

SPUYTEN DUYVIL

A PLACE. A BAND. A JOURNEY. BY RICHARD CUCCARO

Spuy'ten Duy'vil "spite + en dive + el" [Dutch slang] 1. a) in spite of the devil b) spitting devil 2. Creek connecting the Harlem and Hudson Rivers

The beginning of the 2010 Falcon Ridge Folk Festival was a disaster. The annual Friday afternoon Emerging Artists Showcase, always eagerly anticipated, ran into rough weather. Torrential downpours almost completely washed the audience off the hill. Later that evening, the Friday night "Most Wanted Song Swap" was canceled due to wind-driven sheets of rain. Not a good start to a "festive" festival weekend.

Hosted by assigned participant players, the Acoustic Live Friday afternoon booth showcases slogged through a constant downpour. The author, having gotten drenched twice while dealing with canopy leaks, disgustedly waited it out inside his car, trying to dry off.

The next day didn't look much better. At two o'clock the next afternoon, menacing thunderheads still loomed overhead. Spuyten Duyvil, our first Acoustic Live showcase act of the day, had been one of those acts in Friday's Emerging Artists Showcase. A band known for its boisterous spirit, they'd played before the remaining dozen or so diehards standing in the rain. I was fearful that the clouds signaled a trend, but Spuyten Duyvil had some magic up its sleeve. Six of the seven players took shelter in the front end of the 20-foot space created by our two adjoining canopies. The drummer, just outside, braved the elements. Several bars into the song, "Halfway Free," it became apparent that the skies were benign, under the spell of a benevolent spirit. A stubborn sun emerged, drenching the midway audience in sunshine. The bandleader, Mark, and the lead singer, Beth, cautiously walked out into the sunshine, joining their drummer, Lou, who tastefully played a marching band snare with brushes. Mark played a small tenor guitar in a crisply strummed attack and sang and led the group



through a sharp uptempo rhythm with tightly executed starts and stops. Beth did what she always does, belting out each stanza with the ferocity and abandon of a gospel rave-up.

I followed them part way, staying inside, next to Jim, the harp player, and Sarah, the fiddler, soaking in their swooping melody lines that helped the song fly. Tom, the guitarist, and John, the bassist, remained behind me, helping to drive the song on its merry way. As the last strains of the blues harp finished the song, Mark swung back into the canopy to change his instrument for the next song. The audience joyfully whooped its approval. We've uploaded a video of the song to YouTube, that shows the band playing for Alternate Root TV. It includes eighth member, Rik Mercaldi, on lap steel. Rik was not at Falcon Ridge in 2010.

This was my first close-up taste of this phenomenon; an organically formed band whose disparate pieces meshed as if grown together out of the same soil. Many months later, I would sit down to dinner with the group and learn how they formed and grew together.

The Roots

The story, however, begins with husband and wife **Mark Miller** and **Beth Jamie Kaufman**, who form the main stem from which the band's other tendrils sprouted. Mark was born in Boston and attended Brookline High School. He played trumpet, then baritone horn in the orchestra. After seeing Devo on "Saturday Night Live," he picked up the electric bass. He told me, "mostly I just carried it around to look cool (hard to do with a baritone horn)." [A brainy, talented player is never JUST looking cool.] After high school, he went to Wesleyan University in Connecticut. He studied ethno-musicology and comparative religions but spent most of his time in the electronic music studio recording songs with his band, music for films and music for modern dance. He met Beth in his first semester. She saw a "sexy, tortured musician guy who was anything BUT boyfriend material," but was drawn to him nevertheless. [Fate... never argue with it.] Mark invited her to join him on backup with his college band for one gig

at a packed fraternity house. Beth remembers, “That one time was crazy but so fun!!” That would be the last time they’d play together for many years.

Beth, a Brooklyn girl, had grown up listening to straight-up folk music, mostly around the campfire at summer camp where, as she stated, “the counselors were all a bunch of politically charged, guitar-slinging late-era hippies.” She developed an appreciation for “pure acoustic, communal music — music that’s meant to be sung together.” She was singing socialist anthems — Ochs, Seeger, Guthrie, Prine — at age 8. She also got involved in musical theater which led to studying and teaching theater, and later, a career in creative education.

A Digital Wizard

After graduation, Mark went back to Boston, where his degree did not prove to be a job magnet. One exchange captures the disconnect between where he was and what the world was offering: “I got one call back from a high school teaching position in religion that did not require a master’s. The first question in the phone interview was ‘Are you Catholic?’ I answered the question with a question... ‘Catholic with a big C or a little c?’ and the line went dead...” [My hero!]

He answered an ad for applicants for radio station sales. Although he says it was a “horrible job,” it gave him access to the very first personal computer-based digital audio editing system. He became a “bit of a local expert” in digital audio editing.

