Volume 44 No. 1 January 2018

Bryan Bowers - Jan. 5th at The Brink

...This man makes more music from an Autoharp than you can imagine from a 12 string guitar and a harpsichord combined. He has more stage presence and charisma than any stage performer in recent memory." --The Washington Times

That quote is about none other than the legendary Bryan Bowers. Bryan has thrilled Madison audiences for decades, as he has done tirelessly for audiences everywhere, from folk clubs to living rooms to concert halls to festivals. Standing six feet four inches tall, his vocal delivery of song and story matches the size of his frame in impact. But this impact is varied in effect, sweeping the crowd up in excitement, joy, and humor, and back down to heartfelt anguish and despair. No emotion seems overlooked, and all are represented sincerely and skillfully.

All this marvelous vocal interpretation is accompanied by some of the most incredible autoharp playing to ever flow from a stage. In fact, in 1993, Bryan was the first living member inducted into the Autoharp Hall of Fame to stand only with Maybelle Carter, Kilby Snow, and Sara Carter.

"[Bowers] uses a five-finger picking technique across 36 tightly wound strings, bathing the listener in ethereal, joyously resonant major chords in the folk idiom." -- Dirty Linen

Born in rural Virginia, Bryan grew up listening to the songs of field workers and gandy dancers laying track around the countryside. Eventually he moved to Seattle and started his amazing career as a street singer. His early rural influences drove his straightforward and riveting style, which still serves him extremely well.

His material is a perfectly balanced mix of traditional, contemporary, and original compositions. Bowers is also a phenomenal storyteller and has what seems like a bottomless well of experience from which to draw. An evening with Bryan Bowers is an evening not to be forgotten.

"[Bryan's] live shows and his recordings showcase the musical dexterity won from long years perfecting his craft, as well as the profound love he has for the people and the music that have been his life for the last fifty vears." -- Madfolk News

Bryan will appear Friday, January 5 at the Brink Lounge. Show starts at 7pm. Tickets are \$14 advance, \$16 day of show, and are available at Orange Tree Imports and Spruce Tree Music, and online at madfolk.

CHRISTINE LAVIN JAN. 12TH

Christine Lavin, award-winning singer/ songwriter, award-winning author, world renowned comic, knitter, baton twirler, videographer, fingernail painter, fancy napkin folder, Broadway show fanatic, comic folkband leader/performer, CD producer, and perennial Madison favorite is coming to town again! The phrase "people-person" is overused, but it applies so well to Christine that it should be used just one more time

Because not only is she great in all these facets, but she uses them to include her audience and to help her fellow performers in the great world of Entertainment with a capital "E." Not that there is anything wrong with concentrating on being purely a folk singer or an amazing videographer or a great storyteller, etc., but Christine has chosen to throw her whole self into all these pursuits. She could properly be called a true "Renaissance Woman," and her fascinating shows reflect this approach to the arts.

But going to hear show is just plain total all-out fun, with enough perfectly placed serious moments to keep it real. The night flies by.

"An enchanting stage performer" -- Cos-

"Quick on her feet, witty, insightful, engaging, she remains one of the most popular and respected performers in the genre." -- BestEvents.us

It is no surprise that she has recorded and/or produced many CDs, both solo and collaborative. And Christine has won many an award: she received a 2012 NYC Nightlife Award given annually to the best concert and cabaret performers. In November 2011 her book COLD PIZZA FOR BREAKFAST: A MEM-WHA?? won the 43rd Annual ASCAP Deems Taylor Award for excellence in nonfiction writing about pop music. Christine

Mad Folk Concert Tickets

When you see this symbol - 赴 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 selfaddressed envelope with your check payable to Mad Folk, PO Box 665, Madison, WI 53701. If all else fails, call 608-846-9214 for information.

has also won five ASCAP composer awards, the Backstage Bistro Award for Best NYC Singer/Songwriter Of The Year, The Kate Wolf Memorial Award, and her album Good Thing He Can't Read My Mind won Album Of The Year from the National Association Of Independent Record Distributors.

