

Mad Folk News

SEE TIM GRIMM ON THE MADFOLK STAGE ON FEBRUARY 10, 2024

Tim Grimm is a singer-songwriter and actor who splits his time between Oklahoma- Woody Guthrie country and the hills of south-central Indiana. He has released a dozen recordings in the US and Europe, and is known for his rich storytelling sense and his deep love of the rural Midwest. He has often been called, "one of America's finest songwriters." (Mike Davies- Folk Radio.co.uk). He tours the US and Europe, playing Festivals and House Concerts and all sized venues. His shows are rich and intimate, covering a broad range sonically, and with his songs, he deftly weaves humor with the richness of the human condition. There are no wasted words in a Tim Grimm song— in the folk world, they exist at the highest level. Grimm is on par with his contemporaries like John Gorka, Richard Shindell et al... his start (because of theatre-film-television) was later, but his body of work is equally significant.

His new release- "The Little In-Between" muses on how life is lived mostly between the leaving and the arriving, however long that may be – the moment that lingers between the breath taken in and the exhalation, or the moment that comes after the brush is lifted and before the artwork is begun. Anticipation. Inspiration. Trepidation. That's where life exists."

AMERICANA UK. The new album, like most of Grimm's work is being hailed as "A masterpiece- one of the best I've heard in several years. The songs stopped me in my tracks." Wanda Fischer, WAMC- Albany, NY. " In the singular poignancy of these songs, one believes one can feel the flannel shirt on one's skin, the ax in one's hand, the smell of grass and moss and forest. That's exactly what Bob Dylan must have had in mind when he invented this type of song a good 60 years ago" Akustik Gitarre Germany.

In review, Grimm has been compared to Woody Guthrie, Dylan, Guy Clark, Greg Brown, Steve Earle, Springsteen and more. He has toured and recorded with his friend, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, appeared with Harrison Ford in the film Clear and Present Danger, and has shared the stage with writer and poet Wendell Berry. Tim grew up in the hills of Brown County and in the town of Columbus (IN), where his parents were teachers. He attended Earlham College (BA) and The University of Michigan (MFA). He has worked extensively in film and television and in regional theatre. Current projects include voicing Eugene Debbs and composing music for a documentary film on Debbs for WFYI-PBS affiliate, and acting in a new feature film- SWING SHIFT- portraying

actor Richard Jenkin's brother. He's also currently a part of the WFIU radio drama— The Ernie Pyle Experiment.

His last release, GONE, was the number #1 Album on Folk radio in 2021, and the title track, the #1 Song of 2020. His release, A STRANGER IN THIS TIME (2017) was also the #1 Album of the year, and 4 times he's had the #1 Song (of the Year) since 2013.

www.timgrimm.com

PLEASE BRING AN ITEM TO DONATE TO THE FOOD PANTRY

Date: February 10, 2024 - 7:00 start time

\$15 adv and \$18 at door

Venue: North Street Cabret Room

Tickets can be bought at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/madisonfolk-musicsociety/1096095>

More information at www.madfolk.org



Aboard the SV SSSS

By Emily Beebe

Approximately 1000 miles from the North Atlantic lies the Norwegian-American town of Stoughton, Wisconsin. Fish are popular there; the local market regularly stocks Atlantic salmon. The traditional Friday night fish-fry at Viking's Brew Pub sometimes sells out of walleye and deep-fried cod before 8 pm. Children are subjected to Lutheran church lutefisk suppers by their grandparents at Christmastime.

Hopelessly land-locked, Stoughton remains a fertile ground for people who love salt water and a good fresh breeze, which partly explains the presence of the SV SSSS, which docks every second Tuesday evening at Roxy's Restobar, an unassuming neighborhood watering hole near the corner of Main and Water Streets.

To convey the unique experience of the SV SSSS, a few definitions are required.

SV: Sailing Vessel. This abbreviation was used to identify how a civilian ship was powered. For context, SS means steam ship; MV, motor vessel; and PV, paddle vessel. SS is often misused in popular culture to describe ships that aren't steam-powered. It is rarely used anymore because virtually all modern civilian sea vessels are either coal-fired, nuclear (navy-surplus), or plug-in electric.