In spite of an obvious talent in the digital realm, Mark decided to move to San Francisco to become a chiropractor. When he got there, he got hired by Digidesign, the developer of Protools, to support their sales team. As soon as he saw Digidesign’s 24-track recording studio sitting empty all night, he quit his pre-med classes and ended up running their tech support department through the launch of Protools.

At that point, as he said, “deep in the purgatory of the transition from the mature and peaceful art of analog tape editing to the nuclear fallout caused by the insertion of the first generation of PCs into the recording studio, I got a random phone call asking if I could write music for a video game. Needing the change, I said “... sure ... I can do that.”

Mark spent the next 10 years building the largest independent studio for video game music and produced soundtracks for more than 100 titles. Beth joined him in California and they worked together for a while.

Early in this period, Mark and Beth played together in a “dismal blues band.” She said, “It was us and a bunch of musician guys



The band at our booth showcase at the 2010 Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, with the sun finally triumphant

that all worked with Mark in the video game scene out in San Francisco. Mark’s boss insisted, so a band was born. Needless to say it was very short-lived. Nevertheless, it was a joy making music with my soon-to-be husband.” While still living in California, Mark and Beth got married, with the ceremony taking place back in Brooklyn.

Their daughter, Dena, now 14, was born in San Francisco. Mark needed something steadier with benefits, so he worked in house first at Sega of America and then at Crystal Dynamics. He became chairman of the Interactive Audio Special Interest Group and helped in the development of standards for a whole lot of digital stuff that, described in “Markspeak,” is not easily translatable in this publication. However, the industry needed no translation and he received the first Lifetime Achievement Award from the Game Audio Guild.

Back East, a Musical Hiatus

A job offer from Harmonix brought Mark and Beth back to the East Coast and Mark worked for them leading “up to but not including the development and launch of Guitar Hero.”

Needing out of the game business, he went back for his MBA at Northeastern University. Then, Mark and Beth moved to New York, making their home in a big, rambling house in Yonkers. Mark had gotten burned out on music during his time in the digital game business and didn’t go near it for a long time. As Beth explains it: “It wasn’t until years later that we began to circle back to music again. In between had been years of parenting and making house. Mark was just wrapping up grad school and seemed to miss music so much. Also, he’d expressed a desire for there to be music in the house while our daughter was growing up.”

The Rebirth

One night in Boston, the trip to Spuyten Duyvil began. At a concert at The House of Blues, Mark and Beth saw David Lindley playing “lap slide reggae on something... it had eight strings.” It sounded amazing and they were both mesmerized.

Beth, being very resourceful, managed to find out what the instrument was (a bouzouki — leave it to David Lindley), and got Mark one for his next birthday. When Mark got home from work and saw it, he thought, “God that’s wonderful!... Now I have to learn how to play this thing.” He picked up a copy of *Rise Up Singing*. “It had a lot of songs with three chords that I knew. I learned how to play it and Beth and I did a lot of singing together.” Additionally, Mark found that playing the old traditional music in the book unlocked something in him and he started to write his own music. He recalled that, “I had written hundreds of pieces of incidental music and two or three lame attempts at pop music while I was in college. Some part of playing all that old-timey stuff flipped a switch and caused me to start writing stuff that had some meaning.” Beth was surprised because she was the one who had gotten into folk music at a young age and never expected Mark to get into the folky stuff. As Beth described it, “The more inspired he became to play and write, the more inspired I became to sing again.” Mark drew upon the history of the area for the band’s name and for inspiration in his writing.

Branching Out

Their house in Yonkers, in the Park Hill section, has a big stone porch out front. That’s where Mark and Beth began to sing and play on a regular basis. The word went

out through their circle of friends. The band began to form.

In conversation with three of the other band members during our dinner together, I got to see firsthand why these intelligent, articulate, funny people have so much fun making music together and enjoy each other's company off stage as well.

Tom Socol is a good guitarist who had played in a lot of bands but hadn't played out for a long time. He practiced guitar at home a lot by himself. His wife, Ellen, just happened to be Beth's best friend. Ellen told Beth about Tom. She wanted him to start playing out again and suggested that he join Mark and Beth. Although both couples were great friends, Tom was apprehensive at first because he'd been through some really bad musical matchups and knew there was a potential for a vast difference in their musical tastes and styles. ("It's like saying, 'Oh you both like baseball,' and then one guy is a Yankees fan and the other likes the Boston Red Sox.") He described what, in his experience, was the usual process of starting a band this way: "Most of the time, starting a band is like starting an extended family through the Want Ads. 'We need one husband, one wife, 2.5 children and one pet.' And whatever walks in the door you try to build on. That would be me [the pet]." He was joyfully surprised to discover that he enjoyed what Mark was playing. He said, "Mark and Beth had been playing on the porch a lot and I started showing up and we started playing more."

