



TROUBADOUR NEWSLETTER

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MUSIC FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

As an all-volunteer organization, our reward for the hard work of presenting concerts comes in part from the satisfaction of discovering talented artists and helping them connect with a brand new audience.

That's why many of us consider last season's family concert featuring Ellis Paul to be one of the most gratifying and memorable events in our long history.

We saw a new generation discover the joy of live music; dancing and singing along to classic and original tunes performed by one of the best in the business.

We also saw a special bond formed between kids and their parents and grandparents who shared that special day.

It was truly remarkable. So, we're doing it again!

On the afternoon of Saturday, February 15, we'll present a Special Family Show full of singing, dancing and silliness.

The Ragbirds, an energetic and eclectic five-piece band fronted by lead singer and multi-instrumentalist (and brand-new mother) Erin Zindle, are no stranger to family-friendly concerts.

Each year they draw upon their fondness of the songs of their youth and use the band's creative energy to bring new life to childhood favorites in family-friendly holiday show in their home state of Michigan. These shows

regularly sell-out. When we heard of The Ragbirds' cross-generational appeal, they were a natural choice to present for our family show.

They'll take the stage for this special show at 3:00 p.m., before they open that evening's concert featuring The Steel Wheels. It's sure to be an unforgettable day – and night – of music.

Don't miss this opportunity to share your love of music with your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews. You can also help us spread the word by passing this message along to friends and neighbors with kids who would enjoy this special event.

The rest of our season promises to be just as memorable, with more of what you have come to expect – some of the best established and emerging performing songwriters around.

Read on to learn about all these artists including The Steel Wheels, Richard Shindell, Carrie Newcomer, and many more.

See you at a show!



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Students with a valid ID can purchase discounted tickets through any of the above methods. Be sure to mention you're a student, and have your ID ready at the door.

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To encourage all the future folk fans out there to nurture an impeccable taste in good music, we offer discounted tickets for everyone under 18!

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Save even more on ticket prices and service charges with our full and half season ticket packages.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

- Purchase tickets
- Learn about upcoming shows
- View concert photos
- Browse an archive of past performances
- Link to artist websites & song samples

www.SixString.org

THE STEEL WHEELS WITH THE RAGBIRDS

Saturday, February 15 / 8:00pm / \$22 Advance / Columbus Performing Arts Center

The best of new Americana with a reinvigoration of traditional music.

The Steel Wheels is a dynamic four-piece string band from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia that marries old-time musical traditions with their own innovative sound.

Trent Wagler's weathered tenor is joined by bell-clear four-part harmonies. Add Eric Brubaker's lively and evocative fiddle, Brian Dickel's grounded yet buoyant upright bass, and Jay Lapp's signature mandolin style, and it's no surprise that The Steel Wheels have burst onto the Americana scene, becoming festival favorites and selling out venues across the country.

The Steel Wheels have captivated fans with raw energy and chemistry, playing events such as Merlefest, Mountain Stage, and the heralded Stagecoach Festival. As the band thrives, so do their partnerships with local businesses, artisans, and charitable organizations.

The values portrayed in their music – devotion to roots, community, and family – are a way of life for The Steel Wheels, and this is reflected in everything they do, from their production process to local sourcing of their promotional merchandise.

Avid cyclists, in August of 2013 the band completed their fourth "Spokesongs Tour". The band commuted the entire distance between shows on bikes, pulling all their instruments, merchandise and other gear on attached carts – without extra personnel.

The band recently launched their inaugural Red Wing Roots Music Festival, a three-day event, which took place in the Shenandoah Valley, features the best of today's neo-traditional artists.

The festival takes its name from the old tune "Red Wing", which Wagler learned from his grandfather and brought to the band with new lyrics. The song represents a commitment to roots, but also the propensity of The Steel Wheels to propel those musical traditions forward.

“ *The Steel Wheels break down some bluegrass stereotypes, bringing youth and thoughtfulness to a vibrant American art form.* ”

– Rich Warren, Folkstage



THE RAGBIRDS: SPECIAL FAMILY SHOW

Saturday, February 15 / 3:00pm / \$10 Adults / \$5 Kids / Columbus Performing Arts Center

Share a special musical experience with your kids or grandkids.

The Ragbirds are a joyful, eclectic, and energetic band fronted by multi-instrumentalist (and brand new mother to baby girl Aviva) Erin Zindle.

