

Mad Folk News

Matt Watroba

In Concert at the Columbus Library Annex


Columbus Public Library is pleased to welcome Matt Watroba for a special house concert on Saturday, November 3, 2018 from 7:30 - 9:30 PM.

Matt Watroba is the voice of folk music in Michigan for his work with WDET-Detroit Public Radio. As producer and host of the Folks Like Us program for over 22 years, and the nationally syndicated Sing Out! Radio Magazine, Watroba has a repertoire and presentation that is unique on stages across the country. Matt sings and writes songs of compassion, inner strength, humor, and every day living. He was awarded "Best Overall Folk Performer" by the Detroit Music Awards for the year 2000. He has shared the stage with some of our greatest performers, including Pete Seeger, Tom Paxton, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Arlo Guthrie, Christine Lavin, Peter Yarrow, Richard Thompson, and Madison's own Lou and Peter Berryman.

Matt will perform a rousing couple of sets at a new folk venue: The Columbus Public Library Annex, located at 251 West James Street in Columbus, WI. The Annex is a lovely older home converted for public use by the library next door. The cozy living room serves as the stage and theater for what promises to be a fun night for all.

\$10 suggested donation at the door will go to the musician. Also books, refreshments, and snacks will be available for purchase thanks to the fantastic Friends of the Columbus Public Library! 920-623-5910 for more information or special accommodations.

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

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.

SONiA Returns to Madison!

SONiA has played many venues in Madison over the years as an individual artist and with her band Disappear Fear and several of these shows were for Madfolk, including Folk on State, Willy Street Fair, opened for Garnet Rogers and house concerts and block parties for our members.

SONiA (Rutstein) Disappear Fear has 17 Award winning CDs including first round Grammy entries for several albums. "Her songs are a vivid celebration of the human spirit in all its infinite manifestations", Don Kening-Chicago Daily Herald, "her music has a singular sound that makes labeling and categorizing a waste of time."

SONiA is a world class composer and artist. She is the recipient of the Coin Of Honor from a joint coalition of United States military for her humanitarian efforts. She received the Spirit of Folk Music Award (2017) by Folk Alliance International. SONiA's latest double CD "LIVE at MAXiMAL" was in

the first round running Grammy for Folk Album of the Year. She is a featured artist (Hamburg 2018) for the VOICE PROJECT to free the imprisoned Nudem Durak who is jailed in Turkey for singing in Kurdish. This is also one of many projects SONiA embraces to live into the possibility that- when you disappear fear what you have is love.

From the Opera House in Sydney to the bomb shelters in the Middle East to the Kerrville Folk Festival, SONiA has shared the stages and studios with many of her heroes including Bruce Springsteen (Light of Day Benefit concert for Parkinson's disease) Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, Nickel Creek, Green Day, Emma Lou Harris, GEORGE, John Fullbright, Sheryl Crow, Jewel, Lucinda Williams, Joan Jett, and many more. She is endorsed by 7 international manufacturers including the SONiA Signature Model Santa Cruz Guitar, Shubb Capos, Fishman Transducers, Audix Microphones,

John Pearse Strings, and D'Adarrio. Says Rounder Records, "The honesty of her songs touches the hearts and minds of people from a wide spectrum of social and ethnic backgrounds who share a positive world vision.

Please join us again in welcoming her back to Madison on December 29th at the Cabaret Room, our newest venue we are trying out this season. Tickets for this show may be purchased thru Brown Paper Tickets – a link is provided at our website www.madfolk.org

Listen Up To The Listening Party Band!

Dave Wallner and Anne Katz

Three summers ago we were roaming around on a lovely day during the Atwood Summer Festival. We paused to listen to a song by a band we had never seen before, and within five minutes we were hooked. The band was Listening Party, a trio of hip gentlemen from Milwaukee. That winter we invited them for a New Year's Eve concert at our home, and the audience response was dynamite.