Sarah Banks, the violinist, came along next. She lives on the other side of "their little enclave" in Park Hill. For a while it was just the four of them, on the porch, playing traditional songs and Mark's originals. Sarah pressed Mark to do gigs, saying, "These songs are really good and we sound really good and we should get some gigs."

Mark liked the arrangement the way it was, playing once or twice a week on the porch. He acquiesced but not before telling her, "This is a really cool thing just the way it is, and as soon as we make it more than that, you know, things will get a lot more complicated."

A good friend of theirs, Steve, a professional bassist, a much more serious musician, joined the group for gigs. He wasn't into rehearsing but, "he did like the gigs." He later moved to California.

One of the places that the band began to play on a steady basis was the Hastings Farmer's Market. One frequent visitor to the market was **Jim Meigs**, editor for Popular Mechanics and a blues harpist. He'd be there every week, watching Spuyten Duyvil play. He mentioned to his wife, "Wow! These guys are



At our late-night guerrilla showcase at NERFA

really good!" Then, "Hey, they could really use harp on that song!" Then, "Wow! They could really use harp on ALL their songs!" Mark remembered that "this guy would show up with his tweed case of harmonicas." Jim would strike up conversations with Mark and casually drop hints about his musical involvement. Mark got the hints and finally asked, "Do you have a harp?" Did he ever! And his own microphone. He was invited on stage for the Little Feat staple "Willin." Mark liked what he heard and asked Jim to sit in on "Make Me a Pallet on Your Floor." After that, Jim was invited to a rehearsal and then a festival gig. He said to his wife, "I think I'm in the band!"

Another piece fell into place when, similar to what happened with Tom and Ellen, **Lou Geser's** wife mentioned to Mark that Lou, needing an outlet, played drums. Mark was looking for a drummer who would "get" the band's sound. Mark had gotten to know Lou, and knew that he wouldn't join unless he could "cut it." Lou's ability to soften the sound to fit the band's concept added the perfect touch.

John Neidhart, the bassist, had started off in folk and blues and had gone through a long rock 'n' roll period. He was playing in a cover band and, as a change of pace, was looking for a country band to play with. He entered his credentials to the BandMix.com website. After Steve left for California, Mark wanted to find another bassist, happened to be perusing the site and saw John's information and extended an invitation. John made contact and came to a rehearsal. While it wasn't country, he liked the music and thought it was a good fit. However, when he heard gospel-tinged songs and saw no beer being consumed during rehearsal, he became afraid that the band was comprised of Bible-thumping fundamentalists. It wasn't until the band lugged a big batch of "craft" microbrewed beer (a band staple) to a campsite at Falcon Ridge that he relaxed

and told them of his misperception. He also introduced them to the next member, **Rik Mercaldi**, who he thought would be a good fit with the band.

When Tom couldn't attend all of the 2010 NERFA Conference, John suggested that Rik fill in at the remaining showcases and jams. That went well, and when the band's second CD *New Amsterdam* was almost done (the first was an EP called *In Spite of the Devil*), and something was missing, John suggested that Rik come and add some lap steel. Doing overdubs, without previous accompaniment on that instrument, Mark recalled, "he tore up this material." Mark recalled saying, with a Cheshire cat grin, "This CD just got a whole lot better!" Along with Jim's Chicago blues harp, it helped to define what the band is about.

All the band members live no more than 10 minutes apart and spend a lot of time together. Beth sums up the band's spirit in her own terms: "Filling our home with music and singing alongside my husband has been a beautiful gift, enriching our relationship tenfold. Finding my voice again has been truly amazing."

Establishing a relationship with this band has been enriching for this author as well. Their press copy states: "...foot stompin', barn burning, rabble rousing live shows blending traditional jug band energy with amped-up lap steel guitar and Chicago-style harp blues." Amen to that.

To any reader who has not made the trip to Spuyten Duyvil yet... what are you waiting for? There's an adventure waiting for you.

Website: spuytenduyvilmusic.com

Upcoming Gigs Include:

