

MadFolk News

MadFolk celebrating Willy Street Fair's 40th Year

September 16th and 17th

Willy Street Fair is celebrating 40 years, and we are excited to be celebrating a decade of bringing some great music to the Folk Stage.

We will be kicking off the fair on Saturday with 3 great sets of music,

2:00 – Kaia Fowler makes her debut of our stage, with soaring vocals and accomplished guitar playing, Kaia shares songs that explore life's struggles and joys, drawing on folk, blues, and roots rock traditions. Inspired by nature and the human experience, Kaia's songs resonate with strength and vul-



nerability as she explores a vast emotional landscape. In concert, Kaia draws from an extensive repertoire of originals and select cover songs by artists such as John Prine and Carole King. Her songwriting has been compared to Joni Mitchell's for its lyrical poetry and rich melodies. The Americana Gazette had this to say about her 2010 album *Seams of My Heart*: "Fowler is a tremendous lyricist. Her lyrics paint pictures and her musical notes add the color..." Kaia's latest album is an EP titled *All The Way*, dedicated to her late husband and benefiting the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. Learn more and stream video and audio at Kaia's website - kaiafowler.com.

3:30 Beth Kille will also be making her debut on the Folk Stage, Beth is a 22-time Madison




Area Music Association (MAMA) award winning artist from Madison, WI who has been cranking out her unique blend of rock, country, folk and blues since 2000. From the intimacy of house concerts and coffee houses, to rockin' out with her band headlining spots at festivals, her love for the stage and genuine passion for performance shine through in all settings. Her stage prowess was recognized in 2011 when she received Artist of the Year honors at the Madison Area Music Awards – a rare accomplishment for a solo artist. She has also been honored twice with the MAMA for Female Vocalist of the Year ('06, '10) and was nominated for Singer-Songwriter of the Year in 2014 and Female Vocalist of the Year in 2017 by the Wisconsin Area Music Industry (WAMI).

5:00 Cris Plata no stranger to Madison, as he makes his second appearance here at the Folk Stage. Cris was born in South Texas, the son of migrant workers. Those early days of living in different migrant camps and following the harvest from region to region, exposed Cris to a wide range of musical experiences. His early musical experiences reflect his Mexican heritage.

This heritage includes Norteno (Northern

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 (with \$1.62 service charge):

<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.



Mexico border music), conjunto (elements of both European and Mexican music fused by early residents of South Texas), and ranchera (Mexican country) music. Today, Cris describes this

Hello I Must Be Going

For my last **Whither Zither** I thought it only appropriate to feature an old photo of an old zither that appeared in the **Public Domain Review** I talked about in the last issue. Google translates the caption -- "Kone med Langleig fra Valdres" -- as "Wife with Langleig from Valdres." Valdres (the more common spelling) is a region in south central Norway about halfway between Oslo and Bergen.

The Langeleik or langleik is a droned zither, with one melody string and up to 8 drone strings (!) according to **Wikipedia**, which has more info on the instrument. These zithers have been around for awhile; in 1980 a langeleik dated as early as 1524 was uncovered on a Norwegian farm. Also pictured is a dansdukke or "dancing doll," which looks like it's attached somehow to the zither. I imagine it is related to the Appalachian dancing man or *limberjack*, also called a *jig doll*, among many other names.

Marcus Selmer took this photograph. He was an interesting fellow, born and trained as a pharmacist in Denmark, where he experimented with daguerreotype photography. In 1852, he travelled to Norway to visit his uncle's family in Bergen and never returned, setting up shop there as a photographer. His work became very popular and he was appointed the royal photographer in 1880. Selmer's photographs are by now in the public domain and reside in the **National Library of Norway**.

And I guess that's it for Whither Zither. This has been a spellbinding twenty year run for me, and as I said in the June episode, I owe a great debt of thanks to **Madison Folk Music Society** and its former president Mike Tuten and current president Darlene Buhler for allowing me to ramble on. And to all my dear faithful readers and contributors, I will never be able to thank you enough. A special thanks is reserved for my wife Kristi Seifert, who not only encouraged and put up with me all along but came up with the name *Whither Zither* in the first place.

