

# Eisteddfod - NY

## A Festival of Traditional Music and Dance



Friday to Sunday, August 13–15, 2004  
Polytechnic University  
at Metrotech Center, Brooklyn, NY

The Eisteddfod at Southern Massachusetts University, Dartmouth, MA, was fondly known to performers and attendees as perhaps the premier American festival of traditional music and song. Founded by Howard Glasser in 1972, it continued for 25 great years and is now back for a second year in the land of his birth - Brooklyn.

We hope you will enjoy this second annual celebration of traditional music, song, and dance from many cultures.

Presented by the New York Pinewoods Folk Music Club (Folk Music Society of New York, Inc.), Co-sponsored by Polytechnic University, and in association with Branford Folk Music Society (CT), CD\*NY, Country Dance (NY), Citylore (NY), Folk Alliance, Folk Music Society of Huntington (NY), Folk Project (NJ), Folk Song Society of Greater Boston (MA), Folklore Society of Greater Washington (DC), Hurdy Gurdy Folk Music Club (NJ), Princeton Folk Music Society (NJ), Staten Island Historical Society (NY), University of Massachusetts / Dartmouth - Library Archives and Special Collections (MA), Woods Hole Folk Music Society (MA)

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# Thanks!

To all the people who helped put this festival together, including:

- Jerry Epstein, Festival Director, who persuaded us that this event really could happen.
- Howard Glasser, our Director Emeritus, who ran the Eisteddfod at S.M.U. for so many wonderful years.
- Our associated organizations and the staff and faculty of Polytechnic University; especially Robert Griffin, Director of Student Development; Annie Carino, Director of Facilities; and Eunice Ro, of the Department of Residential Life.
- Joy Bennett, president of N.Y. Pinewoods, and all the other board members.
- Our great lineup of performers.
- Argyle Wolf-Knapp and his helpers, for feeding the performers and staff.
- Brooklyn Brewery, special thanks for providing some of their great beer to refresh the performers and staff.
- Our advertisers and vendors, for their support.
- Don Wade, Dennis Cook, and Willie Wade-Pentel for doing sound
- Stage managers Jerry Epstein, David Kleiman, and Gary Miller.
- Alan Friend, Rosalie Friend, David Jones, and Heather Wood, our Coordinators.
- Eileen Pentel, for arranging the Ellis Island/Liberty Island trip.
- Our host of volunteers: Dave Axler, Joy Bennett, Bob Cardwell, Maddy De Leon, Herb Feuerlicht, Rosalie Friend, Emily Gunyou, Nicole Gunyou, Michaela Hamilton, Rosalyn Heitner, Clarice Kjerulff, Chris Koldewey, Joel Landy, Marie Mularczyk, Takako Nagumo, Judy Oppenheim, Bethany Pagliarulo, Dylan Peizer-Oppenheim, Lois Penn, Judy Polish, Leona Schwab, Bernice Silver, Marilyn Suffet, Marcus Tieman, Arthur Tobiason, Ellen Weiss, Joan White, Heather Wood, and Mary Zikos.
- And thank YOU for being a part of this festival. We hope to see you next year!

*The Eisteddfod Committee:* Jerry Epstein, Alan & Rosalie Friend, Howard Glasser, David Jones, Eileen Pentel, Steve Suffet, Don Wade, Heather Wood



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**New York Pinewoods Folk Music Club/  
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450 Seventh Ave., #972, New York, NY 10123

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## Not a member of Pinewoods?

Why not join now? We run concerts, weekends, classes, singing parties, and get-togethers, all with an emphasis on traditional folk music of all flavors. Members get free admission to our five annual Series Concerts, plus discounts on weekends, the Eisteddfod, etc., and our monthly (except August) newsletter listing folk events in and around New York.

### Upcoming Club Events

#### South Street Seaport Sea Music Concerts

Museum Gallery, 209 Water St, Tuesdays 6-8 pm, with New York Packet & guests.

Aug. 17 Deirdre & Sean Murtha  
Aug. 24 The NexTradition  
Aug. 31 Chris Koldewey

#### Special Events

Sept. 17-18 Park Slope Bluegrass/Old-Time Jamboree (co-sponsor)  
Jan. 28-30 Peoples' Music Network Winter Gathering (co-sponsored with PMN)

#### House and Special Concerts

Sept. 10 Fri Judy Cook House Concert in Manhattan.