**Jan 7 8pm Hurdy Gurdy Folk Music Club
Fair Lawn, NJ**

28 8pm Jalopy Brooklyn, NY

Feb 6 8pm The Bitter End New York, NY

16 8pm Turning Point Piermont, NY

**Mar 10 7pm Sounding Board Coffeehouse
West Hartford, CT**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T
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Harris, 9-Jon DiVello Band, 10-Alfonso Velez, 12-The Stone Lonesome, 1-Chris Conly
8 3-Macgillivray, 4-Bob Lanzetti, 5-Greg Trooper, 6-Scott Sharon, 7-The Lesser Ghost, 8-Guy Davis, 9-The Gallery, 10-Phamie Gow, 11-Ori Rakib, 12-David Luther
9 6-Jon Tomlinson, 7-Robby Hucht, 8-Liz Longley, 9-Waiting for Jerry, 10-Trisha Ivy, 12-Teddy Kumpel
10 6-Will Hunt, 7-Freddy Hall, 8-Dorie Colangelo, 9-Dan Dauchy, 10-Michael Daves, 11-Cyrille Aimee w/ Diego Figueiredo, 12-Bo DoPena
11 6-Nathan Reich, 7-Jeff Jacobs Birthday Show, 8-Orly, 9-Taylor Greenwood Birthday Show, 10-Jon Darling, 11-Azro Cady, 12-Nightmare River Band
12 6-Ash Hancock, 7-Kris Gruen, 8-Liana Stampur, 9-Shwa Losben, 10-Jimmy and Immy, 11-Oli Rockerberger, 12-William Gruff
13 6-Seans Dilemma (Feat. Sean Smith), 7-David Milnes, 8-Nell Bryden, 9-Brian Elmquist, 10, 11-Richard Julian, 1-Tinted Image
14 3-A Tuff Rose, 4-Matt Robbins, 5-Nerrisa Campbell, 6-Phoebe Lyng, 7-Jason Heath & The Greedy Souls, 8-Not from Wisconsin, 9-Rebecca Haviland, 1-Frances & Cone
15 4-Janet LaBelle, 6-The Manhattan Valley Ramblers, 7-Lora-Faye, 8-Paul Sigismond, 9-Stassia Feat. Akie Burmiss, 10-Aiden Moore, 11-Cameron Scoggins, 12-David Luther

Stage 2
JAN 2 8:30-Morgan James, 10:30-Patryk Larney
3 7:30-Lelia Broussard Live Recording (Two Sets), 9:30-Amy Correia \$10, 11-Full Vinyl performs the Cars Greatest Hits featuring: Greg Mayo, Patrick Firth, Zach Jones, Tony Maceli, Casey Shea, Martin Rivas, Emily Long, Ryan Vaughn, Chris Kuffner and more
4 8:30-Yula Beeri and the eXtended Family, 10-Matsiyahu Beatbox Sessions feat. Aaron Dugan & Rob Marscher \$20
5 8-Sophie Auster, 9-Jesse Ruben, 10-The Foreign Tides, 11-Attics, 12-The Right Now Freakouts
6 6:15pm-Monterey International Artists APAP Showcase: **Nellie McKay** and **Blame Sally** w/ **Julian Velard** \$20 9:30-Sister Sparrow and the Dirty Birds \$10, 11:30-Lily & The Parlour Tricks, 12:30-Snarky Puppy's Family Dinner
7 5-High Road Touring + Ground Control Touring APAP Showcase, 8:30-Blackbird Artist Agency APAP Showcase: Sarah Siskind, Christopher Paul Stelling, Lucy Wainwright Roche, The Milk Carton Kids, Gaby Moreno
8 7-Spencer Day \$12, 8:30-Fleming Artists APAP Showcase: The Guggenheim Grotto, Seth Glier, Caravan of Thieves \$12
9 8-Alan Hampton APAP Showcase Presented by Second Son Productions, 9-Jonathan Batiste, 10-Jason Lindner / Now vs. Now APAP Showcase, 11:30-Sketchy Black Dog
10 7-Lizzy Loeb, 8-Alex Berger, 9-Allie Moss, 10-Jesse Harris
11 7:30-Kevin Hearn & Thinbuckle, 10:30-Rocket & The Ghost (Feat Members of Lily & The Parlour Tricks), 11:30-In One Wind
12 7:30-John W Jung Memorial Concert featuring: Nick Howard, Martin Rivas & Special Guests TBA \$15 Adv / \$20 Door, 10-Paula Valstein, 12-Yellowcake
13 7:30-Alternative Guitar Festival Night #1 of 3 Curated by Joel Harrison & Co-Presented by The New York Guitar Festival -Pillow Wand (Nels Cline & Thurston Moore), -Ben Monder & Pete Rende, (The Music of Jimmy Webb), Joel Harrison & Anupam Shobhakar, (Music for National Steel Guitar and Sarode), -Mark Stewart & Gyan Riley Night #1 Tickets \$15 Adv / \$20 Door; **3 Night Pass \$40**, 11-Casey Shea Band, 12-Luke Wesley, 1-Snarky Puppy's Family Dinner
14 7:30-Alternative Guitar Festival Night #2 of 3 Curated by Joel Harrison & Co-Presented by The New York Guitar Festival, -Liberty Ellman & Vijay Iyer, -Dave Tronzo & Jay Graneli, -Knox Chandler & Ismail Lawal Night #2 Tickets \$15 Adv / \$20 Door, 10:30-Firehorse (Buy Tickets), 11:30-Lyle Divinsky
15 8-Alternative Guitar Festival Night #3 of 3 Curated by Joel Harrison & Co-Presented by The New York Guitar Festival Honoring Jim Hall w/ Chris Potter, Scott Colley, Nels Cline, Trevor Dunn, Joel Harrison String Choir, David Binney, Steve Cardenas, Jim Ridi, Vic Juris, Mary Halvorson, Gilad Hekselman, Obed Calvaire, Jacob Sacks & more Night #3 Tickets \$15 Adv / \$20 Door

