
Mad Folk NEWS

Newsletter of the Madison Folk Music Society

Volume 34, No. 12 Dec 2008

Garnet Rogers opens MadFolk 2009 Concert Season On January 22

Wintry weather or not, on January 22 we're all planning on giving a warm welcome to Garnet Rogers, a frequent and beloved visitor to the Madison area.

Garnet Rogers started his musical career in the shadow of his legendary brother Stan. Barely out of high school, the two of them went on the road in 1973 as full-time working musicians. Together they formed what has come to be accepted as one of the most influential acts in North American folk music.

Since Stan's untimely death in 1983, Garnet Rogers has established himself as 'one of the major talents of our time'. Hailed by the Boston Globe as a "charismatic performer and singer", he is a man with a powerful physical presence - close to six and a half feet tall - with a voice to match. With his "smooth, dark baritone" (Washington Post) his incredible range, and thoughtful, dramatic phrasing, Garnet is widely considered by fans and critics alike to be one of the finest singers anywhere. His music, like the man himself, is literate, passionate, highly sensitive, and deeply purposeful.



"Garnet Rogers may be the greatest male interpreter and vocalist performing in the contemporary folk scene... a first rate writer...musical integrity and powerful performance..". - Sing Out Magazine.

Next month we'll be telling you in greater detail just why you should plan to attend this concert, but for now just mark your calendars for January 22, 2009 at the Brink Lounge.

Is it time to renew your membership? Check your label!

Most Mad Folk memberships expire in December or January so, please check your label! If your membership is expiring in the next month or two, you can save us the time and expense of a reminder mailing and ensure uninterrupted service by renewing now...by mail or ONLINE at www.madfolk.org. If you prefer to mail a check but don't want to cut up your newsletter, just mail a check and as long as your name/address are on it, that's all that is needed. (Really.) Or, print out a form from the website - www.madfolk.org.

If you're not a member yet, please consider joining and helping to promote folk music and dance in Madison in 2009. Annual memberships start at \$8 for seniors and family memberships are only \$15. You can join anytime, you'll get an entire year of newsletters regardless of when you join. In addition to the newsletter, members get a \$1 discount off of the door price for all MadFolk concerts. If you join at the family level, the discount applies to all members of your family. There are three different ways you can join (or renew your membership.) 1) Fill out the form on the back of this newsletter and mail to the address indicated. 2) Go to madfolk.org to download a membership form or 3) join online at madfolk.org.

Are you good with numbers? Mad Folk could use your help!

Mad Folk is looking for a volunteer to take over duties of treasurer. These duties have been handled by Tracy Jane Comer since 2004. Tracy is also membership chair and web site manager, and she would like to devote more time to the web site and new internet promotion/communication initiatives. So, she would like to train someone else to take over as treasurer soon. Duties are task-oriented and mostly consist of data entry into Quicken in a cash-basis system on a monthly basis (entering checks and deposits, balancing statements) and generation of comparative reports every quarter, plus attendance at Board meetings approximately every other month and a few other tasks. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Tracy (tracy@tracyjanecomer.com) or any Board member (see listing in this newsletter or see www.madfolk.org).

Folk Music Instructor Listing to be Added to our Web Site (www.madfolk.org)

Mad Folk will be starting an area on the web site showing Mad Folk members who teach music and include folk/acoustic styles among their offerings. If that describes you...let us know! Send email to webmaster@madfolk.org

A similar area has been started on the web site showing **performing musicians who are members of Mad Folk.**

You can find this listing in the LINKS area of www.madfolk.org. If you are a performing musician who is not yet listed, send email to webmaster@madfolk.org

Krista Deter House Concert on Dec 2

Krista Deter Performs Tuesday, December 2 at 8:00 p.m. in a House Concert at Mike and Carol's home, 3013 Nottingham Way in Madison as part of her A Traveler in Winter Holiday Tour that this year supports the release of her Holiday Album, "The Silver Wood: Wintersongs."

