

MadFolk News

Carrie Elkin is coming to Madison Thursday April 27!

Carrie has played a few shows in Madison, both as a solo artist and with her husband Danny Schmidt. Her performances including an opening set for a MadFolk show a few years ago, and she is just getting back this way again. We searched for a venue for this show, but were unable to lock in any of our regular performance spots, so to make sure to give everyone an opportunity to hear this wonderful songwriter, I decided to open my house and do this as a house concert. I hope you can attend to give her a big Madison welcome.

Carrie Elkin is a soulful singer with a gypsy spirit, a songwriter with a keen eye. Inspired by her travels and the many places she has called home--Ohio, New Mexico, Colorado, Boston, Austin--she documents the human condition with sensitivity and humor, crafting songs that have garnered attention at prestigious songwriting contests, including Mountain Stage New Song and the Falcon Ridge Emerging Artist Showcase.

Carrie is a born performer, possessing an infectious energy that cannot be contained. As Maverick Magazine so eloquently put it: "We have never seen a performer so in love with the act of singing. Onstage Elkin was simply a force of nature." With her dazzling voice and unpretentious charm, she wins over new fans at every show, whether playing at a headlining club gig, singing the national anthem in front of 20,000 at a Chicago Bulls game or opening for artists like Jesse Winchester, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band and Greg Brown.

Although Carrie got her musical start young, singing in church and playing the saxophone, she lived an extremely diverse and active young life. She competed as a National Champion acro gymnast, which led to an eventual invitation to join the circus. Instead, she studied physiology at Ohio University and became an organic chemist. But music never left her blood, and the attention she was gaining from her songwriting quickly stole her

away from the academic world, as she began to record and tour across the country.

Carrie will be travelling in support of her newest album that was just released this month *The Penny Collector*. Written in a year that was bookended by the birth of Elkin's first child and the process of caretaking her father through the dying process, *The Penny Collector* is a poet's momentous stroll full circle around the human lifecycle in one single year. It's a journey that is beautifully told, fragile and heartbreaking at times, joyous and raucous in others. The celebration of life meets at both ends. In June of 2015, Elkin learned of her father's terminal condition with pancreatic cancer, cancelled her tour schedule, and went to Atlanta to be with him through the last month of his life. Caring for someone that close with you, holding their hand through the exposure of that final phase of life, was an incredibly powerful experience, heart wrenching, but also precious and beautiful in its connection. And it was magnified all the more by the fact that Elkin was simultaneously going through the fertility process, and preparing the emotional fields for planting new seeds. "I can hear the heartbeat in everything around me." The song *New Mexico* opens the album and speaks to the heightened perception we have in times of grief, for all the tiny givings of life that more usually go unnoticed and unappreciated. And Then The Birds Came wishes her father a final goodbye and a prayer to the world that it might more completely understand what a gift it had been given with that life. "The birds they wanted him. They

knew he'd help them fly." The title, *The Penny Collector*, was chosen in honor of Richard Elkin (1942-2015). As Elkin says in the liner notes: "My dad was a lifelong penny collector. Not just the 'collectible' pennies, but rather every penny he could get his hands on. In the process of cleaning out his basement we discovered that, in his lifetime, he had collected approximately 600,000 special little pennies, neatly rolled and lovingly kept. My dad had a way of finding value and delight in the tiny things that other people might walk right past." *The Penny Collector* is Elkin's sixth solo album, and the first she's released independently since her two critically acclaimed Red House Records releases. Originally from Cleveland OH, Elkin's career has taken her near and far, from sharing the court with Michael Jordan for the national anthem, to sharing the Ryman Auditorium stage with Emmylou Harris, to sharing two tours with the hit podcast *Welcome To Night Vale* as their special musical guest. Now Elkin is settled down in Austin, TX with her husband, fellow songwriter Danny Schmidt, and their beautiful newborn daughter, Maizy Rae Schmidt.

The show will be 7:00. Please email me at darlene@blettner.com for a reservation and to get the address. A donation of \$15 to the performer is requested.



Ramona Johannes Tribute Show

Friday April 14



Longtime volunteer for both Madison Folk Music Society and our sister organization Wild Hog in the Woods, Ramona Johannes passed away last October. On Friday April 14, 2017 from 8:00 -10:00 The Wild Hogs regularly scheduled concert will be a Tribute to Ramona show, with many of local performers to include Peter and Lou Berryman, Lisa Johnson, Skip Jones, Stephen Lee Rich, John Duggleby and others. Location is: 953 Jenifer Street in the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center.

