



810-569-6545 trae.mcmaken@gmail.com

2013

Master cittern player Joseph Sobol and powerhouse fiddler Trae McMaken join forces

to create authentic experiences of continuity and new fusions of traditions. The duo melds traditional music and storytelling in a way that honors their immersion in American and immigrant roots from Celtic, Nordic, and Appalachian stocks. Joseph and Trae have performed extensively on their own and with leading traditional players and singers at such events as the 2002 *Celtic Connections* in Glasgow, the *Swannanoa Gathering*, the *White Stork Festival* in the Czech Republic, *Milwaukee IrishFest*, *Chicago Celtic Festival*, and many more. Since breaking out their instruments in a session in East Tennessee they have been exploring the dynamics of fiddle, cittern, guitar, banjo, and voices, testing each other's limits, and delighting audiences far and wide.



Traditional artistry, contemporary energy

On the Web

For more information on these artists, visit:

<http://www.traemcmaken.com>

<http://www.kiltartanroad.com>

or search for their names on Facebook or YouTube.

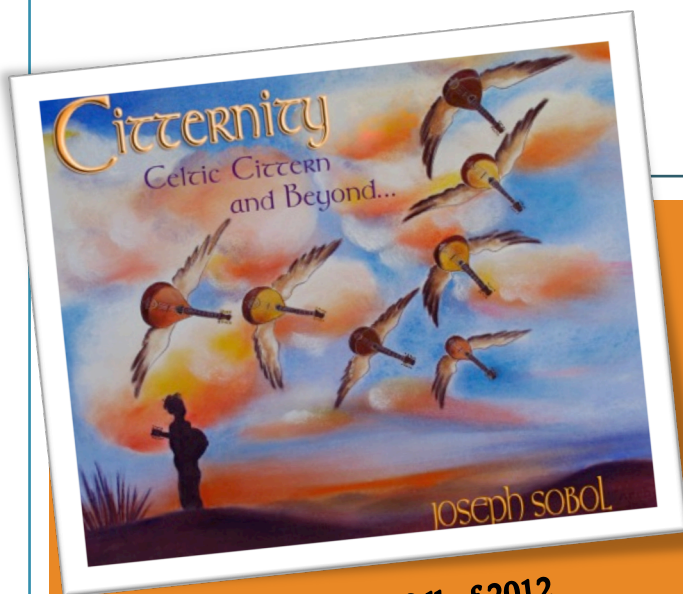
Joseph Sobol

Joseph Sobol is recognized internationally as one of the foremost exponents of the Celtic cittern, a British Isles predecessor of the guitar. In 1999, Joseph Sobol released “Citternalia: Celtic Music for Cittern.” It was hailed by *Acoustic Guitar Magazine* as “a watershed project,” a CD that dramatically extended the musical and technical range of the contemporary cittern in Irish traditional music. Joseph has developed a unique four-fingered right-hand technique that allows him to reproduce on cittern a full range of ornamentation that gives Celtic music its characteristic lift and swing. He has taught at nationally recognized schools of traditional music including the *Swannanoa Gathering*, *Seattle Cittern Symposium*, and the *International Bouzouki and Cittern Fest (Zoukfest)* in Weston, MO and Taos NM. He was featured along with a list of top soloists in the world premiere of William Jackson’s *Dunn Albanach* suite for traditional musicians and orchestra at the opening of the 2002 *Celtic Connections Festival* in Glasgow, Scotland.



Jack and the Youngest Daughter: Wonder Tales for the Present Day

Joseph Sobol directs the Masters of Storytelling program at East Tennessee State University. His storytelling performances draw from thirty years of fieldwork and performance experience in the traditions of Southern Appalachia, the British Isles, and the contemporary storytelling scene. His current full-length storytelling concert retells the journey of Jack, the legendary Youngest Son, and his feminine counterpart the Youngest Daughter, across the Atlantic to the New World, and infuses the age-old tradition of masculine and feminine hero's journey-tales with contemporary wit, psychological depths, and resonances that connect the world of current events and the ancestral realms.