And there's more, and more, and more. But the important upshot of all this is that her shows are among the most entertaining that you will ever see, and she is coming to town. Don't miss Christine Lavin!

Christine wlll appear Friday, January 12 at The Brink Lounge. Show starts at 7pm. Tickets are \$17 advance, \$20 day of show and are available at Orange Tree Imports and Spruce Tree Music and online at madfolk.org

Tom Paxton and the Don Juans

by Darlene Buhler

Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award winner and folk icon, Tom Paxton, teams up with the Grammy winning singer/song-writer duo The Don Juans - Don Henry & Jon Vezner.

Collectively, their songs have been covered by: Harry Belafonte, John Mellencamp, Miranda Lambert, Neil Diamond, Ray Charles, Nancy Griffith, Judy Collins, Pete Seeger, Janis Ian, Kathy Mattea, John Denver, Faith Hill, B.J. Thomas, Blake Shelton, Peter, Paul & Mary and Bob Dylan... just to name a few! Within days of writing and playing together, they knew they were onto something. Now they're taking it on the road! Tom on guitar/vocals/stories Don on guitar/vocals/uke/banjo/grins Jon on piano/vocals/quitar/uke/kitchen sink.

I thought I heard a few years ago that Tom was retiring from touring, and when I hear this about performers it always makes me a little sad. But now, after 56 years of performing around the world and writing and recording innumerable songs and recordings, Tom Paxton is back and has found yet another outlet for his creativity; he has joined his friends and song-writing colleagues Jon Vezner and Don Henryknown collectively as The DonJuans-in a writing and performing experience calculated to keep them too busy to get into trouble. A trembling world awaits the results. The are taking this show to limited cities, and Madison will be the only Wisconsin show.

Tom's shows with The Don Juans have him on his toes, he says; "These guys are long-ball hitters and if I don't want to get smoked I'd better do a little rehearsing. I probably need to do that anyway," he says, laughing. "It certainly couldn't hurt."

"Thirty years ago Tom Paxton taught a generation of traditional folksingers that it was noble to write your own songs, and, like a good guitar, he just gets better with age." -Guy Clark

Grammy award-winning songwriter, Nashville-based Jon Vezner is a tunesmith of rare sensitivity and dry wit. His catalogue of recorded songs, topped by the poignant "Where've You Been," reflects his straight-to-the-heart sensibility and emotional awareness. Vezner weaves the particulars of his own feelings with the lives of people he has known into universal themes that deeply touch listeners' emotions.

"Jon Vezner writes about the details, the details of our hearts and feelings. His gift is in speaking to these ordinary things which connect us to one another. And in recognizing their simple beauty, he transforms them into something extraordinary."

- Mary-Chapin Carpenter

DON HENRY

In Morgan Hill, California in the early 70's, records like "The Band" by The Band and "Honky Chateau" by Elton John prompted Don Henry to begin writing his own lyrics to Jim Croce melodies. Then he learned to play guitar with a Paul Simon songbook. After that it was an education in The Beatles, Cat Stevens, Harry Nilsson, Carole King, Cat Stevens, and Joni Mitchell.

In 1990, Don and Jon Vezner received song of the year awards for co-writing Mattea's critically acclaimed hit, "Where've You Been". Awards from the Grammys, as well as from the Academy of Country Music, the Country Music Association, and the Nashville Songwriters Association

International culminated it "Where've You Been" becoming the first song ever to be so honored by all four organizations.

"The crowd was won over by this guy and his guitar. Long may he write." -Dirty Linen

So come step into the minds and the

Seeking a new host for Tuesday morning folk

WORT Radio show is very sad to be losing Peter Allen and all of his talents as he moves on to a new endeavor. With his departure WORT now has an opening for a volunteer morning host for our indie/folk/acoustic/singer songwriter show on Tuesdays from 9 am-noon.

