

STONE SOUP

COFFEEHOUSE

St. Paul's Church
50 Park Place Pawtucket, RI
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www.StoneSoupCoffeehouse.com

Dean Friedman (*Hoot*)

Sat, Nov 7 • \$15 adults • \$8 kids
Sign-ups day of show. Come early

In 1977, Dean Friedman marked his entry into pop consciousness with the enormous success of his infectious hit single "Ariel," a quirkily irresistible and uncategorizable pop song about a free spirited, music loving, vegetarian Jewish girl in a peasant blouse who lived, as the lyric goes. Since then, his songs have been irrepressably popular, such as "McDonald's Girl," and his work with TV and cult films such as *I Bought A Vampire Motorcycle*.



An Evening w/ Bob Franke

Sat, Nov 14 • \$15 adults • \$8 kids

Bob Franke is at the peak of his considerable craft, brimming with the wise and spiritually generous songs for which he is best known, along with poignant topical songs and songs that are sugared with the hilarious. His are the kind of songs that really do have the power to change the world by being taken into the lives of people. Bob's songs are considered classics, fueled by his deep faith and the real-life lessons taught him by his 30-odd years of playing everywhere from concert halls to street corners. Bob has appeared in concert at coffeehouses, colleges, festivals, bars, streets, homes and churches.



Lucy Kaplansky w/ Patrick Fitzsimmons

Sat, Nov 21 • Adv. \$18, door \$20

Lucy Kaplansky's road to musical fame was an unlikely one. She started out singing in Chicago bars and then, barely out of high school, Lucy took off for New York City. There she found a fertile community of songwriters and performers—Suzanne Vega, John Gorka, Bill Morrissey, Cliff Eberhardt, and others—where she fit right in. The New York Times said it was "easy to predict stardom for her", but Lucy temporarily left the musical fast track to pursue a doctorate in Psychology and open her own private practice. Lucy was often pulled back into the studio by her friends (who now had contracts with record labels), wanting her to sing on their albums.



[roots report]

Haller releases *Mistaken Identity*



O kee dokee folks... Right now I'm listening to the Swell Season's new CD, *Strict Joy*. It's the follow-up to their Oscar winning and gold certified soundtrack to the film, *Once*. I'm priming my ears for their show at Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel on Saturday, Nov 7. I haven't been this excited to see a national touring act in a long time. At the core, the new CD carries on the sound from the *Once* recording, but it is a fuller, slicker and more produced product. Glen Hansard wrote and performs the lion's share of the content but Marketa Irglova's songs have soft, vulnerable and passionate vocals.

If you have the film soundtrack, you will want *Strict Joy*. And if you already have either one or both, you will want to see them live at Lupo's. If you have neither and are curious, go to www.theswellseason.com and you can hear clips of the new CD. Then get tix for the show! Please note that this show is at 7pm. It is an early show. Visit www.lupos.com

Mistaken Identity

For the longest time, I heard songs by singer-songwriter Jacob Haller and wished that he had a real CD of them. Occasionally at gigs he would sell the homemade discs, but they were random and not professionally recorded. At long last he bit the bullet and went into the studio and the end result is *Mistaken Identity*, a thoroughly entertaining, sonically accurate, and well-produced

CD. With musical help from friends: Keith Munslow, Serena Andrews, Chris Monti, Sarah Dawson, Pamela Murray, Daniel Oullette, Sarah Dawson, Ron Pigeon, Bridget Dignon, Sonny Roelle and John Windle. Haller created a comfortable recording of his quirky, offbeat, and from the heart compositions. I sometimes refer to Jacob Haller as a sort of Burl Ives type musician/character with a twist. Haller sings in a rich baritone voice and accompanies himself on guitar (sometimes accordion) and sings songs that come across as traditional type folk songs, at least for the first few lines. Therein lies the twist. They then stray into another realm. The opening track of the disc, "Stale Tequila," one of three songs that are products of the RI Songwriters in the Round Series at AS220, starts off simply singing about meeting a woman after a bar gig and falling in love. The next morning he woke up in a bathtub of ice with a missing kidney. The second song on the CD is the first song that he wrote for the RISA series and he "was deathly afraid that the other songwriters would come up with the same take on that month's theme, "Childhood Memories." Not likely. Jake's take on things are definitely all his own. "Photo Album," the song written for the Childhood Memories theme, is sweetly sung as it talks about the memories that photos bound in an album of human skin hold: "Here's a picture when you became ole Satan's bride, there you were all dressed in black, Satan nervous at the back you were such a lovely couple and your ma and me both cried, it's amazing how you've grown since then."

"I'm a Guy" pays homage to the Muddy

Waters' song, "I'm a Man." The difference between the two is that Jake's "guy" knits and likes "chick-flicks." You will frequently see Jake sitting in an audience knitting. Jake's live performances are pretty true to the recording, with the exception of the extra instruments and backing vocals peppered throughout. But Jake has plenty of friends that sit in and audiences like to sing-a-long, so that makes up the difference. Haller is quiet and assuming in his delivery and that makes these gems shine the brighter. And the listener laughs harder. You'll sing along to **"Watching Killer Robots Eating Your Head"** and **"Whenever I am Sad I Do a Web Search for Pictures of Adorable Kittens."**

Jake Haller releases Mistaken Identity at Everyman Bistro, 311 Iron Horse Way (off Valley Street) in Providence Tuesday, Nov 17, at 8pm. Joining him will be: Hannah Devine, The Killdevils and Jon Campbell (who also has a CD coming out). Everyman Bistro, Show runs 8pm to midnight and admission is free. You can get copies of the CD at the show or online at <http://music.jwgh.org>

