

Mad Folk News

Noctambule House Concert May 6

Please join us on Saturday, May 6 for a Madison Premier House Concert with Marla Fibish and Bruce Victor performing as Noctambule. The show starts at 8 with doors opening at 7:30. For details on location and to reserve a seat contact Mike at 608 274-6340 or by email at maddog-210@charter.net

They play original and traditional music in a variety of forms -- joining together poetry they have set to music, instrumental pieces, and traditional Irish tunes and songs. Their music is alive with lush beauty, sensitivity, and humor on guitars in creative tunings, mandola, mandolin, bouzouki, cittern, accordion, tenor guitar, and their blended voices.

The name NOCTAMBULE comes from a Robert Service poem about a nocturnal ramble through the back alleys of Paris. THE WAKING, their newest release, features poetry-set-to-music along with some instrumental tracks. The poems, from Roethke, Auden, Hughes, Plath, Benet, and others, explore the vicissitudes, the inscrutability, and the ultimate

in song, offering travelers the opportunity to see and experience the world differently once they

usual sources of light subside. It features a variety of 'noctambulatory' verse from Tennyson, Neruda, Roethke, St. Vincent Millay, and Robert Service.



Between the Waves

The Between the Waves Madison Music Festival and Conference, scheduled for June 15th – June 18th, is poised to become Madison's largest music gathering; three days of conferences at UW's Gordon Center, with presentations on everything from production to touring and more, led by established music industry leaders; and three nights of performances showcasing Madison's musical talent, all at the multiple stages of the High Noon Saloon.

Originally conceived as a conference for singer/songwriters, Between the Waves grew to encompass the wide variety of music being produced in Madison. There's still much of interest for folk musicians, though; opportunities to perform, have your music heard by producers and licensors, or to collaborate with other musicians.

Learn more about the conference schedule at: <http://www.btwmadison.com/schedule>

Check out the ever-expanding festival line-up at:

<http://www.btwmadison.com/artists>
Interested in performing at the festival? Some slots may still be open. Submit your music here:

http://www.broadjam.com/contests/details/contest/index.php?contest_id=12351

Between the Waves seeks to support and grow Madison's music scene. To that end, we're eager to accommodate as many musicians as possible. As a member of Madison Folk Music Society, you can save 50% on your registration by using code FOLK when purchasing your ticket. With the discount, the regular conference price is only \$35 (includes festival), and VIP packages only \$50 (includes festival, MAMAs, and more). Packages are available here: <http://www.broadjam.com/btwmadison/>

Conference and festival space are limited, and this inaugural event will sell out. Take advantage of the FOLK promo code soon to be a part of Between the Waves.

Ed Trickett House Concert June 14

Ed is known as a "song interpreter". On his day job, he is a professor of psychology. He looks for the hidden truths in songs, and sings them to us in a manner that gives us a new meaning to old songs. Usually playing guitar, and singing in a very gentle manner, Ed is also an accomplished piano player. He doesn't consider himself as a "professional" musician, but he is indeed a professional in every sense of the word. The songs he has recorded alone, with Anne Mayo Muir and Gordon Bok, and with other artists are some of the most beautiful ever recorded. For those of you who have seen Ed perform, I know you'll be at this show. For those who may be new to his music, go see this show, you won't be disappointed, and it is a rare opportunity to see him.

please contact mike Tuten for details at maddog-210@charter.net
June 14 @ 7 pm (doors 6:30) \$15



Review by Kiki Schueler

There is a healthy dose of whimsy on Common Chord's self-titled debut, but those light-hearted moments are gracefully balanced with traditional gospel and intoxicating ballads. Common Chord is co-fronted by singer-songwriters/multi-instrumentalists Tracey Jane Comer and Michael Bryant, who form the backbone of every song on the record. Even when Bruce Buttel takes his turn at lead with a pair of original compositions, the haunting lullaby "One More Trail" and candid love song "Already Know," the pair add backing vocals, bass, and viola (the latter courtesy of Comer, and exceptionally lovely on "Trail"), giving the whole project a unified feeling. Other players come and go over the course of the record's slight thirty six minute running time, Delores Jenison on backing vocals, Faye Bruggink on soulful clarinet, and Alan Maslowski on tasteful percussion, each lending their talents to elegantly flesh out vocals and melodies.

