



Roaring Brook Nature Center

CONCERTS

70 Gracey Road, Canton CT www.roaringbrook.org 860.693.0263
Nature Center Hours: Tuesday—Saturday 10 AM—5 PM; Sundays 1—5 PM
Trails through Werner's Woods are open daily until dusk

Saturday, October 5, 2019

JOHNNY IRION

7:30 pm \$20 Advance / \$25 Door



JOHNNY IRION commences our 40th Concert Season having performed two fine shows at RBNC as a duo with his wife Sarah Lee Guthrie. His family is rich in writing and in music as his great uncle is John Steinbeck and Sarah Lee is Arlo Guthrie's daughter. Tonight he will feature songs from his 2018 Blackwing Label solo project *Driving Friend*, which reveals his talents as an Americana troubadour and a Folk-Rock artist. Featuring members of Wilco and Dawes, the recording received a "4 Star" rating from Mojo Magazine's critic Sylvie Simmons. Johnny's, very listenable, majestic high tenor singing suggested roots in the work of Gram Parsons and Neil Young to Rolling Stone reviewer Will Hermes who cites Irion's music as "Songs as lovingly hand-crafted as the jeans on the back of *After the Gold Rush*". Leaving for Europe after this show, Johnny has been seen on stages from Royal Albert Hall to Carnegie Hall and the Newport Folk Festival. He has also performed and collaborated with Pete Seeger, Arlo Guthrie, Jeff Bridges, Wilco, Glenn Phillips and Ramblin' Jack Elliott. We look forward to hearing live versions of his songs "Flowers in the Sun", "Driving Friend", "Cabin Fever" and "Salvage the Day".

Saturday, October 12

HAPPY TRAUM

7:30 pm \$20 Advance / \$25 Door



Coming in from Woodstock, NY, where he has lived for 50 years, the ever-affable, Bronx-born HAPPY TRAUM is a truly marvelous guitarist and singer with a nonpareil musical history. A frequent interview source for magazines, books

and video documentaries, Happy had a 40-year musical relationship with Bob Dylan, which included recording and performing with the legend himself! Between songs, he may share anecdotes based on his coming of age in the folk revival in Washington Square, many Greenwich Village clubs and on out to Woodstock. Along the way, he worked with, befriended or rubbed shoulders with George Harrison, The Band, Brownie McGee, Rev. Gary Davis, Van Morrison, Dave Van Ronk, Ian Buchanan, Mississippi John Hurt and Paul Butterfield. You may learn to play guitar via his *Homespun* videos or in person at Richard Thompson's Frets & Refrains Camp or at Jorma Kaukonen's Fur Peace Ranch where he teaches each summer. Tonight, he'll perform fine originals, covers and traditional songs from his superb folk and roots blues-flavored albums **Buckets of Songs**, **I Walk the Line Again** and **Just For the Love of It**. During his two sets you may hear "Church Street Blues", "Buckets of Rain", "Friend of the Devil" and "Things Are Coming My Way".

Saturday, October 19

KATE CAMPBELL

7:30 pm \$20 Advance / \$25 Door



"Possessed of the lyrical grasp of Lucinda Williams and the eloquent vocal timbre of Emmylou Harris, Kate Campbell is a major talent"
Timeout London

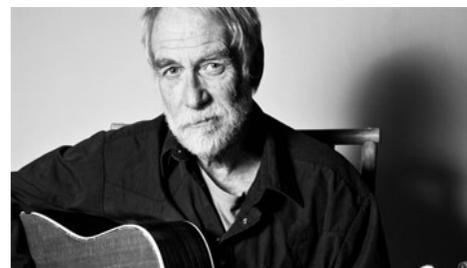
Nashville-based songwriter-guitarist-pianist KATE CAMPBELL returns with songs from her 19th album **Damn Sure Blue** and selections from her previous acclaimed releases. Not a blues album in the Delta, Piedmont, Chicago or Pop-Blues styles, it is a 21st Century thinking person's American blues album. Inspiration from the Man In Black led to the inclusion of 2 songs from Johnny Cash's repertoire: "The Ballad of Ira Hayes", by Peter LaFarge and Johnny's love song to Ireland "Forty Shades of Green". "The Great Atomic Power" and "Peace, Precious Peace" came through

