

CALLIOPE Rootz

Mark your
calendar:

A Premiere of New Acoustic Music February 18

Calliope's artists in residence, Burr Beard and L.E. McCullough return for a rare Pittsburgh performance, assisted by Devilish Merry and special guest Jim DiSpirito. Concert begins at 8:00pm, \$10 (\$5 students).

Look forward to a fiery mix of Celtic, Appalachian, and contemporary songwriting with an inspired mood of the eighteenth century.

These artists will also hold a workshop on their arranging and composing process the afternoon before the concert. This workshop will include a demonstration by the artists, and an opportunity for attendees to participate. If you play or sing, bring your instruments and voices. Non-musicians and listeners of all ages and skill levels are welcome to attend. Contact the Calliope office to register. \$10 suggested donation (\$5 students)



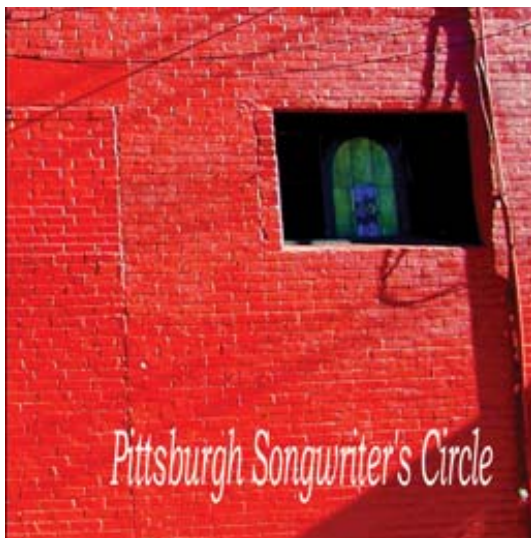
It was a Blast : Calliope Celebrates its New Digs at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts

Calliope celebrated its arrival to the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts campus with an old-fashioned housewarming party. Last November, hundreds of Calliope's friends, supporters and acoustic-music fans enjoyed a TGIF evening of music, food and drink, and had a chance to soak up the beautiful, creative and inspiring atmosphere that is our new home. All evening long, we heard comments like "this is where you guys belong," "can't wait to come here for a class or concert," and "Calliope has arrived!"

Hooley and the Monongahela Sheiks played their hearts out all evening long, with Calliope Board Member and bluesman extraordinaire Bill Locke kicking out some tunes in between sets. Managing Director Tricia Tanner and Board Member/past president Phil Smith gave tours of our third floor office space.

A huge thank you to the East End Food Co-op, now an East End neighbor, for generously providing delicious light fare (see accompanying article), and to the hardest working fans-of-folk volunteers who kept it running smoothly all night. Most importantly, much appreciated funds were raised for Calliope, and for that we are grateful for the generosity of all who attended.

If you missed the party, stop by any time for a tour of our offices. And if you're interested in learning more about how your donation will help support Calliope's mission to promote and preserve traditional, acoustic-based music, visit our website at www.calliopehouse.org.



Calliope Songwriters Circle Releases CD

By Ray Werner, Calliope Board President

In Nashville, you can browse Printer's Alley, a strip of clubs along a narrow back street that has given birth to a ton of acoustic startups. It's great fun to feel the enthusiasm and energy of new young musicians--some good, some bad, some great, but all of them oh so very original.

Pittsburgh has such a spot, too. Let's call it Songwriter's Alley. You'll find it by picking up a copy of the Calliope Songwriters Circle's CD, the latest CD of Pittsburgh's newest, original talent. Here's just a smattering of local music gems you'll find:

Jonathan Ritz's "memories and dreams" of Pennsylvania, "just passin' through" makes you want to stay. Stop in at Dave Well's Last Chance Saloon and you'll be there a while. All about a bunch of washed up musicians, the Last Chance Band. You'll spend the night. Or "risk a date" with Andy Tinker's "Bartender," and take a short trip with Sue Gartland on her "Thoughts of Missouri."

Patti Spinner, spins an unusual "Big Time" love song, with a great melody behind it. "Shades of Green" with Howard Davidson expresses the magnet of everything we grew up with, "...shades of blue, painted clouds, all the words I should have said." John Hayes' "Richard Jewell" is a story of innocence, a wronged man nearly convicted, now captured in this fine tribute.

David LaRose's lament for a toll bridge toll taker is right up there, "...second time we've spoken this year..." with his "Seven or Fewer." Jack Erdie winds it up with "I'm a Walker," and "no matter where I roam I'm walkin' home under a vision of your face."

