

MadFolk News

MADFOLK WELCOMES GARNET ROGERS BACK TO OUR STAGE ON OCTOBER 4TH!

It has been awhile since Garnet has been on the MadFolk stage, and for those familiar with Garnet, you know it is going to be a remarkable show, having him grace our stage is like finding that perfect sweater, you just want to cozy in for a night of music with that deep baritone voice! For those new to the music of Garnet, well let's just say after recording dozens of records of his own, with his brother, with friends, he still can't stop putting lead to the paper, as he has also wrote 2 books and is about to release a 3rd – a follow-up to his 2nd book. You do not want to miss this show, as we know it has been longer intervals getting our friends from Canada to our stage.

Garnet has been a fixture to the MadFolk stage, switching between us, the Café Carpe and house concerts. As I write this and think about this upcoming show, I can see his over 6 ft frame up on the stage, and I'm listening intently to the stories, commentary on what is going on in these crazy days before our election and songs, old and new... even the ones I've heard before never

are old.

So let's join together for this show, listen to the words that are so literate, that they leave you wanting to hear his next song. And for fun, can you pass the little trivia test below, all answers can be found at his past shows....

Who is the main character in "Small Victories"? Bonus if you know which album it is on

What was the title of Garnet's first solo album? Bonus if you know the year it came out

Who is the person on the cover of Firefly album? Bonus if you know their name.

Live at the Black Sheep album – who played that gig with Garnet?

When Garnet last played for MadFolk, who was the friend that joined him on stage? Hint: we hosted the show at the Stoughton Opera House

MadFolk has hosted concerts of Phil Ochs music, which song of Phil's did he record?

And you guessed it, bonus question, which album was it on. Garnet opened for this person and covered their song "This Old Shirt", who was that artist?

As we go to print, we still have some tickets left, so go to www.madfolk.org for the link. *We will also be giving away a pair of tickets to the Ani DiFranco documentary movie on October 7th at the Barrymore – see article on this event in the newsletter.*

Rogers will be at North Street Cabaret, 610 North St, Madison, doors at 6:30 and show starts at 7:00 on Friday, October 4. Tickets are \$20 advance, \$23 day-of-show. Please remember to bring an item to donate for the food pantry.





1-800-ON-HER-OWN follows groundbreaking indie musician/feminist **Ani DiFranco**, founder of the first “woman-run non-corporatequeer-happy” label, **Righteous Babe Records**, on a wild road trip from her punk-folk past to her life today as an activist and rock star. Throughout, Ani remains resolutely true to herself, no matter the cost. This documentary will be coming to the **Barrymore Theatre in Madison on October 8th**. Tickets for this event can be found at www.barrymorelive.com

Ani DiFranco crashed onto the music scene in the early '90s, a thundering new voice in the cultural wilderness, unapologetically bisexual, political and feminist. She toured relentlessly, thrashing out hundreds of frenzied shows that were part mosh pit, part hootenanny and part full-on tent revival, then selling cassette tapes from the trunk of her car to make it to the next gig. Ani became a worldwide phenomenon when she beat the male-dominated music industry at its own game by founding Righteous Babe Records, still going strong after nearly 35 years. The press called her “an entrepreneurial wonder” and “the industry’s worst nightmare.” Prince

called her “my hero.” Ani simply called herself a folk singer, dedicated to art, activism and staying true to herself. **1-800-ON-HER-OWN** takes us on a wild cinematic road trip, from DiFranco’s punk-folk past to her life today as she reinvents herself as a passionate activist and revered rock star. Throughout the ride, she’s brutally honest, famously foul-mouthed and totally hilarious. Her daily challenges resonate as we reveal both an enduring, inspiring musical icon and a very relatable contemporary “every woman” with her own epic fails and hard-won victories.

“This could quite possibly be one of the best artist docs I’ve ever run across.”

“What is truly surprising is that this film is firmly about DiFranco. This isn’t about the music, meaning this isn’t a film where you’re waiting for the story of the next song. Yes there is music, but mostly this is DiFranco’s life. She opens it up and we go with her. The music is there as it is in her life. Best of all it’s her life as she is living it. It’s not a series of sit downs but conversations as she travels, waits or makes music.”

“This is great filmmaking. Recommended, more so if you are a fan.”

