

33RD ANNUAL
TELLURIDE
BLUEGRASS
FESTIVAL
JUNE 15, 16, 17 & 18

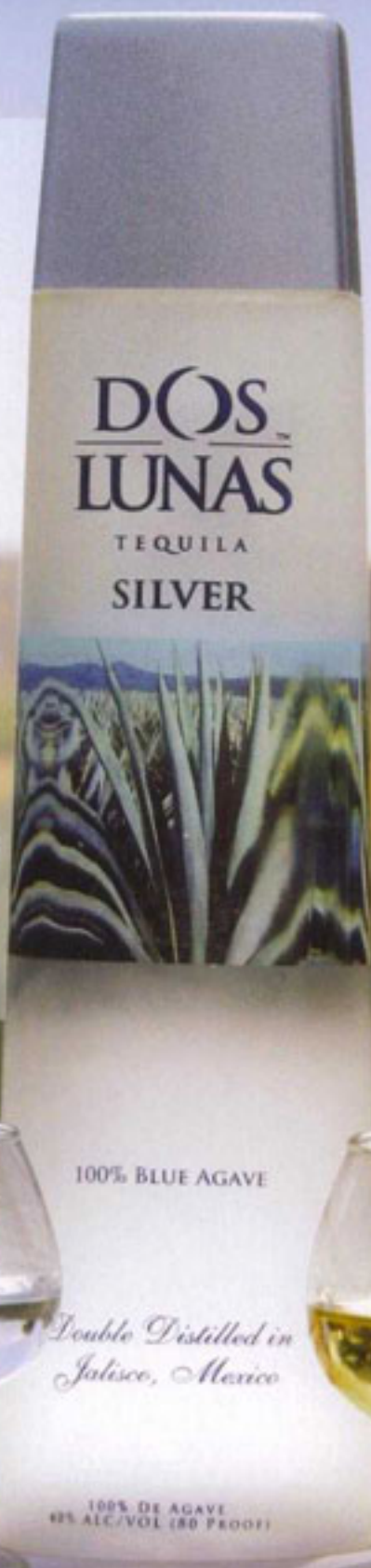


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May 30, 2006

Whoa, the days are getting long. Time to go to Telluride.

Spirits from around the world are heeding the call, preparing for their pilgrimage to The Festival, this, the thirty-third assembly of Festivarian Nation. The pilgrimage is personal, undertaken by a community. We know what waits, as does Festivarian Nation, and right now the waiting is the hard part.

We love this festival. Though festivals of all shapes and sizes have sprung up around the globe over the last few years, there's still nothing "like" the Telluride Bluegrass Experience. We love that Tim O'Brien WANTS to kick off the festival each year. In the morning! We love that Béla Fleck will be celebrating his 25th consecutive Telluride this year, joining an elite class of artists—Sam Bush, Tim O'Brien, Peter Rowan, Pastor Mustard and John Cowan. We love that the greatest musicians of any time annually assemble in Telluride to present their thesis on the current state of music on the planet.

And we love that when they take the stage, well, that maybe they are just a tiny bit more nervous taking the Telluride Stage than they are elsewhere. Certainly the view can be a bit distracting, and the legendary Telluride Bluegrass Festival Audience can be just a tad intimidating—it's well known throughout the world just what magical nuggets the audience has experienced over the years.

In fact, recently, *Relix Magazine* listed the "Ten Concerts that Changed the World." The ol' 1990 Telluride Bluegrass Festival was six on the list. Other festivals on that list are proud of their huge attendance, many over 100,000 people. We, too, are proud

of our size. The Festivarian Nation, the few, the joyful.

We love watching the artists' initial nervousness melt into musical abandonment; urged on by the incomparable audience, artists reach for the unknown, seemingly always finding a soft landing. And if they find themselves lost, the thunderous applause of the audience brings them back with a smile on their face, knowing they've been appreciated for leaping to go where the faint of heart dare not go.

We can't help it! Each day gets a little bit longer and we just can't wait. Can't wait to see the Barenaked Ladies who've been trying to play for you folks for three years now. Can't wait to see the Boys of Thunder. Can't wait to see if Steven Kellogg can hit a fast ball. Can't wait to see what it's like for an arena-playing pop princess from Australia, virtually unknown in the United States, to take the stage sandwiched between King Sam and the newgrass space explorers, Yonder Mountain String Band. Can't wait to see Bonnie. Can't wait to see you.

Today, the unique experience of the Telluride Bluegrass Festival is in your face. As the days grow shorter, it will grow in your hearts, and our minds will start making plans to see you next year. We just love this festival. We've been waiting long enough. So welcome to your festival, oh Festivarian Nation, the wait is over. For now,

Thank you all for your attendance; and, by all means, have the time of your life.

Love,

The folks on Planet Bluegrass...



