

# Mad Folk News

## Claudia Schmidt and Dean MaGraw February 9th!

Acclaimed singer, songwriter and MadFolk favorite Claudia Schmidt will appear as our February concert, this time with guitar hero Dean Magraw. Individually these artists are unmatched and they will surprise your minds as well as your ears.

Claudia Schmidt is a native mid-westerner, and has recently relocated to the east coast--now living only minutes from fellow Madfolk favorite, Sally Rogers. She has been singing since age four when she gave her neighbors a rendition of "Tammy." Over her three-plus decade professional career, Claudia has been best known as a singer/songwriter of folk and blues, an accomplished performer on 12-string guitar and mountain dulcimer.

Claudia has recorded numerous albums of mostly original songs, exploring folk, blues, and jazz idioms featuring her acclaimed 12-string guitar and mountain dulcimer. The last time Claudia appeared in Madison she was offering "her whole life's work" on a thumb-drive encased in a beautiful rosewood box. Describing herself as a "creative noisemaker," Claudia has appeared on the stages of concert halls, small clubs, and folk festivals. Along the way she also found time to operate an inn and restaurant on Beaver Island in Lake Michigan.

And all experiences have been



fuel for her creative fire, her songs and lyrics typically reflecting the tales and challenges of modern life. Always eclectic in style and material, one reviewer described Schmidt's approach to music as combining "the vocal purity of Joni Mitchell with the wry observational humor of Lily Tomlin and dollops of philosophical poetry" (Derek Richardson, San Francisco Gate). After a series of primarily folk recordings for Flying Fish and Red House Records through the mid 90s, Claudia joined forces with the Michigan-based New Reformation Jazz Band, and later formed her own jazz quintet, Claudia Schmidt and the Jump Boys. Maintaining her multi-genre focus, she released albums covering jazz, spoken word and folk in the early part of the new century.

Dean Magraw is one of the Twin Cities' most eclectic musicians, with a nearly four-decade career spanning genres and cultures, from blues to classical to folk and jazz, from Japanese and Indian to Celtic and middle American. Starting out on bugle, the St. Paul native studied classical guitar at the University of Minnesota and Berklee College of Music in Boston. For many years, Magraw was half of a popular partnership with mandolin virtuoso Peter Ostroushko. He has performed with and/or recorded with Ruth McKenzie, Claudia Schmidt and Greg Brown, among others; he has explored his Celtic heritage performing with accordionist John Williams. Other collaborations include Japanese shamisen prodigy Nitta Masahiro, classical violinist Nigel Kennedy, South Indian vocalist and vina virtuoso Nirmala Rajasheker, Irish supergroup Altan, Garrison Keillor and Prairie Home Companion, jazz bassist Anthony Cox and avant garde French saxophonist Francois Corneloup.

When they're not bowling you over with their technical artistry, prepare to be wildly entertained by the quirky humor and wry ob-

servations of these two.

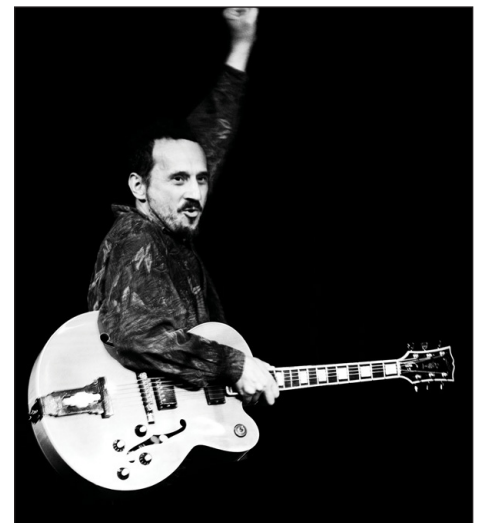
Don't miss this performance by two seasoned and brilliant performers!

**Saturday, February 9 @ 7pm**

**The North Street Cabaret,  
610 North St, Madison, WI**

**\$16 adv / \$19 d.o.s. Available at:**

**<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4053952>**



### 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)

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 608-225-0710 for information.