For The Silver Wood, Deter has penned 11 original holiday songs, a handful along with partner/collaborator David Weber, that cover the full range of the holiday experience, from the sublime to the satirical, while maintaining Deter's signature style. It's a wonderful ride through a wintry wood!

Says Rootstime, Belgium: "Timeless.. Krista's voice is sultry... such heart you'd hope to have in a cold winter.." This is Deter's 4th album, her previous three having been met with international critical acclaim. Both her albums Mudshow, and most recently Cover Their Eyes sat in the top two positions of the Euro-Americana chart, as well as placing in several other U.S. and international charts. She's a BBC favorite and was recently featured on NPR's Mountain Stage Radio. She also maintains a touring schedule with Wilderness Plots, a collaborative CD and Stage Show, featuring herself and Indiana songwriters Carrie Newcomer & Tim Grimm, et.al., and based on the book of the same name by author Scott Russell Sanders. In Summer of 2008 Indiana Public Television filmed a documentary special on the project, which has recently been picked up by PBS National.

Deter is joined by her band and award-winning Story-teller Arbutus Cunningham, who brings an extraordinary literary element to the show.

An author, poet, radio host and spoken-word performer, Cunningham crafts tales of home and hearth, alongside fantastical beasts, elementals and creatures drunk on Christmas cheer! She weaves the branches of prose and biting wit into wreaths that hang, glistening, in the frosty air long after the tale is told. She is touring her new spoken-word CD, Mostly Shorts. And can be heard most Saturday mornings on air, and on the web at www.WFHB.org.

Join these talented artists, along with their special guests, for a wonderful romp through a one-of-a-kind Holiday 'Deter.'

Call 608 274-6340 or email mnchu2101@charter.net to reserve a seat. Seating will be limited. A suggested \$15 donation will be collected at the door.

POWERFUL SONGWRITING MARRIED TO REMARKABLE MUSICIANSHIP



GARNET ROGERS

Thursday, January 22

7:00 pm

THE BRINK LOUNGE, 701 E. Washington, Suite 105

Presented by The Madison Folk Music Society (www.madfolk.org)

Tickets \$15 advance, \$17 day of show

Available at: Borders Bookshops East & West,
Spruce Tree Music, Orange Tree Imports

Non-perishable donations of food will be collected for local food banks.

WORT 89.9FM

Mustard's Retreat With Relish

The title of Mustard's Retreat latest cd 'With Relish' is more than a bad pun; it is a description of how they feel about performing. Although their musicianship is superb, it is the joy that they convey while performing that has made them such a long standing favorite in folk circles.

Many of the songs on 'With Relish' were recorded in the early 1980's when Mustard's Retreat (David Tamulevich and Michael Hough) hosted a radio show in Flint, Michigan. The statement on the back cover of the cd reads in part "In the course of our career, we have had many moments when everything worked right. Sometimes the magic was present, but rarely were we fortunate enough to have the tape running!" The fact that the tape was running to catch these performances was truly fortunate, these tracks definitely should have been saved for posterity. The cd opens with the rollicking '29 Ways', a tune that will get your toes tapping by the time the opening chords are finished. 'D Double Do I Love You' features tongue twisting lyrics, mighty fancy guitar work and great harmonica playing. Mustard's Retreat is gifted at incorporating double entendres into their lyrics and 'Weenie Man' is full of (mostly) off-color food based humor. It was recorded at the Pump House in LaCrosse in 1984 for Simply Folk, a program that is another example of staying power in folk music. 'Allegedly In Love' is a simple declaration of the lengths they would go to for the object of their affections. 'Going Back Ain't' is a reflection on how trying to re-live times from our past usually fall short of our expectations.

Mustard's Retreat are tireless performers and come thru town on a regular basis. Be sure to catch their next show and discover why their careers have flourished for over 30 years. In the meantime, go to mustardsretreat.com to order 'With Relish' or any of their other many cd's and find out more about this uniquely entertaining duo.

