

Next SVSA meeting

The next meeting of the SVSA will be held **Wednesday, January 23** at Third Street Coffeehouse in Roanoke, VA. Doors will open at 7 p.m.; meeting begins promptly at 7:30 and will last until the last song critique is finished, or 10:30 p.m., whichever comes first. Members may submit one song for critique (on cassette or CD) and should provide at least 12 copies of the lyrics. Critiques are limited to members only but non-members and guests are encouraged to sit in on the discussions and exercises.

January Feature Article #1

from the Songwriters Connection Etip, Dec. 6, 2012

Collaborating with an Audience

By Leon Olguin

I have long stressed the value of live performance for songwriters. Get out there and play your songs whenever and wherever you can! Get some feedback from a live audience. I'm not necessarily talking about doing a full-on live show, but rather performing a song or two at an open mic type event, or a songwriters night. By the way, if no such event is held in your area, you may want to look into starting a songwriters night where you are. Of course, if you live in or near Nashville, well, need I say more?

I would also strongly suggest that you play your songs for people who have no idea who you are. Family and friends may not give you the most honest feedback. Oh, they won't out-and-out lie to you, but they will have a tendency to like everything you do, or they may be afraid of hurting your feelings by saying anything critical.

A friend of ours here in Central Florida who owns a local music store and recording studio has put on a songwriters' night at various venues over the last few years. Over 200 songwriters from the surrounding area have taken part. The main stipulation: the songs have to be originals, and 99 percent of the time the songs are performed by the writer.

Consequently, I have heard a wide variety of songs over the past few years! Inevitably I can tell from observing the audience which songs are having an impact. Sometimes everyone will keep talking and moving around while the songwriter gamely plays away. I've heard songs that were approximately five times longer than they should have been, complete with instrumental interludes featuring a screaming guitar solo that the performing songwriter was hearing in his mind, as we were hearing only strummed chords (sometimes the same two or three chords over and over...).

But every once in a while, a new song would catch everyone's attention. The room would go mostly silent, as the audience tuned into what they were hearing. The song may not have been perfect, but there was something there that made everyone pay attention. Perhaps there was a memorable turn of phrase in the lyric, or an unusual and arresting twist in the melody or the chord progression.

I saw songwriters who performed a new song, and after observing that it did not receive the reaction they were hoping for, went home, re-wrote the song, and came back and performed it again. I've heard several songs "evolve" as the songwriter used the feedback from the audience to help determine what would improve the song.

Some songwriters would perform week after week, playing the same songs, (sometimes they had one song that they played every time), receive the same tepid (or non-existent) response, and never change a thing. Perhaps they believed that their songs needed no revision, just a better audience!

If you are a performing songwriter, after a while you will learn how to "read" an audience, even while you are playing your newest song for them. Ask yourself the following questions, even as you are performing:

Is anyone actually listening? – Many songwriters' nights are held in a bar

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setting, so there may be folks who are simply there to drink, and not necessarily to hear songs they have never heard before. If no one seems to notice that you are actually playing, your song may be part of the problem. (Another problem is songwriters who are not very good performers, but I will assume for the purposes of this article that you are a competent musician, and capable of presenting your songs in a coherent manner.)

What kind of response did you receive? Did everyone applaud, or just a handful of folks?

Did anyone seek you out after the show? - Did someone whom you did not know, come up and say anything to you about your song(s)? Remember, family and friends don't really count, although fellow songwriters who might happen to be your friends could be helpful.

A song is only alive when someone is listening to it, either from a recording or from a live performance. When you play your song live, you are in a sense collaborating with the audience, creating an experience of pleasure and discovery, and not, you hope, one of indifference and boredom.

If the latter is the result, then it's time to keep working on the songs!

January Feature Article #2

from the Songwriters Connection Etip, Dec. 16, 2012

Essential Mobile Apps for Songwriters

By Dave Isaacs

The explosion of smartphones, tablets, and the apps that make them do all that cool stuff is making a whole new toolkit available to the songwriter. Some of these apps are essentially toys – fun to play with, but no more productive than playing Angry Birds. However, there are many tools you can use to help not only archive your ideas but also to develop them.