Rocky Sullivan's

129 Lexington Avenue 212-725-3871
 Mondays from 9 'til midnight- informal seisiun of Irish traditional music with Marie Reilly

The Rodeo Bar

375 3rd Avenue, New York, New York 10016
 Corner of 27th Street and Third Avenue (212) 683-6500
 www.rodeobar.com
 Showtimes: Mon-Tues 9pm - Midn, Wed 10pm - Midn
 Thurs 10pm - 1am Fri-Sat 10:30pm - 1:30am

JAN 1 Hank-O-Rama
2 Tricked Out Country Tue,
3 Vicious Country
4 Blank Baby and the Adults- Rockabilly Burlesque Show
5 Hicky Hawkins
6 Elvis Birthday Bash w/ The Lustre Kings
7 The Buzzards
8 All Night Chemists / JOMA Showcase
9 Western Caravan
10 Vicious Country
11 Susquehanna Industrial Tool and Die Co.
12 Jack Grace Band
13 Chris Bergson Band
14 The Bullets
15 Dysfunctional Family Jazz Band
16 The Ramblin Kind
17 Vicious Country / 7pm- Hoffman School
18 Michaela Anne
19 7 to 9 - Hell or High Water / Colt Six
20 Bill Malchov / Alex McMurray and the Go Cup All Stars
21 Eugene Chryslers Rockabilly Trio
22 Preston Frantz
23 Mick Reed
24 Vicious Country
25 Dave Rudbarg
26 Simon and the Bar Sinisters
27 Babs Winn
28 Kenny Holly
29 Jason Loughlin
30 Hay Jude
31 Vicious Country

Roseland Ballroom

239 W 52nd St (212) 247-0200
 www.roselandballroom.com

The Rubin Museum of Art

150 W 17th Street
 212.620.5000 ext 344 www.rmanyc.org
Music Without Borders presents the "Naked Soul" Series
JAN 6 7pm Bill Charlap Trio \$35 Adv / \$40 Door / Memb: \$31.50
27 7pm Dana Fuchs \$22.50 Adv / \$25 Door / Memb: \$20.25
FEB 10 7pm Jonathan Edwards \$25 Adv / \$30 Door / Memb: \$22.50
24 7pm Nicole Atkins \$25 Adv / \$30 Door / Memb: \$22.50
MAR 9 7pm Garland Jeffreys \$30 Adv / \$35 Door / Memb: \$27

Symphony Space

2537 Broadway (95th St) 212.864.1414
 www.symphonyspace.org

Terminal 5

610 W 56th St (212) 665-3832 www.terminal5nyc.com

Terra Blues

149 Bleecker St 212-777-7776 terrablues.com
 7pm Acoustic / 10pm Electric

Town Hall

123 W.43rd St. www.the-townhall-nyc.org 212-398-6447

UMO Music Events

UMO Weekly Sunday Afternoon Free Winter Music Event
 Shades of Green Pub
 125 East 15 Street (Betw Irving Place & 3rd Ave)
 2pm to 6pm FREE - 1 Drink Minimum / 212-674-1394
 Performers welcome: Folk / Rock / R&B 2010 back to 1960's
 More info "Underground Music Online" www.umo.com
 (Note - Spring, Summer & Fall Music is in Washington Square Park)

Webster Hall

125 E. 11th St. www.websterhall.com

Bronx

An Beal Bocht Cafe

445 W 238th St, Riverdale 718-884-7127 anbealbochtcafe.com
 Shows at 9:30
 Sun: 4-7pm Trad Irish Session Tues: Open Mic Night

Uptown Coffeehouse
 City Island Community Center
 190 Fordham Street - Lower Level, City Island 10464
 (below the Nautical Museum) (718) 885-2955
 www.uptowncoffeehouse.org

All shows start at 6pm Adm. \$15 adults \$5 children
JAN 15 Diana Jones
FEB 12 Left on Red (Liah Alonso & Kelly Halloran)
MAR 4 TBA
APR 1 David Roth
MAY 6 Tom Pacheco
JUN 3 Rod MacDonald