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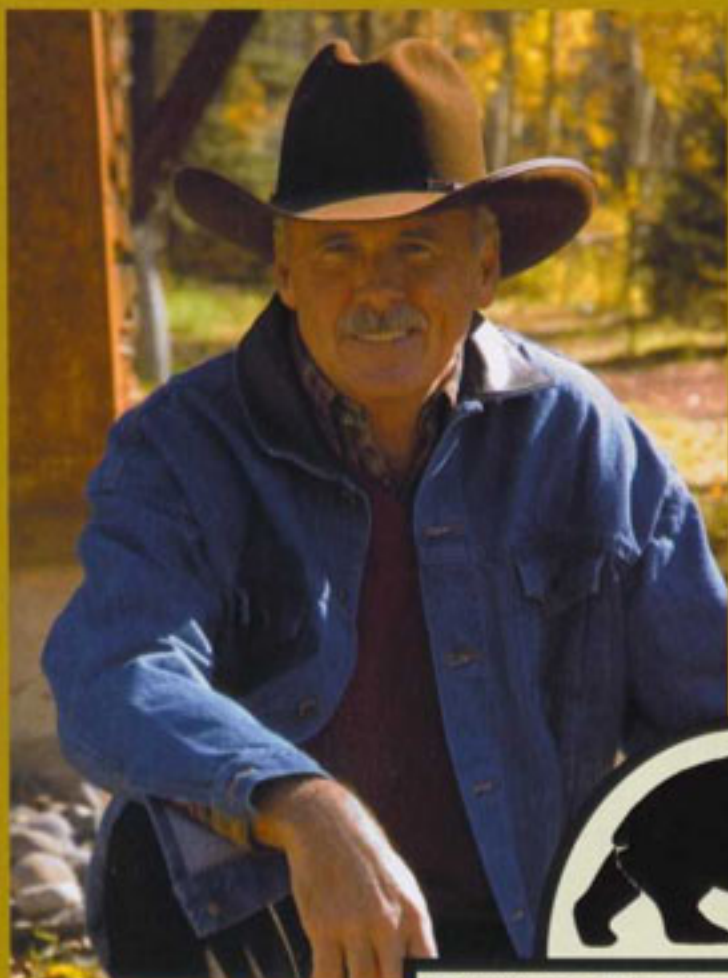
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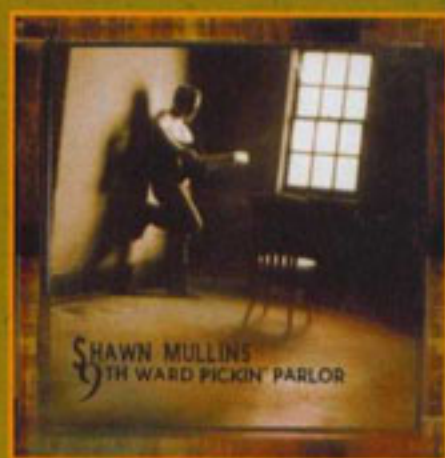


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Town Park's Mayor Reigns with Kindness

All photos by Carissa Chappellet except as noted

Congeniality. Camaraderie. Community. If you had to condense the Town Park camping experience into three words, these three would probably fit best. For a week or more in mid-June, this wooded plot that normally accommodates 250 campers swells to a population of 1,200 friendly Festivarians, all connected by their love of acoustic music. You see them everywhere—smiling faces padding along the



labyrinthine path that snakes through this temporary tent city. The feeling of camaraderie is undeniable. Within days people you'd never seen before have become friends.

The Town Park Campground is a festival in its

own right. Not exactly a wilderness experience, the campground is more like a densely populated village with distinct neighborhoods of its own. There are established extended family campsites like Camp Billy, Wishbone and Camp Run-Amok, and there are sites more nuclear in nature that end up ballooning into new extended families over the years. Such a congenial community hardly needs a strong-armed authority to keep folks in line. It does, however, enjoy shepherding by an altruistic Festivarian named "Telluride Tom," its appointed mayor.

"Everybody loves Telluride Tom," says Michael Hornick, builder and owner of Shanti Guitars and one of the founders of Camp Billy. "He's always paying attention to the other person. All he ever does is do things for people. I think that's how he got into the position he's in." An unofficial volunteer for Planet Bluegrass, Telluride Tom considers it his responsibility as mayor to make sure folks throughout the campground have whatever they need to make their Festival experience go more smoothly. He roams the campground, reconnecting with friends he's known for years and meeting new campers, helping them in whatever ways he can.

Telluride Tom first came to the Festival in 1980. Early on, like other Festivarians, he camped in the

town's vacant lots. As these lots began to turn into condominiums a few years later, Telluride Tom and his growing community of friends moved into the Town Park. He's camped there ever

since. Tom was officially appointed mayor of Town Park in 2000. In an informal backstage ceremony, Emmylou Harris presented him with a plaque and a lifetime camping pass so that he may continue his reign as mayor of Town Park for as long as he wishes. "I don't think his feet are touching the ground yet from that," says Hornick.