Zindle, who has a totally accessible personality, onstage and off, has always had a deep fondness for the songs of her childhood. She will draw on these roots and use the band's creative energy to bring new life to childhood favorites.

Since 2008 it has become a yearly tradition for The Ragbirds to present a unique, family-friendly holiday show called "Ebird & Friends" in their home state of Michigan. The shows which feature an afternoon of music, dancing, and silliness consistently sell out.

The five-piece outfit describes themselves as a "fusion of folk rock and pop hooks over danceable world rhythms stirred with a Celtic fiddler's bow." If that sounds like a tall order, it

is. But the band, which includes guitarist T.J. Zindle, bassist Brennan Duncan Andes, and drummers / percussionists Randall Moore and Loren Kranz deliver.

The Ragbirds have been playing together since 2005 with a busy travel schedule that includes nearly 200 shows per year. They tour in a van converted to run on recycled waste vegetable oil, which shows their deep commitment to environmentalism and other social causes.

Kids and adults alike will be entertained by this energetic performance. It's sure to be a memorable event for the whole family.

“ The very best of what independent contemporary pop has to offer. ”
 — All Music Guide



SUPPORT IS PROVIDED IN PART BY:



Troubadour is published twice annually by Six String Concerts, Inc., a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to promoting regional and national acoustic performing songwriters not otherwise heard in Columbus. The concerts are held primarily in smoke- and alcohol-free environments which provide mutual satisfaction to the audience and artists.

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CARRIE NEWCOMER WITH KRISTA DETOR

Friday, March 14 / \$22 Advance / Columbus Performing Arts Center

The intersection of the spiritual and the daily, the sacred and the ordinary.

Carrie Newcomer's music explores the intersection of the spiritual and the daily, the sacred and the ordinary.

Over the course of her career she has become a prominent voice for progressive spirituality, social justice and interfaith dialogue. Her ability for sharp observation of the world lead the *Dallas Morning News* to rave, "She's the kind of artist whose music makes you stop, think and then say, 'that is so true.'"

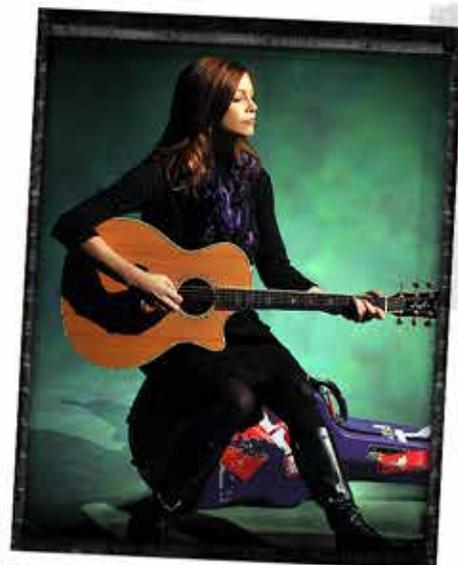
She has been described as "a soaring songstress" by *Billboard*, a "prairie mystic" by the *Boston Globe* and *Rolling Stone* has declared that Newcomer "asks all the right questions." Author Barbara Kingsolver wrote, "She's a poet, storyteller, snake-charmer, good neighbor, friend and lover, minister of the wide-eyed gospel of hope and grace."

Newcomer sings about serious subjects with clarity and elegance, and a healthy measure of good humor and self-awareness, with a voice the *Austin Statesman* has called "as rich as Godiva chocolate." Her music resonates with Appalachian and classical influences, and is punctuated with adept guitar work and powerful but intimate vocals.

Krista Detor is a critically-lauded, award-winning songwriter whose work has reached audiences across the globe. Her songwriting has been compared to that of Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen and was called "a small miracle" by *Rolling Stone*.

Detor got her start signing on the LA wedding circuit at the age of 16. She has since achieved national and international prominence, including number one on the Euro-Americana Chart and placement within the Top 10 of the U.S. Folk and Independent Music charts. She regularly tours Europe, Canada and the United States with her partner and producer, David Weber.

A versatile and prolific artist, Detor has footprints in several arenas; her own singing and songwriting, theatre and choral work, and even academia. She also has participated in interesting collaborations with other artists, including the Darwin Song Project, which celebrated the bicentennial of the birth of Charles Darwin in song and *Wilderness Plots: Songs and Stories of the Prairie*, a collection of songs inspired by a book by Indiana author Scott Russell Sanders.