Brooklyn

Barbes

376 9th St at 6th Ave Park Slope 718-965-9177
 www.barbesbrooklyn.com
 All events \$10 suggested donation, unless otherwise noted
 Sundays @ 9pm Stephane Wrembel - The Django Experiment
 Mondays @ 7pm Brain Cloud
 Mondays @ 9:30pm Chicha Libre
 Tuesdays @ 9pm Slavic Soul Party \$10/set
 Wednesdays @ 8pm The Palimpsestic Series \$10/set
 Wednesdays @ 10pm The Mandingo Ambassadors
 Thursdays in Jan. @10pm Smokey's Secret Family
 Fridays @ 5pm The Crooked Trio

JAN 1 7pm The Quavers
3 7pm The Upright Piano Brigade Split Second Piano Ensemble - Roberto Hidalgo & Marc Peloquin, pianists
4 8pm Nilsson Brothers Meet Joe Fonda \$10
5 7pm Dayna Kurtz
6 Special APAP performances: 8pm Matt Munisteri Plays The Lost Music Of Willard Robison, 9pm The Victory Band, 10pm Marco Calliari, 11pm Matuto
7 Special APAP performances: 8pm Jordan Tice Trio, 10pm Banda Sinaloense De Los Muertos
8 Special APAP performance: 7pm The Brothers Nazaroff
10 7:30pm Andy Biskin's Ibid
11 8pm Jacob Garchik \$10
12 8pm Russell Scholl (film series) presents: Now Let Us Praise Famous Women
13 8pm Oran Eklin, 10pm The Jack Grace Band.
14 8pm Superballs, 10pm Las Rubias Del Norte
15 8pm Vinnie Sperrazza Band
17 7pm Rufus Cappadocia
18 8pm Tony Malaby \$10
19 8pm Matt Munisteri
20 8pm Anders Nilsson Band, 10pm Bill Carney's Jug Addicts
21 10pm People's Champs
22 7pm Trio Blasphemy
23 9pm The Revelers
24 7pm Boppin' At The Bop
25 8pm Kris Davis Trio \$10
26 8pm Hearts & Bones
27 8pm Llama, 10pm Cumbiagra
28 7pm The 'Bad, 8pm Benyoro, 10pm Brooklyn Qawwali Party
29 7pm Anthony Coleman
 (Note: See above for recurring residency performers)

The Bell House

149 7th Street www.thebellhouseny.com

Brooklyn Bowl

61 Wythe Avenue (718) 963-3369 brooklynbowl.com

Brooklyn Music Shop presents

at The Grand Prospect Hall 263 Prospect Avenue
 (Between 5th & 6th Aves.), Park Slope Tickets: ticketfly.com
FEB 3 Joan Osborne, Catherine Russell and The Holmes Brothers
 Doors 7:30pm \$35

First Acoustics Coffeehouse

First Unitarian Congregational Society
 Brooklyn Heights 50 Monroe Place at Pierpont St.

BROOKLYN MUSIC SHOP
 presents on
FEB 3, 2012



Joan Osborne



The Holmes Brothers



Catherine Russell

Grand Prospect Hall
 Park Slope,
 Brooklyn
 \$35
 Tix:
 ticketfly.com

The Eclectic Cafe

28 Brentwood Rd.,
 Bay Shore, NY
 eclecticcafe.org
 Info 631-661-1278
 Tickets \$10 & \$8

8:30pm
 open mic 7:30

Jan 14th



REBECCA PRONSKY
 WITH RICH BENNETT

S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

22 The Kennedys \$19/\$23
FEB 12 Buskin & Batteau \$19/\$23
MAR 19 Delta Rae \$19/\$23
APR 16 Trout Fishing in America Adults \$21 / Children \$10
MAY 21 Brother Sun (Greg Greenway, Pat Victor & Joe Jencks) \$19/\$23

Concerts at the Crossing

Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing
 268 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road Titusville
 Shows at 7:30pm concertsatthecrossing.com
JAN 21 Mary Gauthier & John Fullbright \$20 / \$5 kids 18 and under
MAR 24 Ellis Paul w/special guest Emily Baker \$23 / \$5 kids 14 and under
APR 21 The Write Stuff Vol. 1: A Celebration of the Works of
 Legendary Classic Country Songwriters w/ Suzie Brown,
 Brittany Ann, Natalie Acciani, Chuck Schaeffer & Jim Henry
 \$20 / \$5 kids 14 and under
MAY 19 Ariana Gillis & Victoria Vox \$20 / \$5 kids 18 and under

Lois & Greg House Concerts

House Concerts Seating limited Reservations req'd
 60 Colby Court Belvidere (973) 916-1688
www.loisandgreg.com
 Potluck begins at 1:30, Show begins at 3:00

Heights House Concert Series

Jersey City Address given w/ reservation
heightshouseconcerts.com 201-310-1322
 All shows Sundays 2:30pm
 reservations: info@heightshouseconcerts.com
JAN 29 Loretta Hagen / Joe Iadanza
MAR 25 RUNA

