

September 21, 2019 - Trae Sheehan

We were lucky enough to be contacted by Trae Sheehan a few months back. After we listened to his music, we were sure we wanted to offer him a spot on this year's calendar! This twenty-one year old musician has singing and song writing skills well beyond his age. We think you'll like him as much as we do! Trae grew up in West Virginia, near the Potomac River. He describes his music this way: "Combine Jackson Browne's voice with John Denver's guitar playing and Eagles' songwriting and that's it." Trae has put that sound onto several recordings, including his just-released *Arizona*. At this point in his career, he is writing with Nashville songwriters, producing records with New York artists, and traveling to play shows internationally. As Trae tells it, "I make music to tell stories. They teach us right from wrong, give us something to cling to in hard times, and show us that we're not alone in the world. We're all in this together." We hope you will join us for an evening with Trae Sheehan, the opening night of our 23rd season! Hear Trae's music at: traesheehan.com

October 19, 2019 - Phyllis Chapell

Phyllis Chapell has been a part of several past seasons at the Coffee House. We are looking forward to welcoming her back this year! Phyl has developed a universal musical style, traveling to various countries to learn and perform songs of the world in native languages and with authentic guitar styles. Her repertoire now includes songs from Brazil, Latin America, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Phyllis has a powerful yet lovely voice, as those of you who have heard her perform at the coffee house will remember. She was named one of the top 521 jazz vocalists of all time by Scott Yanow, in his book, "The Jazz Singers: The Ultimate Guide". Phyllis also performs with her ensemble, Phyllis Chapell & SIORA, in the U.S., Latin America, Brazil, and Europe. In addition to CDs with SIORA, she has recorded 2 solo CDs: "World Songs" and "Voice in Flight". Her most recent recording is *4 Love*, released in June of this year. You will surely enjoy an evening of wonderful music from around the world, when you join us in October! You can hear samples of music from this talented musician by going to: phyllischapell.com

November 16, 2019 - Kate MacLeod

Great news! Kate MacLeod will be back at the coffee house this season!! Though Kate is a nationally-known song writer and performer, she has been a regular on our stage since we began. You won't want to miss her show this time around! Kate grew up in the Washington, DC area but moved west to Utah to study fiddle-making. In 2018, Kate celebrated 50 years of playing the violin. Her music is colored by her expertise in Celtic, Bluegrass, Classical, and Eastern European genres. And Kate captures our history and our lives in the music that she creates. She

has been compared to many influential artists of her genre including Joni Mitchell, Nanci Griffith, Richard Thompson and Emmylou Harris. *Sing Out!* Magazine says, Kate MacLeod "channels the spirit of the great Carter Family classics." In the words of Appalachian folk music legend, Jean Ritchie, "Kate is a splendid down-to-earth person; still she soars to the sky like a lark when she wants and needs to. Her music has a unique strong, sweet magic." Kate's songwriting style and live performances display an unbreakable link between traditional music and cutting-edge contemporary songwriting. Join us for a special evening with Kate MacLeod! Sample some music at: katemacleod.com/recordings

January 18, 2020 - Piper and Carson

We were able to find one of several new acts for this season, when Piper Hayes emailed us about playing at the Coffee House. Since she and her partner, Carson Ritcey-Thorpe, will be attending the Folk Alliance International in New Orleans in January, they were able to schedule a concert with us, as part of their travels. And we are so happy they did! Piper was born in New York, raised in Toronto, and now makes Hamilton, Ontario her home. She traveled as a solo act for several years, most recently releasing *Goodbye Mister Nice Guy* in 2016. Around that time, Piper met Carson and their collaboration was born. They began writing songs together and recorded a self-titled album in December of 2017. Piper says, "I am overjoyed and incredibly proud to release this piece of work to the world. It is a collection of intentioned songs that are popular at our live shows, songs to heal and songs to remember." Those live shows have carried them across Canada, and to the Netherlands and Edinburgh, Scotland. But you can stay right here in North East this winter, and join us for an evening that will "make you believe that folk music can change the world." You can learn more about Piper and Carson, and see music videos at: <http://pipersings.com/#home>