Joan Baez Day After Tomorrow

Listening to a new cd by Joan Baez is one of the more dependable pleasures in life. You know it's going to be good, you're just not sure how good. Her latest cd "Day After Tomorrow" is remarkable for two reasons; her voice and the songs she chose for the cd.

Her voice is as pure and powerful as it was when she began performing 50 years ago and the cd is a collection of songs by other performers, including Eliza Gilkyson, Elvis Costello, Tom Waits and Steve Earle who produced the cd. Most of the songs on the cd have a spiritual theme and are statements about her beliefs at this point in time. The cd opens with Earle's 'God Is God' a proclamation of her belief in many things including that 'every day on Earth is another chance to get it right'. She follows that with Eliza Gilkyson's 'Rose of Sharon.' In an interview with CNN, Joan explained that she included the song because it "sounds exactly like an old folk song. I wouldn't have guessed in a million years that it is contemporary." Requiem is also by Gilkyson. It was inspired by the tsunami that devastated Southeast Asia in 2004 and is a plea for grace from a higher power. Although Elvis Costello released 'Scarlet Tide' in 2004, the lyrics refer to current events, "Swindlers who act like kings and brokers who break everything." Tom Waits wrote the title track which could be a letter home from a veteran of the Iraq War or the Vietnam War. The lyrics ask the unanswerable question "You can't deny the other side don't want to die any more than we do/What I'm trying to say is don't they pray to the same God that we do?/ Tell me, how does God choose whose prayers he does refuse?"

'Day After Tomorrow' is available on-line at Amazon.com and at local retailers. You can go to myspace.com/joanbaez to listen to three tracks from the cd. Go to JoanBaez.com if you want to find out about her career, activism or tour schedule. Unfortunately, there are no area concerts on her tour schedule....yet.



Two Christmas Manipulations

'Tis the season. In the December 2002 column, using web-based software, I translated some Christmas songs from English to French, then from French to German, and finally from German back into English. In December 2004, I did the same thing with a few Christmas songs Lou and I had written. This year, I decided I'd try to paraphrase a couple of Christmas texts using my own lame noggin instead of a web translator.

The first one is good old **Jingle Bells**. I have the feeling I have heard this kind of rewriting done as a comedy routine but for the life of me I can't remember who is known for it. The second example is **Twas the Night Before Christmas**.

Clinking Chimes

Hurling mid the slush
In lone steed unroofed sleds
Through the sward we rush
Giggling off our heads

Clangs on docked hair bong
Causing moods to spark
Such glee it gives to trot with song
While sledging after dark

Clinking chimes, clinking chimes,
Clinking straight ahead
What a gas to go careen
In a lone steed open sled

Twas the Dusk Pre the Yuletide

Twas the dusk pre the yuletide, as 'round the pad whole,
Not a varmint was twitching, including the vole
The tubesocks were dangled by hearth quite secure
Assuming that Santa would pop in for sure

The rug rats were hunkered deep down in their bunks
While dreaming of rhumbaing sugar in chunks
And spouse in bandanna, and moi in chapeau
Were out like a light for an hour or so

When way past the deck there was made such a boom
I shot from the sheet with a vision of doom
And off to the mullions I roared like a train
Unfastened the curtains and flipped up the pane

The lunar enrichment gave shape to the slush
And painted the scene with a luminous brush
Where soon to my peepers it came into view
A subcompact sled and a few caribou

With a wee wizened teamster, so facile and fast
I had a good hunch it was Santa at last
His caribou hustled like squirrels on the run
And Santa he hooted and yelled to each one

"Now Runner! Now Waltzer! now, Stepper and Harpy!
On, Meteor! Eros! on, on Putter and Sharpy!
Go on past the landing! Up over the eave!
Now zoom along! Zip along! Quick take your leave!"

