

Performer Bios – 2019

Beaucoup Blue - Beaucoup Blue is the Americana Philadelphia based father and son duo of David and Adrian Mowry. Bridging many gaps in American music, their soulful traditional and contemporary styles mesh into an innovative and authentic sound. Although blues is a staple in their repertoire, they base their love in music from Folk, Soul, R&B, Jazz, Country and Bluegrass.

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUaVcnSv5Nk>

BeuSoleil avec Michael Doucet – For the past 40 years, Grammy Award winning BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet has been making some of the most potent and popular Cajun music on the planet. Born out of the rich Acadian ancestry of its members, and created and driven by bandleader Michael Doucet's spellbinding fiddle playing and soulful vocals, BeauSoleil is notorious for bringing even the most staid audience to its feet. BeauSoleil's distinctive sound derives from the distilled spirits of New Orleans jazz, blues rock, folk, swamp pop, Zydeco, country and bluegrass.

Webpage - <https://beausoleilmusic.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBwRddleQJ8>

Bon Débarras - Bon Débarras unites the worlds of music, dance and poetry through the collaboration of Montreal artists Dominic Desrochers, Jean-François Dumas and Marie-Pierre Lecault. The group brings together a fusion of Quebecois folk music, traditional step-dancing and global influences, for a show that is full of fun and inventive energy. Bon Débarras' energy taps into the rhythms of today and ventures boldly towards the future with high energy music that transcends boundaries and ages.

Webpage - <https://www.bondebarras.ca>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iWUiomS6rdQ>

Bourque Émissaires - This Quebecois duo is Benoit Bourque and Antoine Pigeon-Bourque. Benoit is a versatile artist overflowing with energy and a contagious joie de vivre. He is the recipient of multiple awards including four Juno Awards (the Canadian equivalent of the Grammy). He has become

a beloved musician in the New Bedford area and his work as leader of the Celtic Extravaganza makes this climax to the New Bedford Folk Festival a much anticipated event each year. Antoine started playing piano at the age of 11 and accordion at the age of 16. He has a degree in music from Université de Montréal where he studied classical repertoire for piano-accordion. He is a graduate from Collège Saint-Laurent, in Montreal, where he studied tuba and accordion.

Webpage - <http://www.benoitbourque.com/projects/bourque-emissaires/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uY5XQHG_Q-4

Bua - Bua evokes the good times that are the core of Irish traditional music. Precise, intense, and straight forward, the quartet is comprised of some of America's most talented and award winning musicians. They raise the rafters with their playing, charm with their singing, and delight with their contemporary energy. "Bua is one of those groups that is very trad and very cutting edge at the same time. Suffice it to say, you gotta be real good to pull this off. Bua is real good. Real good. (Live Ireland)

Webpage - <http://buamusic.com/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFA3iMQG3_k

Gerry Colvin Trio - Gerry Colvin co-founded and fronted a skiffle-cowpunk indie band 'Terry & Gerry' which toured Europe and the USA and appeared on countless Radio and TV shows. He worked in Nashville as a professional songwriter, penned TV themes, musicals, film scores and wrote and presented for BBC Radio 2. In 1995 Gerry co-founded the five piece folk band Colvinquarmby. They released six critically acclaimed albums and were voted best band at the prestigious Fairport Convention Cropredy Festival in 2009. In 2010 they won the Hancock Award for 'Best Live Folk Act'. Gerry comes to the festival this year with Patricia Power on accordion and Lyndon Webb on guitar.

Webpage - <http://www.gerrycolvin.co.uk>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=30&v=OxKtJu0hq1c

Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards - Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards came together by the love of traditional American music and the myriad of ways it can be expressed. Their music is bold and elegant, schooled in the lyrical rituals of folk music and backed by grooves that alternately inspire Cajun two-stepping and rock-n-roll hip swagger. They go from hard-driving tunes to heart-breaking songs of Americana deftly and with the sensitivity of players beyond their years. This is post-folk that seriously rocks.