It is radio show that does well with a mix of traditional folk and singer-song-writers, but includes some of modern young "indie" bands and artists blurring the lines between folk, rock and blues, along with plenty of classic folk and roots music and bringing live bands into the studio, is the kind of format that makes this show so great. No prior radio experience is necessary, just a knowledge of and passion for the music, and the availability to be here on Tuesday mornings.

So if you, or if you know of anyone who may be interested, you can have them contact Sybil Augustine at WORT.

music of Tom Paxton, Don Henry, and Jon Vezner!

Sunday, February 11, 2018 at The Barrymore Theater, 7:00 show time. As part of Madfolk standing tradition, we encourage audience members to bring non-perishable foods and/or personal care items to the concert as donations to a local food bank. Tickets cost \$27 in advance and \$30 on the day of the show. They are available at the Barrymore Theater (608) 241-8864 and all Barrymore Outlets.

COME HEAR MADISON'S NEWEST BAND "THE ACOUSTIC CHARLIES"

When Jeff Laramie met fellow Madison west-sider Chuck Gates and long time Madison musician Chuck Bayuk two years ago, it was not under normal circumstances. They were all three in Sandpoint, ID.

The gathering was an annual event called "Jamski" held at that time at Schweitzer Mountain Resort that pulled together long time friends, friends of friends, musicians and skiers from around the country in an unlikely collaboration for a week of male bonding, playing music and downhill sking. And, of course, a whole lot of obligatory beer drinking. The loosely stitched together "Jamski band" share a common friend in Paul McGill, a former Madisonian now liv-

ing in Nashville, who is a renowned luthier. Many of the participants play a McGill guitar and spend considerable time comparing their various handmade prized instruments.

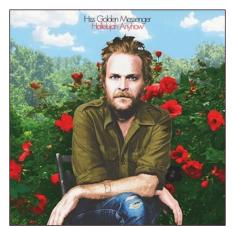
Jeff Laramie was drawn to the event along with his bandmates in "Free Hot Lunch!" a perennial Madison favorite acoustic band, who roamed these parts from 1979-1994 performing at the now defunct Club de Wash, Bunkys and more recently during their sold-out reunions at the Barrymore Theatre. "I just wanted to ski, hang out with my best friends and revisit our catalog of Wa-Ha songs since we see each other so infrequently" says Laramie "and then I meet Chuck and Chuck, what a coincidence

that they live nearby and know just about every Beatles, John Prine and Jimmy Buffett song. We were an instant match!" On return from that first Jamski meeting, Chuck, Chuck and Jeff have become "The Acoustic Charlies" (Jeff's middle name is Charles).

The Acoustic Charlies have made quite a few guest appearances during Chuck Bayuk's regular first Friday-of-the-month gigs at Chief's Tavern, airing out arrangements of Beatles, CS&N, Guy Clark, Paul Simon and numerous "obscurely familiar" songs. The trio, along with Tom Dehlinger on lead guitar is making their second concert appearance at The Brink Lounge at 9pm on Jan 6th.

H alleluja A nyhow - hiss golden messenger

MERGE RECORDS - 2017



Review by Kiki Schueler

Hiss Golden Messenger leader MC Taylor has crafted another extremely listenable winner of a record. Coming less than a year after the equally solid 2016 release Heart Like a Levee, Hallelujah Anyhow continues to mine the previously untapped influence of 80's Bob Dylan, whether Taylor knows it or not. I'm not talking about the overblown production and legions of backing vocalists and horns that are representative of some Dylan's lesser revered works, I'm talking about the undeniable magnetism that Taylor shares with the unlikely Nobel laureate. Admittedly, Hallelujah does list six vocalists on harmony, including the terrific Tift Merritt who also made herself heard on the previous release, and both sax (Michael Lewis) and trombone (Evan Ringel) make an appearance. Despite the number of players, the record never feels crowded. The band is rounded out by a terrific cast, some familiar faces, some newcomers to the HGM family. Fellow songwriter and right hand man Phil Cook, who shares an Eau Claire connection, and a musical history, with Bon Iver's Justin Vernon, plays piano, guitar and harmonica as well as singing. His brother Brad Cook handles bass duties. Former Ben Folds Five drummer Darren Jesse makes his recorded debut with the band after serving as a touring member for the last