This article is an introduction to the type of apps I think you'll find useful, not a comparative review of a particular set....there's just too many and new ones arrive quickly. But with the average app going for somewhere between free and 10 bucks, exploring is easy and inexpensive. Google any musical tool you can think of with the word "app" and you'll easily find formal reviews, developer sites, and endless forums with posts from users about their experiences and opinions.

Despite some of the hype you might have heard, I don't believe you can or should be trying to record pitch demos or masters on your iPhone. There's plenty of "prosumer" gear (not quite professional quality but more powerful than your average consumer product) that can allow you to record convincing demos, but trying mixing on your smartphone screen is still difficult. I still find touch-screens too imprecise for things like turning virtual knobs, though sliders/faders seem to work well. So let's say that the goal is to amass a collection of simple, useful tools that you would use regularly.

One, anyone with a guitar should have a tuner app on their phone. Do keep in mind that since they use your phone/tablet's built-in mic they will pick up background noise, which can be problematic in even a moderately noisy environment like a writers' night, so stick to traditional plug-in or clip-on tuners for performing (I love the Planet Waves clip-on; it's got a very low profile and the display is easy to read in high or low light). But for writing sessions or practicing, most any tuner app will do the trick. I recommend a chromatic tuner as opposed to a guitar tuner (this goes for traditional physical tuners as well). This means that the tuner will "recognize" notes besides the six we generally tune a guitar to. Not only is it useful for trying different tunings, it will save you from the common mistake of tuning the string perfectly to the wrong note.

Another essential tool is a metronome. Some have a "tap tempo" function where you can tap along with someone playing to find the bpm (beats per minute), which is very useful for practice and for direction to the players on a demo session. You should be able to play to a metronome with some degree of precision. If you're not doing studio work, perfection isn't the goal so much as the ability to hear and feel a beat and play along without losing the tempo. Also, the stronger your rhythmic sense, the more strongly you can imply a full-band groove. (This paragraph has the seeds of at least three other articles, but let's leave it at that for now).

Planet Waves' Guitar Tools app is the best I've found so far for these two functions, and it also has cool other features like a chord and scale dictionary

Start with the essential tools: chromatic tuner, metronome, and simple audio recorder with file export capability, wired or wireless. Use the internet as a search tool, browse reviews, and gather as much information as you can to help navigate this crowded field.

that allow you to tap on a virtual fretboard to hear what each sounds like. (I will confess in the interest of full disclosure that I am an endorsing artist for D'Addario, which makes Planet Waves products, but I genuinely wouldn't endorse something I don't already use. You may find that you prefer the layout and functionality of others).

The other essential tool, of course, is a sound recorder. There are lots of these, many of them free, but be warned the free versions will have limited functionality and many are going to open with ads trying to sell you the paid version every time. Sometimes the paid version is worth the investment, but read reviews! A simple voice recorder can do just fine for documenting ideas, but some limit the length of the recording – be careful. If you're more ambitious, you can try one of the apps with multitrack capability like Garageband, Hokusai, or Music Studio. There are also numerous drum machines and beat-making apps that are great practice tools (as well as being just plain fun). Do keep in mind that despite what you might see in the ads, there is almost always a little bit of latency – a small lag between when you touch the screen and when you hear the sound – so playing ideas in on a virtual keyboard or drum kit won't always work as well as you might like. Real recording with mobile devices will require additional gear to give you the flexibility and sound quality you need, and is a topic for another article.

The most important factor, no matter what recording app you use, is file export capability. Many will sync to iTunes, which is very useful, but remember that iTunes uses its own format (m4a) instead of standard mp3s. So if you email the file to someone, it will only play in iTunes, while an mp3 will play on any computer or mobile device with an audio player (which is pretty much all of them). The most useful recorders will allow you to record audio and then export mp3 files, or even give you a choice of formats. Audio formats like wav and aiff give you better sound quality, but they're too large to email. They can be dragged or imported into iTunes, which will convert them, but then you've still got the same compatibility issue. So look for an app that will allow for mp3 export for easy emailing or wired transfer directly to a computer.

