

The A-ZgAZette

The Latest on Ann Zimmerman's Musical Exploits—May 2003

UPCOMING APPEARANCES

MAY 3-4 (1:10-Sat., 11 & 1:30 Sun)—Independence, KS, Kansas Sampler Festival
MAY 7 (Wed.) 4:00-5:30pm—Glasco, KS, community concert at the Corner Store
MAY 10 (Sat.) eve.—Independence, KS, Mothers Day concert at the Prairie Royal Ballroom
MAY 11 (Sun.) noon—Wichita, KS, River Festival, Acoustic Arts in the Park at the river by the Hyatt
JUN. 13. (Fri.) 3pm Stage 2, 5pm Children's Stage—Salina, KS, Smoky Hill River Festival
JUL. 24 (Thu.) 8-10 pm—Salina, KS, Arts in the Park, Oakdale Park with Connie Dover
JUL. 26 (Sat.) 11am-1pm—Atchison, KS, Amelia Earhart Festival with Connie Dover
AUG. 5-21 (dates tentative)—concert tour to Missouri, Iowa, South Dakota
AUG. 23-24 (Sat.-Sun.)—Garden City, KS, Tumbleweed Festival children's stage
SEP. 7 (Sun.) 3:00pm concert, 6:00 pm workshop—Topeka, KS, Fall Festival, Topeka & SN Co.Pub.Lib.
SEP. 16 (Tue.)—Salina, KS, Senior Svces Fair, Bicenter
SEP. 27 (Fri.) 7:30pm—Kansas City, MO, Unity on the Plaza concert with Connie Dover
SEP. 26-28—Salina, KS, Prairie Festival, Land Institute
OCT. 4 (Sat.)—Manhattan, KS, Rollin' Down the River Festival, solo and with Sometimes Gospel Quartet
OCT. 11 (Sat.) afternoon—Council Grove Lake, KS, Topeka area Unitarian-Universalist cluster meeting
OCT. 19 (Sun.) 4:00pm (tentative)—Lucas, KS, Stone Cottage B&B, "Prairie at Dusk" concert & workshop
OCT. 24 (Fri.)—Hesston, KS, Crosswinds Center, Kansas Office '03 for Mennonite support staff
OCT. 24 (Fri.) 8:00pm—Manhattan, KS, Flint Hills Audubon Society benefit concert with Connie Dover
OCT. 25 or 26 (Sat. or Sun.) Salina, KS concert with Connie Dover, location to be determined
DEC. 5 (Fri.) 7:30pm—Lawrence, KS, West Side Folk concert with Connie Dover
Dec. 9 (Tue.) 9:30am—Salina, KS, First Bank Kansas concert for Christmas pancake breakfast
JAN. 26-28, 2004, three days—Hays, KS, residency in the public schools, 9 concerts
MAR. 6 (Sat.) 7:00pm—Chanute, KS, community concert, Memorial Auditorium

Dates are added and changed often.

For the latest information, call Ann at 785-825-7135 or go to annzimmerman.com/sked.html

ALBUM NO. 3 BEGINS IN JUNE

Ann joins Kelly Werts in Kansas City in mid-June to begin the recording process on Ann's new album, the successor to *Canned Goods* and *Love & Weather*.

Award-winning new songs "Blue Wild Indigo," "Not Far From Emmanuel," and "If I Had Been Beautiful" (see article below) will appear on the album. The entire list of songs remains incomplete but will likely include many of Ann's new creations as well as an oldie from the thirties, a traditional Celtic song, and one or two from other contemporary folk songwriters.

The song collection ventures far afield. While the full sense of a song can't be conveyed in a sentence, here is a short preview of the songs themselves: "Blue Wild Indigo" is a study of love, life and a perennial prairie plant. "Not Far From Emmanuel" looks at a terrorism through the eyes of a Palestinian woman. "If I Had Been Beautiful" contemplates life in a different body. "As June As June" recounts nuptials in a blizzard. "Exile" shows a farmer's son discouraged to find little opportunity left in farming. "Good Houses" celebrates the work of Habitat for Humanity. "Jenny Mitchell Kellogg" portrays the fascinating first woman attorney in Kansas. "It's the Recycling" describes a house well overdue for a trip to the recycling center.

