



Toasted Ponies Farewell to Erin Concert Friday, January 20



STEVE HANSON, JIM PIPHER, TERRY KEEFE,
ERIN MCGOVERN

Lincoln's homegrown masters of bluegrass music are gathering to bid farewell to longtime band member Erin McGovern. Please join us for a night of acoustic music and original songs in celebration of Erin's contributions to the Lincoln music scene. This will be held at the 7th Street Loft, 504 South 7th St., Lincoln at 7:30 p.m, with doors open at 6:45 p.m. Special pricing for this show is \$10 for members and non members. Buy your tickets online at www.lafta.net or at the door the evening of the performance.

If you like bluegrass, new acoustic music and great original songs, you'll love the Toasted Ponies. They have been together for almost 20 years and have produced 2 CDs. Their music features wonderful harmony singing and tasteful instrumentation.

Steve Hanson plays banjo, mandolin, and guitar. He has won numerous music competitions including the banjo championships at both the Telluride Bluegrass Festival and the Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield, Kansas. Steve has been well known in

Bluegrass music ever since the release of his critically acclaimed record *Pick and Choose*. He has toured with C.W. McCall and has appeared in concert with many of the all time greats in Bluegrass music. Erin McGovern plays guitar and mandolin. Erin has played both as a solo artist and in numerous bands including the infamous group, The Hags, and with Mary Chapin-Carpenter. Jim Pipher plays bass and handles most of the emcee chores. Jim has received many accolades and awards as both a singer and songwriter. Jim has toured the U.S.A. and Canada with the popular swing band Sour Mash. He also plays with the jazz trio, The Lightning Bugs, who have made several recordings and a concert film with the legendary jazz violinist, Claude Williams. Terry Keefe plays fiddle and mandolin. Terry has won numerous contests and is in constant demand as a session player. He also plays with the popular Irish group, Paddywhack. Terry plays all the great old breakdowns, as well as Irish, ragtime, and country tunes.

Neal and Leandra Saturday, February 11 at the Johnny Carson Theater



At 7:30 p.m. in the Johnny Carson Theater on Saturday, February 11, LAFTA once again presents Neal and Leandra. This remarkable singing/songwriting couple has a large following in Lincoln that appreciates smoothly blended voices, sparkling humor, and songs that are layered with textures of everyday life and love. The duo connects with people's own experiences in a way that keeps audiences coming back for more and bringing friends.

For decades, Neal & Leandra have captivated fans coast to coast and beyond. With their impeccably matched voices and elegant harmonies, their engaging stage presence and superlative songwriting, they are very hard to resist. Like "listening to angels," said the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*; "clearly master the art of saying more with less," wrote *The Washington Post*.

Neal & Leandra are recipients of the prestigious McKnight Performing Artist Fellowship (2002), in recognition of excellence in live performance. And Neal was honored with a 2010 McKnight Composers Fellowship for *It's Not As Simple As It Seems*.

Tours have taken them to Canada's Winnipeg Folk Festival and to 45 states — from the Kerrville (Texas) Folk Festival to a tiny coffeehouse in San Luis Obispo, California, from New York's Carnegie Hall and Minnesota's famed Guthrie Theater to small-town Louisiana for a concert in a former Confederate hospital. But the road always leads them home to Minneapolis, where they live with their young daughter, Madeline.

From the start, folk legend Tom Paxton recognized that Neal & Leandra had that certain something that set them apart. "I've heard a half-dozen of their songs already that I believe will be classics," he reported. "Do yourself a favor and listen to them now." Still great advice.

Regular ticket pricing of \$13 for members, \$17 for nonmembers, \$10 for students with ID and \$1 for children under 12. Tickets are available online at www.lafta.net or at the door the evening of the performance. More information is available on the web at www.lafta.net or at 580-8656, the LAFTA phone number.

Cherish The Ladies Feb 18th

We hope all LAFTA members will take advantage of their opportunity to purchase two half-price tickets to see Cherish the Ladies at the Lied Center for Performing Arts on Feb. 18 and attend the post-show reception celebrating LAFTA's 30th anniversary season.