The immediate accessibility of Bryant's work, as well as his effortless vocals, make his songs the ones you (and likely your children too) will be singing along to after only a handful of listens. The opening track "Little Boy Blue" imagines Mother Goose characters as part of a very happening swing band. There are the expected players, Boy Blue on horn of course (his part played by Bruggink), the cat on the fiddle, and

the lesser known Goosey Gander on piano, while the little old lady who lives in a shoe makes an enthusiastic audience. I know my nursery rhymes better than most, but I've never heard any mention of a pig playing tambourine. Apparently he's pretty good, a "virtual rhythm machine" according to Bryant. I like it. "Sneakers" is equally playful, using the footwear for their intended purpose of sneaking, and using that stealth to raid the cookie jar, among other adventures. He works up our appetite with the very hummable and deceptively calorie-free "Wind Pudding with Air Sauce," which encourages imagination in lieu of dinner. In case you thought they were going to let us go hungry, final track "Toast and Jelly" pays off with a plethora of treats- spaghetti, ice cream, hot chocolate and peanut butter banana sandwiches.

Comer's tracks provide a different type of nourishment, more spiritual than physical. Her take on the eight decade old traditional "Ain't No Grave" isn't as weighty as Johnny Cash's omnipresent TV and movie closing track, but it is far from slight. Comer's jangly guitar is mighty, Jenison and Bryant's backing vocals angelic, and Maslowski's brushed snare propulsive. It's one of the record's highlights. Classic TV fans will recognize the Rodney Dillard and Mitch Jayne penned "There is a Time" as one of the songs The Darlings sang on The Andy Griffith Show. Here it's more cool jazzy folk than bluegrass, but no less affecting. Who knows, Comer's version might have made old Pa Darling get his kerchief out too. The penultimate track, her optimistic original "In This New Year" gives a message of hopefulness. Her pleas for us to "become instruments of peace in this new year" feel timely as well as timeless.

In fact that sums up the whole record, Common Chord has made a record that lives up to their name. And while these songs are certainly all-ages, I wouldn't be at all surprised if Bryant has a children's record in him somewhere.

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



Fifty Years Ago Again

Ten years ago I wrote a Whither Zither about 1957, when I was ten, fifty years previously. So now, ten years later, here's a look back at 1967, when I was twenty, fifty years previously.

In Madison, the first "be-ins" (free festivals without a focus) were held on Picnic Point in 1967. I remember Madison's **White Trash Blues Band** playing one, and Alan Ginsberg attending, with his little harmonium or whatever it was called. He sat on the ground and chanted. We had dope and booze, and I still have 72 black and white negatives of the band, all taken from the same spot, very far away. I rode my bicycle there, with no tires on the rims. Having had two flat tires, I just took off the tires and tubes and rode on the metal.

If my memory serves me, guitar maker Phil Buss had a shop on State Street, where, in a small upstairs room, someone from the local **Amazing Grace Jug Band** would bring in blues musicians and sell \$5 tickets to the show which would get you in and supply you with unlimited beer. I remember seeing the great Bukka White there from a distance of about eight feet.

Thirteen of us lived in a second floor apartment on Mifflin Street. We had jam sessions in the filthy kitchen; I played a bit of mandolin, until someone sat on my instrument, and 12-string guitar. My brother Jeff who lived there too was great on the guitar, and I think Lou (my current music partner and then wife-to-be for a few years) hauled out her banjo sometimes. I actually wrote a good number of songs on Mifflin Street, influenced very much by Roger Miller and Donovan.

Donovan's album **Mellow Yellow** was released in 1967. Whenever I hear that album, I think of the liverwurst sandwiches and Kool-Aid that I lived on back then. The Beatles' **Sgt. Pepper** arrived in June and blew my mind along with everyone else's. Folk music was not in the news as much as rock, but Arlo Guthrie's **Alice's Restaurant** (the album) was released. Ian and Sylvia released two albums and were also doing a weekly TV show in Canada. The

original Kingston Trio had their last gig in June '67. Peter Paul and Mary released **Album 1700** which went platinum.

Phil Ochs released the album **Pleasures of the Harbor**, and performed tirelessly at anti-war rallies around the country. Because things were going crazy. The US and the USSR were testing their nuclear bombs pretty much monthly, in a nuclear pissing contest. Toward the end of the year, China joined the nuclear bomb gang. There were 159 race riots all over the country, including a major one in Milwaukee. As an example of how divided and weird things became that year, the summer that was known as the "Summer of Love" because of the blossoming of Haight Ashbury into a hippy scene, **Sgt. Pepper** coming out, and all the be-ins and love-ins everywhere, was also known as the "Long Hot Summer" because of all the race riots.

In addition, there were anti-draft and anti-war demonstrations nationwide. In Madison, the "Dow riot" of October completely reversed the fairly mellow mood of the summer. Dow Chemical, a manufacturer of napalm and Agent Orange, was on campus, recruiting potential employees. There was a protest, the police reacted violently, it escalated. I still remember people coming back to our place on Mifflin St. from the riot, half of them ready to find weapons and fight the police, the other half wanting to get as far away from the violence as they could. And there was great violence in the world; almost twelve thousand US soldiers died in Viet Nam in 1967 alone.

