



The Folk Club

of Reston-Herndon

...Preserving Folk Traditions



Vol 9, No 7; July, 1995

Some more Folk Music Important Information

Cajun, name applied to the descendants of French-Canadians who now reside mainly in southern Louisiana. The name Cajun is the corrupt form of Acadian, a pastoral people who originally lived in Acadia (present-day New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island) in Canada. It was a French colony until 1713, when it was acquired by Great Britain. In 1755, the British expelled those settlers who would not swear allegiance to the Crown. About 4000 Acadians eventually moved to the fertile bayou lands of Louisiana.

Today the Cajuns live in small, self-contained communities along the Gulf of Mexico. They raise cattle and cultivate various crops, including sweet potatoes, sugarcane, corn, and cotton. Home crafts are important, and the people do much of their own spinning and weaving.

The Cajuns have a mixed African, European and Native American ancestry, which helps set them apart from their neighbors. French-Canadian folk customs and traditions are preserved among this group, as well as a strong regional cuisine and a distinctive musical style. In addition to English, they speak their own distinctive dialect, a combination of archaic French and words taken from Spanish, English, German, black, and Native American peoples. Most Cajuns practice the Roman Catholic religion.

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Foster, Stephen Collins (1826-1864), American composer recognized as the first professional songwriter in the United States, whose songs are among the most popular ever written. He was born in Lawrenceville, Pennsylvania (now part of Pittsburgh). Foster studied with Pittsburgh's most noted music teacher, Henry Kleber, and his talent developed early. His first hit, before he became a professional songwriter, was "Oh! Susanna." Many of Foster's early songs, written for various minstrel show troupes, became widely popular.

Between 1850 and 1860 Foster wrote many of his best songs, including "Camptown Races" (1850), "Old Folks at Home" (1851), "Massa's in de Cold Ground" (1852), "My Old Kentucky Home" (1853), "Jennie with the Light Brown Hair" (1854), and "Old Black Joe" (1860). Despite the popularity of his songs, Foster remained impoverished. Copyright laws afforded him little protection, and he received minimal income from his work. From 1861 Foster lived alone in New York City, and he died in the charity ward of Bellevue Hospital after a protracted fever.

Foster's songs, for most of which he wrote the lyrics, are characterized by touching melodies and simple harmonies. The lyrics of the minstrel songs are usually about tragic subjects of life on southern plantations before the American Civil War (1861-1865). The sum of his musical compositions consists of 285 songs, hymns, arrangements, and instrumental works. Many of his songs are still popular today, and some of them have passed into the oral tradition of folk song. The University of Pittsburgh's Stephen Foster Memorial houses a collection of first editions of Foster's songs and material relating to his life and his influence on American music and world culture.

"Foster, Stephen Collins," Microsoft (R) Encarta. Copyright (c) 1994 Microsoft Corporation. Copyright (c) 1994 Funk & Wagnall's Corporation.

Folk Club Seeking Editor!!!

The Folk Club is in need of an editor for the monthly newsletter. Longtime editor, (6 years, now) Dave Hurd, has decided that he no longer has the time to dedicate to the project.

Sought is an individual with ideas, some sort of computer capable of producing the (usually) four pages ready for duplicating by Kinko's or some similar service. The newsletter format, content and style are the artistic choice of the editor, keeping in concert with the stated purposes of the Folk Club.

The September, 1995 issue will be the last produced by Dave - so step forward, please!!!!



