

MadFolk News

MADFOLK SPONSORING A STAGE FOR TWO DAYS AT THE 46th WILLY STREET FAIR!

Join us as we host for the 15th season two days of terrific music! The fair this year is September 16th and 17th.

The Songs of John Prine is returning as it has been a well attended set of music! Sharing the songs will be Jeff Burkhardt, who has consistently been willing to come back each year, starting with the first year, and who knew that we would lose John only 6 months later to Covid. Jeff is a songwriter and performer whose songs explore how we get by, the wonder of the cosmos and the power of distant memory. Growing up in small town In-

diana, he cut class to find adventures on the backroads, bounced around in North Carolina for a couple of years, then landed in Madison WI, where he found many great musical collaborators in various bands playing locally and regionally at coffeeshops, bar-rooms, taverns and outdoor festivals. Chuck Bayuk is part of a few bands, although his first Friday of each month at Chief's, called The Chuck Bayuk Trio is where you will hear him covering many JP songs, amongst a lot of other well known and loved songs. You can also find him playing with the Acoustic Charlies, another band not to be missed. Rounding out the trio is Cathy "Mrs.C." Chenoweth strums and performs with Mad City Ukes and with her partner in Together Two Strum. Her love for John Prine songs began at a friend's John Prine party.

Cathy featured a number of John Prine songs during a 100 day Uke challenge and she shared two of her favorites at Make Music Madison. She is honored to celebrate his music with her audience. thy Chenoweth.

Cris Plata and Extra Hot, does not need an introduction, he has played on the Madfolk stage in the past, and also on many other stages during the festival season. With all of the music influences, how do we describe Cris Plata's music in a nutshell? Perhaps we will have to borrow the term Tex-Mex and redefine it. "Tex" would now stand for Texas singer-songwriters and "Mex" would stand for Mexican root's music. But don't let this definition confine your impression of his music. Just listen to his music and the best definition will be your own.

Continued on next page



Cris Plata

MadFolk Stage Schedule

Saturday, September 16

2:00 to 3:30 – The Songs of John Prine - in the round With Jeff Burkhardt, Chuck Bayuk and Cathy Chenoweth
 4:00 to 5:15 – Cris Plata with Extra Hot
 6:00 to 7:15 - The Songs and Music Live On – in the round With Kaia Fowler, Ken Lonquist, and TBA
 8:00 to 9:15 – Old Tin Can String Band.

Sunday, September 17

12:15 to 1:15 – Moon House
 1:45 to 2:45 – Dana Perry
 3:15 to 4:30 – Bryant Switzky
 5:00 to 6:15 - Frances Luke Accord

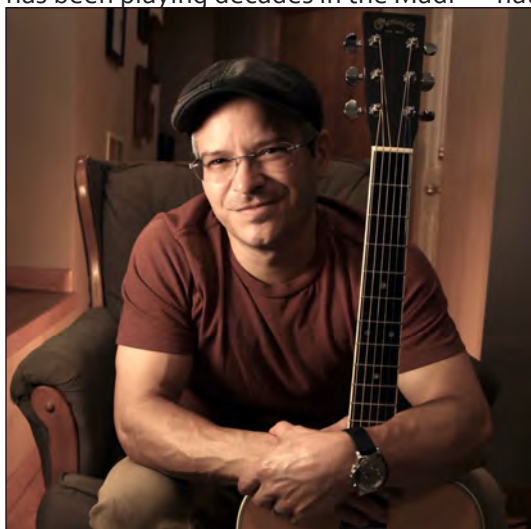


Willy Street Fair continued from front page

The Songs and Music Live On – in the round – this will be songs by musicians who are no longer with us – let's keep their music alive!

With Kaia Fowler, Ken Lonnquist, and special guest. Kaia and Ken are returning to WSF, do you remember them from last year? Kaia lent her voice to the beautiful songs on the Joan, Joni, Judy set of covers, and Ken is no stranger to the Madison Stage, currently with his O'Darby band, can't wait to see what songs he decides to play for this set. Many of our readers are familiar with Chris Powers with this radio show on WORT, but have you heard him play in the band.