The band consists of Weston Mueller on vocals and guitar, Joshua Hester on mandolin, bass and electric guitar, and Jacob Wood on piano, Wurlitzer, and even

a train whistle. The trio has released two CDs, including this year's *Less Is More*, and they tour frequently around the Midwest. They've performed at Summerfest and at the Olbrich Garden summer music series, and lots of other venues in Wisconsin. We keep a sharp eye out to see if they are headed our way to Madison.

Their sound combines alt-folk, Americana, bluegrass and a touch of soul, with a strong array of up-tempo tunes and beautiful ballads. Weston's powerful voice soars and glides on songs like *The Rock* and *The One* from their first self-titled CD that came out a few years ago. We play

it constantly here at our home. Their new CD is even better, with gems like *Rocky Road*, *Train*, *Bones*, and *Ruthie* combining to create an eclectic and dynamic album. The band was also nominated recently for a WAMI award in the American/Bluegrass category.

And yes, we are bringing them back to Our House for another concert, at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1. You can bet they'll warm the house on a cold night and get our crowd moving and swaying to their fantastic sound. Contact us at annedave@chorus.net or by calling 256-2958 to save a seat

Harvest Moon Gala Nov. 10

Folklore Village's Harvest Moon Gala fundraiser, Saturday, November 10, 6-10 p.m., celebrates autumn with a candlelit dinner featuring farm-fresh Driftless Region cuisine. Dine on locally sourced, seasonal delights by Red Barn Catering of Spring Green, and enjoy live music by the irrepressible Driftless Chicks; and Rare Privilege, with Maria Terres, fiddle, and Amy McFarland, piano. Solo artist Victoria Mecozzi, classical guitarist Hans Verick, and harvest humorist make for a fun evening of casual elegance. Fancy

hats and dancing optional. Proceeds support Folklore Village's year round programming. Details: www.folklorevillage.org. \$70/ticket. Purchase tickets by Nov. 1 at <https://friendsoffolklorevillage.bpt.me> or send check/donations to "Friends of Folklore Village" at Folklore Village, 3210 Co Rd BB, Dodgeville, WI 53533. Questions: friendsoffolklorevillage@gmail.com or 608-924-4000. Folklore Village is a nationally recognized folk arts and culture center dedicated to enriching lives through time-honored traditions.

Baraboo Strings Gathering

Traditional music lovers, mark the weekend of November 16-18, 2018 on your calendars for the first Fall String Gathering! The spring gatherings have been so successful, we decided to go for a fall one too! The Baraboo Clarion Hotel venue will have multiple jam areas always available on two floors (as in past years). Additionally we are planning to have specific jams for old time, bluegrass, Irish, Cajun, and sing-along folk music, as well as adding a slow jam for beginning musicians.

Clarion Hotel and Convention Center
(special room rate of \$69.00 per night)
626 West Pine St
Baraboo, WI 53913
608-356-6422

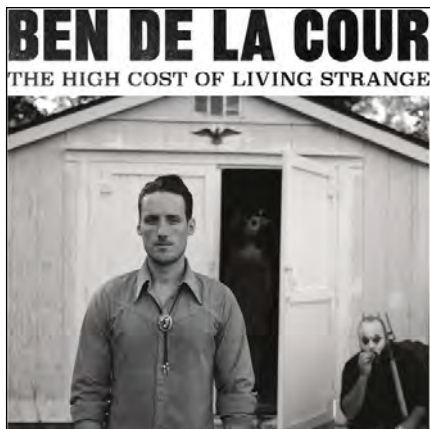
Go to the website for more details:
<https://www.stringgathering.com>

You can come in for the day and do not have to stay overnight to attend the event (but staying overnight better allows you jam on into the night and early morning!).

Check our Facebook page for updates and the latest news about the event.

