

## Trope on a Rope

By Emily Beebe

Jake looked up from his breakfast, squinting into the sunrise. Four months into the cattle drive, and his eyes were starting to fail him now and again, leading him to believe he saw freshwater springs in sandy badlands and smoke curling up from distant mesas. On this particular day the Triple T outfit was 50 miles out of La Grange and the day was sunny, bone dry, and relentlessly windy. The other cowboys didn't notice much. Half of them were still sleeping off last night's rye whiskey, and the other half were busy tending the horses and dogs or watering the cattle.

Jake could make out a figure silhouetted against the rising sun. Arapaho? Cattle rustler? Daylight was quickly promising another siege on his vision. He rubbed his eyes and blinked. The figure was closer now and appeared to be wearing a dirty blue gingham dress. Small, like a child. A woman? Yes, definitely a woman. She was on foot. Where in tarnation did she come from? There was nothing out there on the Western plain except thirst and tumbleweeds.

"Hello? Hello!" The stranger calling out was indeed a beautiful fair young woman, slight and sunburned with curly hair and rosy cheeks. Jake could see her lips were ruby red, although chapped. She wore gloves on her hands and the soles of her little shoes were loose with the uppers flapping like the blackest of crows.

"Ma'am. Where did you come

from? Where are you going? Please sit by my side and I'll rustle you up some cool, clear water and some grub."

"Oh, yes. Lovely. Do you happen to have any cornbread and butterbeans?"

"I reckon I do. I even have some molasses and sassafras tea."

A gust of wind ruffled a mingle of her raven black hair.

"Ma'am, this is about the strangest day I have every had out here on the plains. What's your name? How did you get out here in the middle of nowhere?"

"Well," she said around a mouth stuffed with beans, "I'm Rose. Rose Connelly, from Elizabethtown. I'm running away from Willie, my old own true love. He tried to run me through with a saber, but having drunk a whole lot of Burgundy wine he was sort of wobbly, so he just shoved me in the river. I'm sure I am a dreadful sight. I am over that cad! From now on, I will laugh and sing, and my life will be gay! Please pass the cornbread. Say, you Story continued on next page

# "Recordus Interruptus"

By Ken Lonnquist

I gathered a bunch of songs in December, 2019 and recorded basic tracks that month with two great musician-friends I've worked with since the early 1980s... bassist JEFF ECK-ELS (since deceased) and percussionist DANE RICHESON. We laid down rhythm tracks for what became a double-CD, "Rededicated".... 22 songs, the recording of which moved along swiftly through mid-March, 2020. Then, the pandemic hit. Recordus Interruptus.

For a year and a half, progress was painstakingly slow. We recorded tracks at home and emailed them to engineer Jake Johnson at Paradyme Productions. Finally, we resumed work in the studio in June, 2021. My longest-gestating album ever became available that December. However,

because of lingering covid concerns, no album-release concert / celebration was held.

Until now!

On Sunday, July 9th, musicians from the recording sessions will be at The HARMONY Bar bringing the album to life from 4 PM - 7 PM, along with other songs sprinkled in from my career songbook. CDs and Flash Drives will be available, of course!

Please join me and DOUG BROWN (quitar, banjo, fiddle, piano), CHRIS WAGONER (mandolin, fiddle, dobro), ESPERÉ ECKARD-LEE (accordion), SAM TAYLOR (bass), ANDY EWEN (quitar) and TONY CASTAÑEDA (congas), along with special guests... for "songs of love, rededicated".





#### Story continued from previous page

got any bacon for those beans?"

Jake considered Rose. He liked a woman with a hearty appetite. "Ma'am, that's just awful! You sure must have roamed and rambled to get here."

'Indeed, I did! I floated down the Ohio for a while, caught a steamboat going down to Cairo and debarked at Caruthersville. Then I hopped a coaleating freight train - the Fire Ball Mail it was called, what a silly name! She was going so fast I ended up way out here before she slowed down enough to hop off. Then I followed your footsteps to these sparkling sands. Now I'm looking for Willie."

"Wait a minute didn't he just try to murder you?"

"No, I'm looking for a different Willie, my NEW own true love. His hair is dark and curly, and his trousers are white. I last saw him early, early in the springtime, but he went off to serve the king."