My first favorite Dylan song was "Jokerman" from 1983's Infidels, and I

hear that same addictive hook in Taylor's writing. An excellent example is the opening track "Jenny of the Roses." "Were you trying to break my mind? Always knowing that the lights could change," he asks rhetorically, before adding "Oh my Jenny of the Roses, you'll probably rule the world some day." Cook's piano is front and center here, pulling us along on an intoxicating ride. "Domino (Time Will Tell)" blends swirling guitar with the best use of his horn section, while the backing vocals soar like a Baptist choir. However, this religious experience is about the precarious nature of choosing music as a profession. "Old SGs and cigarette smoke, wouldn't trade it for nothing in the whole wide world," he drawls, "yeeees, I got nothing in the world." It's followed by the lovely "Caledonia, My Love," a graceful piano ballad with a feeling of historical significance, though no amount of creative Googling exposes it. It matches the Ancient Roman and current romantic name for Scotland with the biblically significant twenty pieces of silver for a haunting lullaby.

The urgent "I Am the Song" is populated with equally interesting places and characters. "I was at the Wailing Wall, white clouds singing," begins one verse while another starts "Rhode Island Red was a sweet thing, she put sixteen dollars on Blackhorse Cherry." The stories never quite tie together, but it doesn't matter with a tune this insistent. Taylor's affection for Mississippi feels like the love of someone who was born there. He wasn't, he's originally from Southern California and now resides in North Carolina, but for the second record in a row he dedicates a song to the state. Like "Biloxi" from Heart Like a Levee, "Gulfport You've Been on My Mind" celebrates a location as well as a feeling. In this case the town is a beacon beckoning him, "I've seen darker things than night, so give me the light." The bouncy "John the Gun" reads like a gunslinger origin story, but rolls like silk on a reeling sax riff.

Now that I've been spoiled by three great records in four years, I sincerely hope Hiss Golden Messenger keeps them coming at this pace.

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.

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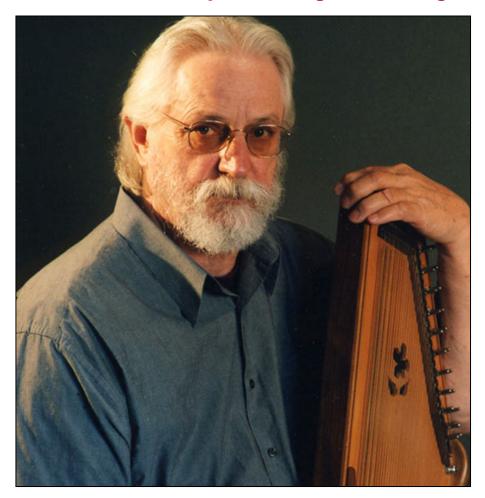
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"...leading virtuoso on the autoharp...distinct gifts as a singer and songwriter."

People Magazine



adison Folk Music Society PRESENTS BOULD BOUNDS

Friday, January 5, 2018 7:00 pm

THE BRINK LOUNGE, 701 E. Washington, Suite 105

Tickets \$14 advance, \$16 day of show

Available at: www.madfolk.org,

Spruce Tree Music, Orange Tree Imports
Non-perishable donations of food will be collected for local food banks.



"It is precisely her take on the ordinary that makes her work so extraordinary."

Village Voice



adison Folk Music Society PRESENTS

Christine Lavin

Friday, January 12, 2018 7:00 pm

THE BRINK LOUNGE, 701 E. Washington, Suite 105

Tickets \$17 advance, \$20 day of show

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Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award winner and folk icon, Tom Paxton, teams up with the Grammy winning singer/songwriter duo

The Don Juans - Don Henry & Jon Vezner.