Tom pitches his tent at Camp Run-Amok, one of the three big camps that join together each year for three venerable pre-Festival campground traditions. On the Wednesday evening before the Festival begins, Camp Billy (so named for one of its late founding fathers who Hornick calls "a truly psyche-delicized soul") hosts a potluck dinner at its massive campsite. In 1988 Camp Billy, which boasts 75 to 100 residents, teamed with Camp Run-Amok and Wishbone campsites to begin this tradition. A

spread of monumental stature, the potluck brings together Festivarians of all stripes to dine on sublime campground creations.

Following the feast is the ever-popular Free Box Fashion

Show, a gala event featuring vintage fashions from Telluride's free box across from the post office. Then after dark, there's Carissa Chappellet's slide show, projected onto the side of the new shower house. Her slides document great moments on stage, along with Festivarian faces and campground personalities.

Even if you do not have a campground pass, Town Park is open to all Festivarians on Wednesday evening. Checking out these venerable campground traditions is a wonderful way to spend the eve of the Festival. There's plenty of pickin' going on throughout the campground, too. While Telluride's nippy nights present a challenge to campground pickers, several campsites have come up with elegant solutions. The MASH tent, another of the

Benko photographics





Michael Hornick

traditional community sites, installs a big propane heater in its jam area to help keep fingers toasty. Jam-hopping on Wednesday evening is a great way to whet your appetite for the main stage music to come.

Telluride Tom considers it part of his mayoral duty to keep campground traditions alive. For example, when some of the MASH tent crew

couldn't make it to the Festival a few years ago, Tom made sure their pre-Festival tradition continued uninterrupted. "They always put on rum balls on Wednesday afternoon," he says. "I decided that we couldn't let that tradition die. I organized people to bring all the necessary ingredients to pitch in and put it all together."

Hornick says that Telluride Tom doesn't "rule" the campground. Rather, he says, Tom's presence is "magnificently noted. He's one of those people that does all kinds of good things very quietly. He's so humble. That's what's so cool about him receiving the accolades he has and being designated as mayor."

Note: To add your name to the lottery for Town Park camping in 2007, you can go to www.bluegrass.com this October and sign up through the online shopping cart. You can also enter the lottery by mail.



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Planet Bluegrass is making an ongoing commitment towards becoming carbon neutral and reducing as much waste as possible at each of our events. If you would like to learn more, or leave us with your ideas and impressions, visit Greentown in the back of the festival grounds. Thanks so much for your continued support in sustainable festivation. We couldn't do it without you.

New Belgium Brewing Cup Incentive

Reusing items is the best way to reduce waste. Visit the New Belgium booth to receive a daily sticker for your beer cup. Be one of the first 300 people who collect four stickers and you'll receive a special prize on Sunday as a way of saying thanks for re-using your cup all weekend long. Then take your cup home or dispose of unwanted cups at the KOTO beer booth recycling station.

Water bottles made from corn?

In another festival first, BIOTA Spring Water was unveiled two years ago right here as the world's first bottled water/beverage packaged in a container made from a 100% renewable resource, corn...not oil based plastics. With 100 billion containers produced each year, many ending up in landfills across the country, it's nice to know there's an alternative. One liter bottles are available from vendors at the festival.

Solar Energy

Sunsense Solar has been powering our family area for years now. You can find them in Greentown eager to educate and empower you about alternative energy—with the help of the sun, of course.

Think Organic

Did you know that 25% of all pesticides are used on cotton in this country? Visit the Nature's Gate booth to find out how to tread lighter on the earth using organic products. Planet Bluegrass offers festival wear featuring Patagonia organic cotton and hemp T-shirts and casual-wear at the country store.

Wind Powered Bluegrass

For the past four years, The Telluride Bluegrass Festival has used wind power to offset the impacts of our electric, diesel and gas to power the stages and lights. In addition, Planet Bluegrass is using wind power for our offices in Lyons, CO and every concert event we do for the third straight year.

This year we are taking the initiative to offset all the carbon dioxide emissions created by our artists' travel to and from the festival by purchasing wind power credits. We're pleased to host performers like Bonnie Raitt and the Barenaked Ladies who have been offsetting their tour emissions as well.

We are also offering the opportunity for festivalarians to do the same. We've estimated that most of our audience who drive or fly could offset their travel emissions by purchasing between \$5 to \$10 worth of wind energy. This year, festival sponsors Clif Bar and Renewable Choice Energy are teaming up at the festi-

val to offer "Cool Tags™"—a way for every attendee to offset their own travel emissions and even their home electricity use! We'll have representatives in Greentown during the festival to calculate your emissions, answer questions and show you how choosing wind energy instead of fossil fuels prevents thousands of tons of CO2 pollution each year.

What Can You Do?

Planet Bluegrass aspires to create a festival experience that is heavy on great music and light on the environment. We outlined some simple ways we can all continue to reduce our impacts at Telluride and at home. Only by changing our actions can we continue to reduce our impacts.

