

# Mad Folk News

## Ari and Mia House Concert

### 8pm Saturday, March 11

"Strikingly beautiful, distinctive and exhilarating, with expressive vocals that will find a way into hearts and minds" No Depression, The Journal of Roots Music.

Ari & Mia reference the styles of Southern and Northeastern fiddle music and the early American songbook to create a realm where their own compositions cross paths with older traditions. Their stylish and sophisticated music honors the sounds of Appalachian cottages, rural dance floors, and urban concert halls. Combine this with their innovative approach to songwriting and the result is a captivating sound.

"Ari & Mia are not creating a new music; they are taking it to another level and exploring areas that have not been attempted in decades.

Their all-acoustic, pure and honest approach has significance. Treading the edges of traditional folk in a more faithful manner, they share the lyrical wizardry of 70's bands Steely-Eye Span, Tir-na-Nog, and the Incredible String Band, with searing harmony as good as The Beach Boys. The sisters sing in unison like two violins," continues No Depression on the review of their most recent release, Out of Stone.

Together, the sisters have toured all across the U.S and Australia and are both graduates of New England Conservatory. Their two previous albums, Land on Shore and Unruly Heart, ranked high on the national folk radio charts. Mia's song "Across the Water," won the 2010 John Lennon Songwriting Contest in the folk category.



For more info:


<http://ariandmiamusic.com>

The Suggested donation is \$15 but, if this is a budget breaker, donate what you can afford. The performance space is in the basement (stairs).

Guests are invited to bring a snack or beverage to share but that is not required.

To reserve a seat please contact Mike at [maddog-210@charter.net](mailto:maddog-210@charter.net) or give him a call at 608 274-6340.

#### 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](http://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.

# Folks hosting Folk: Reflecting on six years of house concerts

By Dave Wallner and Anne Katz

Our journey down House Concert Road started on Dec. 2, 2011 when, after years of pondering whether to take the plunge, we hosted our first house concert on North Few Street. Josh Harty and Sims Delaney-Pothoff from Harmonious Wail showed up on a cold Friday night, the house was packed, the music was great, and we were hooked.

Since that first concert we've presented Bill Staines, Vance Gilbert, Garnet Rogers, Birds of Chicago, Brother Sun, Tim Grimm, Kim and Reggie Harris, Karen Savoca and Pete Heitzman, and a collection of other great performers. We've pledged to support Wisconsin musicians as well as regional and national performers - Patchouli, Mark Croft, Cris Plata, Beth Kille, The Stellanovas (Mary Gaines and Chris Waggoner), The Listening Party from Milwaukee, Bill Camplin, and Randy Sabien have all brought their musical talent to our home. We have brought in familiar performers as well as taken chances on new talent, and we've enjoyed every single concert. So have our audiences.

We are having such a good time that we can't stop setting up new concerts. This spring we are bringing back Brother Sun (on their final tour, sad to say) on March 5, followed by Madison's Ritt Dietz Trio on Friday, April 21. Bill and Randy are returning on June 2, and Joe Crookston and Claudia Schmidt will be back later this fall. We're working on some exciting additional options in the near future.

People frequently ask us questions about why we do house concerts.

Aren't they so much work? How do you find the performers? Aren't you worried about strangers walking off with your silverware? Do you really let people use your bathroom? Have you been busted by the police following a neighbor's complaint?

The answers are really quite simple: Yes, the concerts take some work. We have to make a deal with an agent or artist and negotiate a date and payment terms. We have to promote the concerts; we do that by putting the word out to our email friends and neighborhood listserves, send notices to the Simply Folk, WORT and Mad-Folk calendars, and even hand out flyers in our Tenney neighborhood. We spiff up the house, move the furniture around, schlep about 50 chairs up from the basement, put the beer and soda on ice, and wait nervously for the crowd to show up.

Then there's always the question, "what if we don't sell enough tickets to pay our musicians?" No problem there, as it turned out. We have sold out every show but one in the past five years. All our proceeds go to our performers. We are true believers that the work they do is really important and they should be paid top dollar.

Finding performers is really quite easy. Once you do a couple concerts, you will have artists or their agents knocking at your door or filling your InBox. We get requests from friends and local music lovers all the time. We attend lots of festivals and local concerts, check artists' websites and YouTube videos, and keep an eye on the Madison music scene. We listen carefully to every musician we hear about

to see if they will work in our house. For every show we present, we have to turn down three or four offers to play at our house, but we always send on those requests to other folks doing concerts in the area. We've learned that the 21st century Woody Guthries traveling the back roads and highways of America are looking for friendly places to make music and a few bucks to keep going.