Tom Paxton and The Don Juans

Sunday, February 11
7:00 pm
BARRYMORE THEATRE, 2090 Atwood Ave

Tickets \$27 advance, \$30 day of show

ORT TITTE BIGHTY NINE. NINE FM COMMUNITY PADIO - MADISON W Tickets on sale on line at www.barrymorelive.com, by phone at (608) 241-8633, and at all the regular Barrymore ticket outlets.

This is a General Admission – All Seated Show.



The Sweet Sheiks In Concert



Saturday February 10



with award-winning Master Artist

Karen Ann Hoffman

of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin

Saturday, Feb. 24 9:00 - 5:30 (with a potluck lunch break)

Handcraft a 3" fancy pincushion while exploring Iroquois history, culture and society and its relationship to the dominant

culture, and gaining a deeper understanding of Native Woodland world view. Register by Feb. 20.

Tuition \$75, plus \$20 materials kit fee paid to instructor.

Iroquois Raised Beadwork is a rare style of Native American Beadwork from the Eastern Great Lakes Region. First executed with stone and shell, later with moose hair and hide, and now with velvet and glass beads, this beadwork protects and preserves Iroquois culture and world view.



Karen with her piece "Wampum Urn" which resides permanently in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian.

7:30 PM (doors at 7:00)

\$15 General Admission

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Popular jazz and blues of the tens, twenties, and thirties; soulful and sultry vocals.

Jen Müttin-Schrank

(vocals/guitar/saw/washboard)

Ousia Lydian (vocals, violin)

Andrew Spadafora (clarinet)

Garrett Burton (banjo) Aaron Johnson (tuba)

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dison Bryan Bowers

Friday January 5th - \$14 adv / \$16 d.o.s. -- 7pm (doors @6:30) The Brink Lounge 701 E. Washington Ave. Ste 105

Christine Lavin داد

Friday January 12th - \$17 adv / \$20 d.o.s. -- 7pm (doors @6:30) The Brink Lounge 701 E. Washington Ave. Ste 105

♪♪ Tom Paxton

and The DonJuans

Sunday February 11th - \$27 adv / \$30 d.o.s. --7pm (doors @6:30) - The Brink Lounge 7010 E Wash. Ste 105

Cosy Sheridan

Sunday March 11th







Kiki's Righteous House of Music

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

• Jan 4th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jon Langford's Four Lost Souls -- \$15

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

• Jan 27th @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Mark Croft & Jon Vriesacker- \$20 / \$17 under 18



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

- Sat, Jan 27 @6:30pm "Jane Night" Potluck & Social
- Tue, Feb 6 @7pm First Tuesday Open Mic
- Sat, Feb 10 @7:30pm "The Sweet Sheiks" in Concert
- Sat, Feb 24 @9am-5:30pm Iroquois Raised Beadwork Course

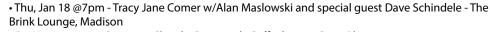


wildhoginthewoods.

608-233-5687

Wild Hog in the Woods

- Fri, Jan 5 Art Paul Schlosser and Chris Kammer
- Fri, Jan 12 Acoustic Collective
- Fri, Jan 19 Casey Day
- Fri, Jan 26 Songwrites in the Round w/ Amanda Pool, Dave Schindele, & Bruce Edwin



- Fri, Mar 2 @7pm Common Chord Crossroads Coffeehouse, Cross Plains
- Sat, Apr 7 @7:30pm Common Chord Old Schoolhouse, Mount Horeb



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





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.

Simply Folk on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Dan Robinson,



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**

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, 3rd (and 5th) Mon7:30-9:30pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 238-9951 or 231-1040
- International Dancing -- Wed; classes 7:30-8:30pm, request dancing 8:30-11:00pm -- The Crossing, 1127 University Ave. -- 241-3655 and Sun, 8-10pm
- 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 -- 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
- Israeli Folk Dancing - Tues, 7:00pm -- Will-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. Melissa Marver — mdmarver@gmail.com

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

Complete, clip, and mail this form

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