Thanks to grant support from Woods Charitable Fund and The Cooper Foundation, LAFTA is the presenting sponsor of Cherish the Ladies at the Lied. Regular ticket prices are \$36, but LAFTA members can buy up to two tickets for only \$18 each. This discount will more than pay for your Basic LAFTA membership for the year! Discount tickets must be purchased from LAFTA, either on our website (www.lafta.net) or at the ticket table at one of the two LAFTA concerts between now and February 18. You may call 402-580-8656 for more information.

After the concert, LAFTA members will be treated to a cake and punch reception at the Lied and an opportunity to meet the performers. Cherish the Ladies is an engaging Irish music ensemble whose name has been suggested by LAFTA members as a group they would like to see. Because of this year's grant support and our partnership with the Lied Center, LAFTA members can attend this Lied Center show at a price that is affordable for LAFTA members!

As a group, Cherish the Ladies has been performing almost as long as LAFTA has been in existence. Since its founding 26 years ago, the group has toured in North and South America, the United Kingdom and Europe, China, Australia and New Zealand, performing in the finest concert halls and international festivals.

The group has been named Top North American Celtic act by NPR's "Thistle and Shamrock" and Best Musical Group of the Year by the BBC.

Cherish the Ladies has shared the stage with such noted entertainers as James Taylor, Joan Baez, Emmy Lou Harris, The Clancy Brothers, The Chieftains and dozens of symphony orchestras. A collaboration with the Boston Pops Symphony led to a 1999 Grammy nomination, and the latest release, "Country Crossroads," sees the Ladies joined by top session musicians in Nashville with guest vocals by legendary singers Vince Gill, Nanci Griffith and Maura O'Connell.

Cherish the Ladies has appeared on CBS This Morning, Good Morning America, PBS, and NPR. Please plan to join us and take advantage of your opportunity as a LAFTA member to see the group in Lincoln at a special discount price. LAFTA members have kept our grassroots organization running for 30 years, and we want to celebrate with you!

Nancy Anderson



Celebrating
30
Years



CONTRA DANCE

7:30 p.m. first Saturday of each month at Auld Recreation Center. \$8 donation for adults, students \$5, children FREE. For more information call (402) 464-3143 or (402) 325-9450 or check the LAFTA web site at www.lafta.net.

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A great big LAFTA Thank You goes to THE MILL Coffee Shop for their kind coffee donation for our concerts. Stop by at 800 P St in Lincoln NE for a cup of the finest!

COMING CONCERTS

Saturday, March 24 - Joe Crookston

7th Street Loft, 7:30 p.m.

LAFTA is bringing Joe back to Lincoln after his headlining appearance at the 2010 Plainsong Folk Festival. His music draws from his urban adventures and his rural Ohio roots, exuding a remarkable, timeless quality.

Saturday, April 21 - Garnet Rogers

7th Street Loft, 7:30 p.m. An optimist at heart, Garnet sings extraordinary songs about people who are not obvious heroes and the small victories of the every day. If you appreciate profound songs, gorgeous guitars, deep baritones, and all things Canadian, this show's for you.

Saturday, May 19 - Prairie Dog Social

7th Street Loft, 7:30 p.m.

Presenting new CDs by Prairie Dog artists and a new book, *What the Hoops Junkie Saw*, by Prairie Dog Czar, Dr. John Walker, the social will again feature Doctor Walker's Hot Flash ("Makes You Feel Like a Real Woman") gumbo, blackberry cobbler, cornbread, and other favorites. Dinner at 6 p.m. while it lasts, followed by the show at 7:30 p.m.