So to sum up: among the vast array of options open to you to make your mobile device part of your music-making, start with the essential tools: chromatic tuner, metronome, and simple audio recorder with file export capability, wired or wireless. Use the internet as a search tool, browse reviews, and gather as much information as you can to help navigate this crowded field. Good luck and have fun!

January 2013 President's Message

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays with family and friends. For those who weren't able to attend the Christmas/Holiday party, you missed some great food, company, and music.

SVSA officers for 2013, elected in November, are as follows: **President:** Larry Sakayama; **Vice President:** Mike DeGiorgi; **Treasurer:** Greg Trafidlo; **Secretary:** David Simpkins; **Board Members:** Mike Franke and Britt Mistele. Britt replaces Jerry Gilmore. We thank Jerry for his service in 2012. He will continue to be an active member in 2013.

The new year also means that **it's time to renew your membership**. Dues are \$20 a year. Don't miss out on opportunities to get your songs critiqued, attend workshops, perform in a songwriter's showcase, or participate in other SVSA activities because you haven't renewed.

You can pay your dues at the January meeting or send a check to SVSA, P.O. Box 698. Salem, VA 24153.

- Larry Sakayama

SVSA Scheduled Workshops

These workshops will be held at our regular monthly meetings.

At the **January** meeting, **Dee Bowlin** will present "**Writing Lyrics a Composer Can Set to Music.**" This workshop will offer tips on writing metrical lyrics, making the musician's job much easier. Dee will also discuss creating memorable imagery, word sounds to avoid in your lyrics, syllable counts and accents, and rhyming techniques.

In **February**, **Mike DeGiorgi** will present "**Establishing Your Songwriting Identity.**" This interactive workshop will explore the relationship between your musical influences and how they help form your own style/identity as a songwriter. You'll work in a small group of 2 or 3 and discuss the ways your influences bleed into your songs and how you can create a more distinct identity as a writer.

SVSA Songwriter Showcase at Third Street Coffeehouse

Mark your calendars for **Friday, February 1**, when the first SVSA Songwriter Showcase of 2013 will take place at Third Street Coffeehouse. SVSA members **Greg Traftidlo, David Bowen, David Simpkins, Aspen Black, Dan Hildebrand, Clay Blevins, Josh Jones, Jerry Gilmore, and Larry Sakayama** are scheduled to present two sets of original music starting at 7:30 p.m. (note: there will be no Open Mic). If you're not scheduled to perform, come on out and support your fellow songwriters! As always, admission to Third Street Coffeehouse is free.

Third Street Coffeehouse Board Member needed

There is currently an urgent need for Board Members for Third Street Coffeehouse. Any SVSA members interested should contact Marian McConnell at 540-309-4707.

SVSA member performs internationally

Linda Fowler reports that she had the opportunity over the holidays to play and sing in Lima, Peru. Linda performed with her son, who is a teacher in Lima, and her son's English roommate, also a music teacher. Linda had a great time and says the evening was "a blast, even if our audience that understood what we were singing was very small!"

2013 USA Songwriting Competition now accepting entries

Since 1995, the USA Songwriting Competition has been honoring songwriters, composers, bands, and recording artists everywhere. Contestants can enter songs in 15 different categories. The grand prize is worth \$50,000 in cash and merchandise, and there are lots of other prizes. Winners are selected by a committee that includes record label publishers, producers, and other music industry professionals. The competition offers a shot at the big time for songwriters, original solo artists, and band. Winning songs receive radio airplay. For more information or to enter the contest, see www.songwriting.net.