"Well, I don't know nothing about no kings, only cattle. King of what?"

"I don't know, the King of Wyoming, I guess. That must be where you are going considering all those little dogies over there, right?" Rose gestured to the herd of cattle grazing next to camp.

"Well, yes, but there's no castles where we're going, just land, lots of land, under starry skies above, and a whole lot of tumbling tumbleweeds."

"Well Willie was always a poor speller, so maybe he went to find his king in a cattle. Say, you haven't seen a cowboy that resembles his description?"

"As a matter of fact, there was a kid named Wild Bill with curly hair working the drive a few weeks back. His pants got pretty dirty after a week or two, can't say if they were ever white, although his lips were pallid there at the end."

"That sounds like my Willie! Where is he?" Rose stood and made to head over to the camp.

"Now hold on, Ma'am," Jake said, grabbing her arm. "Wild Bill had an unfortunate mishap over a spoken-for girl in a Denver saloon. Her beau shot him, and we buried him on the lone prairie."

"Not on the lone prairie! Willie always wanted to have a narrow grave

on yon green island!"

Rose proceeded to wring her hands and tear her hair, just like a lady in deep despair.

"Ma'am don't do that! It is mighty unsettlin'. Why don't you take your mind off things and accompany me to La Grange. From there, I'll pawn my gold watch and chain so we can spend a pleasant Summer in the hills of Mexico, just to take your mind off your troubles."

"I ain't got trouble in mind, sir," Rose said, blowing her nose on her dress. "You are right, I ought to be drifting along. Besides, who cares about the clouds when we're together, handsome." Rose winked at Jake and proceeded to roll up her dirty sleeves and tidy up the tin cups and plates.

Jake rubbed his eyes one more time and gave himself a hard pinch just to make sure he was really awake. Humming an old cowboy ballad, he went to throw his spare saddle over the roan Cayuse pony and freshened up his run-down boots for Rose. He had a feeling he may have a few extra verses to contribute to that old song before the drive was over.

# Three backyard concerts this summer at Our House!

We've got three, count 'em, THREE, backyard concerts this summer, and we'll head back inside in November. Come on over to Our House!

Our friends Julie and Bruce Hecksel, known as PATCHOULI, from Maiden Rock on the Mississippi River, return for an encore show at 6:30 pm on Friday, July 7. If you haven't heard this guitar duo before, their sound is described as Simon & Garfunkel meets the Gipsy Kings. City Pages compares it like "taking a yoga class in a field of running mustangs." We love them and we love their beautiful music. "Patchouli & Terra Guitarra embody the spirit of the 60's & 70's and the Romance of the Spanish guitar, with their world class music that uplifts & gives hope in a show that inspires the Human Spirit." ~ Chicago Tribune www.patchouli.net

Just scheduled: PETER MULVEY,

on Saturday, July 29, at 6:30 pm. Peter's been a songwriter, road-dog, raconteur and almost-poet since before he can remember. Nineteen records, an illustrated book, thousands of live performances, a TEDx talk, a decadeslong association with the National Youth Science Camp, opening for luminaries such as Ani DiFranco, Emmylou Harris, and Chuck Prophet, appearances on NPR, an annual autumn tour by bicycle, emceeing festivals, hosting his own boutique festival (the Lamplighter Sessions, in Boston and Wisconsin). This is the first time Peter will play in our backyard and we can't wait. www.petermulvey.com

And to round out the summer, JOE CROOKSTON from Ithaca, NY, will roll in at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, August 11. Joe is one of America's top singer/songwriters. He's a master of violin, quitar, dobro and has an amaz-

ing array of stories and songs to share. You'll love this Americana/roots allstar! www.joecrookston.com/

And then, we'll go back inside the living room on Friday, November 3, 7:30 pm, when the great CLAUDIA SCHMIDT returns to Our House. www. claudiaschmidt.com

CONCERT DETAILS: Admission fee for all concerts is \$20, and all proceeds go to our musicians. We ask that you pay in advance so we know we have the funds we've promised them. Please note that indoor concerts take place in our living room, an enclosed space without a lot of room to physically distance. We expect indoor concert attendees to be fully CO-VID-vaccinated. Masks are optional. To request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at annedave@chorus.net -608-256-2958 or 335-7909

See you soon at Our House!