The Old Tin Can String Band which started when ace fiddler Shauncey Ali had half his band leave town. He still had prospects for playing gigs, and so contacted mandolin-player Chris Powers, a veteran of several string bands and host of WORT's bluegrass radio show. They brought in Pat Spaay, already known as a solid rhythm guy, to play guitar and banjo and have a solid line up of Irish music to their mix of bluegrass, swing, and old-timey songs. Bruce Anderson, a monster musician out of the rock, blues and jazz traditions, joined them on acoustic bass. Shauncey, Chris, Pat and Bruce play throughout Southern Wisconsin, and are thrilled to be part of this year's Willy Street Fair. Moonhouse has been playing decades in the Madi-



Bryant Switzky

son area, and had a long-time running gig at the UpNorth Bar. However, they had decided to stop the regular gigs and will only be playing special events – Willy Street Fair being one of them. Moonhouse is a five piece “folkadelic” group. Lead singer and songwriter, Blackhawk, knows how to set the mood. His music is reminiscent of his life's journey – happy, sad, spiritual and true to his soul.

Making his debut appearance at WSF: Bryant Switzky is an award-winning singer-songwriter who performs soulful acoustic music that blends folk, blues, Americana, and pop. With clever lyrics, soaring melodies and passionate vocals, his music appeals to fans of Brandi Carlile, Jason Isbell, and the Lumineers. Bryant is an exciting new addition to the Madison-area music scene, having moved back here after 20 years in the Twin Cities and Washington, DC. He released his third album, *On the Edge of Something*, earlier this year. Six songs from the album have been recognized a dozen times in national and international songwriting contests, and the album and songs from it are finalists for four Madison Area Music Awards in 2023.

Madison-based evo-folk artist Dana Perry has been making music passionately for 30 years, with over 15 years of focus on playing guitar and songwriting. A thumping guitar style, combined with poignant lyrics and powerhouse vocals; her music resonates with anyone who recognizes that we are all on our own Journey.

Dana is a 15-time winner at the Madison Area Music Association (MAMA) Awards; including Acoustic Guitarist of the Year (2019) and Folk/Americana Performer of the Year (2020), and Best Female Vocalist (2021)

Dana released her newest album this year, titled *Now and Again* – buy this CD, you will want it in your music collection.

Closing out the weekend will be a new band to the MadFolk stage, and I'm SUPER excited that Fran-



Dana Perry

ces Luke Accord band will be joining us this year. When Nicholas Gunty and Brian Powers put their songs and their voices together, there is a delicate magic that commands the room to attention. The duo is known as Frances Luke Accord, and they are what NPR's Mountain Stage calls “the definition of lean-in music.” Their soft, contemplative vintage of indie-folk gestures toward a timelessness that honors the Simon & Garfunkel comparisons but pushes beyond into the world of Bon Iver, Jose Gonzalez, and progressive folk music. The duo's newest release, *SAFE IN SOUND*, (co-produced with Don Mitchell of Darlingside) is a spacious and deeply textured indie folk record forged during COVID. A pulsing collection of sing-along earworms, it delivers a front-and-center view of the band's signature tenor duo harmonies. With lyrics that often reflect the exasperation of artists struggling to hang on in a pandemic-worn industry, the album features a number of guest appearances (Darlingside, Liz Chidester, Yeshua, Chris Dupont, and Katie Van Dusen) as well as the fan favorites, “Maria,” “This Morning,” “In My Life,” and “Dust to Dust.”

The Martin House

By Emily Beebe

A pre-war D-28 Martin guitar quietly slips into a dark corner tavern. She is wearing a modest black case, perfumed with a dab of lemon oil at the base of her neck. When the hasps are loosened, the pheromones wafting off her herringbone permeate the room. The guitar players at the table near the bar lift their heads, nostrils a-quiver. Two picks fall to the floor. One is lost in a sound hole after flubbing a bluegrass roll. Not bad, she thinks, considering that her 89th birthday is next Wednesday.

What is so special about the D-28? The tone, playability, appearance, and workmanship all contribute to the superiority of this instrument. The early Martin guitars also had a few things going for them that made them desirable flat-top guitars. The dreadnaught shape brought forward the bass and midrange allowing them to blend better with the louder banjos, fiddles, and vocalists. The old Martins also had scalloped bracing and Adirondack spruce tops that flexed just so to let out the beautiful tone of the 'plectrum guitar'. Even the hide glue used to hold these together in the days before modern epoxies has been credited to complementing the distinctive D-28 sound.

The 'pre-war' D-28 model was made between 1933 and 1946 and is the most sought after. If one ever comes up for sale and is in good condition it might fetch half a million dollars if its history had bones. The D-28 fame was enhanced by the famous performers who played them over the years: Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton, John Prine, David Crosby, Joan Baez, Hank Williams, John Lennon, Norman Blake, Neil Young, Patty Larkin, the list goes on and on.