It may be hard to believe, but in a nearly 40-concert run we've never had a problem with a drunken guest, and our mismatched silverware is just not worth taking. We've met lots of friendly, neighborly people from Madison and beyond. Sometimes the performers stay with us and we have the pleasure of getting to know them as friends. The rush of getting a big Thank You! from a Joe Crookston or Garnett Rogers, followed by a big round of applause from our guests, makes the work worthwhile.

So far, so good on the noise complaints from neighbors and no visits from the police department. Our shows end by 10 pm and acoustic music never shakes our neighbors' windows.

The bottom line for us is that we love music, we enjoy throwing a good party, and we've had a blast greeting old friends and making new ones. We are big believers in building community. What better way to do that than hosting a house concert?

If you are interested in learning more about our concerts, send us a message at [annedave@chorus.net](mailto:annedave@chorus.net) and we'll put you on our notification list.

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>

# We Banjo 3 - Friday, March 10 - 8PM

## Gaelic Storm - Thursday, March 16 - 7:30PM

### at The Barrymore - 2090 Atwood Avenue



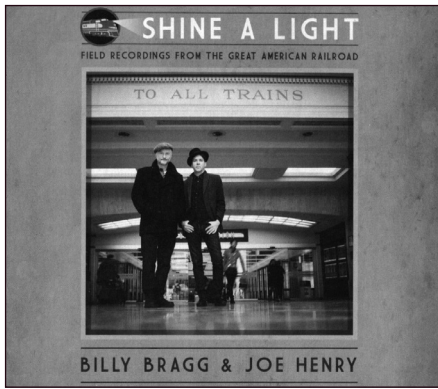
We Banjo 3 is an award-winning band of brothers from Galway, Ireland. They combine Irish traditional music with old-time Americana and bluegrass influences to reveal the banjo's rich legacy and roots. Enda & Fergal Scahill and Martin & David Howley are among the most celebrated and distinguished musicians in Ireland today. They are holders of multiple All Ireland music titles on banjo, fiddle, bodhran and guitar. Their latest album, *String Theory*, recently debuted at #1 on the Billboard World Music Charts.

Gaelic Storm has straddled the line between tradition and innovation for nearly two decades. Led by founding members Patrick Murphy and Steve Twigger, the group infuses traditional Celtic music with modern influences, updating the genre for a new generation of fans raised on rock, country and folk. Along the way, the musicians have topped the Billboard World Chart four times, appeared in the blockbuster film "Titanic" (where they performed "Irish Party in Third Class," an unreleased song made available for the first time on Full Irish) and earned a reputation as a hard-touring, genre-bending band. Regularly playing more than 120 shows a year, Gaelic Storm has built a loyal following as diverse as the band's own music. Fans of traditional Irish music have championed the group for years, but so have fans of harder-edged Celtic rock.





**SHINE A LIGHT: FIELD RECORDINGS FROM THE GREAT AMERICAN RAILROAD - BILL BRAGG & JOE HENRY  
COOKING VINYL ~ 2016**



Review by Kiki Schueler

Last March a pair of singer-songwriters took an ambitious trip together. British activist Billy Bragg and American producer Joe Henry boarded the Texas Eagle at Chicago's Union Station, two days they later pulled into Los Angeles's Union Station. Along the way they recorded this collection of railroad songs, on platforms and trackside, in depots and sleeping berths, and one noteworthy hotel room. If that all sounds a little gimmicky, you're right it is, and in the hands of lesser musicians that's all it would have been. But Bragg and Henry make it something more- a travelogue, a history lesson and a carefully curated compilation of folk songs- all recorded on location with just two guitars and two vocals. There are constant reminders of the intimacy and immediacy of the recordings, a flock of grackles in Texas, a loudspeaker announcing tracks in St Louis, the bustle of passengers in Chicago, and, surprisingly just once, a burst of applause in Tucson. The introspective pairing of each tune with location takes you on vacation with them.

They take full advantage of the acoustics in the grandly massive Great Hall in downtown Chicago, recording the album's first three tracks there to start their journey. These are some of the record's most familiar tunes. "Rock Island Line" is done call and response style, Bragg's gravely growl answering Henry's smooth croon. Unlike some versions, they keep the speed under control, every

word is intelligible. In fact, nowhere in the course of thirteen tracks do they seem hurried, content to just roll along. Their haunted take on "The L&N Don't Stop Here Anymore" is a highlight. Bragg's vocals are dark and languid, and the hall sounds as abandoned as the train station in the song. Their take on "The Midnight Special" is about as up-tempo as the pair gets, maybe because the journey is about to begin.