#### Review by Kiki Schueler

Ever since leaving behind the Nerves (his 70's era punk band) and the Plimsouls (8o's power pop known for "A Million Mile Away"), Peter Case has fashioned himself as a self-described itinerant bluesman, releasing a new collection of songs every few years. The timeless image of him traveling the country toting a beat-up guitar case and playing jangly acoustic folk songs in dark clubs takes a hit with the release of Doctor Moan. The eye-catching cover art, courtesy of BlindpigPress, is the first clue that maybe this isn't business as usual, as keyboard replaces quitar as his instrument of choice. Credit the pandemic for keeping Case at home and giving him extended access to a piano, something he wouldn't get on the road. He keeps the instrumentation minimal, joined only by Jon Flaugher on (extremely subtle) bass, and doubling up on the keys with Chris Joyner on organ.

Case opens the record with a dramatic flair. "Have You Ever Been in Trouble?" announces itself with a handful of quick strike chords before Case croons the words like an interrogation. He leans heavily into the left hand and the lower notes as he sings, "Are you living in a bubble, caught between the wheels? Tonight you feel the danger rising on the wind, tearing at your jacket, ripping at your skin." Hmm, perhaps the title was a rhetorical question? Meanwhile the haunted organ floating along

behind his voice reinforces those shivers. On the other end of the spectrum is the wistful "Girl in Love with a Shadow," which reads like Dylan's "Simple Twist of Fate" told in the first person. Which only makes it all the more poignant, "I had no way of keeping track, though I still try and bring her back, through the years that come and go, pulled out in the undertow." The piano takes a backseat as Case's voice, full of longing and regret, but still strong, takes the front seat. The blues has always been an integral component of Case's music, and it shows up here in "Flying Crow," a foot tapping shake loaded with harmonica and attitude, and in the spirited

bounce of "Downtown Nowhere's

Blues."

The record is notable not only for being non-guitar-centric, but also for featuring Case's first instrumental. The two minute "4D" is a pleasant solo piano interlude, feeling almost like an intermission but for the fact that it's the penultimate track. Instead, it's the lone guitar track that holds the middle spot. There's a little bit of reverb, a lot of John Lennon, and just the right amount of whistling in the upbeat nostalgia of "Wandering Days." The reflections are those of a younger man, "The world was so wide, I had to see it from the other side." Final track "Brand New Book of Rules" is the big Broadway closer. Brash and jaunty, it's the record's longest song, full of drama, even if it is occasionally cryptic, "The curtain drops, the lights go down, the music stops, longtail monkey, short hair dog, do the dance on a hollow log." There's fancy finger work on trilling embellishments, lots of "yeah, yeah, yeahs," a Romeo and Juliet reference, and the inevitable fade out. All that's missing is a "Thank you, good night!" as the curtain falls.

And here we are at the end with no mention of where the title came from. For now, Case is keeping that a secret, but hints that he may tell the story someday. So don't miss him next time he passes through a club (or basement) near 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.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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https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835







#### 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, July 28th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jason Ringenberg \$20
- Sunday, July 30th @ 7pm (doors at 6) Pat Byrne \$15
- Thursday, August 10th @ 8pm (doors at 7) The Figgs \$20
- Friday, August 11th Kiki's Fifth Righteous Session at McPike Park feat. Sarah Borges (w/ Eric Ambel), Ben de la Cour and Trapper Schoepp
- Friday, August 25th @ 5:30pm (doors at 4:30) and @8:30pm (doors at 7:30) Robbie Fulks - \$25

#### Common Chord and Bob's Your Uncle

- Sunday, July 2 @ 3pm: Common Chord @ Brix Cider, 119 S. 2nd St., Mt. Horeb
- Friday, July 7 @ 5pm: Bob's Your Uncle
- @ Hop Garden Evansville, 18 E. Main St, Evansville
- · Monday, July 10 @ 5pm: Common Chord
- @ Good Shepherd Church "Music Mondays", 5701 Raymond Road, Madison
- Saturday, July 29 @ 5pm: Common Chord
- @ Blue Mound State Park, 4350 Mounds Park Road, Blue Mounds