Western-themed evening at Third Street Coffeehouse

Marian McConnell and SVSA member Randy Walker will present “Western Highways,” an evening of music accompanied by slide shows of Western scenery, Friday, January 25, 8 p.m., at Third Street Coffeehouse, 305 Mountain Ave. SW, Roanoke. Marian and Randy will perform some of their own songs and guitar instrumentals, as well as Western favorites including “Theme from Bonanza,” “Happy Trails,” “Rawhide” and “Theme from The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.” Doors open 7 p.m. Open mic starts at 7:30. Wear a cowboy hat to be eligible for door prizes!

2013 Roanoke Regional Writers Conference features SVSA member Greg Trafidlo

The 2013 Roanoke Regional Writers Conference, entering its sixth year, will be held January 25-26 at Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia. The conference starts on Friday evening with a wine reception and a performance by SVSA’s Greg Trafidlo, who is writing a song for the event and will be teaching a class on Saturday. Friday evening’s keynote address will be by Kathleen Grissom, whose book “The Kitchen House” has sold half a million copies. Saturday’s events include more than 20 classes from authors including Neil Sagebiel, Bill Kovarik, Mollie Cox Bryan, Matthew Vollmer, Tiffany Trent, Gina Holmes, Brooke McGlothlin, Jim Minick, Carrie Brown, Amanda Cockrell, Dan Smith, Angie Smibert, and Roland Lazenby, whose upcoming biography of Michael Jordan is expected to be a huge seller.

Lunch on Saturday is part of the \$60 cost of the entire package. For more information about individual classes and/or to register, see http://www.hollins.edu/events/writers_conference/index.shtml.

Chris Austin Songwriting Contest now accepting entries

MerleFest offers songwriters the opportunity to have their original songs heard by a panel of professional songwriters and others from the Nashville music industry by participating in the Chris Austin Songwriting Contest. Net proceeds from the Chris Austin Songwriting Contest go to support the WCC Chris Austin Memorial Scholarship. Since its inception the Chris Austin Scholarship has helped 75 students and awarded over \$34,000. Gillian Welch was one of the

winners of the initial Chris Austin Songwriting Contest at MerleFest in 1993. Recent winners have included Tift Merritt, Michael Reno Harrell, Adrienne Young, Martha Scanlan, David Via, Sam Quinn, and Johnny Williams. For more information about the contest and/or to enter, see <http://merlefest.org/chrisaustinsongwritingcontest/>. Deadline for entries is February 19.

Woody Guthrie Tribute Concert Report

SVSA member Leigh Littleton was in attendance and has compiled a complete set list for the Woody Guthrie Centennial concert at the Kennedy Center in October. Here are the performers and the songs they did:

Old Crow Medicine Show kicked the show off with “Howdi Do” and “Union Maid.” Next up was Joel Rafael, doing “Ramblin Reckless Hobo,” Jimmy LaFave performing “Hard Travelin’,” Donovan with “Riding in My Car,” and Rosanne Cash doing “I Ain’t Got No Home” and “Pretty Boy Floyd.”

Sweet Honey in the Rock did “I’ve Got to Know,” followed by Lucinda Williams, who set Woody Guthrie’s lyrics to her own tune for “House of Earth.”

Judy Collins was next with “Pastures of Plenty,” followed by Tom Morello performing “Ease My Revolutionary Mind.” Ry Cooder and Dan Gellert presented “All You Fascists” and “Vigilante Man” next, and following them, Ani DeFranco sang “Deportee (or, Plane Wreck at Los Gatos)” and, with Tim O’Brien, “The Jolly Banker.”

Jackson Browne performed “You Know the Night,” with setting Guthrie’s words to his own tune. Next, the Del McCoury Band did “So Long, It’s Been Good to Know Yuh,” followed by Tony Trischa with “Woody’s Rag.” Following that was John Mellencamp with “Oklahoma Hills” and “Do Re Mi.”

The evening was capped by Ramblin’ Jack Elliott performing “1913 Massacre” and then all the performers took the stage to sing “This Train is Bound for Glory” and “This Land is Your Land.”