First stop St Louis. They didn't have time to visit the station here, so they recorded "Railroad Bill" next to the track. The tale of the notorious train robber gets character from the brake squeals and announcer's voice in the background. San Antonio proved a productive stop. In contrast to "Bill," their ghostly "In the Pines" and the melancholy "Gentle on my Mind" are free of any superfluous noise. The latter marks Henry's best vocal turn, and it's a gorgeous one. The old mission style station's depot #2 where the songs were recorded no longer sees any passenger traffic; instead it serves as an upscale function space. In order to gain admittance to the hall, the pair had to spend the night in town. They chose their lodging thoughtfully. Room 414 at the Gunter Hotel was where Robert Johnson, the King of the Delta Blues, made his first recordings. Their choice of song was just as poignant, "Waiting for a Train" was written by Jimmie Rodgers, one of country music's first stars, and a former train worker. Their trek ended on March 18 at 4:30 am in Los Angeles, making Gordon Lightfoot's "Early Morning Rain" an appropriate selection. It isn't a train song in the traditional sense, but the narrator does bemoan the fact that "you can't jump a jet plane like you can a freight train."

Following two volumes of Mermaid Avenue's Woody Guth-

rie songs, the Essex-born Bragg has emerged as a prolific recorder of American folk music. It may not make sense, but with collaborators like Joe Henry and Wilco, it certainly works.

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](mailto:madfolk@charter.net). Learn about concerts, membership, scholarships, and volunteer opportunities at [www.madfolk.org](http://www.madfolk.org). [www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835)

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Peter Berryman

### Aging is a One Party System

By the time you read this, my music partner Lou and I will have played at a Not-My-President's-Day show at the Ohio Tavern in Madison. No doubt the oldest performers there, and maybe the oldest people in the whole place, I decided we needed a special geezery song to sing. This is a quickie, but it was fun to write.

After singing this a few times, it dawned on me that the song is really non-partisan. I don't consider myself non-partisan, but I think subconsciously I didn't want specific issues to interfere with the struggle my generation is having as we age to motivate ourselves to protest, no matter what our political leanings.

### THE BOOMERS ARE RISING AGAIN

©2017 L&P Berryman, music by L, words by P

Arise you old timers and velcro your shoes  
Come crone and old codger there's no time to lose  
Old fogey and duffer and biddy and grouch  
Come grampa and gramma get up off of the couch

'Cause The Boomers are rising again  
The Boomers are rising again  
Our bones are suggesting we ought to be resting  
But the Boomers are rising again

We'll stagger and thump thru the land of the free  
Like ogres we'll trudge toward the powers that be  
They'll see us approach and recoil in dismay  
(as) The Geezer Apocalypse shuffles their way

And The Boomers are rising again (x2)  
Our bunions are wishing we'd stop and go fishing  
But the Boomers are rising again

We'll oil up the wheelchair and polish the cane  
And ready our speech for a world gone insane  
We'll dust off our signs from the marches of yore  
Oh yes we have signs; we have done this before

And The Boomers are rising again (x2)  
Our tendons are whining we should be reclining  
But The Boomers are rising again

We'll strap on our oxygen, pack up our meds,  
And hop on a bus to the land of the feds  
They'll stop & take heed when we lurch off the bus  
Cause most of the bastards are geezers like us

And The Boomers are rising again (x2)  
Our blisters are pleading we should be home reading  
But the Boomers are rising again

Tho we may be wielding a menacing crutch  
We're mostly non vi'lent I'll tell you that much  
But they should beware as we're catching our breath  
That given the chance we can bore them to death

And the Boomers are rising again (x2)  
Our kids are supposing we'd rather be dozing  
But The Boomers are rising again

And if we're too feeble to flop out of bed  
And seek a less physical protest instead  
We still have our fountain pens all full of ink  
And cursing in cursive looks good don't you think?

And the Boomers are rising again (x2)  
These confounded marches are hard on our arches  
But the Boomers are rising again

When death clips the wings of old buzzards like me  
The Geezer Apocalypse has a plan B  
For when the Grim Reaper slows down our attack  
The Zombie Apocalypse picks up the slack

And the Boomers are rising again (x2)  
Oh bury me upright and leave me a flashlight  
'Cause the Boomers are rising again