country folk sources The Louvin Brothers and Stringbean, respectively. Kate's songs "Change Should've Come By Now", "Long Slow Train" and "Damn Sure Blue" speak up for those losing patience, but not hope, for a better world of unity, equality and prosperity as promised by political and spiritual leadership and the heads of technology. The truths and character studies conveyed in her songs are received well as she tours across the U.S., Ireland, The U.K. and Australia. A really fine part of her shows is that she covers some of the best songs ever written with all due justice. Possible renditions may include Richard Thompson's gem "From Galway to Graceland", "Paul Simon's "America", Kris Kristofferson's "Me and Bobby McGee" and the traditional "I Am A Pilgrim". Kate's own stellar songs "Visions of Plenty", "Crazy in Alabama", "South of Everything", "Tupelo's Too Far" and "Miles of Blues" have a staying power that will please listeners for generations to come.

Saturday, November 2

DAVID MALLETT

7:30 pm - \$20 Advance/\$25 Door



"Folk poet DAVE MALLETT continues to write thoughtful, potent songs about changing America—small town Main Street, relationships disintegrated or strengthened by distance and fast-moving times, the vast chasm between this nation's poverty and wealth".- Allanah Nash, Stereo Review

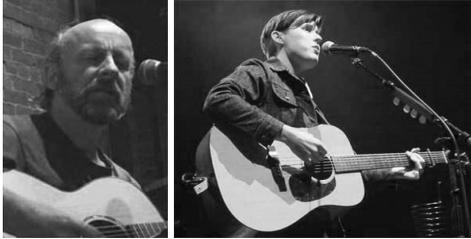
While we New Englanders may feel that we really "get" what the artistry and songs of Mallett are all about, his works and performances have positively resonated with audiences across the U.S., Canada and the U.K. Born in Maine and living in Maine for all but a 10 year stretch in Music City some years ago, Dave made quite a splash in Nashville as Kathy Mattea, Alison Krauss, Marty Stuart, Hal Ketchum and Emmylou Harris recorded his songs.

Finding out that big city living was not his lifestyle, he headed home to Maine to his favorite creative environment. His songs display many of the virtues found in the work of Guy Clark, Johnny Cash, Gordon Lightfoot and Willie Nelson. He is a master

of melody and character portraiture and storytelling in his songs. Come and witness how his performances are enhanced by the interplay of warm vocal phrasing with his solid rhythm and lead guitar playing and the masterful bass accompaniment by Mike Burd. Enjoy two full sets of songs, which may include "Ten Men", "Summer of My Dreams", "Girl With the Golden Hair", "Phil Brown" and "Garden Song".

Saturday, November 9
STAN SULLIVAN &
SEAN DELLA CROCE

7:30 pm - \$20 Advance / \$25 Door



Nashville native/resident **Sean Della Croce** makes her Roaring Brook debut performing songs from her new album **Illuminations**. It features 21-time Grammy winner Vince Gill's acoustic guitar backing on her single "Break in the Rain", steel guitar super-star Greg Leisz and vocalist Mollie Weaver. A fresh, newer voice on the singer-songwriter scene her light-touch Fingerstyle guitar playing shows flashes of influence from her late step-father, the well-know guitarist Pete Huttlinger, who played here many times. Impressing us at Nashville's City Winery and the Walnut Valley Festival in Kansas with her creative, intelligent songwriting, she also won us over with her expressive pitch-perfect vocals. In addition to fine original songs "Meet You for Breakfast", "Weak Days" and "Rebecca Henry", Sean's covers of Lori McKenna's "People Get Old" and Don Henley's "The Boys of Summer" are also audience pleasers.

Not concentrating on one genre, Hartford's **Stan Sullivan** set tonight will feature songs, fingerstyle guitar instrumentals and blues. Coming of age during the 60's folk music surge, Stan began teaching himself guitar. Attending Newport Folk Fest '65 and Woodstock '69 inspired him to create songs, compose guitar instrumentals and blues and become an interpreter of classic and strong cover songs. Stan has competed in six states and Canada in guitar contests earned Finalist picks for multiple original songs at The Walnut Valley Festival, KS, Tucson Folk Festival, AZ and the Grassy Hill Song Contest at The CT Folk Festival 2019. In addition to songs from his CDs **The Right Road** and **Do You Like The Rain?**, Stan will offer new originals "Lonesome Poetry Cafe", "Our Love Shines", "A Blue Hurt" plus covers of Sting's "Fields of Gold" and Rowland Salley's "Killin' the Blues".