# Bill Staines Coming to MadFolk March 2nd!

After touring and playing concerts for over 41 years, you would think that musician and songwriter Bill Staines might think about slowing down, but that's just not the case. Bill continues to perform more than 175 shows a year and drives close to 70,000 miles getting to them. Songs like "All God's Critters," "The Roseville Fair," "Child of Mine," and "River," have become folk music classics. Composer David Aram once described Bill as "a modern day Stephen Foster. His music will be around a hundred years from now."

On stage, Staines is an intimate, compelling performer, out of the folk scene of the 60's, encouraging his audience to sing with him on his chorus songs. He will mix in traditional tunes with his own contemporary folk ballads. His humorous tales of life on the road and observations of everyday people provide an entertaining blend of story and song. "I have always wanted to bring something of value to people with

my songs. I think that is important, to try to write beyond myself, to write to the great things that we all experience in our lives." For Bill, that is what folk music is all about—a music rich in the human experience and spirit.

Nanci Griffith once wrote, "Bill Staines has been my hero since 1977. He carries on where Woody left off—carrying on the tradition of stories and characters you wish you knew." "When do you think it will be time to retire?" someone once asked Bill. He answered, "In the words of my old friend, Tommy Makem...about ten o'clock tonight."

**Saturday, February 9 @ 7pm**  
**The North Street Cabaret,**  
**610 North St, Madison, WI**  
**\$15 adv / \$19 d.o.s. Available at:**  
**<https://staines2019.brownpapertickets.com>**

## Irish Cultural and Heritage Center Announces Fall Concerts

The Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, has announced its spring, 2019 Hallamór Concert Series. The start time for each concert is 7:30 p.m.

The season opens with the Celtic "super group" RUNA on Saturday, Feb. 9.

The five member band offers a thrilling and redefining take on traditional music by interweaving the haunting melodies and exuberant tunes of Ireland and Scotland with the lush harmonies and intoxicating rhythms of jazz, bluegrass, flamenco and blues.

A multi-award winning band from the universal hub of Irish traditional music, County Clare, Socks in the Frying Pan will kick-off an early celebration of St. Patrick's Day on Saturday, March 16. The trio's tight three-part harmonies, virtuosic musical ability and witty stage presence has won them fans around the world including at Milwaukee Irish Fest where they most recently performed in 2018.

From the heartland of Ireland's midlands, JigJam performs on Saturday, April 13. Blending the best of traditional Irish music with bluegrass and Americana in a style

they call "CeltGrass," their energy-fueled, foot stomping performances have been compared to the Punch Brothers. They tour internationally are known to Milwaukee audiences through their appearances at Irish Fest.

Tickets for the RUNA concert are \$25 in advance and \$29 on concert day. The cost for Socks in the Frying Pan and JigJam are \$29 in advance and \$33 on concert. The student cost for each concert is \$10 with ID and free for ages 12 and younger. For more information go to [www.ichc.net](http://www.ichc.net) or call (414) 345-8800.

Irish Cultural and Heritage Center programs are supported by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts. The ICHC supports the Irish community by serving as a venue dedicated to enhancing, promoting and preserving Irish culture and heritage along with serving the community at large. The center, housed in the landmark 1880s former Grand Avenue Congregational Church, is the site for concerts, art exhibits, Irish dance and genealogical research.

## 59th Annual University of Chicago Folk Festival

If you're in Chicago on February 15th and 16th, make sure to include the festival in your day of events. Back by popular demand are the Fat Babies and T'Monde! Additional confirmed acts for the festival include Steam Machine and the Price Sisters

Tickets are on sale at [ticketsweb.uchicago.edu](http://ticketsweb.uchicago.edu). Tickets can also be reserved via phone at 773-702-2787. You can also place your tickets via mail order form, which can be found and printed from their website and facebook page. More information can be found on <http://www.uofcfolk.org/> and facebook page Chicago Folk Festival

## Valentines Concert Feb 17th in Bay View

"Heart and Soul" is a love-in of songs about giving, sharing, old loves and new hopes especially for Valentine's Day. Rick and David will trade folk music songs from John Denver, Tom Paxton, Paul Stookey and more, including some original work. Rick performs on autoharp and guitar and David performs songs and stories on banjo, dulcimer, concertina, Native American Flute, and guitar.

