



Spring 2013 Vol 1

PO Box 30561 Lincoln NE 68503

Diana Jones back to perform Saturday, January 19



Saturday, January 19, 7:30 pm. at the 7th Street Loft LAFTA welcomes **Diana Jones** back to the LAFTA stage. Diana Jones sounds like someone you know. That is, you immediately trust her and feel comfortable enveloped in her voice. She comes across as friendly - but a friend who is experiencing some troubles - and, perhaps more importantly, understands your own. Her plainspoken songs draw life from her Appalachian mountain heritage as they explore themes of love, loss, and redemption.

Jones' back-story is itself as full of cathartic moments, ironic twists and intricate connections as her narratives. During her childhood and adolescence, she felt an almost mystical, seemingly inexplicable attraction to rural Southern music, while growing up in the Northeast with no art or music in her home, the adopted daughter of a chemical engineer. It wasn't until her late 20s, when she located her birth family in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains in east

Tennessee, that Jones' deep affinity for Anglo-Celtic traditional music began to make sense.

Specifically, it was hanging out with her grandfather, Robert Lee Maranville, that brought on her life-changing epiphany. "He was a guitar player from Knoxville, Tennessee, who played with Chet Atkins in the early days," Jones explained in 2009. "He told me that if he had died, his one regret would have been never to have known the granddaughter who was given away. He took me driving 'round the Appalachians, reintroducing me to where I came from. And whenever these old-time country tunes came on the radio, he'd be singing along — he knew all the words. This ancient mountain music was completely in his blood and, I suddenly came to realize, in mine, too."

It was then that Jones — who'd recorded a pair of well-crafted contemporary singer/songwriter albums during the second half of the '90s — decided to start anew, armed with her birthright and a new found sense of purpose. When Maranville died in 2000, she holed up in a cabin in the woods of Massachusetts and wrote the songs that wound up, six years and many filled notebooks later, on *My Remembrance of You*, which she fittingly dedicated to his memory.

The album earned Jones a nomination as Best Emerging Artist at the Folk Alliance Awards, leading to tours with Richard Thompson and Mary Gauthier, appearances at folk festivals on both sides of the Atlantic, and covers of her songs by Gretchen Peters and Joan Baez. "There's some kind of channeling from some other lifetime going on," Baez marveled. "I don't know the answer to these things, but all I can think of is that it must come from some mysterious part of her soul."

Diana Jones is one of the most essential folk-rooted songwriters of the past decade. *Mike Regenstreif, editor, writer and broadcaster now based in Ottawa who has written about folk and roots music since the 1970s for Sing Out! Magazine and the Montreal Gazette and many other Canadian newspapers.*

All shows start at 7:30 p m. at the 7th Street Loft. Regular ticket pricing of \$13 for members, \$17 for nonmembers, students with ID are \$10 and children under 12 for \$1 applies with tickets 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 402-580-8656, the LAFTA phone number. Come and hear why Diana has become one of the most acclaimed folk-rooted songwriters of the last decade.

KC Rain Dogs headed for LAFTA mainstage at 7:30 p m, Friday, Feb. 22 nd.

The KC Rain Dogs are four talented musicians who have come together to share a love of American roots music. Creating a timeless sound all their own, they pay tribute to the old southern string bands and classic blues masters. Playing songs that have weathered the generations, the Rain Dogs perform music ranging in style from old time jug band blues and boogie-woogie up through the driving rhythms of early rock and roll. Working within a framework of acoustic and resophonic guitars, washboard, bass, mandolin, piano & harmonica, the band covers material from artists such as Bessie Smith, Memphis Minnie, Mississippi Sheiks, Muddy Waters, Bonnie Raitt and Bo Carter, along with originals. Check www.lafta.net for more info.



Playing At the Zoo Bar

Keep the music flowing. Become part of LAFTA! Ask a Board member how.

COMMENTS from board president Charles Wooldridge

It is a new year and a good time to reflect on what has been happening with Lincoln's premier acoustic music association. This season we welcomed a new board member into the fold. Steve Shurusa has jumped right in and helped with concert coordination and contributing to board discussions and decisions. Thanks, Steve! The first half of the season was exceptional. All the concerts were invigorating. Finnders and Youngberg, Sandy Creek Bluegrass and the Steel Wheels all put out some great music. We try to mix musicians that are well known to Lincolinites with those that may be lesser known. We have a full line up of main stage and house concerts to look forward to in the second half of the season. You can find the schedule of concerts at www.lafta.net.

One of our objectives towards our goal of presenting the best in acoustic music is to remain financially responsible. We try to break even financially at the end of the year with just enough reserves to get the next season started. We take in money from tickets sales and receive grants but a significant part of our income is from memberships. I have noticed a decrease in the amount we have taken in via memberships this year. It seems we are maintaining comparable memberships but the amount contributed per membership has decreased. In the past we have had more folks joining at the Friend, Enthusiast and Lifetime levels. Now don't get me wrong, I am not begging for money. We are doing just fine financially, but, the level of talent we can bring in is tied to the funds we have. So... when you renew your membership consider bumping in up a level. We will all benefit from your generosity.

Plus, if you have a particular artist you would really like to see, and you can contribute extra money to bring that artist in, we will do our best to book that artist. This financial support has happened several times in the recent past and allowed us to bring in some super talent. Give it a thought and contact a board member. Support live music! Wooly.



CONTRA DANCE
7:30 pm first Saturday of each month at Auld Recreation Center. \$8 donation. For more information call 402-560-0108, or 402-476-2441 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!

Upcoming LAFTA shows

Friday, March 15 - Tracy Grammer at the 7th Street Loft, 7:30 PM

Tracy combines her sublime voice with a solid command of violin, guitar and mandolin; her return to the LAFTA main stage promises to be a memorable celebration of "postmodern mythic American music."

Fri. March 22, The Stray Birds 7:30 p.m. House Concert at 4615 Sugar Creek Ct Lincoln NE 68516

NPR Music rated the debut album from The Stray Birds in the Top 10 of Folk & Americana Albums of 2012, "certainly one of the finest debuts of the year from a band to watch.

Friday, April 19 - Matt and Shannon Heaton at the 7th Street Loft, 7:30 PM

Their show's mix traditional Irish tunes and songs with their own compositions that draw from both Irish and American roots. Their playing is masterful and inventive, their arrangements city-smart and spacious.

Go to www.lafta.net for ticket purchase information and house concert reservations.

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2013 PLAINSONG FOLK FESTIVAL

Keep an eye on their Website for information.

www.plainsongfestival.com



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