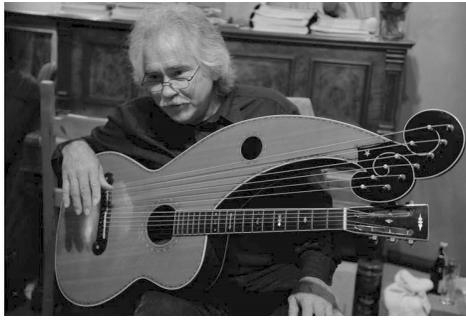


Hot teas, coffee & home-baked treats
are available during
concert intermissions

Saturday, November 23

STEPHEN BENNETT

7:30 pm - \$20 Advance / \$25 Door



The Toronto Fingerstyle Guitar Association referred to **Stephen Bennett** as "The Jedi Master of Fingerstyle Guitar." We say he's the most complete acoustic steel-string guitarist we have heard or hosted. His artistry is informed by an extensive musical background with formal studies of piano, clarinet and classical guitar. A guitar festival unto himself, he plays the majestic harp guitar plus 6-string, 12-string, National Steel and baritone guitars. A champion of fine melodies, great grooves and confident improvisation, he has shared the stage and toured with Tommy Emmanuel, Andy McKee, Harvey Reid, Tim Thompson, Pat Donohue and Pete Huttlinger. Stephen's impressive 30 album discography showcases his repertoire of stellar originals, Celtic, folk and roots gems, classical and jazz anthems, movie soundtrack themes and hot acoustic renditions of rock and pop hits. Stephen's shows are a joy to attend as he masterfully interprets tunes such as The Who's "Behind Blue Eyes, The Beatles' "All You Need Is Love," Dvorak's "Going Home" and the traditional "Star Of The County Down." His own compositions, "Balcony Boogie," "The Eye of God," "Atlanta Blues," and "Perestroika" raise the bar on contemporary guitar playing.

Saturday, December 7

FRANK VIGNOLA

HOT JAZZ GUITAR TRIO



7:30 pm - \$25 Advance / \$30 Door

"Frank Vignola is one of the greatest musicians I've ever heard."

- Tommy Emmanuel.

In addition to Tommy, Frank has collaborated with Wynton Marsalis, Les Paul, Ringo Starr, Lionel Hampton, David Grisman and New York and Boston Pops Orchestras! The trio of Frank Vignola, **Vinny Raniolo** and **Gary Mazzaroppi** combines pure fun with absolute virtuosity on stage and

recordings. Somehow, they perform incredibly diverse sets while entertaining us with off-beat humor and sly choreography. Known for playing superb jazz standards and Django Rheinhardt tunes with authority, they also interpret folk, pop, classical and rock works in their own style. Guitarist Vinny Raniolo always astounds us with his stellar rhythm and lead skills and his synchronous, high-speed plectrum riffing with Frank. Gary Mazzaroppi's world-class bass artistry must be witnessed to be believed. He has collaborated with Lionel Hampton, Elvis Costello, Tal Farlow, Marian McPartland and John Medeski. The trio's generous sets may include "It Might As Well Be Spring", "Nuages", "Shady Grove", "Django and Les Tribute" and fine medleys "Walk Don't Run/Perfidia/It's Only a Paper Moon" and "Scheherazade/Flight of the Bumblebee!"

Saturday, January 18

BILL STAINES

7:30 pm - \$20 Advance / \$25 Door



If anyone could sing Johnny Cash's song "I've Been Everywhere" with total conviction that would be **Bill Staines**, because he has been everywhere, at least in the USA. Lucky for us, he is here tonight at Roaring Brook performing songs from his Red House recordings, Old Dogs and Beneath A Lucky Star plus songs from his 300+ song catalog. It's an absolute joy to join in on memorable and singable choruses of America's most positive songwriter. Relax and sing along with Bill's fine baritone and satin smooth guitar work on choruses to his "Roseville Fair," "Quiet Faith of Man," "River" and "A Place In the Choir." Over the years he's done really fine covers of Tim Hardin's "Reason to Believe," Joseph Spence's "Great Dream from Heaven" and recently a truly special vocal and instrumental medley of Elizabeth Cotten's "Freight Train" and "Oh Babe I Ain't No Lie" that he calls "Cotten Pickin'."



For advance ticket price,
please call the
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at 860.693.0263