The Hillside Café

45 Hillside Crescent, Nutley (@ Church and Prospect St.)
 Community room of Franklin Reformed Church
 shows: 8pm 973-667-7055 www.hillsidecafe.com
JAN 21 The Lords of Liechtenstein / The Jen Chapin Trio (Co-Bill) \$10

Hurdy Gurdy Folk Music Coffeehouse

Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn
 Shows at 8:00 201 384-1325 www.hurdygurdyfolk.org
 Prices: member/non-member
JAN 7 Spuyten Duyvil and Hungrytown \$12 / \$15
FEB 4 Tripping Lily and Runa \$12 / \$25
MAR 3 Brother Sun, opener: Mara Levine & Caroline Cutroneo \$22 / \$25
24 Danielle Miraglia and Toby Walker \$12 / \$15
APR 14 Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem opener: Brad Yoder \$22 / \$25
MAY 5 Robin and Linda Williams & their Fine Group \$27 / \$30
JUN 4 Diana Jones, opener: TBA \$17 / \$20

Maxwell's

1039 Washington St., Hoboken 201-507-8900
 or 212-307-7171 www.maxwellsnj.com
 Every 3rd Tuesday NJ Songwriters in the Round
FEB 2 8pm Jenny Owen Youngs \$10 Adv / \$12 Door

Mexicali Live

1409 Queen Anne Road Teaneck www.mexicalilive.com

The Minstrel

Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Hts. Rd,
 Shows at 8pm 973-335-9489 \$7 Cover www.folkproject.org
JAN 6 John Forster with Tony DeSantis
 13 Open Stage
20 Vance Gilbert with Caitlin Canty
27 David Massengill with Honor Finnegan

Montvale Public Library

12 Mercedes Dr Montvale 201-391-5090 montvale.bccls.org

Music at the Mission

West Milford Presbyterian Church
 1452 Union Valley Road West Milford 973-728-4201
www.musicatthemission.org
 Doors open at 7:30pm - Music starts at 8pm
 Adm: Non-memb Adv / Door
JAN 21 Emerging Artist Showcase with Caleb Hawley, The YaYas,
 Chasing June and The Twangtown Paramours \$22 / \$25
FEB 25 Cabin Fever Cure Tour II with We're About 9 and Barnaby
 Bright \$22 / \$25
MAR 17 Frank Vignola with special guest Renee Lando \$22 / \$25
APR 21 Sierra Hull & Highway 111 \$25 / \$30

New Legacy Concert Series

Ringwood Public Library
 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood 973-962-6256
www.palsplus.org/rpl/newlegacy/newlegacy.html
 Seating: first come, first served
JAN 29 2pm Alexis P Suter Band \$15

FEB 19 2pm Buckwheat Zydeco \$25

Notes From Home

(house concert series)
 Montclair 201-214-1138 Doors open 1 hour before Concert
 potluck dinner www.notesfromhomenj.com
 Reservations: chris@notesfromhomenj.com RSVP for location
FEB 4 Brooks Williams
MAR 17 "Afro-Jersey" w/ Terre Roche, Sidiki Conde and Marlon
 Cherry
APR 14 Cosy Sheridan and TR Ritchie
MAY 5 Ana Egge
JUN 23 We're About 9 Duo

Outpost in the "Burbs" Coffeehouse

Unitarian Church of Montclair, 67 Church Street, Montclair
 (Larger shows* held at First Congregational Church of
 Montclair 40 South Fullerton Ave)
 973-744-6560 Shows at 8:00 www.outpostintheburbs.org
JAN 20 Ellis Paul / Ari Hest \$25
FEB 4 Raul Midon With Bill Griese \$25
24 Robert Gordon \$28
APR 13 Tracy Grammer / Dan Navarro Co-Bill \$22
MAY 4 Red Molly With Carsie Blanton \$22

Princeton Folk Music Society

Concerts at Christ Congregation Church
 50 Walnut Lane in Princeton 3rd Friday of the month - 8:15
princetonfolk.org info@princetonfolk.org (609) 799-0944
JAN 20 Sloan Wainwright
FEB 17 Atwater/Donnelly
MAR 16 Bruce Molsky
APR 20 Deb Cowan
MAY 18 Jean Redpath

Sanctuary Concerts

www.sanctuaryconcerts.org
 Presbyterian Church, 240 Southern Boulevard, Chatham
 973.376.4946 Boxoffice@sanctuaryconcerts.org
 Concerts 8pm Admission includes coffee and baked desserts
FEB 4 John McKuen of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band plus
 Beppe Gambetta \$25
MAR 3 Tom Paxton plus Michael Smith \$25

