



Dirty Linen

October/November 2008

EDITOR'S CHOICE SAMPLER



1. Justin Adams & Juldeh Camara
"Ya Ta Kaaya" 3:49

(Juldeh Camara & Justin Adams, Julcamara Music/Wayward Music), from the album *Soul Science* [World Village, © 2007 Wayward/IRL], www.worldvillagemusic.com

Winner of the best album in the Culture Crossing category for the BBC World Music Awards, *Soul Science* unites U.K. musician, composer, and producer Justin Adams with African master musician and composer Juldeh Camara in an Afro-blues collaboration. Adams has worked with Tinariwen, Robert Plant, Sinéad O'Connor, and others, and has composed music for feature films. Gambian-born Camara is one of the leading ritti players in West Africa, and has worked with bands from Africa, the U.S., Scandinavia, and Great Britain, taking Afro-beat in diverse directions.



2. The Loose Acoustic Trio
"Sorrow Be Gone" 3:04

(R. Lawrence, © 2008 Big Book Music, BMI), from the album *Sorrow Be Gone* [Big Book Records © 2008], looseacoustictrio.com, bigbookrecords.com

This Sacramento-based group adds some unlikely character to its locale with a blend of folk, Cajun, jug band, bluegrass, and blues. Richie Lawrence, Ken Cooper, and Steve O'Neill play all manner of normal instruments (as well as a bedpan mandolin), sing in three-part harmony, and songwrite. You're likely to find them playing in farmer's markets, festivals, coffeehouses, and other smallish venues in their native state.



3. Luke Doucet and White Falcon
"Long Haul Driver" 4:35

(Luke Doucet, © 2007, SOCAN), from the album *Blood's Too Rich* [Six Shooter Records © 2008], www.lukedoucet.com, www.sixshooterrecords.com

A 2006 Juno Award nominee in the Adult Alternative Album of the Year category, guitarist/singer/songwriter Doucet usually plays solo or as a member of the indie group Veal. He mines the musical territory of Southern rock, blues, and country, following the venerable path of country-mate Neil Young. The White Falcon members are Rich Levesque on bass and vocals, Melissa McLelland on vocals, Paul Brenna on drums, and John Dinsmore on 6-string bass and vocal.



4. Beth Nielsen Chapman
"This Life That's Lent to You" 3:13

(Beth Nielsen Chapman, Prismlight Music, SESAC USA & Canada/PRS worldwide excluding USA & Canada), from the album *Prism - The Human Family Songbook* [BNC Records], www.bethnielsenchapman.com

Few musicians would have the moxie to publish a two-CD set of ecumenical songs of the spirit, but Chapman's chops as a country songwriter brings a strong introspective streak and a connection to riches below the surface. Her list of musical "clients" is extensive, and she's released a steady output of her own CDs as well.



5. The Chair "The Folkly Gibbon" 4:20

("The Folkly Gibbon," G. Firth/"The Elusive Otter," R. Gibbon/"Ramnee Ceilidh," G. Duncan), from the album *Huinka* [The Chair], www.thechairtunes.com, chair.tunes@yahoo.com

Orkney Islanders Brian Comarty (banjo, vocals, mandolin, mandola), Gavin Firth (guitar, 5-string banjo), Erik Laughton (drums, bodhrán, cajon), Fionn McArthur (fiddle), Chas Milne (bass), Douglas Montgomery (fiddle, mandolin), and Robbie Thomson (djembe, percussion), are joined by non-Orkadian Bob Gibbon (accordion) to make up this lively group. A crowd favorite at concerts and festivals, the band received a Danny Award at the 2007 Celtic Connections in Glasgow. It plays an indie-Celt stomp that brings all listeners to their feet.



6. Eden Brent "Careless Love" 3:46

(traditional, preserved by W.C. Handy), from the album *Mississippi Number One* [Yellow Dog © 2008], www.edenbrent.com, www.yellowdogrecords.com

A product of a musical family in the Mississippi Delta, Eden Brent latched on to her calling early in life, eventually studying under Abie "Boogaloo" Ames at the University of North Texas. To the blues and boogie of her mentor and the Hank Williams country of her childhood, Brent adds measures of jazz, soul, and rhythm and blues. She's earned her place among the best of the crop of current blues piano players.



7. Donna the Buffalo "Temporary Misery" 3:20

(Tara Nevins, Rosa Nicole Publishing, BMI), from the album *Silverlined* [Sugar Hill Records © 2008], www.donnathebuffalo.com, www.sugarhillrecords.com

From its origins in upstate New York, this group with the captivating name has not only endured, but steamrolled its way to indie elder statesband status. Current members Jeb Puryear (vocals, electric guitar, pedal steel), Tara Nevins (vocals, acoustic guitar, electric fiddle, accordion, scrubboard), Tom Gilbert (drums), David McCracken (keyboards), and Jay Sanders (bass) continue the tradition of rootsy music from a stew of American styles.



8. Cedric Watson "Cedric Zydeco" 2:56

(Cedric Watson, Tasso Loop Music), from the album *Cedric Watson* [Valcour Records © 2008], www.cedricwatson.com, www.valcourrecords.com

Fiddler, vocalist, accordionist, and songwriter Cedric Watson revives old Cajun fiddling styles with his own ingenious additions, for example, Cajun with an Afro beat. He's performed in France, Spain, Nova Scotia, and Haiti, with a particular interest in connecting Louisiana Creole with the music of Creole cultures in other parts of the world.

Seventeen tracks selected by the editors of *Dirty Linen*, the magazine of folk and world music. Subscribers received this sampler CD with issue #138 (October/November 2008). Don't miss future samplers!