I'll leave a few years of columns online at louandpeter.com, and many are archived on the society's website (madfolk.org) within the back issues **Mad Folk News**. Some diehards have encouraged me to put out a book of selected columns so there is some movement in that direction; who knows? Meanwhile, my love to y'all, and thank you again. See you in the folding chairs.



Continued from front page...

as “Mexican root’s” music. He has been described by the Isthmus and Wisconsin State Journal as “One of the Midwest’s best songwriters”.

On Sunday, right after the parade, our stage again kicks off the music at Noon!

12:00 Zachary Scot Johnson is a singer/songwriter who has shared the stage with



artists like Shawn Colvin, Keb’ Mo’, The Be Good Tanyas, Jane Siberry, Kevin Costner and Modern West, Rita Wilson, Juliette Lewis, Don Williams, James McCartney and many, many more. He’s released 4 cds, including 2017’s “Sad Songs”. His hit YouTube channel thesongadayproject has run for over 1800 consecutive days and has over 38 million views, and collaborations with over 100 guests, including Shawn Colvin, Rosanne Cash, Marc Cohn, Jeff Daniels, Noel Paul Stookey and Peter Yarrow (from Peter, Paul and Mary), Lisa Loeb, Tom Paxton, Melissa Manchester, Collective Soul, Creed Bratton (“The Office” and The Grass Roots) and many, many more

2:00 – We are going to tweak our regular 2 sets of music in to one long set, and bring you three musicians in the round! Peter, Paul & Josh... kind of has a ring to it.



Josh Harty’s unique blend of American music has become a must-hear for those who keep the tradition of country, blues and folk



close to their hearts. Born and raised on the plains of North Dakota, Harty grew up playing shows across the Midwest with his father, a small-town police chief and preacher. The touring bug has never left Josh as he now continuously travels across Europe and North America. Harty is always looking for that balance between the rolling road and the people who inspire him, trading stories around kitchen tables and theatre stages. His live shows prove that good storytelling combined with journeyman musicianship is as American as music gets.

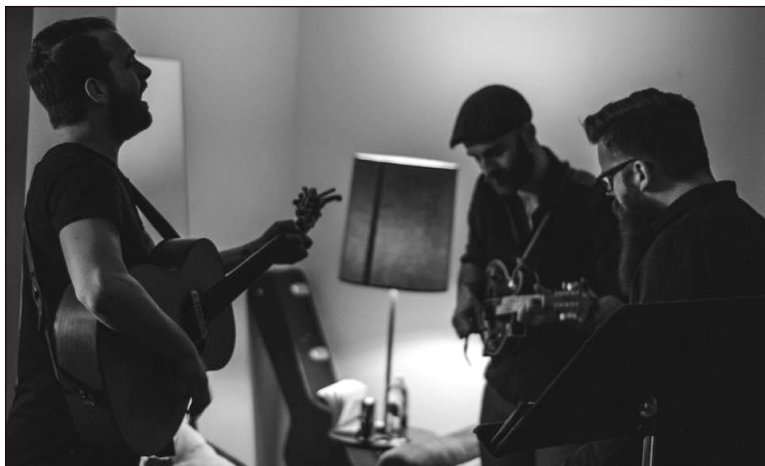
Paul Cebal is giving the band the day off as he joins us for an acoustic set of music. Paul brings forth a funky, lyrically charged racket that is explosive, yet intimate.

Taking cues from the dance bands of western Louisiana (and his native Midwest,), the streets (and 45’s) of New Orleans, touring African and Caribbean combos and the soul, funk & blues of his youth, Paul Cebal is a masterful synthesist of rhythmic culture. His time spent in his second home of New Orleans, as a musicologist

in Florida, and as a journeyman wanderer in Cuba, is reflected in his musical worldview. At the core is gifted songwriting, and the company Paul keeps bears it out: Bonnie Raitt, Nick Lowe, Chris Smither, John Hiatt and Cesar Rosas are among his friends and admirers.

Peter Mulvey – Sometimes to say less, is to say more. It does not get better than Peter. He has played this stage before, he has played many stages in Madison, and we never get enough of him. If you have seen him, I know you’ll be here, and if you’re new to his music, he won’t disappoint.