Splatter Concerts

Ukrainian American Cultural Center
 60 North Jefferson Rd., Whippany
 Shows @ 7pm 973-585-7175 www.splatterconcerts.com
 Adm \$ as listed Ages 13-17: \$5 12 & under free
 To order tickets, e-mail name & no. of tickets desired to:
splatterconcerts@yahoo.com
DEC 2 Eddie Shaw & The Wolf Gang (members of the last group
 fronted by blues legend Howlin' Wolf) \$20 Adv / \$22 Door
18 Savoy Brown \$25 Adv / \$27 Door
JAN 7 Buffy Sainte-Marie \$30 Adv / \$33 Door

Stone House Music Club

Mexicali Live 1409 Queen Anne Road Teaneck
 Venue tel: (201) 833-0011 info: (201)503-1332
www.pdpconcerts.com

Wellmont Theater

5 Seymour St, Montclair (973) 783-9500
wellmonttheater.com
FEB 10 Levon Helm Band / Peter Wolf \$40-\$80

Connecticut

Acoustic Cafe

2926 Fairfield Ave. Black Rock 203-335-FOLK (3655)
www.acousticcafe.com
 Tues: Open Mic 7pm sign up - begin at 9pm \$3

Acoustic Celebration

Temple Shearith Israel 46 Peaceable St Ridgefield
 or St. Stephen's Church, North Hall 351 Main St
www.acousticcelebration.org
 (203) 431-6501 info@acousticcelebration.org
JAN 5 4pm Joe Crookston / Amy Speace \$17 Adv / \$20 Door
 @ Temple Shearith Israel
22 4pm Tom Pacheco \$17 Adv / \$20 Door @ St. Stephen's
29 4pm Tim Grimm & Krista Deter \$17 Adv / \$20 Door
 @ St. Stephen's
FEB 12 4pm Pierce Pettis & Grace Pettis \$20 Adv / \$25 Door
 @ Temple Shearith Israel
18 4pm David Francey \$22 Adv / \$25 Door
MAR 25 4pm Garnet Rogers \$17 Adv / \$20 Door
APR 29 4pm Zoe Mulford \$17 Adv / \$20 Door

Branford Folk Coffeehouse

First Congregational Church of Branford
 1009 Main Street, Branford www.folknotes.org/branfordfolk
 Shows: 8pm nonmemb \$15, memb \$12, children 12 - under, \$5

JAN 14 The ZuZazz String Orchestra

FEB 11 Van Norstrand Brothers
MAR 10 Chris Koldeley and John Kirk
APR 14 Dan Milner and Jeff Davis
MAY 12 Forebitter

CT Folk

First Presbyterian Church 704 Whitney Ave, New Haven
 "First Friday" Concert Series www.ctfolk.com/home.html
 Gen Adm / \$10 Students Door: \$20 Gen Adm / \$15 Students
JAN 6 7:30pm Gathering Time \$20

Fairfield Theater Company

www.fairfieldtheatre.org
 FTC @ The Klein Klein Memorial Auditorium
 910 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport \$Gen Adm / Memb
FEB 18 8pm Foreigner \$45-\$85
 FTC on StageOne 70 Sanford St., Fairfield shows@ 7:30
JAN 14 7 & 10pm Marc Cohn \$67
15 Cheryl Wheeler \$32
20 Lori McKenna \$22

Good Folk Coffeehouse

Rowayton Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
 Rowayton Avenue & Pennoyer Street, Rowayton (203) 866-
 4450 www.goodfolkcoffeehouse.com
 Doors open at 7:30pm - Music starts at 8pm
 Adult Donation: \$25 - Children 7 to 12 half price - Under 7 free

Molten Java Coffee

213 Greenwood Ave., Bethel
 203-739-0313 mjcoffee.com
JAN 21 8pm My Dad's Truck
22 2pm Bill Wisnowski

The Ridgefield Playhouse

80 East Ridge Ridgefield 203-438-5795
www.ridgefieldplayhouse.com
JAN 20 8pm Aimee Mann w/ spec Guest Ivan & Alyosha \$55-\$60
27 8pm Edgar Winter and Rick Derringer

The Vanilla Bean Cafe

Corner of Rts 44, 169 & 97 Pomfret (860)928-1562
thevanillabeancafe.com
JAN 6 Chris Smither; Chelsea Berry Opens \$30
13 Songwriter Sessions w/ Chuck Williams, Bernice Lewis, Tom
 Smith- Lisa Martin Hosts \$5
14 Yankee Dogs \$10
21 Michael Hakanson-Stacy \$10
28 Howie Bursen & Friends \$20
FEB 3 Open Mic - Feature: Jake Klar \$7
4 Les Sampou \$15
5 Bill Staines \$15
10 Songwriter Sessions w/ John Fuzek, Mardi Garcia; Lisa Martin
 Hosts \$5
11 Vance Gilbert \$15

Please call ahead or check venue
 websites before attending shows.
 Not responsible for typographical
 errors or late performance changes

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