Ramona was known to many in Madison who shopped at Dorn's Hardware in Sherman Plaza; she worked on the sales floor from 1985 until the store closed in 2013. Ramona had two passions in life: her sons and a love of folk music. Ramona was a dedicated mom, and loved her sons above all else.

She was an active and much-loved volunteer for over 25 years at two local folk music organizations in Madison: Madison Folk Music Society and the Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse. Ramona served as volunteer coordinator, newsletter mailer and concert volunteer for Madfolk, and at the Wild Hog, she was a board member and musician booker. She was well-known in the folk music community, and her smile, friendship and willingness to help are greatly missed.

Mustard's Retreat

Sunday, April 9 at 7 (Doors 6:30)



Please join Mike & Carol in their home in Madison on Sunday, April 9 at 7 to hear Mustard's Retreat in concert. Doors open at 6:30 and the suggested donation is \$15. Guests are invited to bring a snack or beverage to share but that is not required. To reserve a seat contact Mike by email at mad-dog-210@charter.net or give him a call at 608 274-6340.

David Tamulevich and Michael Hough's engaging stage presence, myriad of subject matter, and the sheer joy that they take in playing has made Mustard's Retreat one of the most revered bands in folk music today.

"Mustard's Retreat represents everything that is best about folk music. Their music is community music. It comes from our common roots and traditions, pays tribute to those roots and traditions and expands on them. It is music that speaks to peoples hearts and lives and binds them together as an audience.

To watch a Mustard's Retreat

show is not to see a formal "performance" but something more real and precious: a sharing of songs and experience- Michael and David unfold their songs, whether traditional or contemporary or their own extraordinary compositions and one sees the audience being invited into their world and drawing closer together. One watches couples react to the songs-the shared laugh, the side-long glance, and smile of recognition- " this song is about us!:- the squeeze of the hand or shoulder.

It is music for real people about real things- life, love, sex and death- the big stuff- and the songs have entered the lexicon of " anonymous" folk songs and are being passed from hand to hand-which is the ultimate tribute to a songwriter.

In an every widening " market" where everyone seems to be " the next big thing" and we are overwhelmed by and endless string of sensitive sullen poseurs who keep one eye on the bottom line and the

other on the nearest mirror, David and Michael stand out as the real thing: two grown men singing grown up songs for all the right reasons ; writing to make sense of their lives, helping us to make sense of ours, sharing much, talking little, trying to find the most graceful path and being able to laugh at the inevitable stumbles and head bumps along the way" – Garnet Rogers

Here's what they want you to know about this performance:

"Wisconsin, and Madison, are near and dear to our hearts. It was WI Public Radio that first made it possible for us to tour outside of Michigan: Tom Martin Erickson came to our concert in La Crosse, recorded it, and rebroadcast it across the State..repeatedly!...and we had an instant audience. That was ,maybe,1985, and we have been back many times since.

Though..there are probably many of you who have never seen us perform. We aren't...flashy.. have never been " the next big thing". We have always just been who we are, and it seems that is what has propelled our career: more than 5,000 shows, more than 1 million miles...now in our 43rd year. We are just like you...fun, curious...looking deeper into life... excited to meet new people and have new experiences. Our concerts hopefully entertain, enlighten a bit, and uplift. We are good songwriters as well, and we think you will leave with the feeling of an evening well spent...and that it will stay with you.

So I hope you'll come give us a try: we look forward to seeing you."

-David Tamulevich

www.mustardsretreat.com



Review by Kiki Schueler

I listened to Dead Man Winter's *Furnace* many, many times before I really listened to it. There were catchy choruses, buoyant melodies, beautiful ballads, and if I noticed the undercurrent of unhappiness it certainly didn't register at first. Perhaps I wasn't really paying attention, or maybe I just didn't want to admit I was getting this much enjoyment from one man's pain. Trampled by Turtles leader David Simonett turned to his folk rock side project Dead Man Winter to record this cycle of songs chronicling the breakup of his marriage, and it proved a worthy vehicle to channel all the emotion of leaving home and family. He obviously struggled with whether or not to release what he describes in the liner notes as "by far the most personal and literal thing I've said out loud," before deciding that "a song never shared accomplishes nothing." I'm grateful for his decision, because *Furnace* is the most addictive record I've heard in awhile. There are echoes of My Morning Jacket's early releases, especially the epic *It Still Moves*, but ultimately it brings nothing to mind more than Whiskeytown's *Stranger's Almanac*, Ryan Adams' pre-solo career, near-perfect, release.