Not everyone is a guitar player. In fact, there are people that are merely married to or in a long-term relationship with a guitar player. Some may have parents or grandparents who are guitar players, although their own burning passion in life isn't Martin acoustic guitars. Not at all. In recognition of the need for harmony in families that enjoy

reading Folk Music Society newsletters together, let's change the subject.

Purple martins are a social member of the swallow family and are best known for living in human-made bird houses that resemble the Tara plantation from *Gone with the Wind*. In fact, in 1883, the J. Warren Jacobs Company was founded to make these ornate martin houses. Indigenous people figured out that purple martins liked communal houses when the birds would nest in the hollow gourds they had been hanging out to dry. Martins love human-made bird houses so much, they don't even know how to live in caves anymore. The exception is the Western Purple Martins who still know how to nest in holes in saguaro cacti if no one has built them a pueblo on a stick. This may be a problem because the average age of people that put up elaborate purple martin houses (officially known as landlords) is over 50. What are they going to do when Generation Z doesn't have the time and interest to build bird McMansions?

The average age of a prewar Martin D-28 aficionado is also over 50. The C. F. Martin Company was founded in Nazareth PA by Christian Frederick Martin in 1833. Son of a German carpenter, he came up with the idea of using X-bracing inside the guitar to improve the sound. If C.F. Martin Sr. were alive today, he could have been President and CEO of Martin guitars for 190 years. That is a very long time to do one thing, even for a guitar lover.

It is highly likely that after 30-40 years building guitars, C.F. Martin may have picked up a second hobby, like tending purple martin colonies. A major component of purple martin landlording is keeping out species like European starlings and English sparrows, which will invade purple martin colonies like Atilla the Hun invading Gaul to pick up his girlfriend. Landlords must be ruthless; the only way to keep these other bird species out is to kill them before they destroy all the nesting purple martins. Regular nest checks, which can involve lowering the heavy

birdhouses and regularly inspecting all the holes is necessary to ensure colony health. The martins don't mind and always come back.

There is something about Martin D-28 sound holes that attracts guitar picks. Regular sound hole checks are necessary on these instruments to remove invasive picks, such as Fender mediums and Dunlop Tortex 0.73s, which can rattle around with the vibration from the superior cross-bracing. Also, it is a challenge to be heard playing a Martin D-28 without a pick. Unlike European Starlings, errant picks don't usually need to be destroyed, even though there is an excellent chance they will fly back into the sound hole again.

If anyone is still reading this article, please note that hundreds of thousands of purple martins flock to Nashville each Summer in preparation for their long migratory journey to South America, the source of pre-war Martin D-28 Brazilian rosewood. Nashvillians are compelled to clean the downtown buildings with pressure washers after purple martin jamborees. Martin D-28 owners dreaming of moving to Nashville to start their careers as famous bluegrass guitar pickers, you may want to take a good raincoat.

**DAY OF THE DOUG - SON VOLT
2023 - TRANSMIT SOUND**



Review by Kiki Schueler

If you are one of the people who thinks Son Volt's Jay Farrar needs to lighten up, you've obviously never seen his band cover Blue Oyster Cult's "Godzilla" or the Stones' "Monkey Man" live. If you haven't been so lucky, there is now recorded proof that Farrar does occasionally have some fun. With its Day of the Dead inspired cover art, Day of the Doug serves as an introduction to the oft-overlooked catalog of Doug Sahm, known both for his contributions to Tex-Mex music and to the psychedelic hippie scene in California. He was perhaps best known for his 1965 hit "She's About a Mover" with the Sir Douglas Quintet, which Farrar wisely avoids here, but he was still recording and touring with his supergroup the Texas Tornados at the time of his unexpected death from heart disease in 1999 at the age of 58. The pair first met when Sahm joined Farrar's previous band Uncle Tupelo in the studio where they were recording his "Give Back the Key to My Heart" for their final record Anodyne. The two became fast friends as evidenced by the voicemail messages Sahm left, which serve as the intro and outro to album. On the first he sings a snatch of Son Volt's "Tear-Stained Eye," before imploring "alright Big Jay, give me call when you can."