#### Series Concerts - Free to Members. 8 pm at Advent Church, Manhattan.

Oct. 16 Sat Washboard Slim and the Blue Lights (jug band and more)  
Nov. 13 Sat Ye Mariners All (John Roberts and co-conspirators)  
Dec. 3 Fri Eletfa (Hungarian ensemble)

#### Weekends

Oct. 22-24 Fall Folk Music Weekend at beautiful Camp Freedman, Falls Village, CT with "Major" Pat Conte, Drew Smith, Double Trouble, a dance caller, and others.  
Feb. 4-6, 2005 Winter Folk Music Weekend at Warwick Conference Center.  
May 27-30, 2005 Spring Folk Music Weekend.

#### Informal Jams and Sings

Folk Open Sing: First Wednesday of each month (Sept. 1, Oct. 6, etc); 7-10:30 pm at the Ethical Culture Society in Brooklyn.  
Gospel & Sacred Harp Sing: Sunday, resumes in the Fall.  
Riverdale Sing: in Riverdale, the Bronx. Thursdays: Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 18.  
Sunnyside Song Circle: Resumes in the Fall.  
Sacred Harp Singing at St. Bartholomew's, Manhattan, Sunday Sept. 19.  
Chantey Sing at the Seamen's Church Institute, South Street Seaport, Manhattan; Saturday, Aug. 28, at 8pm: (tentative)

See our website [www.folkmusicny.org](http://www.folkmusicny.org) or newsletter for full details

# Eisteddfod – NY 2004

## Performers, MCs, and Symposium Participants

We are fortunate in having assembled a stellar cast of singers, musicians, and experts for this festival. Most of the workshops actively solicit audience participation.

- **Jorge Arévalo**, born in Colombia, is curator of the Woody Guthrie Archives in NYC. A Brooklyn-based archivist, ethnomusicologist, and musician, his areas of specialization are music collections and North American, Latin American, and Caribbean musical traditions. He has published numerous essays, articles, and reviews in scholarly and popular journals and publications. In addition to teaching American Music Traditions at Ramapo College of N.J., he can often be found playing guitar with his Latin band, Jibaros y Vallenatos Mezcla.
- **Ralph Bodington** thrills and amazes with his superb performance of banjo tunes and ballads from the old-time Southern mountain tradition. He has a laid-back, easy style that harkens right back to the original performers and a wide-ranging repertoire.
- **Oscar Brand** is a world-renowned singer, writer, and radio show host of the longest-lived folk music show in the history of broadcasting (nearly 60 years and counting). Oscar Brand's Folksong Festival is broadcast Saturdays, 10pm-11pm on WNYC-AM820 and can be heard live worldwide on the web in streaming audio. Oscar is a playwright, actor, author, storyteller, musicologist, historian, honorary Ph.D., and Peabody Award winner.
- **Paul Brown** started picking banjo when he was ten and later picked up guitar and fiddle. He learned banjo from Tommy Jarrell, Wade Ward, and Wade's nephew, Fields. His main fiddle inspirations have been Fred Cockerham, Tommy Jarrell, and Luther Davis; plus Benton Flippen. Over the years he's played and recorded with many of his friends including Bruce Molsky, Mike Seeger, and Tara Nevins.
- **Mary Cliff** was a participant in the Great Folk Scare of the early '60s and the Underground Radio movement of the late '60s. She entered public radio in 1970 and has been a producer/announcer/board operator at WETA Radio (90.9 FM, Washington, DC) since 1972. Mary is a long-time active member of the DC area folk community.
- **Andy Cohen** has been playing one kind of old time music or another since he was barely tall enough to reach the piano keys. His best-known virtuosity is in the blues — the good old, honest, down-to-earth, licks-filled acoustic blues. He is lucky (and old) enough to have learned directly from some of the greats, including Pink Andersen, Honeyboy Edwards, Rev. Dan Smith, Daniel Womack, and many more. He is a scholar of the works of Rev. Gary Davis, and comes just about as close as anyone can to replicating Rev. Davis' intricate style of guitar playing.