It's hard to believe I was oblivious for so long when opening track "This House Is on Fire" couldn't be more straightforward. From the beginning, Simonett has no delusions, points no

fingers, lays no blame. It's over and it's no one's fault, but that doesn't make it any easier. "It's not made to last, I'm not scared to say it, I dwell on the past and drink to delay it." A spare guitar and snare drum melody, with haunting keyboard and echoing vocals, "This House" sets the songwriting bar high. The similarly downtempo "I Remember This Place Being Bigger" isn't quite as literal, but it tells the same story. In hushed tones his intriguing phrasing catches your ear, "Didn't sleep for days and days, on end, and the fog got pretty dense. Other people like to tell, me they, had the same experience." Somehow it's restrained and propulsive simultaneously. The same can be said for the MMJ channeling "Cardinal." Another quiet moment, the lyrically minimalist closing track "You Are Out of Control," bookends the record well, though at seven plus minutes perhaps goes on a little long.

If the record was nothing but slow, sad waltzes it would be a bit of a slog, but they serve as needed breathers and balance to the undeniable sing-along anthems that populate the other half of its running time. The organ turns carnival-esque on the bouncing "Destroyer," whose pure infectiousness belies some of the weightiest words, "I'm a disaster, I am fading from your young life, I'm growing pale and ghost white, with X's on my eyes." "Red Wing Blue Wing" utilizes the same light/heavy balance just as deftly. I can't help but think of Adams's similarly bipolar "Excuse Me While I Break My Own Heart." As worthy as those songs are, it's his pair of majestic, immensely hummable, creations that are most likely to become permanently lodged in your brain. "It's the Same Town" and "Am I Breaking Down?" are both ridiculously con-

tagious invitations to sing along at top voice, though undoubtedly the lyrics of these are just as heavy as elsewhere. I hope writing and releasing these songs made him feel better. He might even be happy to know that singing them with him makes me feel good too.

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. Learn about concerts, membership, scholarships, and volunteer opportunities at www.madfolk.org. www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835

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If you are on Facebook, please consider (if you have not already) "friending" or is it "liking" this page. Then when you are on this page you can invite others to "like" this page.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835>



On The Way to Goosebumps

*I happened upon this odd story/song while I was looking up "goose bumps." That's what this Whither Zither was going to be about. Did you know that each goosebump is caused by a separate tiny little muscle, one per bump? Anyway, I was searching in Google Books of the 19th century for any references, and came upon this. I adore this. It's a story and song, in a form sort of like **Alice's Restaurant**. It contains so many interesting aspects: A fascination with new technology, a list of believable names, slang, humor, personalities, alliteration, onomatopoeia, the works. So goose bumps will have to wait, though they are herein referred to as "**goose pimples**." The songbook is called **The Souvenir Minstrel**, subtitled "A Choice Collection," assembled by C. Soule Cartee, and published in Philadelphia in 1833 by Marshall, Clark and Co. This song lists no author.*

The Nail Machine

Sure have you seen, a nail machine,
'T is all the people's wonder, O,
It thumps away, both night and day,
And makes a noise like thunder, O.
The cranks & pans, like battering-rams,
Do keep such pelting, pouncing, O,
That all the ground is shook around,
By reason of the jouncing, O.

(Spoken.) Now, you must know, that I'd a lot of cousins, that com'd all the way down from Varmount, to larn the fashions, and to see all the cute and curious thingumjigs of the old colony.—By jolly, (said Zachary Diggins) I insign to see the nail works, if it costs me my fire-ball colt, for uncle Fife told us, that they had ten thousand rattle-traps, and they kept up such a tarnel

Rattlety bang, and clatterty clang,
And rattlety, clatterty bang they go.
So off we set, with Tom and Bet,
Young Stephen Bumps, and Dolly, O,
And Jo, and Josh, and Bill Magosh,
Ned Shacklefoot, the jolly, O.
And Suzy Zudd, and Mimy Ludd,
They rode behind on pillions, O,
And Sary Slack, they made such clack,
You'd tho't there were a million, O.