#### 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, July 7th @6:30 pm Patchouli \$20
- Saturday, July 29th @6:30 pm Peter Mulvey \$20
- Friday, August 11th @6:30 pm Joe Crookston \$20

#### KG & The Ranger: Vintage Cowboy Music

- Thursday, July 6th @ 7pm Dean House Back Porch Concerts
- 4718 Monona Dr, Monona free
- Saturday, July 8th @ 6pm Blue Mound State Park
- 4350 Mounds Park Rd, Blue Mounds free (park entry required)
- July 18th, 19th, 20th @10am 2pm Wisconsin Farm Technology Days Badger Steam Engine Club Grounds, S3347 Sand Rd, Baraboo, \$10 each day
- Monday, July 31st @ 6pm Riverside Park (behind the Hatch Library) Mansion St, Mauston - free

#### Garver Feed Mill Free Acoustic Events @6pm

## 3241 Gaver Green, Madison

- Thurs, July 6th Aden Tesfaye
- Thurs, July 13th Beth Kille
- Thurs, July 20th The Acoustic Charlies
- Thurs, July 27th Angela Puerta

#### Louka with John Christensen

- Thurs, July 6th The Harmony Bar @7:30pm free
- Tues, July 11th Leopold's @7pm free

## songs of love, rededicated

 Sunday, July 9th - The Harmony Bar - @4pm - Ken Lonnquist, Doug Brown, Chris Wagoner, Esperé Eckard-Lee, Sam Taylor, Andy Ewen and Tony Castañeda and more!



Wil-Mar Center

wildhoginthewoods.

org 608-233-5687



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

#### 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

#### Cafe Carpe

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

- · Sat, July 8th, Corky Siegel- \$35
- Thu, July 13th, Third Coast Bluegrass @7:30pm \$20
- Fri, July 14th, Hayward Williams Band \$15
- Sat, July 15th, Julianne Macarus & Dean Milano @8pm \$10
- Wed, July 19th, Goldpine @7:30pm \$15
- Fri, July 21st, J E Sunde & Anne Vogelzang \$20
- Sat, July 22nd, Richard Gilewitz @8pm \$20
- \$35 / class or \$80 for all 3

• Sun, July 23rd, Richard Gilewitz - Guitar & Uke Workshops - @10:30am

• Thu, July 27th, Gareth Pearson - @8pm - \$15 • Fri, July 28th, Sam Knutson / Jeff Stehr - \$10

#### Old Time Jam

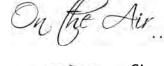
Monthly - 3rd Sunday of every month, 3 to 6pm

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





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.



wpr.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/
- 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



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

## FOLKLORE VILLAGE FOlklore Village

- July 7th 9th Folk School Session 2
- Sat, July 8th Healthy Hoedown The Hicksville Debonairs w/ caller Catherine Baer - 6pm Potluck; Dance @7:15 \$10 adults, \$8 seniors & teens, \$5 kids (under 5 free)
- Mon, July 10th Pop Wagner Senior Outreach Concert @1pm
- Tue, July 11th Online Open Mic Night @7pm
- July 20th 23rd Hardanger Fiddle Association of America Annual Workshop

Sun, August 6th - Kristin Andreassen & Chris Eldridge

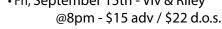
• Tue, August 1st - Online Open Mic Night @7pm

#### **NORTH STREET CABARET**

610 North St, Madison, WI northstreetcabaret.com

#### **Sugar Maple Concert Series**

- Thurs, July 6th Nick Dumas & Branchline @7:30pm - \$15 adv / \$22 d.o.s.
- Thurs, July 20th Mean Mary Solo Banjo @7:30pm - \$15 adv / \$22 d.o.s.
- @7pm \$20 adv / \$30 d.o.s. Fri, September 15th - Viv & Riley



#### "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

## Madison Folk Music Society P.O. Box 665, Madison, WI 53701 Address Service Requested Renew your membership today at www.madfolk.org

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Visit www.madfolk.org and click on "Join MFMS"

#### Way #2 - unplugged

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