- **Judy Cook** lifts the spirit and entertains with splendid traditional ballads and songs from a huge and varied Anglo-American repertoire. Her unaccompanied presentation and delivery are a great example to any singer, and combine with her joy of singing to delight all listeners.
- **Ed Cray** is the author of 17 books, including most recently *Ramblin' Man*, a biography of Woody Guthrie. A lifelong journalist, now a professor of journalism, he fleetingly considered a career as a folklorist in the 1950s before wisdom took hold. Nonetheless, he has maintained his interest in folklore and song since then. His anthology of American bawdy songs, *The Erotic Muse* (now in its second edition), is considered a standard reference work.
- **Danny & Joe Elias** are two of the very few singers of Ladino music who have learned this material through oral and instrumental traditions within their family. The Ladino language evolved from ancient Castilian by Sephardic (Hebrew for Spanish) Jews expelled from Spain in 1492. They have a long list of national and international performance credits, including the Clearwater Festival, the Smithsonian's Festival of American Folklife, the U.S. Holocaust Museum, the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia Folk Festival.
- **Jerry Epstein**, Festival Director, is a powerful voice and a consummate master of the older styles of American traditional song, as well as a renowned player of the English concertina. He has a number of scholarly publications in music, including music editor of the Frank & Anne Warner Collection (Syracuse Univ., 1984). He has published arrangements of traditional and early music for Revels, Inc. (Godine Press), and two large volumes of Jewish sacred music. He is a past director of Folk Music Week at Pinewoods Camp (MA) and has toured extensively in the U.S., U.K., and Australia over the past 30 years.
- **Alan Friend** has been playing banjo, guitar, and concertina, and singing traditional songs from America and the British Isles for many years. He is a member of the New York City-based old-time band The Chelsea String Band (formerly The Chelsea Train Gang) and was a founding member of the old-time band Steal the Donut.
- **Julia Friend** grew up in Brooklyn, NY, in a family with a deep love of traditional music. She learned from her ballad-singing, banjo-playing father Alan, from her song-loving mother Rosalie, and from singing both with NY Pinewoods FMC and with folks in the local Morris Dance community, where she is a performing member of Ring O' Bells. In 2001, Julia toured the U.K. with Joy Bennett. She currently attends Oberlin College (OH) and sings ballads, Sacred Harp, and music from the Republic of Georgia with fellow-students.
- **Tom Gibney** is widely known for extraordinary singing of traditional songs, for superb instrumental work on guitar, fiddle and banjo, and for an unusual repertoire of traditional songs, hymns, and ballads from the southern U.S. and Britain. He also sings with David Jones and Heather Wood as Poor Old Horse.
- **Mark Gilston** has been performing traditional folk music for over 30 years. His vast repertoire encompasses songs and tunes from North America and most of Europe, particularly the British Isles, Scandinavia, and the Balkans. Among the instruments he plays are concertina, Appalachian dulcimer and Bulgarian bagpipes. He has given concerts at colleges, clubs and coffee houses throughout the north-east US, as well as England and Canada. He has a CD on CEI.

## The Eisteddfod Award

The Eisteddfod award is given for dedication, inspiration, and service to the practice and dissemination of traditional folk song, music, and dance.. This year's award will be presented during the festival. Previous recipients (in alphabetical order) are:

- Alan Block
- John Cohen
- Bob Copper
- Jeff Davis
- Folk Song Society of Greater Boston
- Howard Glasser
- Kenneth S. Goldstein
- Elizabeth Bristol Greenleaf
- Joe Heaney
- Joe Hickerson
- Alan Jabbour
- Peter Johnson
- Estelle Klein
- Margaret MacArthur
- Linda Morley
- Sandy & Caroline Paton
- Maggi Peirce
- Dick Pleasants
- Jean Ritchie
- Almeda Riddle
- Mike Seeger
- Sandy Sheehan
- Laura Travis
- Frank & Ann Warner
- Jeff Warner
- Izzy Young



## Supporters of the Eisteddfod

Both last year and this, the generosity of many people has helped to make this festival possible. Please consider joining the list — this festival cannot continue without your continuing support.

### Angel

- Heritage Muse, Inc.

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- Steve & Marilyn Suffet

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- Anne & Wayne Price
- Deborah Rubin & John Ziv

### Friend

- anonymous
- John & Anne Cuyler
- Rosalie & Alan Friend
- Rochelle Goldstein
- Joe Hickerson, in memory of Ruth Finesinger Kellam
- Mark Katz & Edy Rees

### Others

- anonymous
- Joelle Adlerbloom, in memory of Bob (Crober T.) Keppel
- Ed & Beth Brown
- Morris Fleissig
- Abe & Gert Gershowitz
- Ann Green
- Pamela Miller
- Irma Selling
- Bernice Silver
- Jeff Warner