Webpage - <http://www.thisislauracortese.com/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=191&v=1gTmhQ-9-ec&fbclid=IwAR17QYyN41XVQCFZE4Zeixv68CanVZD11r8a-Vf3lwXIvtWCxxnVp8Mal6w

Guy Davis - Guy Davis once said, "I like antiques and old things, old places that still have the dust of those who've gone before us lying upon them." Blowing that dust off just enough to see its beauty is something Guy has excelled at for over twenty years of songwriting and performing. It's no wonder his reverence for the music of the Blues Masters who've gone before him has been evident in every album he's ever recorded or concert he's given. Guy Davis has spent his musical life carrying his message of the blues around the world, from the Equator to the Arctic Circle, earning him the title "An Ambassador of the Blues".

Webpage - <http://guydavis.com>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yaA448PTA1k>

Kevin Doyle - Kevin Doyle is a National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellow the highest honor awarded to an American traditional artist. Doyle is a delightful, compelling performer of old style traditional Irish step dance and American tap dance. A lifelong dancer and performer, Kevin was a U.S. Champion Irish step dancer in his early competitive years, and has been entertaining audiences ever since with his traditional style of "close to the ground" rhythms and intricate foot work.

Webpage - <http://www.kevindoyledance.com>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o048yEx5sUY>

Seth Glier - Seth Glier is a singer-songwriter, producer and multi-instrumentalist. He has a burgeoning career that has included a Grammy nomination and touring with artists such as Ani DiFranco and Ryan Adams. Glier's live show places his melodic AAA-contemporary pop under a blanket of roots & blues. His music has also caught the ears of fans, industry and critics alike, with USA Today stating that his "exquisite tenor echoes Bruce Springsteen and Billy Joel."

Webpage - <http://sethglieber.com/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ghw_bcCpIO4&start_radio=1&list=RDGhw_bcCpIO4&t=0

Raymond Gonzalez - A professional guitarist since the age of 16, Raymond Gonzalez has traveled extensively performing on concert stages, festivals, radio, TV, coffeehouses, house concerts, and most things in between. Classical, celtic, jazz, folk, blues, rock and the avant-garde are all in Raymond's arsenal of musical styles. He currently teaches, classical and fingerstyle jazz guitar, songwriting and music industry classes at Salem State University, Salem MA.

Webpage - <https://www.raymondgonzalez.net>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=BPsh8Cnyato

Livio Guardi - Livio Guardi was born in Florence where he currently resides and teaches guitar and other similar instruments. He sings and plays the banjo, the guitar, the mandolin and an unspecified number of other stringed instruments. The influences of American and English folk are present in his music, as well as his love for a more Mediterranean sound.

Webpage - <https://www.livioguardi.com/banjo/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=35&v=5bMW-MbaJwY

Anne Hills - "Anne Hills is such an exquisite singer that it's understandable that people might be swept up in the pure beauty of her voice and thereby overlook her writing. That would be a mistake. For me, Anne's writing, in songs like 'Follow That Road' and many others, is as direct, melodic and

deep as any work being done today. She is quite simply one of my absolute favorite songwriters.” – Tom Paxton

Webpage - <https://www.anehills.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFGnhEwNdzg>

David Jacobs-Strain - David Jacobs-Strain is a fierce slide guitar player, and a song poet from Oregon. He's known for both his virtuosity and spirit of emotional abandon; his live show moves from humorous, subversive blues, to delicate balladry, and then swings back to swampy rock and roll. It's a range that ties Jacobs-Strain to his own generation and to guitar-slinger troubadours like Robert Johnson and Jackson Browne. "I try to make art that you can dance to, but I love that darker place, where in my mind, Skip James, Nick Drake, and maybe Elliot Smith blur together." David will be accompanied by Philadelphia's harmonica virtuoso, Bob Beach.