Surprisingly two of the songs included were not written by Sahm, instead ones he recorded written by others. "Poison Love," written by Tillman Franks and recorded by a host of others, including Alli-

son Krause and Jerry Lee Lewis, is a prime example of his Tex-Mex style. Despite its seriously heavy lyrics, "For your poison love has stained the lifeblood in my heart and soul, dear, and I know my life will never be the same," it's a bouncy, infectious tune. New guitarist John Horton (formerly of the Bottle Rockets) lays down a righteous solo, while multitalented multi-instrumentalist Mark Spencer finds a setting on his keyboard that realistically mimics an accordion. Meanwhile, it's easy to see what drew Farrar to Atwood Allan's "It's Gonna Be Easy," it could be easily mistaken for original Son Volt. It's also interesting to hear Farrar step aside and cede lead vocals on two tracks to longtime bassist Andrew Duplantis (whose animated playing is another reason I never find their shows boring). "Float Away" is a solid rocker in the "more cowbell" vein, while "Juan Mendoza" tackles border town immigrant issues with a world-weary acceptance.

Propulsive opening track, "Sometimes You've Got to Stop Chasing Rainbows" with its give up and go home lyrics could be an answer song to Kermit's "Rainbow Connection." Brad Sarno, who also mastered the record, lays down beautiful pedal steel, while Horton adds slide guitar. The almost-trippy "Beautiful Texas Sunshine" taps some of that hippie happiness, as well as more pedal steel. Sahm's tribute to a small Texas town opens with just acoustic guitar and Farrar's lonesome vocals before erupting into a Farfisa organ party (though it's probably just another setting on Spencer's keyboard). Just east of San Antonio, "Seguin" sounds like the most idyllic place on earth, "Barbecue's just a quarter, beer's just 35 cents." Oh, and "there's also a lot on moonshine, and things that make you mellow." Bonus! The charmingly jaunty "Keep Your Soul" spills out like barroom blues through saloon doors,

while Spencer's backing vocals (terrific throughout) prop up the ultimatum, "So keep your soul, girl, or if you lose it, you will lose everything in the world." It's the loosest moment on a record that already seems uncharacteristically relaxed. Day of the Doug is the perfect companion to the Bottle Rockets' Songs of Sahm, and a heartfelt tribute to a true American(a) artist.

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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46
years!

willy street fair

madison wisconsin

sep. 16-17 2023

SAT. SEP. 16

2 PM to 10 PM

MAIN STAGE

presented by Laser Realty Group

- 2:00 Los Bad Hombres
- 3:30 Ben Mulwana
- 5:15 The Periodicals
- 7:00 Primitive Culture
- 8:45 The Claudettes

FOLK STAGE

presented by Mad Folk Music Society

- 2:00 Songs of John Prine w/ Jeff Burkhart, Chuck Bayuk & TBA
- 4:00 Cris Plata with Extra Hot
- 6:00 The Songs & Music Live On w/ Kaia Fowler, Ken Lonnquist & TBA
- 8:30 The Old Tin Can Band

KID'S STAGE

presented by Laser Realty Group

- 3 to 5 Kid's Karaoke
- 5 to 9 Family/Adult Karaoke

WILLY STREET BEATS STAGE

presented by MadCat

- 3:00 AZZA
- 5:00 Sarah Akawa
- 6:30 Ron Like Hell
- 8:30 DJ Minx

SUN. SEP. 17

11 AM to 6:30 PM

WILLY STREET FAIR PARADE

MAIN STAGE

presented by Laser Realty Group

- 12:30 La Combi
- 2:00 Rare Element
- 4:30 Houses in Motion
- 5:00 Willy St. Fair Raffle Drawing
- 5:15 The Kissers

FOLK STAGE

presented by Mad Folk Music Society

- 12:15 Moon House
- 1:45 Dana Perry
- 3:15 Bryant Switzky
- 5:00 Frances Luke Accord

KID'S STAGE

presented by Laser Realty Group

- 12:30 Madison Unicyclists
- 1:15 Angela Puerta
- 2:45 James the Magician
- 4:00 Madison Music Foundry feat. SLAG, Sandblasters & the Blue Dyes

WORT STAGE

presented by WORT 89.9 FM

- 12:30 Nate Gibson & the Stardazers
- 1:45 Raquel Aleman
- 3:00 Moonboot
- 4:15 Lunar Moth
- 5:30 All the Pretty Horses
- WORT DJ's between bands

PRESENTING SPONSORS:

- Lauer Realty Group
- MadCat
- Mad Folk Music Society
- WORT 89.9 FM

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- Wisconsin Distributors

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- Common Wealth Development & the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

September 2023



• See madfolk.org or our facebook page for latest show postings

Mad Folk stage at the Willy Street Fair

Saturday, September 16

2:00 to 3:30 – The Songs of John Prine - in the round

With Jeff Burkhart, Chuck Bayuk and Cathy Chenoweth

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5:00 to 6:15 - Frances Luke Accord

Tret Fure

Sunday October 8th

More details coming soon!