- Unseen Films, Steve Kopian

MadFolk will be having a drawing at the Garnet Rogers concert for a pair of tickets to this event

UNIVERSAL FIRE - JEFFREY FOUCAULT

2024 - FLUFF & GRAVY RECORDS



Review by Kiki Schueler

You don't have to be a regular reader of Jeffrey Foucault's eloquent e-mail missives of the last several years to know that the loss of his friend and drummer Billy Conway in 2021 hit him hard, it's a theme that runs through his new release *Universal Fire*. Coming six years after his last studio record, *Blood Brothers*, Foucault explains that *Fire* took so long because after Conway was diagnosed with cancer, "I didn't want to make an album without him, and first he wasn't ready, and then he couldn't. Then he was gone." Conway was best known as the drummer for Morphine, but he also backed Chris Smither and Foucault's wife Kris Delmhurst, who he also produced two records for. Given the emotions running through these songs, sitting behind the drum kit for this record had to be an intimidating prospect. Luckily, Calexico's John Convertino was up to the challenge. He's a subtle, intuitive drummer, one of those who makes the most complicated rhythms look easy. He absolutely nails this record, but he didn't do it alone. There was an incredibly talented band that backed Foucault live in the studio: Erik Koskinen on guitar, Jeremy Moses Curtis on bass, the incomparable Eric Heywood on pedal steel, and Mike Lewis on keyboards and sax.

The emptiness is felt most profoundly on the somber opening track "Winter Count," which is less about grief and more a combination of disbelief and wonder. "It's funny how you left the party early, that never happened even one time in your life,"

he sings wistfully over gently strummed acoustic guitar and a barely there piano. There's also a hint of hope, "I don't think you've gone too far away, but I miss you every time I say your name." "Solo Modelo" reflects on touring alone after a decade as a duo, now one where there used to be two. "Solo gas station, solo café, so low I've been crying since you went away," the homophone of solo working seamlessly into the lyrics. Unlike the lament of the opening track, "Solo Modelo" is surprisingly upbeat. There's Convertino's snappy rhythm, Koskinen's bubbly melody line, Barbara Jean Myers' backing vocals intoning "Walking away" as the song ends, and the irresistible rhyme of the title. Sometime tourmate Pieta Brown joins Foucault on the chorus of the gentle "Monterey Rain," a more inscrutable tune with lines like "In a hotel room with a bible and a phone book. The good news and the bad luck. I said, 'One is going to answer,' you said, 'Jesus got my number I don't know how,'" suggesting that this too could be about Conway. Heywood provides the high and lonesome, while Morphine's Dana Colley brings the soul on his bass saxophone.

"Nightshift" turns the touring life into the much less romantic daily grind. "Drive all day, play all night, caffeine, nicotine, Jim Beam, alright. Get up in the morning and we do it again," he sings as Koskinen's Knopfer-esque guitar wails behind him. He tries, but doesn't quite convince us it isn't the best job ever. Sergio Mendoza, leader of the "indie mambo" Orkestra Mendoza from Tucson, lends Latin vibes to the first love nostalgia of "Sometimes Love." His spirited accordion is a perfect counterpoint to Heywood's languorous pedal steel. The title track pulls back, way back, from the personal nature of the rest of the record to the, for lack of a better word, universal. It may sound like something akin to existential dread, but the "Universal Fire" was very real. In 2008 a three-album

fire swept across the backlot of Universal Studios. The King Kong Encounter attraction was destroyed, but the real tragedy wasn't known until 2019 when a New York Times exposé discovered it had also taken between 118 and 175 thousand master tapes. While it's debatable that Blink 182 constitutes a loss, there is no doubt that "Satchmo and The Killer and Sun Ra... Bo Diddley Big Mama and John Lee" does. But like the rest of the tracks on the record, "Universal Fire" deals with loss by turning it into a great song.