- **REUSE** Bring reusable items such as to-go coffee cups, nalgene water bottles and plastic glasses for beverages. At the KOTO beer booth, bring old plastic beer cups to save on the cup fee
- **REUSE** Bring your own personal eating utensils.
- **REUSE** Bring your own grocery bag when you buy groceries and festival goodies.
- **REUSE** Bring home your beer cup(s) as they will last for years. If you can't, please dispose of them only in the specially marked containers at the KOTO beer booth and customs gate or give to someone who will enjoy them.
- **CARPPOOL** Not only will you reduce fossil fuel emissions, you will save money and have more fun, too!
- **BICYCLE** Zero emissions, great exercise, and the perfect way to get around the town of Telluride and take jaunts into the mountains. And find out about New Belgium Brewing's Team Wonderbike Campaign at the festival.
- **PACK IT OUT** Take your recycling home when you leave the valley so that we can reduce the impacts of trucking recycling to facilities in Grand Junction, 200 miles away.
- **REDUCE** If you're staying in a hotel or condo, let them know that you don't need to have your towels and sheets washed daily.
- **FESTIVAL WASTE STATION** Use the compost, recycling and waste bins in the festival and campgrounds. Please ask a volunteer if you're not sure what goes where, so compost and recycling is not contaminated. This causes us to have to throw everything away!
- **GREENTOWN** Visit Greentown in the back of the Festival grounds to learn more about alternatives to waste as usual and meet festival partners who are working towards the zero waste and carbon neutral ideals.
- **SHARE YOUR IDEAS** Use survey cards or the suggestions drop box in Greentown to share your ideas on sustainable living.
- **SPREAD THE WORD** Take what you've learned back to your communities.

In Memory of Mitch Hodge

It is with tremendous sorrow that we bid Planet Bluegrass family member Mitch Hodge farewell; Mitch died in a tragic car accident this spring.

For over twenty years, Mitch served as The Festival's chief sound engineer. There is no tougher physical environment for quality sound than outdoors at Telluride, and Mitch was obsessed with proving that he could make the Telluride Festival home to the greatest sound in the country. And through wind and snow and rain and blazing heat, Mitch approached his objective with the intent of a warrior and an ever-present smile on his face.

For years, we'd often look out to the soundboard, relieved to see Mitch standing there. From now on, though, we'll just be hearing him.

Thank you, Mitch. We are proud to have worked side by side with you for so long. We miss you. We thank you. We love you. We will carry you with us in our hearts; and we'll see your smile in our minds when we can tell the sound is "just right." Thank you Mitch.

May you
rest in peace.

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THURSDAY'S ARTISTS

Tim & Mollie O'Brien 11:15 am-12:15 pm
Mollie O'Brien sings. Tim O'Brien sings. Do they ever. These two have that rare gift; a seemingly effortless vocal blend that melds musical styles together into a wonderful, harmonic brew. While still a teenager, Tim went West to explore the vibrant bluegrass scene in Colorado. There, he met guitarist Charles Sawtelle, banjoist Pete Wernick, and bassist/vocalist Nick Forster, with whom he formed Hot Rize in 1978. Mollie moved to Boulder in 1980, worked as a duo with Tim, and formed her own R&B band. Over the years they've showcased their old-time, folk, blues, and gospel chops on three albums together—Take Me Back, Remember Me, and Away Out on the Mountain—all on the Sugar Hill label. Lucky for us, they have graced Planet Bluegrass stages from time to time, both at RockyGrass and at Telluride. But it's been awhile, so it's very fitting that we set the mood of the 2006 festival with the heartfelt vocals of Tim and Mollie.

Wayword Sons 12:30-1:45 pm
adj. Wayward. 1. Given to or marked by willful, often perverse deviation from what is desired.

adj. Wayword. 1. A homonym cleverly shifting "ward" to "word," placing the emphasis on the lyrical while retaining the restless creativity of the original.

Words. This intriguing quartet crafts music from and around them. Their leader, songwriter and bassist Benny "Burle" Galloway, has made himself into a cult hero for his sturdy but timeless tales. Count among his admirers, Yonder Mountain String Band, who recorded an entire album of his songs, *Old Hands*.

Burle—a self-described butcher plumber, music lover, and fly fishing junkie—describes his songwriting process: "I write 'em with a freakin' construction pencil! You don't have the liberty of an eraser. And you gotta have a pocket-knife to shave the thing down."

Wayword Sons Anders Beck (dobro) and Robin Davis (guitar/mandolin) were members of 2003 RockyGrass band contest winners Broke Mountain. They are joined by fourth Wayword Son, Gregg Andrusis, who sits at the unusual bluegrass instrument of the piano.