Scheming & dreaming

If you do catch the Swell Season and you are still up for more music, head on over the Blackstone Club and catch The Schemers in a special reunion show. They won't be reuniting again for a while so best to get some Schemers when you can. The Schemers were one of the hottest acts that played the old "3-L tour" (Lupo's, Living Room, Last Call) in Providence and beyond, going back 20+ years. They even had a video on MTV. You can find it on YouTube, it's called **"I Want Some Fun."** They epitomized the RI music scene back then. The songs "Valley of Love," "Too Many Stars and Not Enough Sky," certainly will strike a memorable chord for many. Reminisce and feel good about it. The Schemers were a great band. They perform Saturday, Nov 7, at 9pm - www.theblackstoneclub.com

Campbell collective

As I mentioned above, **Jon Campbell** will be performing at Jake Haller's CD Release show. Campbell has a CD of his own (sort of) coming out and will be available at that same show. The "sort of" comments about Campbell's CD is best summed up by the WARNING on the back of the CD. It reads: Jon Campbell DOES NOT perform on this CD. The recording

called, **"Yup, I Said That-A Collection of Artists Performing the 'Classic' Hits of Jon Campbell"** is the brain-child of the CD's producer, **Marilyn Bellemore**. Over the years, many locals have covered Campbell's quirky, funny songs about the sea life and RI living. It wasn't until a year or two ago that Bellemore and Campbell were in Oregon listening to a band and they began to perform one of Jon's songs. It caught their attention. Campbell introduced himself to the band as the writer of the song. The band had learned the song from someone else in the Puget Sound area.

Since that time they found many other artists performing the songs of Jon Campbell. Bellemore decided that a collection of these songs would make a great CD. And she was right. Featured on the CD are **The Short Sisters, Pendragon, Robbie O'Connell, Steve Snyder and Kate Katzberg, Peter Breen** and many more. They all add a different feel to Campbell's material. Spoken word is intermingled amongst the tunes. Some of the songs go back 25 years and some are recent. It's sort of a tribute to Jon, his lengthy career and his writing that this CD has come to fruition. My favs off the CD are **"Winnebago," "Winnebago"** with the line, "there's a slick of Bain de Soliel on the Bay" and the sweet rendition of Pendragon's Mary Lee singing **"Restless Waters,"** which is a beautiful song that traces the journey of a drop of water around the world and through history.

If you are looking for a copy of Campbell's CD or Jake Haller's CD you can get them both at the CD Release Show on Nov 17 at Everyman Bistro. Visit www.celticmusic.com

Chester in Church

The **Church Street Coffeehouse** has kicked off its eighth season and it is in full gear. And the Coffeehouse has some new gear as well. C/H coordinator, Rick Norman let me know that the sound system has been seriously upgraded. And, they finally have a new website, www.churchstreetcoffeehouse.com. Rick says, "As you can imagine Tom (sound) and I are pretty excited about all of our new toys" Saturday, Nov 14, hosts Goodbye Chester, a trio with beautifully blended harmonies and riveting guitar work to the Church Street Coffeehouse.

Goodbye Chester is an acoustic, electric trio who have been performing in one configuration or another for more than two years now. Their current

lineup of Tim Murphy (acoustic guitar and vocals), Kasey Taylor (vocals), and Ken Taylor (vocals, guitar, bass, mandolin, dobro, and harmonium), emphasizes their considerable vocal talents as they trade lead vocal duties and bring rich three-part harmonies to their songs. Their repertoire comprises original songs, as well as little known and popular covers, drawing from country, folk, alternative, and the occasional '80s New Wave chestnut. **Rick**

Norman wants you all to know, "If you have never heard these guy's, you really need to check them out as they are loaded with talent." The Church Street Coffeehouse is one of the best-kept secrets around...but spread the word, get the secret out. You can find the C/H on Church St. in Warren. It's the BIG white Church!

To Do List

Finally, a couple of more shows to add to your "to do" list for the planners among us. And really...who's more organized and well-adjusted than folk music fans??? **RISA** and the **Brooklyn Coffee Tea House** want you to "come celebrate - the times will be done a changin' (the clock will be set back and the calendar page turned to November). So, by Saturday, Nov 7, you should be well adjusted and ready to venture out for the **Saturday Songwriter Sessions** at the Brooklyn Coffee Tea House. **Billy Mitchell, Wyatt Lema and The Benedictions**, all attractive, dynamic and full of bluster, guarantee a night of storytelling, comedy and good old-fashioned whoop-de-doo type music. Starts at 8pm sharp and at five dollars, it's a recession-buster. Plus, check out Brooklyn owner, Tony Demings' new piano, a low-rider. If you can't wait, there's an open mic there Wednesday, Nov 4, at 7pm). www.brooklyncoffeehouse.com. Located at 209 Douglas Ave., Providence. At **Local 121** on Washington Street in Providence, there will be a benefit concert for **RI Marriage Equality**. It's about time RI joins the rest of New England and opens its mind to expanding the definition of marriage. You can help the cause and hear some pretty great music as well. Singer-songwriter **Catie Curtis** will be performing. The show is Wednesday, Nov 11, at 8pm. They have Valet parking. Dial up 401-274-2121 or type in www.local121.com.

*Thanks for reading, John
www.johnfuzek.com*

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