Released fall of 2012

New Album!: *Citternity*

Now in this long-awaited follow-up CD he offers a suite of driving reels, jumping jigs, reflective harp tunes, breathtaking ballads and song-settings of well-loved American poems by Frost (“Stopping By Woods,” “Road Not Taken”) and Millay (“Recuerdo”). Featuring a stellar cast of guest musicians (Martin Hayes, John Williams, Laurence Nugent, and Trae McMaken to name some), “Citternity” brings the Celtic cittern to a whole new level—and beyond....

Trae McMaken

Fiddler, Storyteller & Professional Adventurer

Some people bring treasures from afar. Others draw them up from the deep wells of their own back yards. Somehow, Trae has lived a life that allows him to do both.

Having grown up on the Michigan-Ontario border, from a young age Trae imbibed varied styles of fiddle playing including Irish, Scottish, Quebecois, Ontario Old Time, and Michigan Old Time. Trae can not only switch between these stylistic accents, he melds them into a dynamic creolized language of fiddling that reflects the diverse traditional heritage of his home region. Trae's 2011 album *For the Long Winter Nights* takes a vivifying look at the fiddle and song traditions of Michigan and the Great Lakes and also incorporates some of his original numbers.

An adjunct professor among the prestigious faculty of the Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music Program at East Tennessee State University, Trae has also delved into Southern American traditions. Though a fiddler, banjoist, and singer of wide explorations, Trae's continued passion for the music of the Great Lakes marks him as one of the few remaining practitioners and tradition bearers of that region's musical trove. Trae brings all this history and tradition and couples it with contemporary energy and experience in his songs and tunes.



Tales from the Lakelands

Trae's life in the rural Great Lakes has gifted him deep and rugged stories of an often forgotten landscape and people, and his travels in the world as a fiddler have further engaged his life to share with others. His recent book, *Rosin for Breath: Reflections of a Traveling Fiddler* explore this life on the road and at home. His stage performance stories include traditional stories from his home region as well as tales from his life as the strange and traditional entity – the fiddler.

Trae also offers a historical show, *Tales of Frontier Conflict: The Battle of Kings Mountain*, that portrays the 1880 turning-point of the American Revolution and the disparate beliefs of a society torn apart.

"Trae McMaken astounded the audience . . . A terrific fiddler and singer he definitely is!"
Beaver Island News on the 'Net.

Find out more! Read reviews, biography or see Trae's performance schedule. Visit:

<http://www.traemcmaken.com>



Listen to them . . .

internet required

Watch Trae and Joseph on stage at the Down Home in Johnson City, Tennessee:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_bs9b3K7k

Watch Trae and Joseph perform "The Northern Set" (*Le Tourmet/Whitefish Over the Rapids/The Choo Choo Reel*):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4SiQz7KeGk>

Visit Joseph Sobol's Sound Cloud for a taste of his new album with *Jackie Went a-Sailin'* with Trae McMaken and Laurence Nugent. <http://soundcloud.com/joseph-sobol/jackie-went-a-sailin>

Listen to Joseph and Trae perform the classic *House Carpenter* with Megan Thomas on percussion:

<http://www.traemcmaken.com/media/blogs/index/house.m4a>

There's plenty more: visit the artist websites or search for them on Youtube, Facebook, and Sound Cloud.

International performers Joseph Sobol and Trae McMaken would love to perform at your event together or individually. Please contact either performer using the contact information below. To book as a duo, contact Trae. More information is available.



Joseph Sobol

<http://www.kiltartanroad.com>

sobol@etsu.edu

423-753-2306

211 E. Main St.

Jonesborough TN 37659

Trae McMaken

<http://www.traemcmaken.com>

trae.mcmaken@gmail.com

810-569-6545

6135 Puttygut

China, Michigan 48054