Webpage - <http://www.davidjacobs-strain.com/home/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=dZcfN_4ierk

Bill Jones - When Bill Jones won the Horizon award as Best New Artist at 2001's BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, it suggested the arrival of a major new English folk talent. Since then, Jones has nurtured that potential beautifully, continuing to challenge herself while staying true to her own idiosyncratic vision of the English folk tradition. A disarmingly pure and unaffected vocalist and multi-instrumentalist (piano, flute, accordion, and various recorders and whistles), Ms. Jones (Bill being short for Belinda) stands at the forefront of England's rich folk renaissance.

Webpage - <http://www.brickwallmusic.com/>

Diana Jones - Diana Jones is an award-winning singer-songwriter whose unique blend of traditional folk and old-time Appalachian music has gained her international recognition. Joan Baez, in an interview for the New York Times, said that writers of Diana Jones's caliber come along only every so often. "There's some kind of channeling from some other lifetime going on, I don't know the answer to these things, but all I can think of is that it must come from some mysterious part of her soul."

Webpage - <https://www.dianajonesmusic.com/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=13&v=MspKIHu7-PY

The Kennedys - Pete and Maura Kennedy bring energy and excitement to the New Bedford Folk Festival each year. The Kennedys, both East Coast natives, met in Austin, Texas, joined forces with Nanci Griffith's Blue Moon Orchestra for a couple of years, and set out on a road that, for two decades, has led them not only west but all over the US and the UK many times. Their music seamlessly weaves their influences over the last two decades: Buddy Holly style roots, the tuneful cadences of the Everly Brothers, and the ringing 12-string jangle of the early Byrds, interspersed with moments that recall British folk rockers Fairport Convention. After two decades of performing together Pete and Maura are hitting a songwriting and performing high point.

Webpage - <http://kennedysmusic.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2OXasHZfCI>

Mike Laureanno - Mike Laureanno hails from Fall River, MA an old mill-town infamous for its axe wielding resident Lizzie Borden and famous for its chow mein sandwiches and pork pies. A passionate performer, Mike's songs are visceral and evocative. Dave Palmater calls Mike Fall River's poet laureate. Mike is proud of his roots and many of his songs deal with his gritty blue collar hometown and the lives of his family and friends. He is a winner of the 2017 Wildflower, Texas songwriting contest, the 2016 Woody Guthrie songwriting contest and a 2016 Kerrville New Folk finalist.

Webpage - <http://mikelaureanno.weebly.com/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=7&v=CzWIV-4gD-M

Zoë Lewis - Zoë Lewis plays gypsy jazz, jump jive, Latin grooves, swing, international and folk originals. Originally from England, she arrived in the United States in 1990 and began performing originals on guitar, piano, harmonica, ukulele, penny whistle, accordion, and human trumpet. She has since toured extensively, performing at numerous folk clubs, coffee houses, colleges, music festivals and pride marches. She has been described as “a band in a body.”

Webpage - <http://www.zoelewis.com/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=27&v=ds4fk3osMxU

Radoslav Lorković - This Croatian-born, classically trained pianist draws from a multitude of influences ranging from elegant classical and jazz styles to the rawest, most basic blues, country and soul. Radoslav has taken on an unusually broad musical spectrum and refined it into his distinctive piano style. His tenure on the R&B and folk circuits has culminated in five critically acclaimed solo recordings and numerous appearances on the recordings of and performances with artists including Odetta, Jimmy LaFave, Ribbon of Highway Woody Guthrie Tribute, Greg Brown, Richard Shindell, Ellis Paul, Ronny Cox, Dave Moore, Andy White, and Bo Ramsey.

Webpage - <https://www.radoslavlorkovic.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qW0ikhG2Mkg>

Low Lily - New England-based string and vocal trio Low Lily explores the roots of American folk music with traditional influences and modern inspiration. The members of the trio -- Liz Simmons, Flynn Cohen and Lissa Schneckeburger -- have deep relationships to traditional music styles, ranging from bluegrass to Irish, Scottish, English, New England, and old-time Appalachian sounds. Their music is rooted, yet contemporary.