Ryan Shupe & the Rubberband
2:00-3:15 pm

When Utah's Ryan Shupe & the Rubberband appeared in the finale of the nationally-televised "Three Wishes" show last fall, it was appropriate that they were singing their own inspirational anthem, "Dream Big." Many festivalgoers will recognize the song

from the "Telluride Bluegrass: Alive at 25" compilation, which captures a highlight of their 1997 Telluride Band Contest winning performance. "When you dream, dream big..."

But for Shupe, a fourth-generation Utah fiddler, his big dreams started many years earlier. At age 10, he was touring nationally with the Pee-Wee Pickers, a group organized by his father that included another young phenom, Matt Flinger. After stints in numerous failed bands, Shupe formed the Rubberband, an ever-shifting elastic group that would never disband.

Nine years of touring and four independent records later, the current lineup—Roger Archibald (guitar), Colin Botts (bass), Craig Miner (banjo, bouzouki, guitar, mandolin), and Bart Olson (drums)—are country radio stars and performing in their second music video, "Banjo Boy."

Says Shupe, "we've always viewed performing at Telluride as an honor." Nine years since their award-winning Telluride debut, they bring their "PostHeeHawFunkadelicHipHop-NewGrass" to the Town Park stage. "Cause when you dream it might come true."

Drew Emmitt Band 3:30-4:45 pm
Rhythm. Sam Bush has spent the last 32 years teaching us the power of the pocket. And no one has been listening more closely than Drew Emmitt, one of the grounding forces in the 15-year run of "polyethnic Cajun slamgrass" heroes Leftover Salmon. But just because Drew continues to take the mandolin into new territory by using combinations of overdrive, slides and foot pedals to emulate the sound of steel drums and electric slide guitar doesn't mean he's a stranger to bluegrass. Drew's roots lead back to the Town Park campground and the endless jamming that altered the course of his life more than fifteen years ago. When Drew originally performed on this stage, it was as part of the acoustic ensemble, the Left Hand String Band in the late 80's. Now touring with his own band, Drew's music continues to glow with the airy spirit of the Colorado high country, where Drew continues to draw his inspiration. These days he is joined by Leftover Salmon bandmates Jeff Sipe (drums), Noam Pikelnny (banjo) and Greg Garrison (bassist), along with flatpicking guitar champion Tyler Grant in the Colorado-infused newgrass sound of his own making...the Drew Emmitt Band.



June 15

THURSDAY'S ARTISTS

Neko Case 5:15-6:30 pm

Say what you want about Neko Case, just don't call her "alt.country." Sure, she earned the "alt" moniker playing drums in Vancouver punk bands and moonlighting in Canadian power-pop supergroup The New Pornographers. Sure, she was blackballed from the Grand Ole Opry for a wardrobe "misunderstanding" several years ago. Sure, she shows off her "country" chops through a passion for the Louvin Brothers and a gearlust for vintage tenor guitars.

But in Neko's words, "alt.country make me insane. It just sounds like a website." We prefer Americana songstress. Redheaded siren.

First and foremost, there is the voice. It twangs like Patsy Cline and croons like Loretta Lynn. Its soaring boom creates its own reverb that instantly fills the canyon between country and pop; the past and the future.

But Neko is also a fiercely original songwriter. Filtered through her love for the noir, she writes songs rich in metaphor. Her tunes are little gems that owe more to fairytales than folk songs.

She sets her voice and songs against a backdrop of airy Americana. Her band of Jon Rauhouse (pedal steel, banjo, and Hawaiian guitar), Tom V. Ray (upright bass), Kelly Hogan (background vocals), Paul Rigby (guitars), and Barry Mirochnick (drums/percussion) create an otherworldly blend of delicate guitars and rustic twang. On her recordings, the sound is drenched in reverb, begging to be listened to in a canyon. With her Telluride debut, we finally get to hear it in its natural setting.

Sam Bush, Béla Fleck, Jerry Douglas, Edgar Meyer, Tim O'Brien, and Bryan Sutton 7:00-8:30 pm

It's such a treat to get to hear any one of these performers play their music. When two or three get together it always bends the musical mind. And once fifteen years ago a supergroup by the name of Strength in Numbers brought together four of the artists you'll see in this group. Well, in another Telluride first, six Telluride artists, Edgar Meyer, Tim O'Brien, Jerry Douglas, Béla Fleck, Sam Bush and

Bryan Sutton take the stage to form the latest reincarnation of the Telluride super-pickerclub. So get ready to witness a little bit of history on the venerable Fred Shellman stage.

Bonnie Raitt 9:00-10:30 pm

"I never get tired of playing live," comments Bonnie Raitt, "because it's different every night. And I learned that from my Dad." Together, Bonnie and her late father, Broadway singer John Raitt, performed, recorded—including his Grammy-nominated album *Broadway Legend*—and were inducted into the Hollywood Bowl Hall of Fame. "He was as much a fan of mine as I was of his."