As toupees that flip off the head in the blow
When met with a dumpster, straight upward they go
Thus onto the shingles the animals fled
With iPods and Barbies and Santa and sled

And it wasn't long that I needed to wait
To hear mighty thumping of feet on the slate
Plus right after that as I twirled from the sash
Kabang in the fireplace Santa did crash

All swaddled in skins from his boots to his hat
And his jacket was ragged and filthy at that
A hugeness of trinkets was stuffed in his pouch
And he seemed like a hobo transporting a couch

His peepers were bloodshot; his jaws wiggled so
His face was a biscuit, his schnoz was aglow
His miniscule lips were hitched up in a smile
His whiskers had not had a trim for a while

A used up cigar he clamped tight in his gums
And the second hand smog was as thick as it comes
He was way out of shape with a basketball gut
That would bounce when he giggled and so did his butt

He was flabby and short, and as round as can be
And I would have laughed hard but he looked just like me
A shrug of his shoulders had made it quite clear
That despite his odd togs we had nothing to fear

He made not a peep and unloaded some stuff
And filled up our socks until they'd had enough
Then plunging his pinkie up into his snoot
He zoomed up the fireplace leaving the loot

He flopped in the sled and a signal he gave
And off they ascended like bats from a cave
I swear that he hollered, I'm going for beer
Then back to the pole where I'll sleep for a year

Happy midwinter, everybody!



SPRUCE TREE MUSIC & REPAIR INC.
 NEW + USED + VINTAGE
GUITARS MANDOLINS
FIDDLES DULCIMERS
HARPS
BANJOS
UKULELES
BANJO-UKES
RECORDERS
TIN WHISTLES...
 + + +
QUALITY REPAIR & RESTORATION
 + + +
CDS - VIDEOS
BOOKS - LESSONS
851 E. Johnson
Madison WI 53703
608-255-2254
 + + +
 sprucetreemusic.com



Did you know???

You can now renew your membership or print out a membership form ONLINE at www.MadFolk.org



Please check your mailing label and see if it's time to renew so you'll know about all the great music coming in 2009! THANK YOU!

Mad Folk Board of Directors

Darlene Buhler, president.....846-9214
 dbuhler@charter.net
 Norbert Wodke, secretary.....836-8422
 nfwodke@chorus.net
 Dede Goldberg.....246-4332
 Speedydd99@yahoo.com
 Bill Fiore.....256-4687
 fior@charter.net
 Tracy Comer.....276-8192
 tracy@tracycomer.com
 Ron Dennis.....226-9472
 rondenpho@aol.com
 Meg Skinner.....238-6950
 askinner@wisc.edu
 Vicky Jones.....238-4661
 vickyjones@aol.com

Committee contacts

Concert: Darlene Buhler, 846-9214
Festival: Bill & Mary Fiore, 256-4687
Newsletter: Dede Goldberg, 246-4332
Newsletter/Calendar: Judy Robinson
 Phone: 469-1218/ E-mail: jbella@merr.com
Advertising: Darlene Buhler, 846-9214
Membership: Tracy Comer, 276-8192
MadFolk e-mail: MadFolk@charter.net
MadFolk web site: www.MadFolk.org

Madison Folk Music Society

P.O. Box 665, Madison, WI 53701

Address Service Requested
 Newsletter Published Monthly

Nonprofit Org-
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Madison, WI
 Permit No. 2278

Membership Form: **Madison Folk Music Society**
 c/o Tracy Comer, P.O. Box 930446, Verona WI 53593-0446
 Renewal New Member

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Membership Categories:	Check One:
Student \$10 _____	I would like to help with:
Senior \$8 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter
Regular \$12 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Concerts
Family \$15 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Festival
Friend \$25 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing performers
Contributing \$50 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity
Life \$500 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
Scholarship Donation \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
Total \$ _____	

Please make checks payable to MFMS. Your contribution is tax-deductible and helps us defray the cost of event expenses. You may designate its use. Thank you.

Time to renew? Don't want to cut up your newsletter? Just be sure your name is on your check and mail it to address shown. Enclose a note if your info has changed.