Ann and Kelly, her collaborator on her first two albums, will work with Wheeler Studios in Kansas City, in Kelly's home studio near Kansas City, and maybe in a studio in Salina to put the album together. Ann is fortunate to have Kelly's talent and inspiration to help arrange and perform her music, layering sounds and rhythms that keep the work interesting even after repeated listenings. Her earlier albums each took several months to complete, so the finish date is uncertain, but the goal is to have the album ready for you before the end of this year.

Everyone on the mailing/emailing list will receive immediate notice when the new album becomes available. If you know someone who is not on the list but would like to be notified, please ask them to call or write A-Z Music or sign up at www.annzimmerman.com.

ANOTHER WIN AT FLINT HILLS CONTEST

For the second year in a row, Ann's songs won first prize in the songwriting contest at the Flint Hills Songwriters Gathering in Arkansas City, Kansas. Her winning entries, "If I Had Been Beautiful" and "Not Far From Emmanuel," joined last year's "Blue Wild Indigo" among her award winning numbers.

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CONCERTS WITH CONNIE DOVER AND FRIENDS A TRIUMPH Many more to come!

Three times in 2002, Ann joined Celtic music star Connie Dover and two other friends for concerts of extraordinary music and harmony, and several more joint efforts are in the works for 2003. In July, they'll be heard in Salina's Oakdale Park and at the Amelia Earhart Festival in Atchison, KS. In September and October, they'll hold forth at Unity on the Plaza on the Missouri side of Kansas City; in Manhattan, KS, to benefit the Flint Hills Audubon Society; and in Salina at a venue yet to be determined. December brings them back to the Lawrence, KS, Arts Center.

Each 2002 concert included Ann, Connie, and Ann's frequent collaborator and instrumentalist Kelly Werts. Vocalists Melissa Atchison and Lisa Harris rotated as the fourth group member according to their schedules and availability. In two of the concerts, Connie was handicapped by encroaching bronchitis—she came through with flying colors, but some songs and arrangements had to be changed at the last minute. The hope is for full health for all members this year.

The stunning repertoire includes the traditional American folk music and Celtic music for which Connie is famous (check out www.conniedover.com)—even an *a capella* duet in Gaelic between Connie and Ann—as well as parts of Ann's repertoire, Kelly's fiddle tunes and some old and new favorites tossed in for fun.

ORDERING INFORMATION

To order "Canned Goods" or "Love & Weather," make your check payable to "Ann Zimmerman" and mail to A-Z Music, 3904 North Ohio Street, Salina, Kansas 67401-9259. Cost per compact disc is \$15.00. Cost per cassette tape is \$10.00. Add 6.3% sales tax (Kansas residents only) and \$1.80 shipping.

ECONOMY WIPES OUT FESTIVALS

Two festivals which have often hosted Ann and her music bit the dust this year, a loss for musicians and fans alike. Vermillion, South Dakota's Summer Music Festival had become a home away from home on the University of SD campus. Its demise leaves Ann looking for another way to visit and sing for the South Dakota friends and fans she's made (see following article).

Near Kansas City at the Agricultural Hall of Fame in Bonner Springs, KS, the Santa Fe Trails Festival brought bluegrass, western, Celtic and folk music close to home for residents of eastern Kansas and western Missouri for several years. It too will be missed.

IOWA, SOUTH DAKOTA, MISSOURI

In August, with dates uncertain at press time, Ann will be singing in Cedar Falls, Iowa, and hopes to add concerts elsewhere in Iowa, northern Missouri and eastern South Dakota at either end of the trip.

If you live in one of these areas, would you consider hosting a house concert for Ann and inviting your friends? Ann can send you helpful information on house concerts, delightfully intimate and powerful events which help singers travel to otherwise unavailable venues as well as helping pay expenses for the trip.

USE EMAIL IF YOU CAN

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