The gift of a Stella guitar at age eight, and exposure to the album *Blues at Newport* at age 14, set her on her path. As a Harvard/Radcliffe student in the late 60's, she entrenched herself in the Boston coffeehouse scene. As both a prodigy and anomaly: a young woman who sang blues with gritty passion and played slide guitar with authority, she was soon performing alongside the likes of idols including Howlin' Wolf, Sippie Wallace, and Mississippi Fred McDowell.

Now 35 years into her career, Bonnie has received nine Grammy awards, released several multi-platinum records, and been inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame. Throughout it all, she has remained committed to political activism and championing lesser known artists—"Some of my biggest thrills are to go on song hunts and just listen to hundreds of CDs," she grins proudly.

"I loved the vibe of playing the festival...so eclectic, tribal and such a wild celebration," recalls Bonnie about her last Telluride appearance in 2000. "The audience was as incredible as the vibe was backstage. It's like the whole town is one big partying tribe." Bonnie kicks off her summer tour on the Town Park stage, supported by her longtime bandmates—bassist Hutch Hutchinson, drummer Ricky Fataar, guitarist George Marinelli, and keyboardist Jon Cleary.





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Asleep at the Wheel
Friday Night

Festival Performers...

Asleep at the Wheel
Rhonda Vincent
John Jorgenson Quintet
Claire Lynch w/Jim Hurst, Missy Raines & David Harvey
Bluegrass Etc.
Dan Crary
Steve Spurgin
Byron Berline Band
California Reunion
Barry Patton
Hot Strings
Leroy Mack
Common Tyme
Red Dirt Rangers
Cedar Ridge Brigade
III Generation
Neverly Hillbillies
High Ground
Bob Childers

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April Verch (Canada)
Blue Railroad Train (France)
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All performers subject to change.

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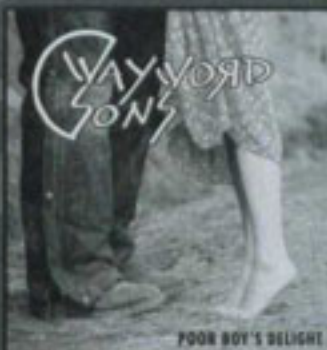
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The Badly Bent 10:30-11:45 am

What is it about Durango that produces such fine bluegrass? Maybe it's the proximity to a narrow gauge railroad. Or the gathering of musicians every April for the Meltdown. Or the closeness of the ever-growing community of pickers and fans.

2005 Telluride Band Contest winners Badly Bent once again make the Durango bluegrass community proud on the Town Park stage. Co-lead vocalists Pat Dressen (guitar) and Mark Epstein (banjo) are longtime favorites in the Colorado scene, each with numerous instrumental awards tucked away in their cases. The rich harmony vocals of Robb Brophy (mandolin) and Jeff Hibshman (bass), combine with the sought-after sound of Bill Adams (dobro) to form the Badly Bent.

Formed in 1997, the band recently released their debut CD, "High Energy Traditional Bluegrass," a fresh and lively collection of original and classic material.

Mike Compton & David Grier

12:00-1:00 pm

Few personalities come through as clearly in their music as the colorful unpredictability of guitarist David Grier and the wise humility of mandolinist Mike Compton.

John Hartford once said that Mike Compton knows more about Bill Monroe-style mandolin than the Father of Bluegrass himself. His left hand floats over the seemingly non-existent frets, more like a fiddle than a mandolin, meanwhile his powerful right hand is able to imply notes that his left hand never plays. More than simply a Monroe interpreter, Mike plays like he actually understands what Monroe was feeling as he played.

Born to a father who played banjo for Bill Monroe, David Grier was raised inside the world of bluegrass. From a young age he was hanging out backstage at the Grand Ole Opry and riding in Bill Monroe's bus. Through years of playing—"I never practice, I just play"—David has thrice earned title of IBMA guitar player of the year and developed a style that combines the endless melodic variations of the fiddle and the crosspicking rolls of the banjo.

While Mike and David have toured the world with John Hartford, Psychograss, and the Nashville Bluegrass Band, among many others, they both share a fondness for the duet setting. And for dirty jokes. But that's for another bio.

The Greencards 1:15-2:30 pm

What's in a name? For Texas roots trio, The Greencards, it's their shared personal history. Yes, for the uninitiated, one of the hottest bands in America, making distinctly American music, is comprised of two Australians—mandolin player Kym Warner and bass player Carol Young—and a fiddle-playing Brit named Eamon McLoughlin.

After coming to the realization that their respective homelands were not so conducive to their uniquely American style of music, they crossed continents to collide deep in the heart of Texas.

True to their roots, the three musicians joined together to create a clean, lean Celtic-inflected sound, quickly making a name for themselves in the thriving Austin music scene. National success has been quick to follow: last summer The Greencards were hand-picked to open a number of shows for Bob Dylan and Willie Nelson.

Asked about performing at their first Telluride, Kym responded "For a long time now we have been aware of the prestige and importance of the Telluride Bluegrass Festival. I can't say how excited we are to be invited to play this year's festival."

Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers

2:45-4:00 pm

We own a copy of the Stephen Kellogg songbook. Our offices are decked out in SK6ERS stickers and posters.

It started last fall, when amidst a busy week of music, we wandered into a Stephen Kellogg & the Sixers bar gig. Immediately, we noticed an honesty in the voice—a rock and roll that replaces attitude with sincerity. Soon the camaraderie and positive energy coming from the stage drew us closer and closer. We were cheering for a band that deserved to be heard. Then the chant, "if you can't dance in your underpants, you don't stand a chance," introduced one of the most surprising and inspiring live moments of the year.

The Sixers, Keith Karlson (bass), Chris Soucy (guitar), and Brian Factor (drums), play together like brothers—effortlessly tossing the spotlight from buddy to buddy. They watch out for each other—whether sharing group vocals shoulder-to-shoulder, or stepping up to perform several gigs without Stephen as he returned home to care for his young daughter.

Stephen wants to make music that feels "legendary." And he inspires us to feel like that is firmly within his grasp. The SK6ERS are already one of the best bar bands you'll hear all year. But after this weekend, they become one of the best festival bands you'll hear all year.

FRIDAY'S ARTISTS



June 16

FRIDAY'S ARTISTS

The Jerry Douglas Band 4:30-5:45 pm

Some musicians truly have the power to change lives... An eight year-old Jerry Douglas had his life forever changed by the playing of Josh Graves with Flatt & Scruggs. Two Country Music

Association Musician of the Year recognitions and twelve Grammy awards later, Jerry Douglas has gone on to affect many a life—including the life of the resophonic guitar itself.

As a member of the Country Gentlemen, JD Crowe & the New South, Alison Krauss & Union Station, and his countless all-star instrumental supergroups, Jerry has redefined the sound and role of the instrument in modern music. Heard on over 1000 albums, Jerry's tasteful lyricism and clean, powerful single-note attack created a demand for the instrument on modern pop, rock, and country recordings. Whether on resophonic guitar, electric steel, or Weissenborn, Jerry's tireless musicianship helped define the sound of many of the musicians on stage this weekend.

Joining Jerry in Telluride are violinist Gabe Witcher, guitarist Guthrie Trapp, drummer Doug Belote, and bassist Todd Parks.

The Decemberists 6:15-7:30 pm

Colin Meloy, lead singer and songwriter for the Decemberists, is not someone you want to meet in a Scrabble tournament. He effortlessly juggles "duchess" and "luscious," "palanquin" and "elephant" in hyper-literate story-songs about sailors and vagabonds, royalty and ragamuffins. But as music is not a Scrabble tournament, Meloy's songs are not exercises in clever wordplay. These are rich musical stories reminding us that life is a spectacular and colorful pageant, filled with rogue spies and vengeful mariners, ghosts and modern humans.

Officially, the band—Colin Meloy (guitar, vocals), Chris Funk (guitars), Jenny Conlee (piano, accordion), John Moen (drums), and Nate Query (bass)—is on a summer hiatus as they welcome two newborns into their extended family. But the band, who reputedly travel "exclusively by Dr. Herring's Brand" Dirigible Balloons," jumped at the chance to play for the Telluride audience.

It's a natural fit. Their Dickensian tales are spun on a folk-rock canvas, rich with acoustic instruments, accordions, and steel guitars; music that is, as guitarist Chris Funk points out, "a distant cousin" to bluegrass and country.

To watch the Decemberists live is to watch a band channeling a fanciful vision that is truly their own. Join them as they transform

Town Park into the belly of a giant whale or the coronation of a Portugese princess.

Béla Fleck and the Flecktones

8:00-10:00 pm

After their sabbatical in 2005, it's great to welcome the Flecktones back to Telluride. After all, they had performed every year since their inception in 1990. And over the years they've come to represent the cutting edge of the Telluride Bluegrass diaspora. In the beginning, the Flecktones came together in 1989, when bassist Victor Wooten joined New Grass Revival's banjo ace Béla Fleck, who hired him and his brother, known as Future Man, to play in a jazz band for a Lonesome Pine Special TV show. The two brothers became the rhythm section and with Howard Levy on keyboards and harmonica, the Flecktones were born. Later, saxophonist/composer Jeff Coffin replaced Howard Levy and the band has continued to create their own unique sound with special musical surprises along the way. Remember the tabla player, Sandip Burman, or ukulele virtuoso Jake Shimabukuro, or one of the coolest instruments ever, the Theramin? Béla and company are back this year with a new recording, their thirteenth release, *The Hidden Land*, and with what will surely be one of the musical highlights of the weekend.

Drive-By Truckers 10:30-12:00 pm

As Bill Monroe cultivated a distinctly Southern music in the early part of last century, Drive-By Truckers are providing the voice for the culture, experience, and heritage of the South today.