(T)SSSS: The Stoughton Sea Shanty Society. A collection of folks who gather regularly to sing sea shanties together and bang miscellaneous objects (hands, knitting needles, cups, artificial limbs) on bars and tables to keep rhythm. The SSSS sometimes also indulges 'tunes between songs', consisting of traditional Irish and Scottish folk tunes played on fiddle, octave mandolin, cuatro, bodhrán, concertina, guitar, tenor banjo, Irish flute, and/or pennywhistle depending on whichever seadogs happened by for the sing. Mostly though, the SSSS just sings maritime ditties with great enthusiasm.

Shanty: (aka shanty, chantey, and chanty, but pronounced with the 'sh' sound) a work song of sailors used to

synchronize movements, as was necessary for hoisting sails or turning a windlass. They were not typically sung by navy men but by the crew of cargo ships, whose gold-digger owners would only pay the minimal number of men to sail them. Coordination of labor by the small crews was necessary to keep the ship functioning. The shanty was a highly effective and entertaining way to keep every sailor's physical movement synchronized when performing necessary tasks such as hauling up an anchor or tacking a mainsail.

Grog: watered-down rum, or more accurately, rummed-down water rationed to the crew of merchant and whaling vessels. The water stretched the rum to last the the entire voyage, and the rum kept the crew from getting sick from the ship's store of questionably fresh water. Grog is a favorite topic of shanties, such as 'All for Me Grog':

Well, it's all for me grog, me jolly jolly grog,
It's all for me beer and tobacco.
For I spent all me tin on the lassies drinking gin,
Far across the western ocean I must wander.

Nelson's Blood: Also rum – or brandy. Specifically, spirits that were stored in a cask that coincidentally held the deceased body of Admiral Horatio Nelson, an officer of the British Royal Navy who died in 1805 at the Battle of Trafalgar. Admiral Nelson stood only five feet four and was by then missing an eye and his right arm, which made him the perfect size to fit in a cask of spirits during the long voyage from Gibraltar back to England. It is said that when he finally disembarked, the cask was significantly depleted of brandy from the numerous holes drilled in the side of the cask by the crew, thus the origin story of the shanty, Nelson's Blood:

Well, a drop of Nelson's Blood wouldn't do us any harm
And a drop of Nelson's Blood wouldn't

do us any harm
And we'll all hang on behind

(There's no record on the post voyage stature of Admiral Nelson, although rumor has it that he that he might have been missing a few additional fingers from his left hand).

Andreas Transø: Professional musician and founder of the SSSS, which would never have set sail in south central Wisconsin were it not for his inspiration. Andreas was raised in the Ocooch Mountains of the Wisconsin Driftless region and claims Danish and Irish cultural backgrounds. He is well known all over Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois for his tireless promotion of Irish folk music and traditions. He is a multi-instrumentalist and master spoon player (best spoon haircut East and West of the Mississippi). Most notable is Andreas' rich and resonant singing voice, which he puts to great use performing ballads...and leading shanties.

The SSSS is open to all who enjoy singing shanties, ballads, songs about life at sea, and related songs adapted to working on land. Some of the songs can be a bit saucy, parental discretion advised. Roxy's neighborhood pub is a welcoming space with great staff and plenty of traditional and non-alcoholic offerings (just because the songs are full of grog doesn't mean the singers are). Roxy's also keeps a collection of SSSS tune books, printed locally, and sponsored by area businesses who contribute to the cost of printing. The SSSS has a living repertoire and will happily sing new contributions and add them to the songbook. Participants are encouraged to take turns leading their favorite shanty. Musicians for tunes between songs are welcome.

To experience the voyage: visit the Stoughton Sea Shanty Society on Facebook, or head down to Roxy's, 208 S. Main St, Stoughton second Tuesdays 7-9 pm. Don't forget your knitting.

An Evening of Original Folk, Jazz, Blues, Haiku... and Other Misbehaviors

Featuring
Gaines & Wagoner and Robin & Jenny Bienemann Saturday, March 2, 2024
The North Street Cabaret
610 North St, Madison, WI
\$15/Advance — \$20/At the Door
Doors at 7:00, Concert 8-11pm

Like its Folk Alliance affiliates around the country, FARM (Folk Alliance Region Midwest) brings together a wide range of unique songwriters and instrumentalists from around the country and beyond to meet, collaborate and network with each other, showcase for event organizers, talk to folk radio DJs and talent reps and catch up with old friends. Madison music veterans, Mary Gaines and Chris Wagoner met Chicago based Robin and Jenny Bienemann at FARM in Grand Rapids, MI in 2018 when the Bienemann's, upon the recommendation of mutual friend, Josh Harty, invited them to perform in the private showcase room they were hosting.