Originality drives this CD, so stroll down Calliope's Songwriter's Alley, it's sure worth the trip.

The CD is \$10 and will be available at all Threepenny Opry shows, the Calliope Concert Series, and CDBaby.com. Proceeds from CD sales for the Threepenny Opry will go to the performers who are playing that night. Proceeds from sales at the concert series and CDBaby.com will go to Calliope. For more info, go to www.calliopehouse.org.

The Calliope Songwriters Circle meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Bloomfield Bridge Tavern (4412 Liberty Ave.). The circle runs from 7-8:30pm and is followed by the Calliope Acoustic Open Stage at 9:00pm. Everyone's welcome!

Calliope's New Neighbor: The East End Food Co-op

"Everyone Welcome" is the greeting painted on the colorful mural outside of the East End Food Co-op, a not-for-profit natural and organic foods grocery store that has been in operation since 1977.

Rooted in the cooperative tradition, East End Food Co-op relies on strong community support to offer the high quality foods for which it is known, and to create a strong future for consumer-owned businesses in our area. Pittsburghers purchase bulk oatmeal, soymilk and farm-fresh local eggs and many other items still only available at the locally owned East End Food Co-op.

Now celebrating 25 years of being incorporated as a cooperative, the East End Food Co-op welcomes more shoppers each year, not only for traditional wholesome choices, but also organic foods, cutting edge supplements and food for special diets.

The Co-op generously provided the tasty food for Calliope's housewarming party at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts. If you've never been to the Co-op we encourage you to stop in. Located at 7516 Meade St., just off of Penn Avenue at the Factory in Pittsburgh's East End. The Co-op is open every day from 8:00am to 9:00pm.



Profile: Jeff Berman, Calliope Outreach Instructor

Originally from New York City, Calliope instructor Jeff Berman moved to Pittsburgh in 2002. Jeff has been a fixture on the New York City music scene for decades, and has worked with artists from across the planet, from Andy Statman (who appeared in November as part of the 05-06 Calliope Concert Series), to Robert Een, Paul Bley, Linda Thompson, John Doyle, and Tony Trischka.

With a teaching background rooted in over 25 years of privately teaching drums, percussion, vibraphone, mountain dulcimer, improvisation and theory, Jeff became involved with Calliope in 2004 when he was employed as a percussion teacher at Calliope's after-school program at the Boys & Girls' Club of America's Career Connections Charter High School in Lawrenceville. At CCCH, Calliope offered free music lessons in which students could learn everything from basic rhythms to technique and had the opportunity to bring recordings of their favorite songs to be mapped out in class.

Jeff is currently working with Ian Green of the Zany Umbrella Circus in Calliope's outreach program at the Propel Schools in Homestead, McKeesport, and Wilkinsburg. Jeff says, "Working with Calliope at CCCH and the Propel Schools has been a very positive experience for me. The challenge to achieve-on a very limited budget-a meaningful, productive, and enjoyable musical environment for the students involved is a rewarding task to accomplish."

WISH LIST

Calliope is looking for a new or gently used digital camera. If you've recently upgraded, consider making a donation to Calliope. In return, you'll get a tax deduction letter, and our eternal gratitude.



Renaissance Man: Calliope Brings John Cohen to Pittsburgh

In collaboration with Pittsburgh Filmmakers and The Silver Eye Center for Photography Calliope will present John Cohen, a founding member of the New Lost City Ramblers, on Friday, March 3rd from 6:30-9pm, for a screening of two of his films about Roots music.



Dillard Chandler, from *The End of an Old Song* Copyright John Cohen/Courtesy Deborah Bell, New York

John Cohen, a multi-talented musician, photographer, filmmaker and artist, will be screening his 1960's documentaries *That High Lonesome Sound* and *The End of an Old Song*. After spending much of the 1950's and 60's in New York's Greenwich Village, Cohen documented the budding Pop Art and Abstract Expressionism of the times, but has since focused more on old time music from the Appalachians. John Cohen's works have been featured in major museum collections and publications and his award-winning films have aired on PBS, the BBC and at many art festivals throughout the world. In addition to influencing folk musicians like Bob Dylan, Jerry Garcia and Ry Cooder, Cohen's audio recordings of the New Lost City Ramblers have received Grammy nominations and have helped to revive old time fiddle music. Following the screenings, which will take place at the Melwood Screening Room (477 Melwood Avenue in North Oakland), John will be available for a Q&A session. The reception will also feature music by local old time stringband The Lackawanna Longnecks. The fee for this event is \$7 (\$5-members). Admission includes snacks and drinks.



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