“A soaring songstress.”

– *Billboard*



“One of the finest singer-songwriters I've run across in years.”

– *Carrie Newcomer*

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RICHARD SHINDELL WITH ANTJE DUVEKOT

Friday, April 4 / \$25 Advance / Columbus Performing Arts Center

A meticulous craftsman of song.

Richard Shindell is widely acclaimed as one of today's finest narrative songwriters.

Innovative, original and occasionally spiritual, Shindell's songs weave tales that interchangeably champion the downtrodden, exalt the disaffected or express empathy to those lost to society's fringes.

Shindell's background is as varied as the characters he sings about. While in college, he formed a band with friend John Gorka. He lived for a while in a Zen Buddhist monastery. He has played for coins in the underground Metro stations of Paris. And he studied philosophy and religion at Union Theological Seminary.

In addition to building a loyal fan base, Shindell has earned overwhelming critical success. He has been called "a master of subtle narrative" by *The Wall Street Journal*, "a master builder of songs" by *The Boston Globe*, and has been described as having "the voice of a master" by *The Los Angeles Daily News*. Richard Shindell: Master, indeed.

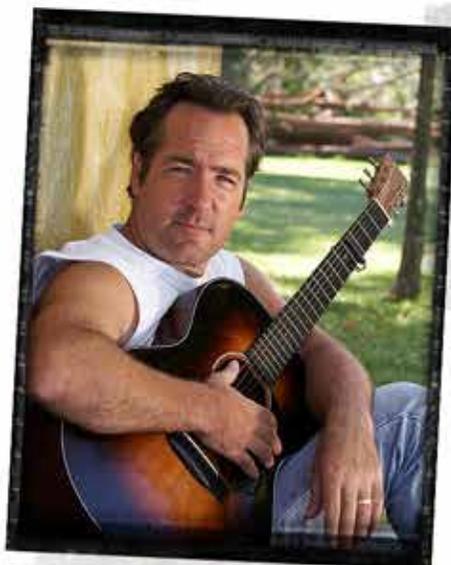
Antje Duvekot (pronounced: Aunt-yuh Doo-va-kot) is one of the brightest singer-songwriters to rise out of Boston's competitive acoustic music scene.

Duvekot was born in Heidelberg, Germany and moved to the United States at the age of 13. She began recording music on her own at 16, producing limited-edition cassette tapes for her friends. At 18 she won the first open mic competition she entered, at the Sam Adams Brewpub in Philadelphia.

Duvekot cut her teeth as a performer playing to her dorm mates at the University of Delaware and then around the local gig scene. She soon moved to New York, then to Boston, where she found her spiritual home in the city's well-established folk scene.

Her song "Soma" won Grand Prize in the John Lennon Songwriting Competition, she was a New Folk winner at the prestigious Kerrville Folk Festival, and she won the Boston Music Award for "Outstanding Folk Act" - three of the top prizes in the singer-songwriter world.

Her latest two CDs, *The Near Demise of the High Wire Dancer* and *New Siberia* were produced by mentor Richard Shindell.



“ Shindell has uncanny sense of the theater of a song. ”

– The Boston Globe



“ What a blessing to have worked with someone as talented as Antje. ”

– Richard Shindell



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DANNY SCHMIDT WITH ROBBY HECHT

Saturday, April 26 / \$22 Advance /
Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center Of Worthington

A torch-bearer of the Texas songwriting tradition.

Austin, TX-based singer/songwriter, **Danny Schmidt** has built an enthusiastic following while simultaneously inspiring the admiration of his fellow artists and critical acclaim from industry professionals.

His songwriting won him the prestigious Kerrville New Folk award, but it's his intense live performances that leave listeners with a sense that each of his songs is necessary, plain and simple. His guitar work is effortless and sparkling, his arrangements are fresh and unpredictable, his voice ageless.

Stylistically and musically, Danny's writing spans an impressively diverse reach, from deeply-rooted Appalachian mountain gospel to haunted English balladry, from syncopated Piedmont country blues to vagabond 60's protest folk-stumpery.