Since then the two musical couples have been scheming to perform together, finally making that happen this past November at Fitzgerald's in Berwyn, IL and again this coming March 2 at The North Street Cabaret, one of Madison's premiere listening rooms.

The husband and wife duo of ROBIN & JENNY BIENEMANN are both singer-songwriters and instrumentalists. By turns hilarious and heartfelt, this cutting-edge acoustic duo melds original and traditional music with an elegant hint of jazz. Robin's wild guitar stylings harken back to the earliest forms of jazz, blues and country guitar. Jenny's voice and guitar playing evokes comparisons to Joni Mitchell and Ricki Lee Jones. Both write songs that are celebrations of modern life in all of its wonderful, strange and hilarious beauty, garnering airplay on National Public Radio, Dr. Demento, and The Midnight Special.

GAINES & WAGONER are the award-

winning multi-instrumental husband/ wife duo of Mary Gaines and Chris Wagoner based in Madison. Co founders of several popular Wisconsin-based bands over the past nearly 40 years: Harmonious Wail (vintage string jazz), Common Faces (folk soul), The Moon Gypsies (Americana/ Roots-Rock), The Bob Westfall Band (new acoustic), Graminy (class-grass) and The Stellanovas (vintage jazz and blues). Wagoner was voted Violinist of the Award in the 2023 Wisconsin Area Music Awards and both are recent inductees into the Madison Area Music Awards Hall of Fame. Innumerable local, regional, national and international album credits include Willy Porter, Freedy Johnston, Peter Mulvey, Carrie Newcomer (10 albums on Rounder Records), Tret Fure, and work with producer, Butch Vig on many indie and major-label projects including Smashing Pumpkins genre-defining 1991 Platinum album, "Gish".



Upcoming performances and sings led by Andreas Transø:

- Feb 1: 7 pm Sea Shanty Sing at Awildan Distilling
- Feb 13: 7 pm Sea Shanty Sing at Roxy's Restobar in Stoughton, WI
- Feb 16 & 17: 7:30-11 pm at The Irish Cottage in Galena, IL
- Feb 18: 6 pm Sea Shanty Sing at The Irish Cottage in Galena, IL

Loreto Ridge Celtic Concerts
Artist: Dàimh (pronounced "dive") ~ from the Highlands of Scotland (West Locharaber and Isle of Skye)
Date: Thur, March 21 at 7 pm
\$27 (early bird)
\$32
Invitation and Advance RSVP required. For info/request an invitation, contact Mary: mccluskeybros@gmail.com
Venue is about 15 miles northwest of Spring Green.

The Bur Oak • Friday, Feb. 10th - Dan Navarro - @8pm (doors at 7)
2262 Winnebago St, \$20 adv / \$25 d.o.s.
Madison, WI
theburoakmadison.com

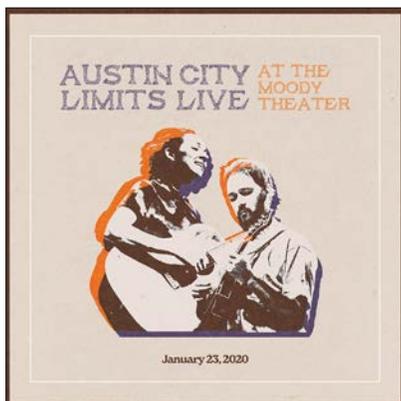
Sugar Maple Concert Series 2024

- NORTH STREET CABARET**
- Sun, Mar 3rd - April Vech and Joe Newberry - @6pm - \$20 adv/\$27 d.o.s.
 - Fri, Mar 22nd - Missy Raines & Allegheny - @7pm - \$22 adv/\$29 d.o.s.
 - Sun, Apr 28th - Tall Poppy String Band and Northern Resonance - @6pm - \$20 adv/\$27 d.o.s.
 - Aug 2nd to 3rd - 21st Annual Sugar Maple Music Fest
Two-day outdoor festival at the William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park