WZ MARCH 2017

# The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

March 2017

## Venues



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

### Cafe Carpe

All shows at 8:30pm unless indicated otherwise

- Thu, Mar 2, Dan Navarro - @8pm - \$15
- Fri, Mar 3, Mare Edstrom & Kenn Fox / Liz DeYoe - \$10
- Sat, Mar 4, Lonesome Bill Camplin - \$9
- Tue, Mar 7, Irish Session - @7pm
- Wed, Mar 8, John Statz - @7:30pm - \$10
- Thu, Mar 9, New Pioneers - @7pm - \$10
- Fri, Mar 10, Gaelynn Lea / Rod Picott - @8pm - \$15
- Sat, Mar 11, Mark Stuart - Call 920-563-9391 to reserve
- Fri, Mar 17, Open Stage - @7:30pm
- Sat, Mar 18, Bill Camplin and the Idols of March - \$10
- Sun, Mar 19, Peter Mulvey - @7:30pm - \$15
- Wed, Mar 22, Irish Session - @7pm
- Thu, Mar 23, Song Circle w/ Tricia Alexander - @7pm - \$5
- Fri, Mar 24, Rachael Kilgour - Call 920-563-9391 to reserve
- Sat, Mar 25, Sam Llanas - \$20
- Thu, Mar 30, Ben de la Cour - @7:30pm - \$8

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

- Sat, Mar 11, 2017 - @7pm - Lakeside Street Coffee House, 402 W. Lakeside St, Madison WI, 53715 - Free (donations)- (608)441-7599
- Thu, Mar 16, 2017 - @ 7pm - The Brink Lounge, 701 East Washington St., Madison, WI 53703 - Free (donations) - (608) 770-2640
- Sat, Mar 25, 2017 - @ 12pm - (Michael & Tracy as duo for this show) - Whad'ya Know? - LIVE TAPING at the High Noon Saloon, 701 East Washington Ave, Madison WI
- Fri, Mar 31, 2017 - @8pm - Wild Hog In The Woods Wil Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St., Madison, WI 53703 - (608)-233-5687
- Thu, Apr 20, 2017 - @ 7pm - The Brink Lounge, 701 East Washington St., Madison, WI 53703 - Free (donations) - (608) 770-2640
- 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](http://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](http://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](http://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

## FOLKLORE VILLAGE

### Folklore Village

3210 Cty Hwy BB  
Dodgeville, WI  
[folklorevillage.org](http://folklorevillage.org)  
608-924-4000

- Sat, Mar 4th -- Healthy Hoedown (Potluck at 6pm, dance at 7:15)
- Tue, Mar 7th -- Open Mic @7pm
- Sat, Mar 18th -- "Lost Instruments of a Lost Ukraine" with Jurij Fedynskyj @7pm
- Fri, Mar 24-26th -- Cajun Music & Dance Weekend
- Fri, Mar 31st - Apr 2nd -- Spring Norwegian Music & Dance Weekend



Wil-Mar Center  
953 Jenifer St.  
[wildhoginthewoods.org](http://wildhoginthewoods.org)  
608-233-5687

### Wild Hog in the Woods

- Mar 3 - Lisa Johnson, Casey Day and Ben Doran

Irish Cultural & Heritage Center  
2133 W Wisconsin Ave  
Milwaukee, WI -- [ichc.net](http://ichc.net)  
414-345-8800

All Shows are \$10 Advance and day of show w/ Student ID

- Fri, April 21 - Trian - 7:30pm -- \$21 adv/\$25d.o.s.

## Gigs

### Dave & Anne Host Folk

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at [annedave@chorus.net](mailto:annedave@chorus.net)

- March 5th @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Brother Sun - \$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](mailto:maddog-210@charter.net)

- March 11th @ 8 (doors at 7:30) Ari & Mia Friedman from Boston \$15
- April 9 @ 7 (doors 6:30) Mustard's Retreat \$15

### Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Kiki at [righteousmusicgmt@gmail.com](mailto:righteousmusicgmt@gmail.com)

- Apr 1st @ 8 pm (doors at 7) Curtis McMurtry -- \$10
- Apr 21st @ 9 pm (doors at 8) Robbie Fulks with Robbie Gjersoe -- \$15

### Dane County Famers Market Music

Madison Senior Center - Market 7:30AM-Noon

Band plays approximately 8:30am - 11:30am

- Mar 4 - On The Fence
- Mar 11 - The Bear Milkers
- Mar 18 - Michael DeGregoria
- Mar 25 - Andy and his BlueGrass Friends
- Apr 1 - Mid-town Jazz Trio
- Apr 8 - Water Street Bridge

# 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](http://www.madfolk.org) and click on "Join MFMS"

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Complete, clip, and mail this form

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### Madison Folk Music Society

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Senior / Student \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Regular \$12 \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

Friend \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Contributing \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Life \$500 \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship fund donation (optional) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Tracy Comer, P.O. Box 930446 Verona, WI 53593-0446