

Enjoy Traditional Irish Music By Corner House August 11th

The Folk Society kicks off the 2006-2007 Gathering season with a concert of traditional Irish music on Friday, August 11. We invite you to join us to enjoy **Corner House** and their special guest, Duncan Wickel, at 7:30 PM in the Bryant Recital Hall of the Sloan-Morgan Building at 1220 Elizabeth Avenue on the Central CPCC Campus.

Corner House is well versed in the traditional songs and tunes of Ireland and they share their dynamic music with enthusiasm. Based in Columbia, South Carolina, **Corner House** has an expanding guest book of friends and musicians who often join them for performances. Their first CD, **The Friendly Visit**, released earlier this year, includes guest performances by Turlach Boylan on flute and whistle, Beanie Odell on fiddle, Jeff Thomas on concertina, and Duncan Wickel on Uilleann pipes and fiddle. Sample tunes and songs from **The Friendly Visit** on their website, www.cornerhousemusic.com.

Corner House musicians Andi Hearn (vocals and fiddle) and Davey Matthias (guitar) have been

playing together for nearly twenty years. Their interest in Irish music began ten years ago after listening to the classic recordings of James Kelly, Paddy O'Brien, and Daithi Sproule. Studying the many recordings of Daithi



Corner House (Davey Matthias & Andi Hearn)

Sproule and Paul Brady inspired Davey Matthias to develop a dynamic DADGAD guitar sound of his own. Davey started playing guitar at the age of nine and has delved deeply into a variety of blues guitar styles – Skip James, John Hurt, and Blind Boy Fuller. He also is devoted to the guitar heroes of his youth: Mick Jones, Johnny Ramone, and Angus Young. In spite of (or possibly because of) this varied experience, Davey brings an authentic and respectful sound that complements Irish traditional music beautifully. His thoughtful accompaniment adds complex shades and moods to the instrumental and vocal melodies.

Andi Hearn was particularly affected by James Kelly's fiddle playing. She took up the fiddle in
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Performers Needed For Festival In The Park: September 21-24

By J. C. Honeycutt

We are in the process of scheduling performers for the CFS Folk Music Stage at Festival in the Park 2006. For those of you who are new to Charlotte or the local arts scene, Festival in the Park is an arts-oriented fall festival modeled on the Tivoli Gardens in Copenhagen, Denmark. It was started in 1964 by Belk Stores Services executive Grant Whitney and takes place in September each year in Freedom Park, located in the Dilworth/Myers Park area. This year's Festival will begin on Thursday evening, September 21, and end at 6 PM on Sunday, September 24.

The Charlotte Folk Society has taken responsibility for performances of traditional arts at Festival In the Park for a dozen years, and we have our own Folk Music Stage. This year's schedule is beginning to shape up with a mix of storytelling, dance, and bluegrass, old-time, Celtic, gospel and singer-songwriters' music, but we still have room for **your** very special contribution.

If you're a solo performer or member of a group and would like to be part of our Festival in the Park schedule, contact J. C. Honeycutt at jchoneycutt@earthlink.net or call her at 704-569-4070. We will have half-
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1996 and has studied at music camps and workshops with great fiddlers such as Willie Kelly, John Carty, and Martin Hayes. She is an avid music listener and is influenced by many classical recordings: Paddy Canny, Peter O'Loughlin, P. J. Hayes, Elizabeth Crotty, and Martin Hayes. Andi's musical experience began when she was youngster. She studied piano, ballet, singing, and percussion.

More recently, she has added mandolin. Andi has a growing repertoire of traditional songs that are delivered with sincerity and finesse. Initially influenced by singers such as Delores Keane and Dick Gaughan, she has since explored the tradition more deeply and has added many songs to her repertoire learned from old recordings of Elizabeth Cronin, Nora Cleary, and Joe Heaney.

Duncan Wickel began playing classical music when he was four years old. He continues to hone that skill and has also developed a keen talent for playing traditional Irish music on fiddle and Uilleann pipes. Duncan is largely self-taught in Irish music; he was influenced by pipers such as Kieran O'Hare and Mick O'Brian. His fiddle style is highly reflective of the renowned Liz Carroll. Now seventeen, Duncan is home-schooled and spends much time performing and studying. He maintains a professional level as a member of the Asheville Symphony Orchestra and performing and recording with musicians



Duncan Wickel

such as John Doyle. He appears regularly in numerous venues in western North Carolina. This marks his return to a CFS concert stage; last September he performed with the Asheville Celtic band **The Red Wellies**.

Charlotte Folk Society Gatherings are free and family-friendly public events. Donations, which benefit the performers, are appreciated. After the hour-long concert, we take a refreshment break, followed by both slow and fast jam sessions, and a song circle. Free parking is available in the Faculty-Staff-Theater parking deck on 4th

Street, between Independence Boulevard and Kings Drive. For details, call 704-563-7080 or visit www.folksociety.org.

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hour and full-hour performance slots; please indicate which length you would prefer.

Performers are especially sought for Kids' Day, Friday, September 22, between 10 AM and 2 PM; during this time period students from Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools attend the festival. If you are a musician, storyteller, or have other skills that could entertain children in pre-school or the elementary grades, please consider sharing your talents!

Festival in the Park is a Charlotte Shout! event. For more information about Festival in the Park, visit www.festivalin-thepark.org.



Festival in the Park Volunteers Needed

The Folk Society hosts the Folk Music Stage at Festival in the Park with the support of many of our members. We will need volunteers to staff the information table at our stage: two people at all times during the 32 hours of the festival. Gretchen Caldwell will be recruiting and coordinating volunteers again this year. Please support her and CFS by taking a shift when she calls you! Or, be proactive and contact her at gretchencaldwell@bellsouth.net or 704-537-1337 to volunteer.

Charlotte Guitar Center Donates Acoustic Ibanez For CFS Raffle

Thanks to manager Scott Magno, the Charlotte Guitar Center is generously donating an Ibanez EW20QMHT acoustic guitar to CFS for our annual fundraising raffle. Valued at \$399, it is part of the exotic wood series from Ibanez. It features quilted mahogany top, back, and sides with a high-gloss finish. Twelfth fret pearl inlay and chrome die-cast tuners round out this guitar.

Raffle tickets will be available at the August 11th and September 8th Gatherings, as well as at the CFS information table at Festival in the Park. Tickets cost \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. The winning ticket will be drawn at 4 PM on Sunday, September 24, on the CFS Folk Music Stage at Festival in the Park. The owner of the winning ticket need not be present to claim his/her prize. Take a chance and support your favorite Folk Society!