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

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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/madisonfolkmusicsociety>

Venues



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

Cafe Carpe

- Fri, Oct 4th - Dan Maguire - @7:30pm - \$8
- Sat, Oct 5th - Matt Dvorak / Jim Craig / Bill Camplin - @8pm - \$15
- Thu, Oct 10th - Four Shillings Short - a Samhain/Halloween Concert - @7:30pm - \$10
- Fri, Oct 11th - Bad Posture Club - @8pm - \$12
- Fri, Oct 18th - Lee Kanehira & The Chicago Blues Piano Trio - @8:15pm - \$20
- Sat, Oct 19th - Chicago Farmer - @8:15pm - \$20
- Thu, Oct 24th - Patsy O'Brien - @7:30pm - \$12
- Sat, Oct 26th - Steve Cohen & Jim Ohlschmidt - @8pm - \$10
- Wed, Oct 30th - Song Circle w/ Tricia Alexander - @6:30pm - \$5



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

Wild Hog in the Woods

- Friday Oct 4 at 7:30pm - Two Johns and a Nancy
- Friday Oct 11 at 7:30pm - Four Shillings Short
- Friday Oct 18 at 7:30pm - Autumn Fundraiser for the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center
- Saturday Oct 19 at 2pm - Hootenanny Sing-Along
- Friday Oct 25 at 7:30pm - Holler Home

FOLKLORE VILLAGE ...passing it on

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

Folklore Village

- Tues, Oct 1st - Online Open Mic
- Oct 4th-6th - Folk School Session 5
- Wed, Oct 5th - Balkfolk Barn Dance - Potluck @6pm - Dancing @7:15
- Sat, Oct 12th - Saturday Night at the Schoolhouse
- Tue, Oct 15th - In-Person Open Mic
- Oct 25th-27th - Fall Swedish Music & Dance Weekend

NORTH STREET CABARET

610 North St
Madison, WI
northstreetcabaret.com

- Tues, Oct 8th - Steam Machine - \$20 adv / \$27 d.o.s.
- Fri, Nov 22nd - Old Fashioned Aces - \$20 adv / \$27 d.o.s.

Upcoming House Concerts

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, November 9th @7:30pm - The Katie Dahl

Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

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

righteousmusicmgmt@gmail.com

- Saturday, October 5th @7pm (doors at 6) Wesley Stace - \$20
- Friday, October 25th @8pm (doors at 7) Amy Rigby - \$20



presents

An evening with Nelson Graham

singer/songwriter/guitarist

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Opera House

Fri Oct 25

6pm (doors open at 5pm)

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(includes a complimentary beverage)

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Scan QR below or go to

<https://buytickets.at/hilldaleevents/1402888>

Opening remarks on history of the
Opera House by owner Christopher
Berge ("Mostly true!")

nelsongrahammusic.com

Obert Alvin Coffee House 2nd Floor * 2969 Main St Blue Mounds WI 53517





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

🎵 Garnet Rogers

Friday, November 4th at 7pm (doors @6:30) - North Street Cabaret, Madison
\$20 advance / \$23 day of show

🎵 Mad Folk Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 17th

On the Air



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



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!

• Sun 3pm - 5pm - On the Horizon (international, world, ethnic music) w/ Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak, Gloria Hays & Helena White

• Mon 9am to noon - Global Revolutions (folk music from the world over) w/ Dan Talmo & Martin Alvarado & Helena White

• Tue 9am to noon - Green Morning Radio (indie, folk, rock, alt, country, acoustic blues & singer-songwriters) w/ Brian Hirsh - Except Last Tuesday of the month - One Fine Morning w/ P.C. 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/ Jeff Spitzer-Resnick

• Fri - Mud Acres (bluegrass and acoustic) w/ Chris Powers



WVMO The Voice of Monona - Promoting the best in Good Music - Roots Music - Americana Music

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Stuart Stotts

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

Misc

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 Saturday 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

Powerful songwriting... remarkable musicianship and presence.

"A brilliant songwriter. One of the major talents of our time." *Boston Globe*



 **Madison Folk Music
Society PRESENTS**

Garnet Rogers

Friday, October 4

7:00 pm

THE NORTH STREET CABARET, 610 North St, Madison WI

Tickets \$20 advance, \$23 day of show

Available at: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/madisonfolkmusicsociety/1320216>

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



The Creeps

By Emily Beebe

It sounded like a musical saw had joined us when the funny little whining sounds began emanating from the ground beneath our chairs. Chris and I were attending a recent folk festival in a lakeside park after sunset when my ankles started burning. Putting 2 and 2 and 2 together, I realized that it was a conflagration of teenage girl mosquitoes. They were wearing sparkly cowboy hats and screaming out the words to Taylor Swift's Mirrorball through rose-colored proboscises. It made me want to weep, so I packed up and ran to my car for a feverishly itchy drive home with an ear worm to keep me company.