Folk Club of Reston-Herndon



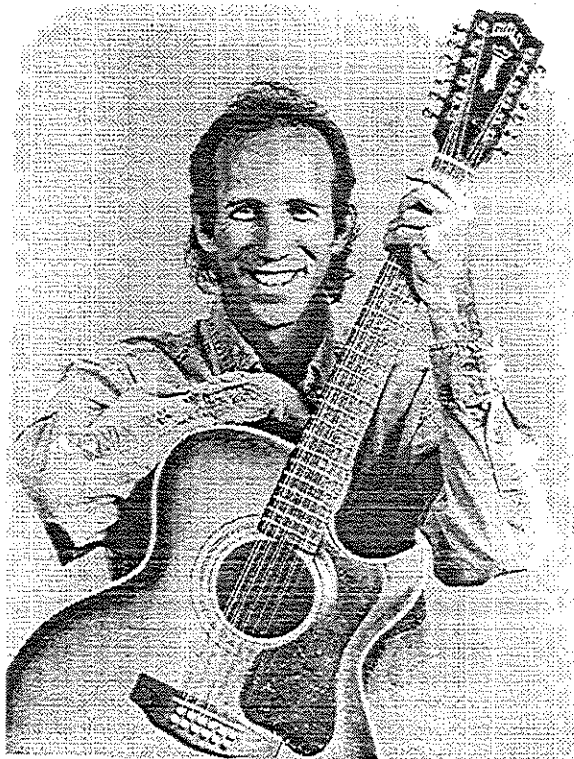
July 9 - August 19, 1995

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
July 9 6:00pm IONA @ Grt Falls Concerts on the Green	July 10	July 11 Showcase Performance Brendan Callahan 7:30pm Folk Club	July 12	July 13	July 14	July 15
July 16	July 17	July 18 7:30pm Folk Club	July 19	July 20	July 21	July 22
July 23	July 24	July 25 Showcase Lottery Draw Richard Gilewitz (\$7/6) 7:30pm Folk Club	July 26	July 27	July 28	July 29
July 30	July 31	Aug 1 7:30pm Folk Club	Aug 2	Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5 8:00pm Open Door Coffee House, Fairlington UM Ch, Alex
Aug 6	Aug 7	Aug 8 Showcase Perform- ance 7:30pm Folk Club	Aug 9	Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 12
Aug 13 6:00pm Hickory Grove @ Summer Concert Ser - Pasadena, MD	Aug 14	Aug 15 Mary Flower (\$9/8) 7:30pm Folk Club	Aug 16	Aug 17 6:30pm Eileen Joyner - Sterling Comm Ctr	Aug 18	Aug 19

RICHARD GILEWITZ

The Folk Club
Proudly Presents ...
7:30 PM
July 25, 1995
at the Tortilla Factory
648 Elden Street
Herndon, VA

Tickets \$7 (\$6
Members)



Richard Gilewitz's has emerged as one of the most graceful guitarists on the contemporary music scene, in the model of American fingerstyle giants Leo Kottke and John Fahey. His relentless touring schedule has taken him all over North America - from Boulder to Birmingham, from Tallahassee to Toronto - where he's headlined his own gigs and opened shows for everyone from Kottke (who covered Richard's "Echoing Wilderness") to Richard Thompson, to Kenny G and the Indigo Girls.

His warm, offbeat stories about life on the road and dangers in the house - coupled with his bluesy, crowd-rousing 12 -string slide work and fiery six-string fingerpicking - have earned him a loyal following and critical raves from *Musician* and *Option* magazines, as well as the *Washington Post* and the *Dallas Morning News*.

Having spent the last few years honing his talents on the road, Richard went back into the studio to record the long-awaited followup to his critically acclaimed 1986 debut album, *Somewhere in Between*. His new solo CD - *Voluntary Solitary* - was recorded directly to DAT and released in May 1994. It includes such live favorites as the elegant "Jamaicalina," the Louisiana-spiced "Du Monde Blonde" and the finger-poppin' "Mrs. Firecracker's Place," as well as his show stopping covers of Led Zeppelin's "Bron Yr Aur" and John Fahey's "Requiem for John Hurt". Richard also recently completed composing music for a new film by *Woodstock* director Michael Wadleigh. Richard is a must-see act for the monster guitar player fans!

Coming Folk Club Events

July 25 - Richard Gilewitz
\$7/6

August 15 - Mary Flower
\$9/8

Sep 26 - Tom & Chris Kastle
\$7/6

Oct 24 - Priscilla Herdman
\$9/8

Nov 28 - Roy Book Binder
\$9/8

**Look for more exciting and
entertaining opportunities in
1996 - Thanks to Ray Kaminsky**

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!
Check your Label - Are you expiring? "19950701" is
expiring with this issue. Don't miss an issue - Don't miss
the benefits of the Folk Club. Please send in your
membership check (still just \$12.00) to keep your mem-
bership active!

The Folk Club
of Reston - Herndon
at The Tortilla Factory
648 Elden Street
Herndon, VA 22070
c/o David A. Hurd
1405 Cottage Street SW
Vienna, VA 22180

Showcase Performances

The showcase performer on July 11 will be
Brendan Callahan.

On the second Tuesday of every month we
feature a Folk Club member in a showcase
two-set (25 minute) performance. To become
one of these "showcase" specials all you have
to do is 1) be a member of the Folk Club, 2)
fill out a lottery slip by the last Tuesday of the
month, 3) win the drawing and 4) practice,
practice practice!

The Folk Club

President, Larry Mediate
Treasurer, Richard Flinchbaugh
Members of the Board:
Ray Kaminsky, Ellen Kaminsky
Lynn Jordan, Bill Davis
David Hurd
Jim Rosenkrans, T.M. Hanna

Newsletter Published Periodically
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Expires 19960301
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