5:00 – We close the festival out with a par-



ty – Listening Party that is! Americana/Folk rock trio out of Milwaukee, WI that has put their own twist on acoustic music. Stories of love and personal struggle are presented playfully and performed sincerely by singer-songwriter, Weston Mueller. He is complemented by crafty musicianship from mates Joshua Hester (Mandolin, Guitar, Bass) and Jacob Wood (piano, vocals); former California surf rock bassist and music education teacher, respectively.

Recently, they have been featured on NPR and also are repeat performers at Summerfest (headlined by Third Eye Blind, Michael Franti, Collective Soul and Pentatonix) and have also been opening acts for Diamond Rio, Banditos and Dead Horses

THE FIRE SERMON - JOHN STATZ
SELF-RELEASED - 2017



Review by Kiki Schueler

You don't know what you've got till it's gone, or so the saying goes. It does seem especially true of the folk singers that have passed through our town. It was easy to take for granted songwriters like Blake Thomas and Dietrich Gosser, who used to play frequently around town but have since moved on. While those artists haven't released any new music since leaving Madison, that's not true for everyone. John Statz left Madison for the mountains of Denver in 2010 and kept a high musical profile. Apparently, he hasn't been home much since, his recording and touring schedule are impressive. His newest release, and seventh overall, *The Fire Sermon* is a testament to his growth as a singer and a songwriter. An engaging and immensely enjoyable listen, the record only needs a few spins before the songs are old friends.

Perhaps the friendliest of these is "Red Rose Motel," a co-write with Peter Mulvey, one of the best Wisconsin songwriters who still lives in the state. It's easy to picture the two of them brainstorming this infectious tune in the cozy confines of the Café Carpe during one of Mulvey's Lamplighter sessions. A pounding piano propels the insanely catchy chorus, "Tell it to me, tell it to me, tell it to me true, baby when I'm thinking all I think about is you." It's two and a half minute running time leaves you wanting more, but I think that's the

idea. Equally memorable is the reflective "Independence Pass." Named for a popular pass along the continental divide in Colorado, it follows the tale of a couple grown apart. Even though they couldn't make it last, at first "we stayed in touch as the years went past," though by the next verse that's changed to "we lost touch as the years went past." Still, we're as surprised as the narrator when he finds out his ex has died, even more surprised when it's a climbing accident. The whole story is told so seamlessly that we feel like we were there for the entire arc of the relationship, even though it covers forty years in three minutes.

While the record's title comes from T.S. Eliot's epic "The Wasteland," the record's subject is really the fire of love. There are all kinds of love here, new, old, romantic, passionate and faded. Opening track "Cashmere" is the spark of new love, "on that drive I informed you how I felt, I burned for you, and the smile you flashed is burning, burning." "Phone Rings," with its haunting guitar, may be the most bewitching song ever about a booty call. Of course the situation is more complicated than that, and it ends by repeating "And I love you" to the fade out. "Tell Yourself the Truth" gets bluesy with a Wurlitzer organ as Statz testifies that the truth is "there's no more me and you, there's just me and you just happen to be here too." Ouch. The record's subtle gem is "With Some Horses," which seems to exist somewhere in the space between Croce's "Time in a Bottle" and Nilsson's "Everybody's Talking." A gentle acoustic ballad brimming with affection and ache, it's a standout track that gets better with every listen. Turns out there is a lot of love, and a lot to love, in *The Fire Sermon*.

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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The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

Sept 2017

Mad Folk Events



Willy Street Fair

Saturday, September 16
2:00 -3:00pm - Kaia Fowler
3:30-4:30pm - Beth Killie
5:00-6:00pm - Cris Plata Trio

Sunday, September 17
12:00-1:00pm - Zachary Scot Johnson
2:00-4:30pm - Peter Mulvey, Paul Cebal & Josh Harty
5:00-6:00pm - Listening Party

Gigs

Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Kiki at righteousmusicgmt@gmail.com

- Sept 9th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jimmy Davis -- \$10
- Sept 16th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jake La Botz -- \$10
- Sept 26th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Eric Bachmann -- \$25
- Sept 29th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Colin Gilmore -- \$10
- Oct 10th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jon Langford's Four Lost Souls -- \$15