Webpage - <http://www.lowlily.com/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=61&v=lv9R60CSQ54

Ryan McKasson, Eric McDonald with Jeremiah McLane - Ryan McKasson on fiddle and Eric McDonald on guitar and mandolin are masters of tradition who purposefully explore the dark corners floating on its edges. Pulling from parallel strands of influence, they create a swirling level of intensity that traverses darkness, light, and everywhere in between. They are joined by accordion master Jeremiah McLane.

Webpage - <https://www.mckassonandmcdonald.com/home-1/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9etRQWsTa8g>

Pamela Means - With virtuosic musicianship, razor wit and a disarming sense of humor, Pamela Means is building a vibrant and remarkable career. "So what sets [Pamela Means] apart...? For starters, Means plays a snarling, energetic guitar. She's got chops - more than the other gentle pickers of her ilk will ever have. Means' voice is hard-wired to her heart: emotional, raw, angry when it needs to be, yet supple and warm as an embrace. The truth may not always be pretty, but Means is a stunningly effective messenger." (Oregon Live, Portland OR)

Webpage - <http://www.pamelameans.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUBuqJtKaTw>

Molsky's Mountain Drifters - Molsky's Mountain Drifters packs a punch with three of the most captivating performers in the most recent generation of Old-Time and American Roots music. The band features Bruce Molsky, (Grammy nominated, revered Old-Time music ambassador and Berklee College of Music Visiting Scholar) along with guitar genre bender Stash Wyslouch (of the Deadly Gentlemen) on guitar and vocals and master of the clawhammer banjo, Allison de Groot (of The Goodbye Girls). These striking musicians have come together for a new sound within the traditional music genre through their audacious approach.

Webpage - <https://www.mountaindrifters.com>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=11&v=5Ex9HfW5X9s

The Niels - Sisters Nerissa and Katryna Niels began their career singing folk songs and learning harmonies in their parents' kitchen and the back seat of the family car. In 1991 they turned pro, becoming fulltime musicians. Two decades later The Niels are still at it. Their "vocal blend is a disarming mix of clean folk harmonies and clenched Generation-X angst," according to The Chicago Tribune, and a critic for the Minneapolis Star-Tribune has called their music "a masterful mix of modern folk with an alternative edge."

Webpage - <http://www.niels.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5vwa6P8MOQ>

Chris Pahud - Chris Pahud performs each year at the festival and is the co-host on the Zeiterion Stage. He grew up in Needham Massachusetts and

currently resides in Quincy Massachusetts. Chris started playing guitar and singing in the local Boston area around a decade ago. Singer-songwriter Mary Gauthier says of Chris "Chris Pahud sings with all his heart, and his heart is huge. His voice and songs come from such a beautiful place, I smile every time I hear him sing... and witness him doing what comes so natural to him..." Check Chris out and see and hear for yourself.

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iidDm-WdY6o>

Dan Plews - Dan Plews was born in Northampton, England. He has sung and played traditional music most of his life, and written songs for half of it. Dan has toured and recorded with Eliza Carthy, Jon Boden, Dansaul and Ian Giles. In addition, he writes and performs solo and with Dansmall, and is a member of the Aortas Ceilidh Band. Amongst many others, his influences include Martin Carthy, Nic Jones, Paul Brady, Richard Thompson, Guy Garvey, and Joni Mitchell.

Website - <http://www.aortas.org.uk>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HNnFQhXCUM>

Sol y Canto Duo with Alisa Amador – Puerto Rican/Argentine singer and bongo player Rosi Amador and New Mexican guitarist and composer Brian Amador are known for quirky original compositions that address matters of the heart, social and global aspiration, and their unique and driving interpretations of contemporary Latin music. Brian's guitar style combines flamenco, classical, Cuban son, Latin American styles, and jazz. Rosi has been deeply influenced by popular Latin music, flamenco, jazz, North American folk, blues and contemporary African vocal styles. The two are joined by their daughter Alisa, a singer/songwriter/guitarist who has been blowing audiences away in the U.S., Argentina and Puerto Rico, inspiring comparisons to Joni Mitchell, Bonnie Raitt, and Norah Jones.

