# The Living Tradition 2017 Folk Music Concert List

Here is a list of our scheduled performers. Additional 2017 concert details will be listed as information becomes available.

### 3/18/17

The Browne Sisters & George Cavanaugh. The Browne Sisters & George Cavanaugh have been performing at festivals and concert halls across the United States for over 20



years. Their silvery harmonies, beautiful arrangements, and entertaining personalities have made them one of the most popular Celtic music groups performing today. Their sets always include several rousing numbers and a few traditional and not so traditional ballads, and always a Gaelic song or two. They are known for making any song their own, while still keeping true to the original work.

Sisters Diane, Pamela, and Laura bring powerful lead vocals and haunting harmonies to every song, while Cousin George's strong, unaffected vocals and original guitar style brings a rich and authentic sound to each piece.

They have been called "The folk group for people who thought they didn't like folk music," and have opened for acts such as Andy M. Stewart and shared the stage with the likes of Alex Beaton, Alasdair Fraser, Men of Worth, Seamus Kennedy and Seven Nations.

They have six albums: Silver Darlings, Castle Dangerous, West of Home, Bringing Down the House, Ready for the Storm, and the recently released Miles Through the Night. They have also lent their talents to many other artists' recordings in the Scottish and Irish community.

The group can be heard on radio stations across the U.S., the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the British Broadcasting Corporation, and Scotland's Radio Caithness.

**The Brilliant Gypsies**. Melodies as ancient as the Druids – grooves as



current as indie radio. Hard driving, smooth grooving, Traditional and not-so-traditional Irish music. This dynamic group of talented Celtic musicians showcases their mastery of traditional Celtic musical instruments, blending contemporary Rock with a Celtic flair and an



innate ability to charm and captivate any audience. The Brilliant Gypsies have been inspiring audiences for nearly a decade on both the Trad and Contemporary Celtic scenes, from pub seisiúns to festival stages. Fired by a love of the Tradition of pipes and fiddle, and driven by the immediacy of the internet age, they combine musicians who have shared stages all over the world, with the pulse of Folk, Jazz, Rock and Alternative; living their mantra— "The Craic Will Be Mighty!" C'mon...Let's dance!

#### 4/15/17

Nathan & Jesse. Gypsy jazz fusion. Two resonator guitars, one accordion, female and



male voice, one unforgettable performance! Nathan Rivera and Jessie Andra Smith are often joined by their talented musical friends, Trevor Mulvey on the upright bass, Karl Kummerle and Milly Raccoon on the fiddles. The duo has traveled all over the world on the streets and stages sharing their unique sound. They frequent Mexico and Europe, as well as New Orleans. A fusion of jazzy folk and blues on National Reso-Phonic guitars and accordion, with interesting interplay between female and male vocals, their trilingual

performances are uplifting, fun, and with a message for people of all ages and cultures.

The MacMammals are Southern California based acoustic music performers presenting an eclectic musical stew of sounds from Ireland, the British Isles, and North America, seasoned with a touch of bluegrass and salted with some songs of the sea (arrggh!). From warm ballads to rousing sea shanties, their music weaves historical tales with folklore and humor. The MacMammals are a husband and wife team. Carol Schryver-Bloom is most noted for her clear, crystalline contralto vocals. She also performs on guitar and is backed up by Ron Bloom on vocals, mandolin, and Irish bouzouki. This evening they will be joined on bass by Nate LaFranchi. The MacMammals' CD, Keeping Up With The Heard, has received accolades in Folk Works magazine.

## 5/20/17

Rob Rio. Dubbed "boogie woogie virtuoso" by Keyboard magazine. Rob plays the boogie-woogie and jump blues of the 20s, 30s, 40s, and 50s with a virtuosity that has excited audiences around the world for more than 25 years. In 2008 he was inducted



into the Boogie Woogie Hall of Fame by the Cincinnati Blues Society. Rob currently performs at festivals, events, and clubs throughout Southern California, nationally, and abroad. He has appeared with many of the original blues greats, such as Muddy Waters, Willie Dixon, James Cotton, Charles Brown, Joe Cocker, Paul Butterfield and many more, and has recorded with Mick Jagger, Canned Heat, Billy Boy Arnold, William Clarke, Coco Montoya, Finis Tasby, Walter Trout, Mud Morganfield, Phillip Walker, Jody Williams, among others. Over the years, Rio has also

recorded 17 different projects under his own name including the latest from his alter ego, "Harry Tonic, Sr.," released April, 2014. Rob will be taking us on a boogie woogie journey from ragtime to Jerry Lee Lewis and points in between. On stage, it is a good bet that Rob is one of the most entertaining and hard - working acts ever to be featured at The Living Tradition concert series.

**Tom Lee**. Tom Lee performed as a folk singer in Metro Detroit performing at The Mount



Chalet, Absolute Zero, The Raven Gallery, Fox & Hounds, and a 13 year stint as a member of The Shenanigans at The Clarkston Cafe (now owned by Kid Rock). Lee moved to Malibu California in 1972 with an original band. He met recording engineer and long time friend and producer Mike Denecke, who recorded Tom's first album of original material entitled "Take Off The Day". (Denecke was the engineer for The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" album, including "Mr. Bo Jangles"). In 1981, Lee realized his love for Irish music, and began playing with The Vagabonds, Des Regan, and also with Men of

Worth, usually filling in when one of the lads couldn't make it. In 1982 he co-founded Big Daddy, a time-warp theatrical comedy band that transforms today's hits into the more palatable sounds of the 1950's. (Why not? Wasn't everything better then?) Big Daddy enjoyed a top 20 hit in Great Britain with their version of "Dancin' In The Dark", (which sounds more like Pat Boone's "Moody River")...and went on to record 6 albums on Rhino Records, and graced Europe and Australia with tours! And...they're back doing it today! Tom is excited to bring his solo music to The Living Tradition Concert series. On May 20th, 2017 his show will include original music, traditional Irish and American music, along with songs from Scotland and Australia, blended with Blarney and Fair Dinkum.

#### 6/17/17

**I See Hawks in L.A.** is a California country band with a unique approach to roots music. They've been featured performers at the national Folk Alliance showcase and festivals all over the U.S. and Europe/UK, including two appearances at Stagecoach. Their genres include folk and psychedelic country, with plenty of traditional country and traditional folk influence. Their seven acclaimed CDs consistently garner praise for strong three part vocal harmonies, and their literate and often humorous lyrics. The group consists of Rob Waller, whose rich baritone vocals and rhythm acoustic guitar are front and center; Paul Lacques on lead guitar, dobro and vocals; Paul Marshall on bass and vocals (Paul also performs on bass with The Living Tradition's own, The MacMammals, aka Ron & Carol Bloom, your concert coordinators); and Victoria Jacobs on drums. They've shared the big stage with artists like Lucinda Williams, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Dave Alvin and Chris Hillman. Collectively and individually their music has been included in numerous film and TV productions.