February 15, 2020 - Lara Herscovitch

We had hoped to have Lara Herscovitch as one of our performers last season, but we couldn't work out the scheduling. This season is a different story - Lara will bring her contemporary folk, spiced with blues, pop and jazz, to our stage in February. Lara is a former "State Troubadour of Connecticut". She has played thousands of notable stages and festivals including *A Prairie Home Companion* with Garrison Keillor and Pete Seeger's Clearwater Festival & Great Hudson River Revival. Lara's music has developed out of her decades of humanitarian work in the U.S., Latin America, Asia and Africa, which was focused on education, community development, environmental protection, and justice system reform. Her memorable melodies and compelling lyrics make her a polished songwriter. As WNPR Public Radio host Colin McEnroe observed, "Lara reminds us that music can be heroic when it springs from a strong heart. Walt Whitman would recognize his own soul in her expansive American vision!" We hope you will join us as we welcome Lara Herscovitch to the Coffee House this month! You can hear her music at: laraherscovitch.com/audio/

March 21, 2020 - Billy Kemp

In March, we will welcome another musician, new to our stage - Billy Kemp. A Baltimore native and Tennessee resident, Billy Kemp is a musician, singer and song writer. He is best known for his tasteful and inventive guitar playing. We look forward to hearing his music this month! Billy first played with the Paradise Pickers in Charm City in the early 1980s. Then he followed his heart and went to Nashville. While in town, he performed at the Grand Ole Opry with Jeanne Pruett. In 1988, Billy returned to Baltimore to play lead guitar with Tommy Conwell and the Young Rumlbers. He also composed and recorded music for Maryland Public Television. Billy released a new solo CD, *Another Life*, in August of 2017; and in 2018, Billy released *The Painter's Bucket*, a collection of songs from 1983-2018. *Dirty Linen* magazine reviewed Billy, saying: "Literate songs in a country blues manner. A collection of down-to-earth tales punctuated by vivid lyrics and crisp guitar work." Join us this month to hear a local musician, who has spread his talents to Nashville and back home again! Hear more at: billykemp.com

April 18, 2020 - Meghan Cary

When we weren't able to book a past performer for this season, we were put in touch with another Philadelphia-based artist. Meghan Cary has an interesting story to tell about her journey from being a stage actress to earning a slot in the coveted Emerging Artist Showcase at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival. But we will let her share that with you when you come out to hear Meghan at the Coffee House this month. We loved her voice and her wonderful lyrics, and we are excited to have Meghan share them with you! After leaving music to raise a family, Meghan made her return to the stage at the Philadelphia Folk Festival. She is now back into a full music career - composing, performing, coaching, and writing a one-woman musical play entitled, "On the Way to the Waterfall". Meghan will bring all her talents to the Coffee House in April, as well as guest, Peter Farrell, on keyboard. Billboard Magazine asked, "Can the world stand one more storytelling troubadour? If the artist in question is (Meghan) Cary, the answer is a resounding yes." Join us for a great night of live music with Meghan Cary!

May 16, 2020 – The Sin City Band

We are so happy to announce that The Sin City Band, legendary performers throughout the Delaware Valley, will be returning to our stage in the spring! We previously hosted this group of talented musicians in 2014 and 2018. They were 40 years in the business back then and even better now! Scott Birney is lead singer and one of the guitarists for the band. The rest of the group is composed of Steve Hobson on electric guitar, David Berry on piano and bass, Jim Ficca on drums, and Alan Berdoulay on pedal steel guitar. Their sound is well-polished and guarantees an evening of great listening!

The Sin City Band has visited bandstands from The Grand Opera House in Wilmington to the Grand Bahamas, from New England to Colorado, from backyards to music festivals. After their initial concerts on a long road trip, they finally settled in the Delaware Valley in 1976.

Scott, Steve, and David are all original members of the band, playing together since the mid-seventies. Jim signed on in 1985, and Alan has been adding the beloved sounds of his pedal steel guitar since 2008. They have been described as "being retro before retro was cool". We hope you will join us in May, as they continue "The Never Ending Tour"! The band is elusive on the web, but you can search "The Sin City Band" and find them on Facebook. And you can see them perform some of their favorites by searching "The Sin City Band Delaware" on Youtube.