SVSA PERFORMING MEMBERS' UPCOMING GIGS

Barbara Martin:

Friday, January 25, 8 p.m. (doors open 7:30 p.m.), Barbara Martin & Vince Lewis, The Carol Project, The Accidentals, Harry Powell and family, and the Purrfectones, Jazz Session, Rapunzel's Coffee and Books, 924 Front Street, Lovingston, VA 22949 (434) 263-6660 www.rapunzelscoffee.com. No cover. Each group will do a 20-minute set followed by a jam session. Bring your instrument.

Sunday, February 24, 7:30 p.m., Barbara Martin and Liz Barnes with Tom Harbeck. The Barns of Rose Hill, 95 Chalmers Court, Berryville, VA 22611. Admission \$10. For more information, call 540-955-2004 or see www.fanfueled.com/Venue/Details/1239-barns-of-rose-hill.

Greg Trafidlo:

Friday, Feb. 1: SVSA Songwriter's Night, Third Street Coffeehouse, Roanoke, VA

Saturday, Feb. 16: House concert, Bridgewater, VA

David Bowen:

SVSA Showcase, **February 1,** 7:30 – 10:00 p.m., Third Street Coffeehouse, Roanoke, VA

Preston's Restaurant, **February 15,** 5:30 – 9:00 pm, The Inn at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

Military Veteran's Regional Talent Contest (in support), **February 21,** times TBD, Salem Veterans Administration, Salem VA

Marc Baskind:

Thursday Classics at Schooner's, Roanoke Va. Soft, jazzy sounds: Elmer Coles on trumpet, Kelly Gravely on drums, and Dave Ferguson on keys or John Yates on bass. Special menus for the evenings. 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan 25: Solo at Schooner's, 7-10 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 26: Annie Moore's Irish Pub, Roanoke, w/ Caravan, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, February 1 and 2: Solo, Hotel Roanoke Pine Room, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Saturday, Feb 16: Solo at Clam Digger's, Bedford, Va. 8:30-11:30 p.m.

SVSA Classifieds

DEMO RECORDING AND PRODUCTION

The Shop in Fincastle, Virginia. Clean, high-quality multitrack recording and mixdown with an all-digital recording system. I can make MP3s and CDs from the mix. I'm a capable session player and can add guitars, keyboards, bass and percussion, as well as arranging and sweetening. \$25/ hour for SVSA members. Contact **Josh Jones**, thejonesgroup@rbnet.com, (540) 473-3598 for more information.

FOR SALE

1932 Gibson L50 acoustic archtop guitar with bridge pickup installed. In great condition with a gorgeous sound. Perfect for anyone who plays old blues, jazz or old time music. **Barbara Martin**, (540) 886-2966, barbara@barbaramartinmusic.com.

FOR SALE

Carvin MX842 Stereo Powered Mixer. \$200. Built-in spring reverb and effects input/outputs for outboard effects unit. 2 band EQ, effects, gain and pan for each channel. **Barbara Martin**, (540) 886-2966, barbara@barbaramartinmusic.com.

FOR SALE

2 Carvin LM12 Molded 12" 2-Way Main/Monitor. \$200 for both. **Barbara Martin**, (540) 886-2966, barbara@barbaramartinmusic.com.

FOR SALE

Peavey MP5 Plus Powered Mixer, 150 watt, 5 channel with reverb on each; equalization & phantom power, RCA in/outputs. 30 lbs. Photo available. Great condition. \$50.00. Contact **David Bowen** at acousticreset@gmail.com.

FOR SALE

Denon DN-770R Dual Cassette recorder/player. Photo available. Great condition. \$50.00. Contact **David Bowen** at acousticreset@gmail.com.

randolph
walker
music

Guitar Lessons
Audio Recording
Music Videos

randolphwalker@cox.net
www.randolphwalker.com
(540) 588-5826

FOR SALE

Used Boss "Dr. Rhythm" DR-3 Drum Machine, in good condition, \$25.00. Contact **David Bowen** at acousticreset@gmail.com.