Folk music is an evocative art form. Six-legged cold-blooded exoskeletal creatures who crawl in three or four dimensions and may have at least one set of wings are powerful muses for emotional gut reactions in humans. Naturally, there exists a diverse and moving bug collection of folk music. The Eagles said it best, 'There ain't no way to hide your compound eyes.'

Our warm-hearted cold-hardy North American neighbors know all about insects. Anyone who has ever gone camping in the Canadian forest or paddled the Boundary Waters knows about the black flies. Each fly is as tiny as a gnat, but like door-busting shoppers at T.J.Maxx on Black Friday, they can form ten-foot-high swarms. A black fly is a hearty biter and salts its food with blood thinners and anesthetics leaving the bite-ee with rivulets of blood streaming down any body parts not coated in bear grease and mud. The swarms along the Little Abitibi River were the inspiration behind Wade Hemsworth's 1949 classic, The Blackfly Song:

*And the black flies, the little black flies
Always the black fly no matter where
you go
I'll die with the black fly a-pickin' my
bones*

*In North Ontar-eye-o-eye-o, In North
Ontar-eye-o*

This song was further enhanced with visuals in the animated short film by Christopher Hinton set to Hemsworth's classic. (Thanks to Dan for enlightening me about this song, and reminding me why I won't ever, ever go canoe-camping in Canada).

You don't need to go to Northern Canada to be inspired by our arthropodal brethren. Della Mae is an award-winning all-female bluegrass band out of Boston. National Champion fiddler Kimber Ludiker was driven to write the tune 'No See Um Stomp' by the hundreds of biting gnats she experienced at the beach when she was attending Mike Block String Camp in Vero Beach, Florida. She says of the tune, the first part is the swarm, the second part is the agony.

Leeches on the shelf, cicadas in the bin, supper's ready everybody come on in! Bugs mark the turning of the seasons, get into the seasonings, and give us the blues. Take the traditional American tune, Boll Weevil:

*Boll Weevil told the farmer, you'd better
treat me right
I'll eat up all of your cotton, sleep in
your granary tonight*

*Boll Weevil told the farmer, you need
no Ford machine
I'll eat up all of your cotton, can't buy no
gasoline*

This song is perhaps best known by recordings from Huddie Ledbetter and Woody Guthrie. North Carolina Fiddler Tommy Jarrell recorded this song in 1971 with his fiddle in a brutal DDAD tuning that encapsulated the ruin of Southern farmers over the destruction of their crops from these beetles. Luckily for them, there is an organic solution to the problem; fire ants are natural predators of the boll weevil.

String instruments are particularly suited to bug music. Fiddle tune Bumble Bee in a jug collected from Kentucky fiddler George Lee Hawkins and recorded by John Hartford sounds like its title, particularly in the tune's B part. Fly Around My Pretty Little Miss is another dance-worthy fiddle tune about a man's love for a pretty lady who can do-si-do gracefully with a ten-foot-high swarm of black flies. To hear a toe-tapping version of this dance tune, listen to Ole Belle Reed's rendition ([link in the Discography](#)).

Although not insects, spiders also deserve a mention because they have eight legs and FANGS. Who needs wings when you can terrorize humans by dangling from an invisible hair in a crowded bus stop. The other day I was playing a quiet set of jigs on the mandolin when I saw an orb spider descend from the ceiling. It landed on the table in front of me and scabbled up close to where I was sitting. I kept playing and the spider remained, shuffling under sheet music, rappelling down the tablecloth, returning to the edge of the table. It appeared to be very curious about the music, as if the vibrations of the mandolin were like the feel of a picnic beetle struggling in a web. It attempted to climb up my pant leg only once. When I relocated it back to the table where I could keep an eye on it, I saw it roll six or seven of its own at me. Not wanting to push my luck, I didn't play any Beatles songs that day.

Discography:

*All of these titles can be found
on YouTube*

- The Blackfly Song by Wade Hemsworth with Christopher Hinton's animation
- No See Um Stomp by Della Mae
- Tommy Jarrell's Boll Weevil
- Bumble Bee in a Jug (John Hartford recording)
- Fly Around My Pretty Little Miss (Ole Belle Reed)

"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

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