- **Steve Winick** was born and raised in New York City. He developed his interest in folksong at Columbia University where he hosted a radio program in the late 1980s on WKCR. He writes for *Dirty Linen* magazine, and has been featured in *Sing Out!*, *The All Music Guide*, *Music Hound*, and other publications. He is a graduate of University of Pennsylvania, where he studied with Kenny Goldstein and Roger Abrahams, among others, and where he now teaches.
- **Heather Wood** is a renowned singer of the unaccompanied English tradition from ballads to music hall, former member of the legendary Young Tradition, and one of the classic voices of the English revival. Heather is a former president of the N.Y. Pinewoods Folk Music Club, who believes that folk music should be enjoyed, not enshrined.



## Heritage Muse™ Symposium on Traditional Music

The symposium features two presentations and two workshops offered by selected scholars in the field of traditional music. This year's presenters are Ed Cray, Steve Winick, and Jorge Arévalo.

**“Ramblin’ Man - Woody Guthrie”** Panel Discussion. Journalist and folklorist Ed Cray, biographer of Woody, is joined by Jorge Arévalo of the Guthrie Archive for an insider’s look at one of America’s best known political observers and songwriters. There will be plenty of time for open Q&A.

**“Bawdy and Ribald Songs”** Workshop. Mr. Cray will MC a star-studded panel of musicians in an uproariously funny session of licentious folk-songs from bar-rooms, barracks, ward-rooms, campuses, and summer camps.

**“Resurrecting Reynardine”** Presentation. Folk fans have long been entranced by the ballad “Reynardine,” which has been recorded by many fine singers. The song, as sung by Shirley Collins, Martin Carthy, Isla St. Clair, June Tabor, Sandy Denny, and Buffy Ste. Marie, among others, seems to be about a werewolf or other supernatural creature. The traditional American form of this ballad (as sung by Margaret MacArthur, Peggy Seeger, and others) is quite different. Dr. Stephen Winick discuss various theories of Reynardine’s origins, and shows how the supernatural interpretation was encouraged by the English folklorist A.L. Lloyd, who substantially re-wrote the song.

**“Ballad Structures”** Workshop. Some folklorists have argued that in its traditional form, the ballad was not remembered by heart but recomposed orally each time it was sung. As evidence, they have uncovered latent structures in many traditional ballads, manifested in the language, the deployment of characters, the plot, and the use of description and dialogue. A number of ballad texts will be analyzed, showing that these patterns are real, not figments of the scholarly imagination.

This symposium is made possible by a grant from **Heritage Muse, Inc.** ([www.heritagemuse.com](http://www.heritagemuse.com)), a New York-based ePublishing company working in the field of literature, folk music, and folklore. Heritage Muse founder and CEO, David M. Kleiman, is Vice President of the New York Folk Music Society and is pleased to be supporting the Eisteddfod Festival.

- **Howard Glasser**; Festival Director Emeritus, is the spiritual father of the Eisteddfod, Howard ran informal ceilidh gatherings, concerts, and the original Eisteddfod for nearly 40 years in Pittsburgh, PA, and at UMass, Dartmouth, MA. Howard did important collecting work in Scotland in the 1960s. Since his retirement from teaching he is archiving, editing and annotating this material. He is also a widely respected artist and calligrapher for major institutions and publishers, and has taught at Cooper Union in NYC, Carnegie-Mellon in Pittsburgh, the University of Rhode Island, and at UMass .
- **Joe Hickerson** (*Eisteddfod Award recipient*) has a wide-ranging repertoire of English-language songs and ballads including occupational and labor songs, children’s song, humorous songs and parodies, Irish-American songs, chorus songs, and sea songs. Joe studied folklore and ethnomusicology at Indiana University, In 1974 he was appointed Head of the Archive of Folk song (later called the Archive of Folk Culture) at the Library of Congress.
- **David Jones** is one of the really great singers of English traditional songs. He is a master not only of ballads and lyrical songs and songs of the sea and countryside, but also of the English Music Hall, songs from the trenches, and much more. He is widely known for brilliant acting work in theatre and on television.
- **Jug Free America** includes guitar, banjo-mandolin, tub bass, jug, kazoo, washboard, pots and pans, bass and snare drums, harmonica, banjo and harmonium. They met and formed the group while sophomores at Oberlin College. They play a wide variety of styles ranging from traditional jug band music, to bluegrass, old time string band music, blues and even reggae.