Rick Fitzgerald is an award winning autoharp master and David HB Drake is one of Wisconsin's busiest folk and acoustic music performers.

Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/328145741067636/>

Rick Fitzgerald and David HB Drake will share a "Heart and Soul" concert on Sunday February 17 at 4pm at the Beulah Brinton House 2590 South Superior St, Milwaukee.

Suggested donation is \$10 at the door. Reservations can be made at [beulahbrintonhouseconcerts@gmail.com](mailto:beulahbrintonhouseconcerts@gmail.com) or by calling 414-702-6053.

**13 RIVERS - RICHARD THOMPSON**  
**NEW WEST RECORDS - 2018**



Review by Kiki Schueler

Richard Thompson is the rare artist who at fifty years into a storied career is not content to rest on those laurels. Not only has he continued making new music, and touring regularly, but he's making terrific records fans care about and want to see played live. Only the most jaded, and short-sighted, would say "I prefer his earlier work," whether in reference to his days in Fairport Convention, as a duo with then-wife Linda, or his early solo work (though, arguably, 1991's *Rumor & Sigh* may be a career highlight). The reason for this is pretty obvious, all the things that made songs like "1952 Vincent Black Lightning" so memorable— his songwriting, his guitar playing, and his voice— are all still in evidence. While much has been made, and rightly so, of his estimable guitar playing, for me it has always been about the voice, an addictive, swoon-worthy croon that draws you in to every song. After five decades, it is no less powerful. Following three volumes of acoustic versions of his songs and 2015's Jeff Tweedy produced *Still*, *13 Rivers* is yet another revelation from this still vital artist.

The thirteen songs are not literally about rivers, the title is a metaphor, about which Thompson says sagely, "Each one is like a river, some flow faster than others." These rivers range from lighthearted to intense, spirited to contemplative. "The Rattle Within" identifies our own worst enemy, and it is inside

us. An appropriately rattling drum cadence backs Thompson's fiery guitar and his chanted, enchanted lyrics. "He wears your shirt and he wears your shoes. He's living right there inside your skin. You've got notions, he's got notions. Who's gonna save you from the rattle within?" The mellowed power pop of "Do All These Tears Belong to You?" recalls Marshall Crenshaw, or even Buddy Holly, on a heartbreaker disguised in a catchy tune and a string of g dropping gerunds, e.g. "Wishin', dreamin', bumpin', schemin', longin', yearnin', never turnin'." His winking and willfully wonky guitar that ends the song reminds you how good he is. Throughout the record, and here especially, the backing vocals provided by Siobahn Maher Kennedy, Zara Phillips and Judith Owen (on "No Matter"), strengthen every track they are on. The mandolin driven chamber pop of the latter is a gorgeous stage for the vocals of the Welsh born Owen, wife of Harry Shearer.

The modernized sea shanty/fairy tale "Oh Cinderella" finds our skeptical sailor charmed by a thoroughly contemporary princess. "O Cinderella, your rags are so chic, did they come off the peg at your favorite boutique?" he asks before trying to persuade her that a glass slipper is hipper. By the way, Thompson is one of only a handful that can pull off that rhyme and still be unassailably cool. Opening track "The Storm Won't Come" builds like the weather of the title, a tambourine jangles like lightning between clouds, while twin guitars darken the horizon. Guitarist Bobby Eichorn makes the most of his unenviable, and perhaps even superfluous, position in Thompson's band. On the other end, closing track "Shaking the Gates" could be mistaken for a lullaby, until you realize the entrance he's standing outside of is the door to hell. It isn't that he thinks

he belongs there, it's just that's the only choice available because heaven doesn't exist, "if angels are real, then who needs dreams?" Luckily, it doesn't seem like he will be knocking on either door anytime soon. Thank you Richard Thompson for being you.

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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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 dance of Claudia's soaring vocals, dulcimer and 12 string with Dean's ultrafluid guitar style is breathtaking, taking the listener deep and wide."



