

Focal Point



Traditional Arts Center
& Listening Room

2720 Sutton Blvd. 63143

April 2017

NOTE: advance tickets for listed concerts may ONLY be purchased at brownpapertickets.com until noon the day of the show.

For there's many a dark and a cloudy morning Turns out to be a sunshiny day!

Saturday, April 1, 8pm, \$15/\$20: Buddy Mondlock!

Buddy Mondlock writes songs. He does it so well that some great songwriters have recorded his songs on their own albums. Guy Clark, Nanci Griffith and Janis Ian, to name just a few. He's not going to pin your ears back with those songs. He's going to draw you into his world. Where a single snowflake follows the trajectory of a relationship, where you get your pocket picked by a Roman cat, where you might swim over the edge of the world if you're not careful and where dreams that don't come true still count. We recommend this one.

Friday, April 7th, 8pm, \$10/\$15: BAJA — debut performance!

Brad Sarno and Auset Sarno are the driving force behind Auset Music

Project. John Wendland and Andy Ploof are the principal songwriters for The Wilhelms and Rough Shop. For months now, the four of them have talked about collaborating together to see what musical surprises can come out of this pairing of two musical duos. Focal Point will be presenting this collaboration, BAJA, for their debut performance. We would tell you more if we knew more but it promises to be an evening of special entertainment!

Saturday, April 8th, 8pm, \$10/\$15: Jeremy Stephens & Corrina Rose Logston

Corrina Rose Logston & Jeremy Stephens are a duo heavily steeped in the sounds of traditional bluegrass and early country music. From heart songs and brother duets of the early Grand Ole Opry era to lively bluegrass tunes and their own original material, their show is sure to keep you entertained.

Drawn together by their mutual love for duets, especially the lesser known names in traditional bluegrass and hillbilly music, Corrina and Jeremy have been likened to Reno & Smiley, the Louvin Brothers, and Lulu Belle & Scotty. Together they bring a colorful palate of diverse musical styles with a heart-warming delivery that is sure to delight.

Sunday, April 9th, 7pm, \$15/\$20: Foggy Memory Boys

Foggy Memory Boys perform traditional bluegrass as well as newgrass—everything from original, blues and acoustic jazz to fire-breathing Bluegrass. Jason Scroggins on Guitar, Cecil Tinnon on mandolin, Will Miskall on bass, and Mark Raborn on banjo. Their

roots are in traditional bluegrass; they have individually performed with, traveled with, and recorded with some of the greatest names associated with that genre, and their playing clearly echoes those influences. Special guests: Gary Hunt, Dustin Greer, Kris Shewmake, Matt McGibany, and Andy Novara.

Note: This Show Begins At 7PM

Friday, April 14th, 8pm, \$10/\$15: The People's

Jack and Tracey Semelsberger, a.k.a. The People's, have been riding high since the release of their debut album, "Songs From the Chicken Shack," many cuts from which enjoyed airplay on various KDHX shows. This year will feature new additions on bass in the form of Red Jones and his thundering doghouse, and on Dobro with the slick sliding of Stephen Clark. Also joining Jack and Tracey will be the nimble-fingered and tasty Russell Rensch on mandolin.

Saturday, April 15th, 8pm, \$15/\$20: Michael Peter Smith!

One of the most captivating songwriters in the folk arena, celebrated artist [Michael Peter Smith](#) has toured the United States and Canada for nearly five decades. He creates new work on a constant basis, and music's finest performers record his songs. His song "The Dutchman," a signature piece for the late Liam Clancy and for the late Steve Goodman, and still recorded by dozens of others, is considered a classic, and his upcoming CD will feature songs inspired by *Moby-Dick*. Michael has appeared at The Focal Point a dozen times over the years, and his performances here

have always been a special treat for all who attend. Come see why.

Friday, April 21st, 8pm, \$10/\$15: Missouri Breaks

Join Missouri Breaks for an evening of bluegrass and beyond. Missouri Breaks combines hard-driving bluegrass with elements of rock, jazz, blues, and folk. The band's tight vocal harmonies, solid grooves, and inventive improvisation make for a highly enjoyable musical experience. Missouri Breaks is: Mike Aehle, banjo and vocals; Joel Ferber, mandolin and vocals; Joey Ferber, guitar and vocals; and Glenn Meyers, bass.

Saturday, April 22nd, 8pm, \$20/\$25: Paddy Keenan, with Eileen Gannon & Friends

Master Irish piper and co-founder of the incomparable Bothy Band, Paddy Keenan is unique. He comes from a Travelling family steeped in traditional music; both Paddy's father and grandfather were uilleann pipers. Paddy himself took up the pipes at the age of ten, playing his first major concert at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, when he was 14. Paddy's flowing, open-fingered style of playing can be traced directly from the style of such great Travelling pipers as Johnny Doran; both Paddy's father and grandfather played in the same style. Although often compared to Doran, Paddy was 19 or 20 when he first heard a tape of Doran's playing; his own style is a direct result of his father's tutelage and influence. We are always delighted to have him and are pleased and proud that he's chosen us as his favorite Midwest stop!

Sunday, April 23rd, 7pm, \$10/\$15: Rémi Brannón!

Rémi has a great mix of songs, tunes, excellent guitar work, and a unique perspective on the Breton /Irish/American Celtic scene! Familiar to the St. Louis Irish community, and friends with us all, Rémi now lives in France; it will be a great time to reconnect and hear what he's been up to recently!
Note: 7PM start time!

Friday/Saturday/Sunday April 28/29/30: St. Louis Tionól! Best Irish music and dance all in one weekend ever! We'll be there. Actually, HERE, on Friday; the Friday concert will be held in our building! www.tionol.org

Friday, May 5th, 8pm, \$15/\$20: Richard Smith

When Richard Smith picks up a guitar, it's a treat for the ears and the eyes. It's a natural gift for him and we are delighted to have him back in St. Louis. While Richard really has a style of his own, you'll likely be treated to his very authentic renditions of tunes by a few of his old friends Chet Atkins and Jerry Reed as well as tunes reminiscent of Django Reinhardt, Joe Pass, Doc Watson, Newgrass Revival, Albert Lee, Jorge Morel and others of their caliber. Believe us — this man is a guitar shark with very sharp teeth. You DON'T want to miss this one!

Other Stuff:

Sunday afternoons, 3:30, FREE--
River Rats Border Morris, newcomers welcome. Call Judy, 314-560-2778.

Sunday, Nov 20: **TANGO!** email Russell at blythrd@gmail.com

First and Third Mondays of every month: **Irish set dance**, open to all; call Erin, 314-607-3806

Fourth Mondays: **English country dancing** happens. Call Paul, 314-288-9105.

Fourth Tuesdays: we host the **St. Louis Poetry Society**

Second Wednesdays: we have **Cajun dances** hosted by Donna Eckberg, 314-822-0310

All other Wednesdays: **Capering Roisters Morris Dancing**, 7:30-9:30. John Long, 314-647-1804

And NEARLY EVERY Thursday there is a **Jam Session**, which also welcomes all comers. Call Dan at 314-968-7064

For information about **Songbird Cafe**, which puts on monthly shows in our building, go to songbird-stl.com

Check out our website: thefocalpoint.org, or visit us on Facebook: Focal Point Concerts.

You may rent our building for your own event: \$155 for weekdays and evenings; \$255 for Friday or Saturday evenings if available; slightly less for not-for-profit arts organizations. Call Judy at 314-560-2778.

Focal Point Concerts are partly supported by Schwab Charitable fund, by Schlafly Breweries, and by Jackson Pianos.