) at www.madfolk.org.

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same when they're leaving."

The voices are the undeniable stars here, but it would be a shame to overlook the terrific instrumentation. There's plenty of alternately graceful and rollicking fiddle, jumping banjo, lovely mandolin, and high and lonesome pedal steel. All tasteful and perfect. The nicest surprise comes from the tuba, which makes an unexpected appearance on the banjo-driven "But I Do" and again, more predictably, on the waltz "No Kind of Dancer." If there were any justice in the world, this is what country radio would sound like. But since it doesn't, go find out for yourself.



Anticipation: Story At Eleven

News Outlets have become giddy with the use of anticipation lately. Such as:

This is Earth News on QCT and I'm Dorothy Deas. In the next hour, we'll talk about a new event on Mars, then interview a Utah barber whose story will be revealed on Live at Nine, right after coverage of the breaking news from France. But first, here's Joggy Shmox with an odd story from Toledo, Ohio. Joggy, strange things happen every day somewhere in the world. But today in Toledo, something particularly unsettling is transpiring, usually only seen in cartoons.

Joggy Shmox: Hello Dorothy. Yes, we are seeing something here that you don't expect to find anywhere in the USA outside of Cozad, Nebraska. Here's WFUD's Don Marble with Bump University's Dr. Fean Fones to shed some light on the situation.

Don Marble: Thank you Joe. This is Don Marble, of WFUD's mobile unit, here with Dr. Fones who has an eye on what is unfolding along the Maumee River. Dr. Fones, related events have happened in the area before, but nothing of this magnitude. Can you elaborate on what CNN is calling a major incident for the Great Lakes Region?

Dr. Fean Fones: Hello Don and thank you and WFUD for the rare chance to give Bump University this time to shed light on what is too often ignored by the press. As you can well imagine, the current manifestations are far too fresh to absorb and have not shown signs of abating. We will continue to monitor the situation and can assure the public that every step is being taken to keep a close tab on things here in the Toledo area.

Don Marble: Thank you Dr. Fones; Toledo is lucky to have you in their service. That was Dr. Fean Fones from Toledo's Bump University. Back to you Joggy.

Joggy Shmox: Thank you Don Marble. Back to Dorothy Deas in our studio. Dorothy?

Dorothy Deas: Thank you Joggy. Stay tuned for a recap of Joggy's report, which we will run right after these announcements.

Phew. Okay, me again. Now, back to Whither Zither. Really now. Very soon. Right after this sentence...

In the **New York Times** of Sunday, June 9, 2013, in the Sunday Review section, at the bottom of page 12, there's an article titled **Why Music Makes Our Brain Sing**, by Robert J. Zatorre and Valorie N. Salimpoor. The authors of this article explain and consider the implications of a study they performed recently. Mr. Zatorre is a professor of neuroscience at McGill University in Montreal, and Ms. Salimpoor is a postdoctoral neuroscientist at the Rotman Research Institute in Toronto. Their findings, oversimplified by me:

When **peak emotional moments** are reached in music, the feel-good neurotransmitter **dopamine** is released. This dopamine is released in the **striatum**. The striatum, in humans and other animals, responds to rewarding stimuli like food and sex, and is targeted by drugs like cocaine. Importantly, they found that this dopamine release happens a few seconds **BEFORE** as well as **DURING** the peak emotional moments in music, indicating that what the authors call the **anticipation phase** of a peak experience is as exciting as the peak itself, like a tailgate party before the game.

They also detected a "cross-talk" between the striatum and the **auditory cortex** during these times. The auditory cortex is involved in storing musical information and is also involved in imagining music, as when you think about a song and "hear" it in your head. It's also involved in coding this information — figuring out its structure, its pattern — so that, for example, a melody can be mentally transposed into a different pitch. Or, in an actual listening situation, a minor chord can be differentiated from a major chord no matter what the key or what instrument is playing it.