The country was going mad. Carl Wilson of the Beach Boys was indicted for draft evasion, as was Mohammad Ali. Keith Richards and Mick Jagger spent a month in jail. Members of the Grateful Dead were arrested by narcotic agents. The Doors' Jim Morrison was arrested on stage for disturbing the peace. Joan Baez was arrested in October 1967 for blocking the entrance to the Armed Forces Induction Center in Oakland, and spent a month in jail. And in an unrelated but heartbreaking tragedy, also in October, Otis Redding, four months before his "Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay" reached number one on the pop charts, was killed in a plane crash in Madison's Lake Monona at age 26.

Meanwhile, US TV shows were an odd and eerily benign mix, for the most part. **Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood** was first pro-

duced. **Gilligan's Island** was still playing for most of the year. **Star Trek** had its popular and silly "Trouble with Tribbles" episode. **Petticoat Junction**, **My Three Sons**, **The Beverly Hillbillies**, the **Monkees** were all popular TV shows. **The Carol Burnett Show** started up in 1967. The two most watched shows were **The Andy Griffith Show** and **The Lucy Show**.

Thankfully, the funny but politically edgy **Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour** was born that year. Pete Seeger was taped for the show, singing his famous antiwar song, "Waste Deep in the Big Muddy," but CBS banned it (though it was shown in 1968). Ed Sullivan had the Rolling Stones change "Let's Spend the Night Together" to "Let's Spend Some Time Together." Incidentally, Walter Cronkite was the main news guy; I remember jamming into the Rathskeller in the UW Student Union to watch his national coverage of the Madison riot.

I worked at Star Photo for a while when I first came to Madison, then got a part time job as a television graphic artist at WHA TV (it was still in black and white), the local public television station. I dropped out of school that year, at which point the draft board became very interested in me. After I took a few rudderless trips across the country, Lou and I were married in December and prepared to move to London Ontario, which we did early the next year. We stayed in Canada for five years and stayed married for about seven.

I didn't know her very well at the time, but I have learned since that my current wife Kristi booked up and left the country for Mexico in 1967, though she was back to see the Packers win the infamous Ice Bowl on New Year's Eve, when the temperature dropped to thirteen below zero.

Oh, and one more peculiar fact about 1967: That year, Wisconsin became the last state to throw out the laws making the sale of yellow-colored margarine illegal.

As those of you who were around during that long-ago weird year know quite well, I've barely skimmed the murky surface of it here. I do believe that 1967, when I turned twenty years old fifty years ago, was the strangest, most topsy-turvy, most life-changing year of my days so far. But I have to admit, it had a great soundtrack.

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

May 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

- May 19th @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) The Birds of Chicago - \$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

- 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

- May 4h @ 8 pm (doors at 7) Kinky Friedman -- \$25

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

- 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

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, May 5, Karen Wheelock
- Sat, May 6, James Lee Stanley - \$20
- Sun, May 7, Sarah Potenza - @7pm -\$20
- Fri, May 12, Alan Gerber
- Sat, May 13, Brothers Burn Mountain
- Sun, May 14, The Tannahill Weavers - @7pm -\$25
- Fri, May 19, Piper Road - \$12
- Thu, Jun 1, Mike Mangione - @8pm
- Fri, Jun 2, Amerancouche
- Sat, Jun 3, Rick Thum / Steve Seifert - \$10

FOLKLORE VILLAGE...passing it on

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

Folklore Village

- Tue, May 2nd -- Open Mic @7pm
- Sat, May 6th -- Maypole Dancing Potluck @5:30pm
- Sun, May 7th -- Friends of Folklore Village Spring Fundraiser @2pm
- Sat, May 20th -- Russian 7-String Guitar with Oleg Timofeyev and International Artists. hands-on workshop@5:30pm. Concert @7pm.
- Mon, May 29th -- Gladdening the Gardens Workbee



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

Wild Hog in the Woods

- Mon, May 1 - Wild Hog Membership Meeting @7pm
- Fri, May 5 - Li'l Rev @8pm
- Sat, May 12 - Dangerous Folk @8pm
- Fri, May 19 - Roxanne Neat @8pm
- Fri, May 20 - Hootenanny! @2pm

Mother Fool's
Coffeehouse
1101 Williamson St.
motherfools.com
608-259-1030

Mother Fool's

• Sat, May 20 - Hawaiian Music of the Golden Age 78 RPM record presentation featuring Mal-O-Dua @8pm - \$5

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

Complete, clip, and mail this form

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Madison Folk Music Society

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