Mike and Carol's House

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Mike at maddog-210@charter.net

- Sept 17th @ 7pm (doors 6:30) - Dick sHensold & Patsy O'Brien
- Sept 23rd @ 8pm (doors 7:30) - Michael Bell & Chris Powers
- Oct 8th @ 7pm (doors 6:30) - John Van Orman & Adam Helwin
- Oct 10th @ 7pm (doors 6:30) - Susanne Salem-Shantz & Martin Grosswendt
- Oct 10th @ 8pm (doors 7:30) - Common Chord

Dave & Anne Host Folk

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at annedave@chorus.net - 608-256-2958

- Sept 22nd @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Kelley McRae & Matt Castelein - \$20 / \$17 under 18
- Oct 21st @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Chastity Brown - \$20 / \$17 under 18
- Nov 17th @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Claudia Schmidt - \$20 / \$17 under 18

Venues



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

Cafe Carpe

All shows at 8:30pm unless indicated otherwise.
Please call 920-563-9391 to reserve.

- Fri, Sept 1st, Scott Ainslie - \$12
- Sat, Sept 2nd, Open Stage - @7:30pm
- Fri, Sept 8th, Bill Camplin Band - \$12
- Wed, Sept 13th, Irish Session - @7pm
- Thu, Sept 14th, New Pioneers - \$10 - @7pm
- Thu, Sept 21st, Canceled: Paul Sanchez - \$15
- Fri & Sat, Sept 22nd & 23rd,
Peter Mulvey w/ Sista Strings
& Nathan Killen / Brianna Lane- \$15 each night
- Wed, Sept 27th, Irish Session - @7pm
- Thu, Sept 28th, Song Circle w/ Tricia Alexander - \$5 - @7pm
- Fri, Sept 29th, Lucy Kaplansky - \$22.50
- Sat, Sept 30th, Roxanne Neat - \$8 - @8pm

Folklore Village

- Tue, Sept 5th - Open Mic @7pm
- Fri-Sun, Sept 8th-10th - 3rd Annual Sustainability Weekend
- Sat, Sept 9th - Farm-to-Table Dinner plus Barn Dance - @6pm
- Fri-Sun, Sept 15th-17th - Squirrel Moon Contra Dance Weekend
- Sat, Sept 23rd - Saturday Night in the Wakefield Schoolhouse - @6pm

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

- Thu, Sept, 7 @ 2pm - Tracy Jane Comer - The Heights at Evansville Manor, Evansville
- Thu, Sept, 7 @ 6pm - Tracy Jane Comer with Alan Maslowski - Babe's, Madison
- Sat, Sept, 9 @ TBA - Doug Cleary with Tracy Jane Comer - Yahara River Fest 2016, DeForest
- Thu, Sept, 14 @ 7pm - Common Chord - Oakwood Village Center for Arts and Education, Madison
- Fri, Sept, 15 @ 8pm - Common Chord - Wild Hog in the Woods, Madison
- Sat, Sept, 16 @ 1:15pm - Tracy Jane Comer with Alan Maslowski - McFarland Family Festival - McFarland Ice Arena, McFarland
- Sun, Sept, 17 @ 1pm - Common Chord and Blue Stone - The Hop Garden Tap Room/ Paoli Terrace and Park, Paoli
- Thu, Sept, 21 @ 7pm - Tracy Jane Comer & Friends - The Brink Lounge, Madison
- Fri, Sept, 22 @ 7:30 pm - Tracy Jane Comer with Alan Maslowski - Babe's, Madison
- Fri, Oct, 6 @ 6:30 pm - Tracy Jane Comer with Alan Maslowski - Fisher King Winery, Verona
- Sat, Oct, 7 @ 7pm - Common Chord - Lakeside St. Coffee House, Madison
- Thu, Oct, 26 @ 6pm - Tracy Jane Comer with Alan Maslowski - Babe's, Madison

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.MAUMadison.com

On the Air



wpr.org

Simply Folk on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Dan Robinson, 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. -- 358-4478

FOLKLORE VILLAGE

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Dodgeville, WI
folklorevillage.org
608-924-4000

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