(Spoken.) We scampered along through mud and mire, quite in the style of the fashionables, till we were brought up all standing, full before squire Clinker's nail works, and were soon genteelly escorted into the very bowels of this establishment: when out squeeled aunt Betty Diggins, as loud as any shriek owl: — Oh! the wonderation! what a sight of jigamarees! —Yes, faith, (quoth Ned) and as thick as ten bumblebees in a pumkin blow.— Rabbit ye, Bets! an' be darned to you! (bawled out Zachary) and hold your gab thar. — Oh! the old sneezer! how they shell 'em up (cried Josh.) And then cousin Dolly the school-dame, she was quite sensitive. — Oh! by the lurry and living jingoes, (says Doll) I'll be soused into a butter tub, if ever I seed such curoosity thingums, in all my born days. Fags and catnip! I'm all over **goose pimples**! — Flammation! (sung out Tom) how they chop the iron up ! — Then Bill taking his turn, exclaimed: Odds bobs and buttakins ! uncle Jere'my's thrashing mill is no touch to that are! take care, Stephen, or you will have your feelers smacked off by them 'are smashers, as quick as a pig can crack a walnut. Now all this, you know, was a very delightful accompaniment to the affettuoso of the machinery, as it delicately touched off its Rattlety bang, &c.

Then came the clerk, a brisk young spark,
All bowing to each lady, O,
And questions all, both great and small,
To answer he was ready, O!
The gals were pleas'd, for them he squeez'd,
They hardly could deny him, O!
And Sary Slack, she got a smack,
Unless they did belie him, O.

(Spoken.) This little animal the clerk, was a sort of would be dandy, having the bottom of his waist pinched up to the size of a quart pot, and thus resembling in shape, what we call a *mud wasp*; he wore eleven capes to his coat, and had over the place where his brains should be, a jockey cap of catskin, and carried a mock gold watch, with two seals each as big as a premium turnip! Oh! these dear little creatures, are always so vastly attentive to the ladies! They may easily be distinguished from other animals by their singular gait, which is a sort of

Tippity bob, Uppity bob,
Oh! I am all the tippy, O.
So round we went, wi' minds intent,
On all this mighty working, O,

'T was *tarnal queer*, sich wondrous gear,
And O! sich jams and jerkiings, O!
At length (says Tom,) Let's strike for home,
To-night you know's the dancing, O,
Oh, yes! (says Zack,) if we go back,
'T is time we were a prancing, O.

(Spoken.) So each lad of us took his lass, and then in comely mood we all departed. It was, however, thought by most of the gals, that Mr. Tippy paid too much attention to Sary Slack, considering as how cousin Sary was no better, and to be sure, I'll say no worse than the rest on 'em. But the school-dame, we thought was too severe on the occasion, for she declared: By the jumping Moses! such indications ought to be carried before the highest court of juncture, for they quite annihilated all satisfaction of the visitation. — But all hard thoughts, and hard words, were soon dissipated by the frolic and fun on the road, as we jovially drove home with

Merrily ho! whisp dobbin, gee ho!
Gallop gaily and cheery, O!
Then home we got, by gallop and trot,
In season for the junket, O!
And there was Sam, and Katy Cram,
And cousin David Plunket, O!
Now hark around! the cheering sound,
Of Peg and Pero's scraping, O!
In merry plight we spent the night,
In frolicking and capering, O.

(Spoken.) Now, as this was probably the last time we should all be together under such pleasant circumstances, we resolved to keep it up *till the cows came home*, as cousin Mimy said, and to be sure, we did it right merrily, with Hunt the squirrel, Jo Baker, Barrel of Sugar, &c. &c. Here, however, was none of your dances called, shawsees, rigamadoons, &c. but the good old fashioned

Rigely bump, and shufflety thump!
And snufflety, scufflety clump we go!



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1833.