For additional info or questions call 608-345-5898 or email: infostringgathering@gmail.com

THE HIGH COST OF LIVING STRANGE - BEN DE LA COUR
FLOUR SACK CAPE RECORDS - 2018



Review by Kiki Schueler

Ben de la Cour's recent release *The High Cost of Living Strange* seems weightier than its thirty minute running time. It might have something to do with vividness of his imagery, the darkness of his self-proclaimed "americanoir" lyrics, or the seeming ease with which he crafts complicated tunes. Despite the fact that de la Cour has been on the road non-stop for much of the last couple years, there's a relative dearth of information about him. His web page lacks a standard bio, substituting pages of impressive praise from an array of sources. His Facebook page opts for a fictional approach, "Ben de la Cour is the offspring of US Poet Laureate Maxine Kumine and Groundskeeper Willie from the Simpsons. De la Cour was born a Virgo but transferred to Sagittarius after his Freshman year for more playing time." All I really know for sure is that he currently lives in Nashville, and that I am really looking forward to seeing him play.

Like any real folk record, its best track is a murder ballad, and one that could go up against any of Nick Cave's Murder Ballads and out-creep them all. Though no matter how many times I've listened to the haunting "Tupelo," I'm still not sure how it went down. The set-up is familiar, man picks up female hitchhiker who just wants to get as far away from her hometown as possible, "I asked her which way we should go, she said I don't care which way you point this thing, just get me out

of Tupelo." She thinks he's a nice guy, she's wrong, "I watched her eyes roll over white in the tangled seatbelt spider web and the blue green dashboard light." Next thing you know he's dumping her clothes behind a truck stop and heading back to Tupelo. If you think the song gives you the shivers; the video is even more unneaning. Compare that to the nostalgic, homespun charm of "Uncle Boudreaux Went to Texas," and you get an idea of the breadth of de la Cour's song-crafting skill. His gently plucked guitar and Jeff Lisenby's accordion provide a heart-string-pulling melody for the tale of a child regaled with the songs and stories of the Lone Star state by his uncle, who would "sing his way to Texas every night." Turns out, the truth is that "the closest Boudreaux ever got to Texas was Willie's Greatest Hits."

Jaunty opening track "Dixie Crystals" bounces along on a rhythmic snare and Cajun violin. It's pretty clear from the context clues ("don't feel nothing, don't feel no pain, got Dixie crystals running through my brain," and "got little girls lining up and givin' it away, all for a ride on the nothing train") that the crystals he's referring to are not the extra fine granulated sugar produced in Savannah since 1917. And it's an addictive ride, pun intended. "Company Town" takes a page from Springsteen's Nebraska, painting a picture of a town in decline, where poverty and suicide weighs heavy, and the last "dream is ground to dust beneath the heel of a rich man's boot." Its sing-along chorus belies its gloom. "Face Down Penny" is a back handed charmer, the metaphors clever and completely unexpected. Harmonica and mandolin back thought-provoking lines like "The thing about being a face down penny is you can't look back, can't

worry about anything, every day looks the same, and it's enough to make a poor boy go insane." This is really good stuff, and I'm completely hooked. Time to see what else I can find out about him.

Ben de la Cour opens for Jon Dee Graham at Kiki's House of Righteous Music on December 14.

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

Madison Folk Music Society Board

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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>

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

November 2018

Mad Folk Events.....



- Saturday, December 29 - SONiA Final U.S. Tour
- Saturday, February 9 - Claudia Schmidt & Dean MaGraw
- Saturday, March 2 - Bill Staines
- Friday, March 29 - Tret Sure CD Release

Gigs.....

Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

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

- Friday, November 16th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Ha Ha Tonka -- \$12
- Saturday, December 8th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Robbie Fulks -- \$15
- Friday, December 14th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jon Dee Graham / Ben De La Cour -- \$15
- Saturday, December 15th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Kelly Hogan & Scott Ligon -- \$20

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

- Saturday, December 1st @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Listening Party - \$20 / \$17 under 18
- Monday, December 31st @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) The Honey Pies - \$20 / \$17 under 18

November 16-18m, 2018. Baraboo Fall Strings Gathering.

Clarion Hotel and Convention Center, Baraboo.

No charge to attend—only overnight has a (room) charge!