STUDIO GUITARIST FOR HIRE

10 years playing experience. Can play rock, bluegrass, blues, and some country. Can read sheet music, compose, and improvise. Rates negotiable. Contact **Elliott Martin** at 540-344-1854 or email metalstar316@cox.net.

GUITAR LESSONS

2 years teaching experience. All ages and skill levels, beginner to advanced. Proficient in many genres, can teach how to read music as well as write it. Rates are \$15/hour. Contact **Elliott Martin** at 540-344-1854 or email metalstar316@cox.net.

SVSA Music News
free classifieds
may be submitted
by paid members
only. All
classifieds must
be music-related.

UPCOMING AT THIRD STREET COFFEEHOUSE

- Jan 25 "Western Highways" - Randolph Walker & Marian McConnell (Roanoke, VA)
- Feb 1 SVSA Writers in the Round
- Feb 8 The Panini Brothers (Sakyama, DeGeorgi, Conway)
- Feb 15 Lee Palmer (Roanoke, VA)
- Feb 22 Lee Robertson & Daniel McBroom (Moneta, VA)
- March 1 Immersed (Roanoke, VA)
- March 8 John Powell (Fincastle, VA)
- March 15 Clinton Collins (Bluefield, WV)
- March 22 David Simpkins (Radford, VA)
- March 29 Mike Franke (Roanoke, VA)
- April 5 Poorhouse Pepsteppers (Vinton, VA)
- April 12 Blue O'Connell (Charlottesville, VA)
- April 19 Stephen Babcock (Canaan, NY)
- April 26 Robert Craig (Bedford, VA)
- May 3 Acoustic Reset and Friends (Roanoke, VA)
- May 10 Mike Pearrell (Roanoke, VA)
- May 17 Chris Shepard (Roanoke, VA)
- May 24 Davey O. (Buffalo, NY)
- May 31 TBA

Third Street Coffeehouse is a non-profit coffeehouse established in 1987. We are open every Friday. Sign up for open mic 7-7:30; open mic performances 7:30-8:15; featured performer from 8:30-10. Third Street is a smoke-free, alcohol-free, no-cover-charge venue! We "pass the hat" for donations to the featured performers. For more information please contact Marian McConnell at 540-309-4707; or email marian.mcconnell@gmail.com. Check us out online at: www.YouTube.com/user/3rdStreetCoffeehouse and on Facebook.

SVSA MEMBERSHIP

as of January 2013

Kathy Acosta
Marc Baskind
Aspen Black
Clay Blevins
David Bowen
Dee Bowlin
Steve Clark
Danny Cockram
Chip Conway
Bob Coulter (Lifetime Member)
Sid Crosswhite (Lifetime Member)
Mike DeGiorgi
Mike Dittrich
Charlie Divers
Paul Douglas
Linda Fowler
Mike Franke
Jerry Gilmore
Mary Gordon Hall
Dale Hamilton
George Harris
Larry Helms
Dan Hildebrand
Josh Jones
Steve Langston
Mark Laperle
Leigh Littleton
Barbara Martin
Elliot Martin
Britt Mistele
David Motley
Mickey Nelson
Blue O'Connell
Mike Pearrell
Larry Sakayama
Connie Sellers
David Simpkins
Greg Traftlo
Randy Walker
Eddie Williams