Robert Jones and Matt Watroba

Saturday November 11th

More details coming soon!



Don't forget!
Non-perishable donations of food are collected for local food banks at all Mad Folk shows!



Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

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

• Friday, September 8th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jimmy Davis w/ Josh Harty - \$15

Common Chord and Bob's Your Uncle

• Saturday, September 2 @ 1pm: Common Chord

@ Hop Garden Evansville, 18 E. Main St, Evansville

• Monday September 4, time TBA: Common Chord

@ Beatlefest, Spring Green General Store

• Thursday September 7, 6pm: Common Chord

@ Gazebo Musikk, Stoughton

• Friday September 8, 5pm: Bob's Your Uncle

@ Bailey's Run, New Glarus

Our House

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at annedave@chorus.net - 608-256-2958 or 335-7909

• Friday, November 3rd @7:30 pm - Claudia Schmidt - \$20



Wild Hog in the Woods

• Friday, September 8th at 7:30pm - Lil' Rev

• Friday, October 6th at 7:30pm - Stephen Lee Rich

• Friday, October 20th at 7:30pm - Common Chord

• Friday, December 1st - 45th Anniversary Celebration

Wil-Mar Center
504 S Breatly St
wildhoginthewoods.org
608-233-5687

Cafe Carpe

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

• Sat, Sept 16th, Sam Knutson - @8pm

• Thu, Sept 21st, The Wildwoods - @7:30pm \$20

• Sat, Sept 23rd, Garnet Rogers - \$25 (SOLD OUT)

• Thu, Sept 28th, Song Circle w/ Tricia Alexander - @6:30pm \$5

• Sat, Sept 30th, Krause Family Band / JP Cyr & The Ramblin' Kind @8pm - \$15



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

Misc

Old Time Jam

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

Location is variable for now. Please email or call to get on the mailing list

Coodinator: Al Wilson, adwilson@pediatrics.wisc.edu

cell: 608-572-0634

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/ 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.



wortfm.org

WORT 89.9 FM community radio

• Weekdays 9:00am - noon - "On the Horizon" w/ Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak, Gloria Hays & Helena White

• Mon - Global Revolutions (folk from the world over) w/ Dan Talmo & Martin Alvarado

• Tue - Green Morning Radio w/ Brian Hirsh

• Wed - Back to the Country (country music on a theme) w/ Bill Malone

• Thur - Hejira (folk and international) w/ Gloria Hays, George Dreckmann, Jeff Spitzer-Resnick & Paul Novak

• Fri - Mud Acres (bluegrass and acoustic) w/ Chris Powers

WVMO The Voice of Monona - Promoting the best in Good Music - Roots Music - Americana Music Plus Community Members Hosted Shows Streaming Live and on your mobile device through tunein radio

Stuart Stotts

Weekly new song Facebook Live event. Song Premiere on Tuesday (SPOT) at 11AM - facebook.com/stuart.stotts

Venues

FOLKLORE VILLAGE

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

Folklore Village

• Tue, September 5th - Online Open Mic Night @7pm

• Fri, September 8th - Workshops w/ Karen Mueller & Bryan Bowers - concert @7pm

• Sat, September 9th - Healthy Hoedown Potluck & Dance

• September 22-24 - Squirrel Moon Contra Dance Weekend

• Wed, September 27th - The Trippers Band @1pm

• Sat, September 30th - Schoolhouse Social

NORTH STREET CABARET

610 North St, Madison, WI
northstreetcabaret.com

Sugar Maple Concert Series

• Fri, September 15th - Viv & Riley @8pm - \$15 adv / \$22 d.o.s.

"WHEN IS MY RENEWAL DUE?"

(Hint: It is NOT the date on the mailing label!)

The date shown on the mailing label is NOT your membership expiration date! There has been some confusion lately, and we apologize for that. The date is just the date the labels were printed, as new cost-saving postal procedures do not allow us to include expiration dates there anymore. When it is time to renew, we will send you a personal notice by mail or email. At that point you will be able to either mail a check or renew online at www.madfolk.org. If you have questions about your membership in the meantime, send email to info@madfolk.org. Thanks for your membership and support of Mad Folk!

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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Choose membership category:

Senior / Student \$12 _____

Regular \$15 _____

Family \$20 _____

Friend \$25 _____

Contributing \$50 _____

Life \$500 _____

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Total \$ _____

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

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