Details at <https://stringgathering.com>

Venues.....



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

Wild Hog in the Woods

- Fri, Nov 2nd - Mark Dvorak - @7:30pm
- Fri, Nov 9th - Common Chord - @7:30pm
- Fri, Nov 16th - Mad City Jug Band - @7:30pm
- Fri, Nov 30th - 40th Birthday Concert Jam - @6pm

FOLKLORE VILLAGE.....

Folklore Village

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

- Sat, Nov 3rd - Healthy Hoedown - Potluck @6pm, Dance @7:15pm
- Tue, Nov 6th - First Tuesday Open Mic
- Thu, Nov 8th - Nordic Fiddlers Bloc
- Sat, Nov 10th - Harvest Moon Gala - Friends of Folklore Village Fundraiser

Cafe Carpe

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

- Fri, Nov 2nd, Small Potatoes - \$15
- Sat, Nov 3rd, Ridgeway Studio Ensemble - \$5
- Thu, Nov 8th, New Pioneers - @7pm - \$10
- Wed, Nov 14th, Anne Stine & Robert Bell - @8pm - \$10
- Thu, Nov 15th, Richard Shindell - @8pm - \$22.50
- Fri, Nov 16th, John Parrott & Tom Waselchuk Guitar Duo
- Fri, Nov 23rd, Hayward Williams - \$10
- Sat, Nov 24th, The Home Fires - \$10
- Thu, Nov 29th, Song Circle w/ Tricia Alexander - @6:30pm - \$5
- Fri, Nov 30th, Friction Farm - \$10



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

Common Chord / Tracy Jane Comer & Friends

- Fri, Nov, 9 @7:30pm - Common Chord - Wild Hog in the Woods, Madison
- Sat, Nov, 10 @7pm - Common Chord - Chocolaterian Middleton, Middleton
- Thu, Nov, 15 @7pm - Tracy Jane Comer & Friends - The Brink Lounge, Madison
- Tue, Nov, 27 @5pm - Tracy Jane Comer w/Alan Maslowski - Twist / Radisson, Madison
- Wed, Nov, 28 @6pm - Tracy Jane Comer w/Alan Maslowski - Me & Julio, Fitchburg
- Thu, Dec, 13 @3pm - Tracy Jane Comer w/Alan Maslowski - Tallgrass Senior Living, Sun Prairie
- Thu, Dec, 20 @7pm - Tracy Jane Comer & Friends, Holiday show - The Brink Lounge, Madison

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.MAUMadison.com

On the Air.....



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.



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 -- Another Green World with Katie & Tessa
- Wed -- Back to the Country (country music on a theme) w/Bill Malone
- Thur -- Diaspora (folk and international) w/Terry O'Powers
- 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

- Cajun Dance - 4th Sunday of every month 1pm-4pm
Ziggy's BBQ Smokehouse & Ice Cream Parlor - 135 S Main St. Oregon -- 608-238-6039
- 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 - Neighborhood House 29 S Mills St. - casey.garhart@tds.net or John at 238-3847
- 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

Time to Renew?

Please note that our mailing labels no longer show your membership expiration date due to new cost-saving postal processes which do not allow for that (the date on the label is just the date of the mailing). You will get a single notice by mail (print subscribers) or by email (electronic subscribers) when your membership is about to expire. You can renew two ways:

Way #1 – online

Visit www.madfolk.org and click on “Join MFMS”

Way #2 – unplugged

Complete, clip, and mail this form

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

Madison Folk Music Society
P.O. Box 665, Madison, WI 53701
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Madison Folk Music Society

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Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

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Choose membership category:

Senior / Student \$10 _____

Regular \$12 _____

Family \$15 _____

Friend \$25 _____

Contributing \$50 _____

Life \$500 _____

Scholarship fund donation (optional) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

GOING GREEN - Send my newsletters electronically by email

Send your check, payable to MFMS to: Mad Folk c/o
Tracy Comer, P.O. Box 930446 Verona, WI 53593-0446