610 North St
Madison, WI
northstreetcabaret.com

AUSTIN CITY LIMITS LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER - WATCHHOUSE

2024 - YEP ROC RECORDS



Review by Kiki Schueler

There are several reasons a band might change its name. Sometimes it's legal, like when Chicago Transit Authority abbreviated their name to Chicago after the city's transit system threatened a lawsuit. Other times it's social consciousness, as in the case of Lady Antebellum who shortened their name to Lady A after deciding the old name could be construed as racist (only to be sued by a blues singer who had gone by that name for years). Mandolin Orange's reasons for rebranding as Watchhouse aren't quite as clear. The duo of Andrew Marlin and Emily Franz had released six records under the former moniker, the last four with the label Yep Roc, before changing their name for a self-titled record in 2021. Of the change Franz explains, "We've felt a divide between the music that we make and the band name for a long time—or maybe we just didn't want to feel like we had to have a mandolin on every song," Fair enough, a group will also rename to signify a stylistic shift. But it gets a little confusing when the show Mandolin Orange played at Austin's historic Moody Theater in January of 2020 is released in 2024 under the name Watchhouse.

Touring behind 2019's *Tides of a Tear*, Marlin (mandolin and vocals) and Franz (acoustic guitar, fiddle and vocals), were joined by Josh Oliver (electric guitar), Clint Mullican (bass) and Joe Westerland (drums and percussion), for a show they never intended to release as a live

album. It wasn't until the pandemic shut down touring that they realized how vital the live show is. The recording is excellent quality, the band well mixed, the audience effusive and enthusiastic. The set list draws from their Yep Roc releases. *Tides* and its predecessor 2016's *Blindfaller* each contribute five tunes, the rest from 2013's *This Side of Jordan* (3) and 2015's *Such Jubilee* (1). And yes, there is still plenty of mandolin. "The Hawk is a Mule" hails from Marlin's instrumental album *Witching Hour*. Fellow North Carolinian and show opener Kate Rhudy joins them on fiddle for what Marlin calls "one of the few feel-good tunes we have." In the introduction he explains how the title came from a bit of wishful thinking on a West Coast tour, as he pictured training hawks to carry their weed over the border into Canada. On the intro to the next song, Franz thanks the audience for "sitting here all night on a school night listening to us sing sad songs." Marlin wrote "Into the Sun" when Franz's grandfather passed away, which at first made it a difficult song to play live. She takes the lead on a song about a life well lived, "Ain't I got a fortune in nearing my end When I think of my family and all of my friends," her voice clear and true.

Those two songs in the latter part of the show receive introductions long enough to qualify as their own tracks, but early on the banter is minimal as they soar through some of *Tides*' best songs. "Golden Embers" is moody and melancholic with haunting violin, while "The Wolves" is as twisty as a good short story. "On the wind the wolves are howling. She cries 'they're drawing near.' Turn around, turn around, my darling, no, the wolves are here," he sings while Oliver coaxes a bewitching melody from his guitar. They turn him loose on "My Blinded Heart," which alternates between loping country and atmo-

spheric swells. Before the last track Marlin claims "I think Austin might be one of my favorite towns to play in y'all," which is (unsurprisingly) greeted with thunderous applause. "Waltz About Whiskey" makes for an excellent show closer, a musical last call, "I don't need much of nothing except for all your loving and a waltz about whiskey on ice." Cheers to Marlin and Franz, who put on a great show under any name.

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

Darlene Buhler.....President, Concerts, Advertising

225-0710 ~ darlene@blettner.com

Peg Michel.....Treasurer

831-1876 ~ pegm@chorus.net

Tracy ComerMembership & Web Site

729-4498 ~ tracy@tracycomer.com

Norbert Wodke.....Secretary

849-3510 ~ nfwodke@chorus.net

Dede Goldberg.....Newsletter distribution

246-4332 ~ speedydd99@yahoo.com

Neil Morris.....Newsletter editor

358-5855 ~ madfolk@wiscomfort.com

Meg Skinner..... Scholarships

238-6950 ~ meggskinner@gmail.com

Ron Dennis

(608)228-5472 ~ rondenpho@aol.com

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/madisonfolkmusicsociety>



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

Tim Grimm

Saturday February 10th at 7pm - North Street Cabaret, Madison
\$15 advance / \$18 day of show



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

On the Air

.....
Simply Folk on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Síle Shigley, Jeff Durkey & Steve Gotcher



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 visit <https://wortfm.org> for more info!