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9. Tim O'Brien "Chameleon" 3:17

(Tim O'Brien, David Olney, and John Hadley, Cornbread Nation, admin. by Bluewater Music, ASCAP/Red Lilly Music, admin. by Bug Music, ASCAP/Hadley Six Music, admin. by Sony/ATV/Tree, BMI), from the album *Chameleon* [Proper American © 2008], www.timobrien.net, www.properamerican.com

Hot Rize alumnus O'Brien has pursued his solo muse with the same indefatigable joy, creative independence, and high standards that characterized his tenure in the group. O'Brien's finely honed, multi-instrumental skills brought him a Grammy in the Best Traditional Folk Music category and IBMA awards.



14. Annbjørg Lien "The Traveller" 5:43

(lyrics: Arnt Birkedal, music: Annbjørg Lien, arrangement by Annbjørg Lien, Bruce Molsky, Mikael Marin, and Christine Hanson), from the album *Waltz With Me* [Compass Records © 2008], www.annbjorglien.com, www.compassrecords.com

This eclectic Norwegian musician plays the Hardanger fiddle, violin, and the nyckelharpa. Her combination of traditional Norwegian music with jazz and rock has earned her numerous music awards in her native country. Lien has toured to appreciative audiences worldwide.



10. Capercaillie "Him Bò Hug I Ò tha Mi Ann Am Eigin (Him Bò Hug I Am in Distress)" 4:19

(trad. arr. Capercaillie, includes the tune "Aman" by Gilles Le Bigot, SACEM), from the album *Roses and Tears* [Compass Records © 2008], www.capercaillie.co.uk, www.compassrecords.com

Celtic band Capercaillie blends traditional Gaelic folk, world music, and contemporary beats. Founded by Donald Shaw in the 1980s, the group is fronted by singer Karen Matheson. Current members include Charlie McKerron, Michael Goldrick, Manus Lunny, Ewen Verdal, Che Beresford, and David "Chimp" Robertson. This Scottish folk band gives traditional music an infusion of modern techniques and stylings.



15. The Duhks "Mighty Storm" 4:05

(traditional, arr. by The Duhks), from the album *Fast Paced World* [Sugar Hill Records © 2008], www.duhks.com, www.sugarhillrecords.com

"Alternative roots with attitude" is about as near as one can get to a description of this group's music. Jordan McConnell (guitar, pipes, whistle, vocals), Leonard Podolak (banjo, vocals), Sarah Dugas (vocals), Christian Dugas (percussion), and Tania Elizabeth (fiddle, violin) bring youthful energy and a perspective as wide as the plains of their native Manitoba to an array of musical genres.



11. Lau "Frank and Flo's" 4:59

("Frank and Flo's," Green/"An Tobar," O'Rourke, Reveal Publishing), from the album *Live* [Compass Records, © 2008 Reveal Records], www.lau-music.co.uk, www.compassrecords.com

Kris Drever (guitar and vocals), Martin Green (accordion), and Aidan O'Rourke (fiddle) make up this folk/experimental group that won "best group" at the 2008 BBC Folk Awards. Hailing from Scotland, the trio tours extensively with its innovative style of modern improvisation based on traditional music.



16. The Barra MacNeils "One Wild Rose" 6:32

(lyrics: Hector MacKenzie, music: The Barra MacNeils with melody based on Elmer Briand's "Beautiful Lake Ainslie," Barra Music Co. Ltd., SOCAN), from the album *The Barra MacNeils, 20th Anniversary Collection* [Barra Music © 2007], www.barramacneils.com

Highlights of the six MacNeil siblings' 20-year recording tenure include numerous awards and a classic live Christmas special. Residents of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, the group mines the indigenous vein of Celtic tradition with beautiful harmonies, mastery of a wide array of instruments, dancing, storytelling, and Gaelic songs.



12. Sally Barris "Huntington River" 3:23

(Sally Barris & Mark D. Sanders, © 2007 Wrensong Publishing Corp, ASCAP/Larga Vista Music, ASCAP/Songs of the Sanderosa, ASCAP), from the album *Restless Soul* [Wrensong Publishing © 2007], www.sallybarris.com

Although Minnesota-born Barris makes her home in Nashville, her musical heart resides in the British Isles. A *Jane Eyre* aficionado in literature, Barris seeks inspiration of a decidedly Celtic bent from artists like Dolores Keane, Triona Ní Dhomhnaill, and Dougie MacLean, as well as Tony Rice, and Richard Thompson. Her songs have been covered by Martina McBride, Lee Ann Womack, Kathy Mattea, and even "American Idol" contestant, Kelli Pickler.



17. Feufollet "Prends Courage" 3:20

(traditional, arr. Feufollet, Tasso Loop Music), from the album *Cow Island Hop* [Valcour Records © 2008], www.feufollet.net, www.valcourrecords.com

Feufollet is Chris Stafford (accordion, fiddle, vocals), who co-founded the group at the age of nine; fellow founder and fiddle virtuoso, Chris Segura; classically trained vocalist Anna Laura Edmiston; Telecaster master Joshua Caffer; drummer and recent high school grad Michael Stafford; and guitarist Philippe Billeaudeau. The members are steeped in Cajun culture at a level far beyond their youth, but with a fresh energy and exuberance.



13. Hacienda Brothers "When You're Tired of Breaking Other Hearts" 2:47

(H. Williams, C. Williams), from the album *Arizona Motel* [Proper American, © 2008 Hacienda Brothers], www.haciendabrothers.com, www.properamerican.com

Band founders Dave Gonzalez and the late Chris Gaffney are supported by drummer Dale Daniel, pedal steel player Dave "DB" Berzansky, and Hank Maninger on electric bass. Their unique sound blends country and R&B, resulting in what has been called "Western soul." Gaffney died of cancer around the time of *Arizona Motel's* release.

notes by Colleen Moore

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