SVSA Members' Recordings



eyes on the horizon



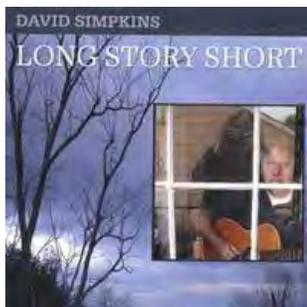
kaleidoscope



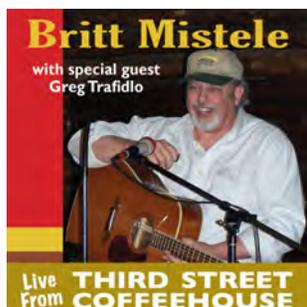
crossing over time



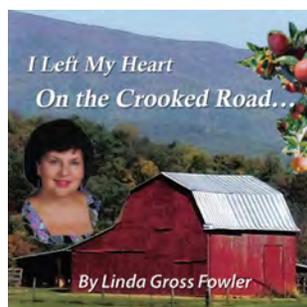
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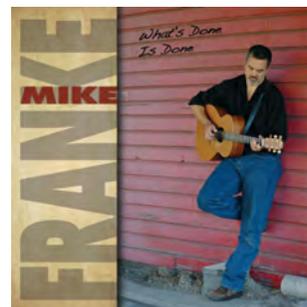
long story short



live from third street
coffeehouse



i left my heart on the
crooked road



what's done is done

Barbara Martin

EYES ON THE HORIZON — Jazz and all originals with Robert Redd on piano, Chuck Redd on drums and vibes, Steve Wolf on bass, Mac Walter on guitar, Bruce Swaim on saxophone, John Jensen on trombone, and Matt Finley on flugelhorn.

KALEIDOSCOPE — Barbara's jazziest CD. All original songs, with co-writes with Joel Evans, Mac Walter, and Greg Trafidlo.

David Bowen (Acoustic Reset)

CROSSING OVER TIME — Featuring folk-pop tunes. Eight originals and eight covers accented by solid guitar licks and accompanying instruments. Available at acousticreset.com.

Marc Baskind

MARC WITH A "C" — Sampler CD of covers and original songs offers a taste of the varied styles of this accomplished guitarist/singer.

David Simpkins

LONG STORY SHORT — Offers 12 original Americana tunes blending rock, folk, blues, and country.

Britt Mistele

LIVE FROM THIRD STREET COFFEEHOUSE — Four original songs and 11 covers, recorded live at Roanoke's Third Street Coffeehouse. With special guest Greg Trafidlo..

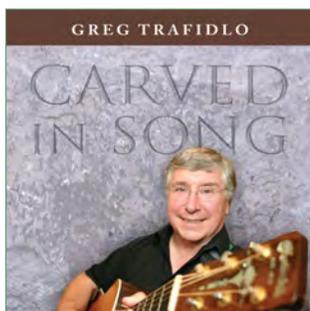
Linda Fowler

I LEFT MY HEART ON THE CROOKED ROAD — Features 12 original compositions.

Mike Franke

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE — A debut release of 14 original folk and blues tunes about everyday life and interesting people featuring Mike's fingerstyle and slide guitar.

SVSA Members' Recordings



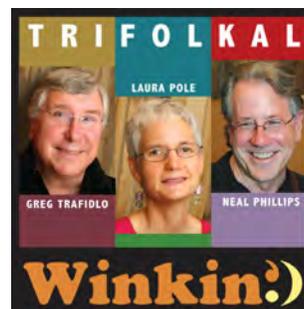
carved in song



folksingular



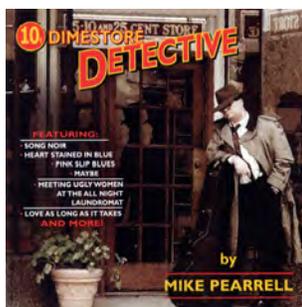
dog joggin'



winkin'



cup of contradictions



dimestore detective



horsegirl poet



from the heart of a cowgirl

Greg Trafidlo

CARVED IN SONG — Most songs co-written with some of Greg's favorite songwriters. Listen to audio clips and see the lyrics at gregtrafidlo.com.

FOLKSINGULAR — Greg's third solo CD reflects the diversity of his songwriting and production skills. With SVSA-ers on background vocals, and Marc Baskind on guitar and vocals.

Steve Clark

DOG JOGGIN' — Eleven sweet and true amusing tunes comprise this quirky singer/songwriter CD. Available at cdbaby.com.

Trifolkal

WINKIN' — Newest release from that "trio fiercely dedicated to fun" tempers the fun with poignancy and heart.