• Sundays 3pm - 5pm - "On the Horizon" w/ Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak, Gloria Hays & Helena White

• Mon 9am to noon - Global Revolutions w/ Dan Talmo & Martin Alvarado

• Tue 9am to noon - Green Morning Radio w/ Brian Hirsch - Except Last Tuesday of the month - One Fine Morning w/ Peter Allen

• Wed 9am to noon - Back to the Country (country music on a theme) w/ Steven & Marianne, Nate Gibson, Art Stevenson & Bill Malone

• Thur 9am to noon - 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

Misc

Stuart Stotts

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

.....
Sea Shanty Sing @Roxy's Restobar -- 208 W. Main St, Stoughton

No experience necessary. Songbooks provided and songs taught. 7pm every second Tuesday.

Open Mic @Cargo Coffee -- 750 E. Washington Ave.

Brave the stage or enjoy the show every first and third Sunday, 5-7pm. Sign-up starts at 4:30pm

Open Mic @Java Cat -- 4221 Lien Rd.

Check out local talent at the cafe's new location on the last two Sundays of each month.

Old Time Jam

Monthly - 3rd Sunday of every month, 2 to 5pm

Location: Brix Cider, Mt Horeb

Coodinator: Greg Jones, 7771jones@gmail.com

Al Wilson, adwilson@pediatrics.wisc.edu

Madison Area Ukulele Initiative -- Singalongs 3rd Sunday 11am - 1:30pm

- for location visit www.MAUImadison.com

Venues



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

Cafe Carpe

- Fri, February 2nd - Arlen - @8:30pm - \$20
- Sat, February 3rd - Lonesome Weird Eye Bill - @8pm - \$12
- Fri, February 8th - Peter Mulvey - @8pm - \$20 (Sold Out)
- Sat, February 9th - Claudia Schmidt - @8pm - \$20
- Thu, February 10th - Rev. Robert w/ Da Bones Man & Looper - @8pm - \$15
- Fri, February 16th - Krause Family Band - @8pm - \$20
- Sat, February 23rd - John Sieger - @7:30pm
- Sun, February 24th - Bill Camplin & Pete Jonnson - @7:30pm - \$12 (Call to Reserve)
- Fri, February 29th - John Gorka - @8pm - \$30 (Sold Out)
- Sat, March 1st - The Boston Imposters - @7:30pm - \$15



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

Wild Hog in the Woods

- Friday, February 2nd at 7:30pm - Christine Costanzo
- Friday, February 9th at 7:30pm - Chris Powers
- Friday, February 16th at 7:30pm - Polkalamity
- Saturday, February 17th at 2pm - Hootenanny Sing-Along!
- Friday, February 23rd at 7:30pm - Bluegrass Doubleheader: Holler Home Band / The Soundbillies

FOLKLORE VILLAGE ...passing it on

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

Folklore Village

- Tues, February 6th - Online Open Mic
- February 9-11 At the PBS Wisconsin Garden Expo! wigardenexpo.com
- Tues, March 5th - Online Open Mic

Gigs

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 - Admission for all concerts is \$20 entirely for musicians

- Saturday, February 17th @7:30 pm - Sarah Peacock and Danni Nichols
- Friday, May 10th - The Rough and Tumble

Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Kiki at

righteousmusicgmt@gmail.com

- Sunday, March 3rd @ 7pm (doors at 6) Robbie Fulks - \$25
- Friday, March 29th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Jill Sobule - \$15

“A storytelling balladeer in the tradition of John Prine, Woody Guthrie, and Bob Dylan, Tim has the gift of being moving, intimate and robustly honest without being slushy and over-sentimental.



Madison Folk Music Society PRESENTS
Tim Grimm

Saturday, February 10

7:00 pm

THE NORTH STREET CABARET, 610 North St, Madison WI

Tickets \$15 advance, \$18 day of show

Available at: <https://buytickets.at/madisonfolkmusicsociety/1096095>

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



"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

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

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

.....
.....
Renew your membership today at
www.madfolk.org

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

Madison Folk Music Society

join renew

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Choose membership category:

Senior / Student \$12 _____

Regular \$15 _____

Family \$20 _____

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