Webpage - <http://www.solycanto.com>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDmoUN9fEHg>

Chris Smither - It's easy to see that Chris Smither's primary touchstone is acoustic blues, once describing his guitar style as "one third Lightnin' Hopkins, one third Mississippi John Hurt and one-third me." Smither reaches back to the primordial longing and infinite loneliness held within the

form. Several of his songs have become virtual standards including “Love You (Me) Like a Man” which has been recorded countless times, with the best known versions by Bonnie Raitt and Diana Krall and “Slow Surprise” recorded by Emmylou Harris. Acoustic Guitar magazine wrote that, Smither sings about “the big things – life, love, loss – in a penetrating and poetic yet unpretentious way.”

Webpage - <https://smither.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-CRCqGOM5sg>

Liz Stringer - Melbourne born musician Liz Stringer has become one of Australia’s most admired and versatile songwriters and instrumentalists over a 12 year, 6 album career. Stringer is a venerated guitarist and vocalist, her powerful live performances and melodically rich, story-based songs delighting fans and festival-goers throughout Australia and a growing audience in North America and Europe. Bonnie Raitt says “I am a big fan of Liz Stringer – and you can tell her that!”

Webpage - <http://lizstringer.com/home/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AsBDabd55Vg>

Art Tebbetts - New Bedford Guide wrote “No one personifies New Bedford’s music scene like Art Tebbetts. He is the city’s troubadour. Where there’s music, you can find him playing, emceeing, or both.” He has been the mainstage host at the festival for 22 years. He uses music to brighten the day of the elderly and the sick. “While he is a performer by trade, it is his spoken words and personality that have helped make Art such a fixture in the New Bedford music scene.”

Webpage - <http://www.arttebbetts.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKkA2JkKVMU>

Matt Watroba - Matt Watroba has the knack for picking the perfect songs and stories for the audience in front of him. Matt sings and writes songs of compassion, inner strength, humor, and everyday living. In concert or at a festival you can count on a performance that will get you singing, make you laugh, and leave you feeling a little bit better about the world we live in.

Webpage - <https://www.mattwatroba.net/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9EGnlPgK_dM

Susan Werner - Susan Werner composes skillful songs that effortlessly slide between folk, jazz, and pop, all delivered with sassy wit and classic Midwestern charm. Throughout her expansive career, boundless versatility has emerged as a hallmark of Werner's talent, and has proven to be a quintessential ingredient of her engrossing musical persona. "... a triply blessed artist who sings adroitly, plays the piano smartly and, best of all, writes songs of genuine distinction and high craft." – Chicago Tribune

Webpage - <http://susanwerner.com/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=epl2eYdC-hU>

Don White - If it were up to me – the whole world would know Don White! Oh boy do I love Don – I always have. No one can bring you to such beautiful emotional extremes more than Don. I think watching him perform is when I decided I'd much rather affect an audience than entertain them – I knew I probably couldn't do both – but somehow Don does. And exceptionally well." – Lori McKenna, award winning singer/songwriter

Webpage - <http://www.donwhite.net/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrrpndCdFIE>

Dar Williams - Dar Williams has been called "one of America's very best singer-songwriters" by The New Yorker. She has been captivating audiences with her sheer elegance and honesty in her folk-pop songwriting since the '90s. She has toured with such distinguished artists as Joan Baez, Patty Griffin, Ani DiFranco, Loudon Wainwright III and Shawn Colvin. "Dar Williams (is) one of America's very best singer-songwriters... Her songs are beautiful. Some are like finely crafted short stories. They are, variously, devastatingly moving, tenderly funny, subtle without being in any way inaccessible, and utterly fresh—not a cliché or a clunker in her entire songbook." -The New Yorker

Webpage - <https://www.darwilliams.com/>

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=18&v=SenY2rEC6o