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- **David Kleiman** is a skilled singer and multi-instrumentalist who performs solo and in the quartet Water Sign. He is currently involved in e-publishing some of the great books of folk music, including F.J. Child's *The English and Scottish Popular Ballads* and B.H. Bronson's *Traditional Tunes of the Child Ballads*.
- **Margaret MacArthur** (*Eisteddfod Award recipient*) is a fine exponent of the music of simpler times and rural places, Margaret is also a collector of songs, poems, and curious tales. She grew up hearing traditional music in the mountains of northern Arizona, later in southern Missouri. She collected songs in Vermont and in western Kentucky and also became closely connected to the Flanders Collection of Vermont and New England material.
- **NexTradition** (Alison Kelley & Ken Schatz) was born in June of 1997 at the Mystic Sea Music Festival and offers sea songs and chanteys, gospel and blues, worksongs of the railroads, mines, prisons, factories, and fields, TNT performs traditional music of America, Great Britain, and around the world.
- **Will Noble** is from Shepley in the Yorkshire Pennines, and his rich bass voice is a great favorite at hunt socials and carol sings. He learned his songs from local traditional singers. In 1997-98 he was British Drystone Walling Champion.
- **Ron Olesko** is the DJ for "Traditions" a program he conceived and started in 1980. The idea has always been to share the unique and expansive world of folk music. This is the longest running program on WFDU, offering a diverse playlist, spinning songs and bringing a myriad artists to the microphone, "Traditions" is full of wonderful music, historical perspectives, and always a surprise or two.
- **Anne Price** sings a wide variety of traditional folks songs, as well as traditional-based contemporary songs, including a few that she has written. Her repertoire includes Appalachian ballads, Irish and Scottish songs, country songs, songs of the sea, cowboy songs, songs about work and the labor movement, feminist songs, and love songs. Interpreted with her rich and expressive voice, Anne's songs can be funny or sad, thought-provoking or moving. She accompanies herself on guitar or mountain dulcimer, or sings unaccompanied. She has been performing since 1979 in coffee houses, schools, libraries, and festivals.
- **Road to the Isles** (George Balderose, pipes; Colyn Fisher, fiddle; Richard Hughes, flute) performs the pipe and fiddle music, dance, and folksong traditions of Scotland & Ireland.
- **Ian Robb** sang for a couple of years with one of the Westminster abbey choirs. Later, as a teenager in the sixties, he discovered the British folk music revival, and honed his skills as an interpreter of folk song, not to mention his powerful voice, in the pub-based British folk club environment. A member of the Friends of Fiddler's Green, he now sings with Finest Kind.
- **John Roberts** personifies English singing at its best, combined with extensive scholarship. Ballads, love songs, sea material, songs of farm and field, of labor and strife, and lots of humor, including songs of the English Music Hall, either unaccompanied or with one of his many instruments, which include concertina and hurdy-gurdy.
- **Lucy Simpson** is a fine singer with roots in rural Indiana. In addition to a wide variety of traditional song, she specializes in the old-style gospel song that she heard growing up and that she has since extensively researched.
- **Rafe Stefanini**, although born in Italy, came to the U.S. through his love for Old Time Music. He has since become one of the most respected interpreters of fiddle music from the South. His dynamic and elegant fiddle and banjo playing have been featured in some of the best bands to appear on the old time music scene.
- **Bishop Nathaniel Townsley, Jr. & The Gospel Jubilee** is a group whose inter-generational blend creates a unique Gospel sound with a universal appeal. They have toured nationally and internationally, and have several recordings to their credit.
- **Steve Suffet** describes himself as "an American folksinger in the Peoples' Music tradition." An active member of the Peoples Music Network, he has performed at numerous coffee houses, clubs, pubs, schools, churches, gatherings, weekend retreats, and festivals, mostly in the northeastern USA. Steve also produces the annual Woody Guthrie Birthday Bash and the annual Midwinter Hoot at CB's 313 Gallery in New York City.
- **Andy Wallace** is a singer, a fine guitarist, and banjo player with an unusual repertoire of great American traditional songs. For many years, director of the National Council for the Traditional Arts, he was active in promoting the vast array of traditions that make up American music to a wider public.
- **Hedy West** heard her first folk music in her mother's arms in the hill country of Western Georgia. Her grandmother played the banjo and sang classic ballads or nonsense songs to the children, and her father, Don West, was one of the best known poets of the south. Hedy is a superb banjo stylist.

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