Help LAFTA keep you informed

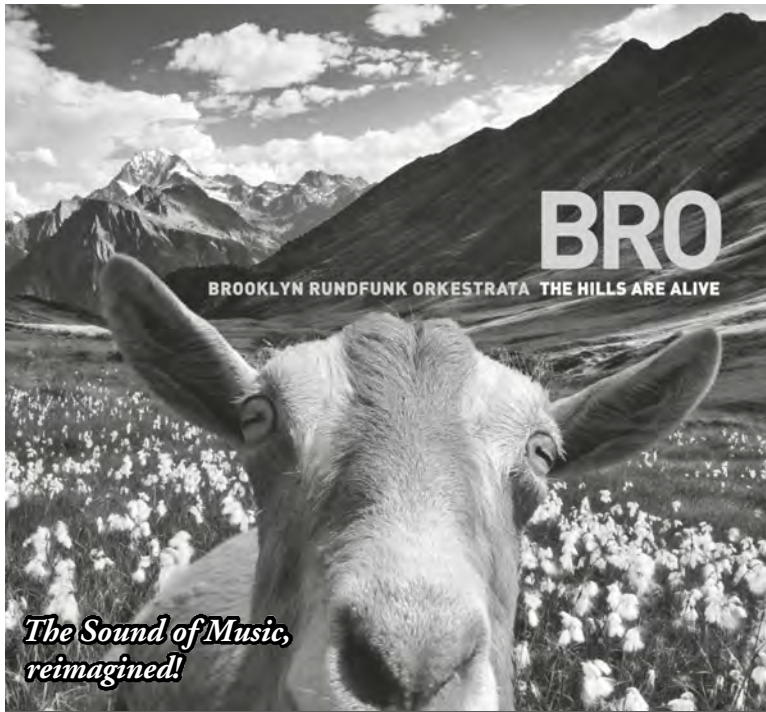
Members & Non-members...

Let LAFTA help keep you informed on local music events as well as LAFTA events. LAFTA frequently e-mails notices about local folk events, including at times music in Omaha, Ashland, Beatrice, and Grand Island that may be of interest if you like the LAFTA performances. We do this year round.

If you would like to receive these notices about LAFTA and non LAFTA folk music concerts, just e-mail your request to: kerrythekrause@yahoo.com and ask to be added to the LAFTA group email list. This list is not shared with anyone else. And if you change your mind, it's easy to drop off the list by sending a request to remove you from the e-mail list.

Several times people have replied to the messages with a thanks about keeping them informed of music in the vicinity. Join the group and join the music!

Dena Zimmer



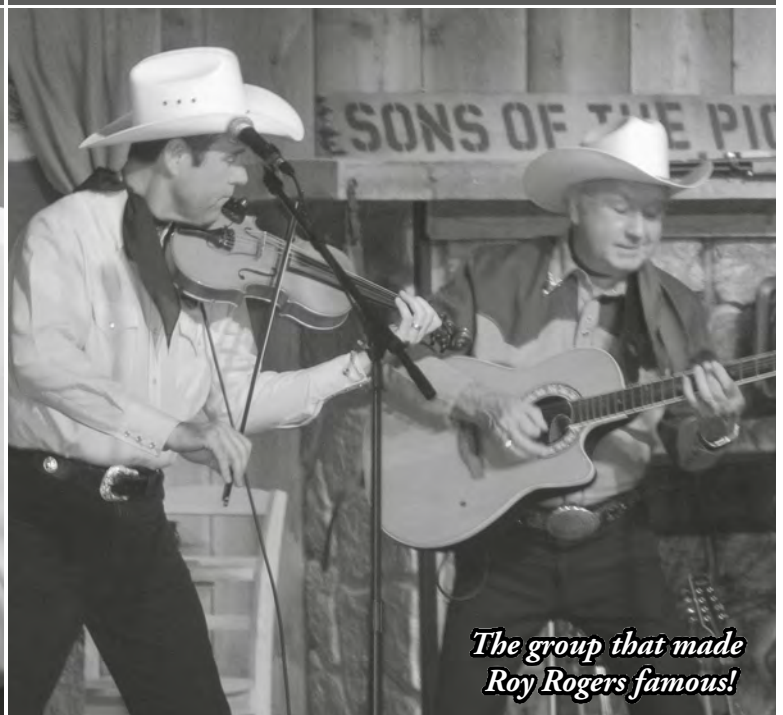
**BROOKLYN RUNDFUNK ORKESTRATA:
"THE HILLS ARE ALIVE"**
February 8 | 7:30 PM