Mike Pearrell

CUP OF CONTRADICTIONS — 13 original songs. Lots of SVSA musicians singing and playing.

DIMESTORE DETECTIVE — Mike's first solo CD features 14 original songs. Produced by Greg Trafidlo; with a number of guest SVSA musicians. Available at Mike's shows.

Aspen Black

FROM THE HEART OF A COWGIRL — S28 original spoken word poems adhering to the Western Music Association guidelines for the cowboy poetry genre.

HORSEGIRL POET — Songs and poems about horses, cowboys, and rural life.

A HUNDRED YEARS TOO LATE — All original music for horse lovers and those who yearn to preserve the spirit and lands of the last American frontier.

About Classifieds:

SVSA Music News free classifieds may be submitted by paid members only. All classifieds must be music-related. Members, e-mail your classifieds to svsa.songwriters@gmail.com.

About articles and other written contributions:

SVSA members write feature articles for the SVSA Music News throughout the year. Members can submit other articles and features at any time. Non-members may also submit articles and other written contributions but their inclusion will be subject to time and space constraints. All articles may be edited for space considerations and will be edited, as time allows, for spelling and grammar. E-mail submissions to svsa.songwriters@gmail.com.

About Announcements:

SVSA members may list music-related announcements in the SVSA Music News. E-mail them to svsa.songwriters@gmail.com by the second Tuesday of the month. Announcements from members will be e-mailed to members as soon as they are received and, if still timely, published in an upcoming issue of the SVSA Music News. Announcements from non-members will be held for publication in an upcoming issue of the SVSA Music News.

About Members' Gig Listings:

SVSA members may submit their upcoming performance schedules for publication in the SVSA Music News. The submissions will be printed as submitted; the more information you provide, the more likely the response.

SVSA DISCLAIMER

The ideas and opinions contained in this newsletter are intended to be helpful to songwriters. The companies and organizations mentioned are believed to be legitimate; however, SVSA does not endorse any products or services and offers no guaranteed success based on the content.

We are always looking for articles about SVSA members and articles of interest to the songwriting community. Send articles and information to the Editor, Kathy Acosta, or svsa.songwriters@gmail.com. SVSA is a non-profit organization.

SVSA Board Members:

Larry Sakayama – President
Mike DeGiorgi - Vice President
David Simpkins – Secretary
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Seen on the

**Musical
Scene**

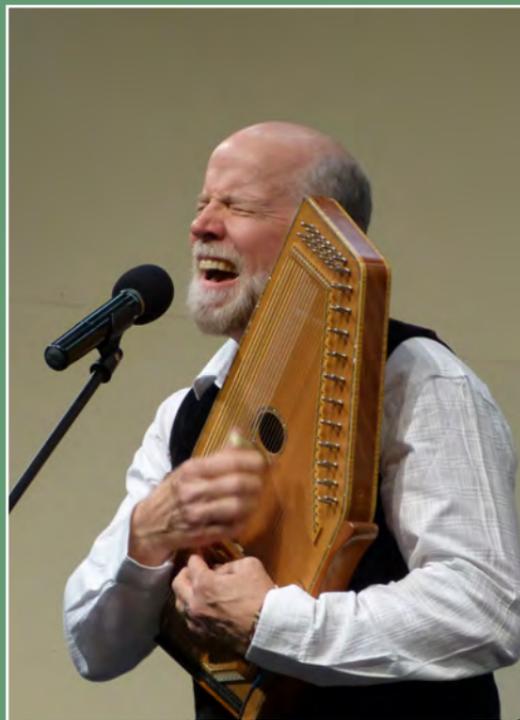
photos of music performances in Southwest Virginia



The Travelin' McCourys with Peter Rowan, November 30 at the Jefferson Center in Roanoke. Photo by Leigh Littleton.



Chris Smither, December 2 at Kirk Avenue Music Hall in Roanoke.
Photo by Leigh Littleton.



Two shots of John McCutcheon, January 5 at a 12th Night Concert in Fincastle. Photo by Leigh Littleton.