**Madison Folk Music  
Society PRESENTS**

# **Claudia Schmidt**

**with special guest Dean Magraw**

**Saturday, February 9, 2019**

**7:00 pm**

**THE NORTH STREET CABARET, 610 North St, Madison WI**

Tickets \$16 advance, \$19 day of show

Available at: [/schmidtmagraw2019.brownpapertickets.com](https://schmidtmagraw2019.brownpapertickets.com)

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



**"A craftsman who has cobbled together evocative details, pithy aphorisms and singalong melodies into a trunkful of unassuming, marvelous songs."**

***—The Washington Post***



**Madison Folk Music  
Society PRESENTS**

# **Bill Staines**

**Saturday, March 2, 2019**

**7:00 pm**

**THE NORTH STREET CABARET, 610 North St, Madison WI**

Tickets \$15 advance, \$19 day of show

Available at: <https://staines2019.brownpapertickets.com>

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



# The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

February 2019

## Mad Folk Events.....



- Saturday, February 9 - Claudia Schmidt & Dean MaGraw  
@7pm - \$16 adv / \$19 day of show  
The North Street Cabaret - 610 North St, Madison
- Saturday, March 2 - Bill Staines  
@7pm - \$15 adv / \$19 day of show  
The North Street Cabaret - 610 North St, Madison
- Friday, March 29 - Tret Sure CD Release  
The North Street Cabaret - 610 North St, Madison

## Common Chord / Tracy Jane Comer & Friends

- Sun, Feb 10 @11am - Tracy Jane Comer w/Alan Maslowski - Common Ground, Middleton (Brunch music)
- Thu, Feb 14 @12:30pm - Tracy Jane Comer w/Alan Maslowski - Valentine's Day event at Fort Atkinson Senior Center, Fort Atkinson
- Fri, Feb 15 @6:30pm - Common Chord - Common Ground, Middleton
- Thu, Feb 21 @7pm - Tracy Jane Comer w/Alan Maslowski and special guest Joe Iaquinto - 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](http://www.MAUMadison.com)

## Jigs .....

### 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)

- Thursday, February 7th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Ben de la Cour -- \$10
- Friday, February 15th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jake La Botz -- \$10
- Tuesday, March 5th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Sarah Borges & the Broken Singles -- \$15

## 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](http://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

## Venues .....



### Wild Hog in the Woods

- Fri, Feb 1st - Songwriters in the Round - @7:30pm
- Fri, Feb 8th - Michael Bell - @7:30pm
- Fri, Feb 15th - Kelly Bleich - @7:30pm
- Fri, Feb 22nd - The Twa Dogs - @7:30pm
- Fri, March 1st - Yellow-Bellied Sapsuckers - @7:30pm

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

### FOLKLORE VILLAGE...passing it on

### Folklore Village

- Sat, Feb 2nd - Healthy Hoedown - 6pm Potluck; Dancing @7:15
- Tue, Feb 5th - First Tuesday Open Mic @7pm
- Sat, Feb 9th - Beading Workshop w/ Karen Ann Hoffman 9am-4:30pm

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

### Cafe Carpe

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

- Fri, Feb 1st, Three Thin Dimes - \$10 - @8pm
- Sat, Feb 2nd, Jim Ohlschmidt & David Cox - \$10
- Tue, Feb 5th, Albert Lee Band - \$35 - @8pm
- Thu, Feb 7st, Dan Navarro - @8pm
- Fri, Feb 8th, Bill Camplin Band - \$12
- Sat, Feb 9th, Randy Sabien w/ Bill Camplin
- Thu, Feb 14th, New Pioneers - \$10 - @7pm
- Fri, Feb 15th, A Rose Among Thorns - \$7 - @8pm
- Sat, Feb 16th, Wit and Wisdom - The monologues of Ruth Draper
- Fri, Feb 22nd, Tim Grimm / Katie Dahl - \$15
- Sat, Feb 23rd, Chad Elliott - \$10
- Sun, Feb 24th, Garnet Rogers - \$22.50 - @7pm



18 S. Water St.  
Ft. Atkinson, WI  
[cafecarpe.com](http://cafecarpe.com)  
920-563-9391



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 Jam - 4th Sunday of every month 1pm-4pm  
Ziggy's BBQ Smokehouse & Ice Cream Parlor - 135 S Main St. Oregon -- 608-238-6039

## 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, 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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  
Address Service Requested

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[www.madfolk.org](http://www.madfolk.org)

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### Madison Folk Music Society

join  renew

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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