**CHERISH THE LADIES
A CELTIC CELEBRATION**
February 18 | 7:30 PM



SUSAN WERNER
With Special Guest Trina Hamlon
March 9 | 7:30 P



SONS OF THE PIONEERS
April 7 | 7:30 PM

MORE TO LOVE AT THE LIED

LIEDCENTER.ORG | 402.472.4747



COMMENTS

from board president Charles Wooldridge

What a wonder-filled season so far! The Winfield Winners were such a great way to kick off the year. We are so blessed to have such talent in Lincoln! Eliza Gilkyson was our first concert in the Lied Center's Johnny Carson Theater in recent years. She was so warm and down home the "black box" took on an air of intimacy. My personal favorite first-half concert was the Greencards; they really had the crowd at the Loft on their feet. We tried something different this year with a Christmas bluegrass show in December. Monroe Crossing was the perfect fit!

With Neal & Leandra at the Johnny Carson Theater and Cherish the Ladies at the Lied Center Main Stage, February will be a musical blast. This represents LAFTA's 30th year, and we are celebrating it at the Cherish the Ladies concert with super special ticket pricing for LAFTA members and a reception following the concert. Get your tickets from LAFTA for special seating at half off the regular price. Visit our website, www.lafta.net, or call 402-580-8656 for details.

Joe Crookston will bring his urban folk sound to the Loft in March, and LAFTA favorite Garnet Rogers returns in April. In May, Dr. John Walker will host a Prairie Dog Social with food and great local music to wrap up our season at the Loft.

I would like to take a moment and thank the current board of directors and all those volunteers who have served during the past 30 years. It is remarkable that LAFTA has been able to provide to Lincoln the highest quality music for this long, solely on the backs of volunteers. Their dedication and commitment make it all possible year after year. I meet lots of people who were involved in LAFTA years ago and remain involved now as members or listeners. Serving on the board takes a commitment to music, community, and fun. We have lots of fun! If you are interested in joining us please contact one of our board members. Please join me in thanking our current board members next time you see one of them: Nancy Anderson, Butch Krause, Bart Holmquist, Randy Smith, Bonnie Smith, Dena Zimmer, and Daren Blythe. Thank you!

Lincoln Irish Dancers Coming Events

Come celebrate Irish culture, dance, and music for the St. Patrick's season with the Lincoln Irish Dancers! We will be celebrating our 15th Anniversary with our Lincoln Irish Dancers & Friends event on Saturday, March 10th, 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 2723 N. 50th St., Lincoln, Ne.

Featured Guests include... Rowan - a Celtic music band from Kansas, Mairtin de Cogain - multi-talented traditional dancer, singer, and storyteller from County Cork, Ireland, Edwin Mukusha - Highland Piper of Lincoln, Pat Barnes - Celtic Harpist of Omaha, Brent Shaw - Organist for First United Methodist, and of course - dancing by the Lincoln Irish Dancers!

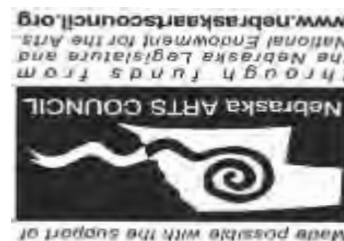
The very next day on Sunday, March 11, plan on attending our annual Spring Ceili (public dance), where you too can learn some Irish folk dance, and maybe even a jig or two! It will be at the Auld Rec Center in Antelope Park at 6:00 p.m. Music by Rowan and dances called by Mairtin from County Cork. Don't miss this fantastic weekend of Irish entertainment. Details at www.lincolnirishdancers.org. Terri Heckman

2012 PLAINSONG

FOLK FESTIVAL

Check website for updates

www.plainsongfestival.com



Thanks for the Support!

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The Folk Music Folks

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