He tackles universal themes of love, loss, longing, restless discontent and grateful joy. And he captures both the sorrow and the beauty inherent in our everyday lives with the wisdom of a perceptive, compassionate elder and with the innocent awe and tenderness of a child.

Robby Hecht is a romantic realist.

He writes melodic and captivating songs that don't shy away from the complexity of human relationships and delivers them with a smooth tenor that evokes both sorrow and hope. His latest CD, *Last of the Long Days*, takes the listener through a broad spectrum of emotions touching on forgiveness, love, indifference, joy, self-doubt and more. He writes with an honesty that captures the truth of a sentiment, building allegorical themes that allow anyone to relate the songs to the experiences of his or her own life.

Born in Knoxville, Tennessee and raised on his parents' record collection of 1970's singer/songwriters, Robby Hecht early on discovered his musical vocation.

After attending college in Wisconsin and playing music in Paris and San Francisco, Hecht returned to Tennessee and settled in Nashville to focus on his career. His intensive touring and songwriting, including appearances with Richie Havens, Greg Brown, and Patty Griffin, have garnered him prizes and praise.



“ *The most brilliant young songwriter I've heard in the past 25 years. His songs are thrillingly poetic.* ”

— Rich Warren



“ *A beautiful, soulful voice...* ”

— Jeff Coffin, Dave Matthews Band

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EDIE CAREY WITH RJ COWDERY

Saturday, May 17 / \$22 Advance /
Columbus Performing Arts Center

Smart tales of love, life, and longing.

Edie Carey is known for her unmistakable soulful voice and intelligent, heart-grabbing songs, but perhaps most especially for her warm, engaging presence on- and off-stage.

As much a part of her show as the music itself, Edie's wry and often self-mocking humor makes audiences feel as though they have just spent an evening with a very close friend.

Born in Burlington, Vermont and raised in the Boston suburbs by her English teacher father, therapist mother, and poet stepmother, Edie couldn't help but learn to love words. Time in Italy learning Italian and guitar bolstered her appreciation for the sonorous quality of words, while back home, her time spent playing the campus and coffeehouse circuit enabled her to build a strong following.

Carey realized she had "accidentally" ended up exactly where she was supposed to be. Somehow, all of life's seemingly unrelated turns have always managed to steer Edie Carey toward music. Looking back, she has to wonder if maybe this wasn't an accident at all.

Rj Cowdery is a Columbus-based artist who has solidified her place as a standout of the next generation of performing songwriters.

Though she wrote her first songs as a teenager, Cowdery took a circuitous path to becoming a full-time artist. She experienced exciting creative breakthroughs followed by distractions and obligations that took her away from her lifelong dream of being a professional singer/songwriter. But it has all paid off in recent years.

Cowdery's past few years on the folk festival trail have been nothing short of extraordinary. She has received major accolades at some of the most prestigious festivals in the U.S., including wins at the 2007 Mountain Stage NewSong, 2008 Kerrville New Folk, and 2008 Falcon Ridge Emerging Artist competitions. Most recently, she won the Dave Carter Memorial Songwriting Contest at the Sisters Folk Festival in Oregon.

Her most recent release *In This Light* has been met with rave reviews from critics, fans, and her fellow artists.



“ Charmingly unassuming. Loaded up with heartfelt revelations. ”

— Philadelphia City Paper

“ A beautiful voice that perfectly complements her guitar playing. ”

— Gar Ragland



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2013/2014 SEASON - SECOND HALF

★ Performance Schedule ★

THE STEEL WHEELS with The Ragbirds

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 (8:00 p.m.) - \$22 ADVANCE

THE RAGBIRDS: Special Family Show

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 (3:00 p.m.) - \$10 ADULTS, \$5 KIDS

CARRIE NEWCOMER with Krista Detor

FRIDAY, MARCH 14 - \$22 ADVANCE

RICHARD SHINDELL with Antje Duvekot

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 - \$25 ADVANCE

DANNY SCHMIDT with Robby Hecht

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 - \$22 ADVANCE

PEGGY R. MCCONNELL ARTS CENTER OF WORTHINGTON

EDIE CAREY with Rj Cowdery

SATURDAY, MAY 17 - \$22 ADVANCE



UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL SHOWS ARE AT 8PM & TAKE PLACE AT:
 Columbus Performing Arts Center • 549 Franklin Avenue, Columbus, OH

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