Over a lifetime, a library of patterns is established, gleaned from the music we listen to. These patterns allow us to appreciate new music and to predict what will happen next in a given passage, based on what has happened before in similar passages. ("So each act of listening to music may be thought of as both recapitulating the past and predict-

ing the future.") This ability, therefore, causes dopamine to be released when anticipating a peak emotional moment in music we've never heard before, because its pattern is recognized.

So, anticipation in itself is a big part of the biochemistry of enjoying music. Also, I assume it's why you are bound to like more of the same kind of music, because the patterns are familiar, so anticipation phases are more frequent. It's why when you've never listened to opera, "all opera sounds the same," because it doesn't fit any patterns in your library yet. Why "that's not music, that's noise" is a true reflection of what your parents (or children) are hearing. They have a different library. Anticipation helps in the enjoyment of lyrics, too, as in the anticipation of the next rhyme, but that's another Whither Zither.

By the way, this reminds me of two earlier Whither Zithers: One, (**Imaginary Diet**, January 2011), was about a study showing that people who **IMAGINED** eating 30 M&M's, when then given a bowl of **REAL** ones afterward, ate half as many as folks who had not done the imaginary eating. Now I wonder if this imaginary eating was an example of the anticipation phase, and if, in music, the peak experience dopamine effect is diminished by the dopamine effect during the anticipation phase. In other words, the more familiar you become with a song, the peak experiences diminish inversely to the growth of the anticipations, as with M&M's. Just a hunch.

The other Whither Zither was about **WAITING** (**Full Time Waiters**, April 2007). But waiting and anticipating are two different things. Anticipation involves the fun of picturing what is coming; waiting implies a mindlessness. Thematically, **When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again** is an anticipation song: "The men will cheer and the boys will shout / The ladies they will all turn out..." The song imagines the coming scene. **Old Dan Tucker** has more of a waiting theme: "Supper's over, dinner's cookin' / Old Dan Tucker just stands there lookin'." Anticipating is a creative process; waiting is a waste of time. But anticipation can be exhausting, at which point it turns into waiting. Just tune in to the news tonight for proof.

WZ July 2013

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

July 2013

Mad Folk Events



Summer Sing-Along w/ Mac Robertson & David Eagan

Friday, July 19
Blue Mounds State Park Amphitheatre -- 8pm
Free! (State Park sticker req. for entry)

Venues



The Brink Lounge

Tues, July 9 -- 6:30pm -- Robert J Acoustic Solo

Wed, July 10 -- 7pm -- Field and James Acoustic Rock Duo

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



Cafe Carpe

All shows at 8:30pm unless indicated otherwise

• Thu, July 11 -- The New Pioneers -- \$8 -- 7pm

• Fri, July 12 -- Howard Levy -- \$25

• Thu, July 18 -- Peter Bradley Adams -- \$12.50 -- 8pm

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

FOLKLORE VILLAGE Folklore Village

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

• July 5 -- Village Harmany Concert in Church

• CANCELED July 4-7 -- Midsummer Festival

• July 18-21 -- Hardanger Fiddle Association of America 30th Anniversary Festival

Mother Fool's
Coffeehouse

1101 Williamson St.
motherfools.com
608-259-1030

Mother Fool's

• Fri., July 5 -- Deanna Devore - \$6 -- 8pm

• Fri., July 12 -- Red Tail Ring - \$6 -- 8pm

• Fri., July 26 -- Paul Geremia - \$10 -- 8pm



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

Wild Hog in the Woods

• Fri, July 12 -- Woody Guthrie Night -- 7pm

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>

Misc

David Stoddard, Karen Mal and Laurie McClain -- July 2nd, 7pm -- \$10 suggested donation -- House Concert Space is limited; contact us ASAP -- maddog-210@charter.net or 608-274-6340

Count This Penny -- July 20th, 7pm -- House Concert Space is limited; contact us -- jennysanner@yahoo.com or 608-770-0778

Christine Havrilla -- August 10th, 7pm -- \$20 suggested donation -- The Barn at LaGrange W5908 Territorial Road -- Elkhorn, WI -- 410-979-9908

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, July 19 -- 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- Thu 5/26 - UW Memorial Union, Terrace Madison

• 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

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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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