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

April 2017

Gigs

Dave & Anne Host Folk

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at annedave@chorus.net

- April 21st @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) The Ritt Deitz Trio - \$20 / \$17 under 18
- June 2nd @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Bill Camplin & Randy Sabien - \$20 / \$17 under 18

Mike and Carol's House

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Mike at maddog-210@charter.net

- April 9 @ 7 (doors 6:30) Mustard's Retreat \$15
- May 6 @ 8 pm (doors 7:30) Noctambule (Marla Fibish & Bruce Victor) \$15

Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Kiki at righteousmusicmgmt@gmail.com

- Apr 1st @ 8 pm (doors at 7) Curtis McMurtry -- \$10
- Apr 29th @ 8 pm (doors at 7) Tommy Keene & Ivan Julian -- \$15

Singin' at Darlene's

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Darlene at darlene@blettner.com

- April 27th @ 7 pm Carrie Elkin - \$15

Dane County Famers Market Music

Madison Senior Center - Market 7:30AM-Noon
Band plays approximately 8:30am - 11:30am

- Apr 1 - Mid-town Jazz Trio
- Apr 8 - Water Street Bridge

Venues



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

Cafe Carpe

All shows at 8:30pm unless indicated otherwise

- Sat, Apr 1, Campeau & Craig - @8pm - \$10
- Fri, Apr 7, Mustard's Retreat
- Sat, Apr 8, Songwriters' Night- @7:30pm
- Thu, Apr 13, New Pioneers - @7pm
- Fri, Apr 14, Chicago Farmer - @8:30pm - \$10
- Sat, Apr 15, Lonesome Bill Camlin - @8:30pm - \$9
- Sat, Apr 22, A Comedy of Errors (a readers' theater production) - Please call 920-563-9391 to reserve
- Wed, Apr 26, Wild Ponies - @8pm - \$10
- Sat, Apr 29, Karen Johnson - @8pm - \$6

FOLKLORE VILLAGE...passing it on

Folklore Village

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

- Tue, Apr 4th -- Open Mic @7pm
- Fri, Apr 24-26th -- English COuntry Dance & Music Weekend



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

Wild Hog in the Woods

- Fri, Apr 7 - Mad City Jug Band @8pm
- Fri, Apr 14 - The Ramona Tribute @8pm
- Sat, Apr 15 - Hootenanny! @2pm
- Fri, Apr 21 - Roxanne Neat @8pm
- Fri, Apr 28 - Milkhouse Radio @8pm

Irish Cultural & Heritage Center
2133 W Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, WI -- ichc.net
414-345-8800

w/ Student ID All Shows are \$10 Advance and d.o.s.
• Fri, April 21 - Trian - 7:30pm -- \$21 adv/\$25d.o.s.

Common Chord (Michael Bryant & Tracy Jane Comer + friends)

- Thu, Apr 6 - @6:30pm - Tracy Jane Comer Solo - Yahara Bay Distillers, Fitchburg
- Fri, Apr 7 - @7pm - Memorial United Church of Christ, Fitchburg. Benefit show, supporting Madison Area Urban Ministry
- Fri, Apr 14 - @ 7:30pm - Parched Eagle Brewpub, Westport
- Thu, Apr 20, 2017 - @ 7pm - The Brink Lounge, Madison
- Fri, May 12, 2017 - @ 7pm - Tuvalu Coffee House, Verona
- Thu, May 18, 2017 - @ 7pm - Tracy Jane Comer & Friends - The Brink Lounge, Madison
- Thu, Sep 7, 2017 - Tracy Jane Comer (solo) - @ 2pm - The Heights at Evansville Manor, 201 North Fourth Street, Evansville, WI 53536 - (608) 882-9995

Misc

Old Time Jam

Monthly - 3rd Sunday of every month, 4 to 6pm

EVP West 3809 Mineral Point Road

Coodinator: Al Wilson

cell: 608-572-0634

adwilson@pediatrics.wisc.edu

Madison Area Ukulele Initiative -- Singalongs 3rd Sunday 11am - 1:30pm
- for location visit www.MAUImadison.com

On the Air



wpr.org

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-fm.org

WORT 89.9 FM community radio

Sun -- 3:00-5:00pm

• "On the Horizon" w/ Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak, Gloria Hays & Helena White

Weekdays 9:00am-noon

- Mon - Global Revolutions (folk from the world over) w/ Dan Talmo & Martin Alvarado
- Tue -- One Fine Morning w/ P.C. Allen
- 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

WMUU 102.9 FM

- Sat - Exiles Return with Elizabeth Delaquess
- 4-6am and again from 10am-noon

Madison Dance

- African/African-American Dance classes with live drumming -- Sun, 7:00-9:00pm -- Metro Dance, 3009 University Ave. -- 255-3677 / 251-4311
- 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. -- 233-2956

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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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835>

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