Their breakthrough 2001 recording, *Southern Rock Opera*, shocked the world's rock critics—as indie rock kids, NYTimes writers, and NPR DJs all hailed their loud, Southern rock the first masterpiece of the millenium.

Founded by songwriters Patterson Hood and Mike Cooley, the two quickly recognized that for Southern boys truth is better experienced through Southern rock than Northern punk. Together with songwriter Jason Isbell, the three writers focus their musical vision on gritty song cycles about race, class, and the experience of living and dying in the South. Aided by bassist Shonna Tucker and drummer Brad Morgan, they combine the classic rock sound of Lynyrd Skynyrd with the rebellious freedom of modern indie.

All of this sounds dark and heavy, and some of it is. But it is also some of the most provocative and vibrant music being created today. From the caucophony of a loud rock band comes a personal dialog about truth and understanding. Like the early Bluegrass Boys, their music is sometimes revolutionary and occasionally shocking. But like the Bluegrass Boys, it expresses inner and outer truths that need to be heard.



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Blue Paddle Pilsener is reflective of Europe's finest pilsener's, Blue Paddle delivers a refreshing hop bitterness, a vibrant finish and a subtle but



intricate depth of flavor. Blue Paddle has a bit more body than the traditional Belgian pils and is closer to a Bohemian style. High impact crispness from noble hop varieties finishes with a rich burst of malt flavor.



1554 Enlightened Black Ale redefines the phrase "keeping time in a bottle." From an ancient, crumbling Belgian text, our intrepid researchers found references to this obscure style dating back to the year 1554. Overcoming obsolete script and units of measurement, our brewers discovered an ale with a surprisingly bright taste and a dry chocolate finish—one evoking dark beers enjoyed in Belgian taverns 500 years ago.

Sunshine Wheat is a great beer for trouncing thirst. Yet it has a depth of character that inspires a quiet moment's reflection. Sunshine Wheat



swirls in the mouth with ripples of coriander and orange peel tartness, settling nicely into a tranquil sea of apple and honey tones. A filtered wheat beer, Sunshine offers a crisp, refreshing alternative to heavier-bodied heffe-weizens.



Skinny Dip is a full-bodied, figure-friendly beer perfect for the lightly attired summer months weighing in at just 110 calories per 12-oz. serving. Cascade hops frolic with ample malt to create a bright, citrusy nose that's as crisp as a frothy dip in a mountain pond. Skinny Dip—a most revealing beverage.

Have Fun!

SHOW



Schedule

THURSDAY JUNE 15TH

- 11:00 GATES OPEN
11:15-12:15 Tim & Mollie O'Brien
12:30-1:45 Wayword Sons
2:00-3:15 Ryan Shupe & the Rubberband
3:30-4:45 Drew Emmitt Band
5:15-6:30 Neko Case
7:00-8:30 Sam Bush, Béla Fleck, Jerry Douglas, Edgar Meyer, Tim O'Brien, Bryan Sutton
9:00-10:30 Bonnie Raitt

FRIDAY JUNE 16TH

- 10:00 GATES OPEN
10:30-11:45 The Badly Bent
12:00-1:00 Mike Compton & David Grier
1:15-2:30 The Greencards
2:45-4:00 Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers
4:30-5:45 The Jerry Douglas Band
6:15-7:30 The Decemberists
8:00-10:00 Béla Fleck and the Flecktones
10:30-12:00 Drive-By Truckers

SATURDAY JUNE 17TH

- 10:00 GATES OPEN
10:15-11:30 Band Contest Finals
11:45-12:45 Tony Rice and Bryan Sutton
1:00-2:15 Shawn Camp
2:30-3:45 John Cowan Band
4:15-5:30 Yonder Mountain String Band
5:45-6:00 Telluride Troubadour
6:15-7:30 Missy Higgins
8:00-10:00 The Sam Bush Band
10:30-12:00 Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings

SUNDAY JUNE 18TH

- 9:30 GATES OPEN
10:00-11:00 Edgar Meyer and Mike Marshall
11:15-12:15 Linda Tillery & the Cultural Heritage Choir
12:30-1:45 Peter Rowan and Tony Rice Quartet
2:00-3:15 Del McCoury Band
3:45-5:00 The Tim O'Brien Band
5:30-6:45 Nickel Creek
7:15-8:30 John Prine
9:00-11:00 Barenaked Ladies

FAMILY TENT Schedule



WORKSHOP Schedule

THURSDAY JUNE 15TH

12:00–5:00 Juggler's Grove, Hoop Making,
Art and Crafts Tent

FRIDAY JUNE 16TH

10:00 Jugglers Grove, Hoop Making,
Art and Crafts
11:00 Funny Bone Logic with Giggly
Sprout and Gumbo Wobbly
12:00 Storytelling
1:00 Homegrown KinderMusic
Instrument Building
2:00 Gumbo Wobbly's Mad Scientist
Class/Kazoo Building Workshop
3:00 Storytelling Theatre
4:00 The Jammin' Jim Show

SATURDAY JUNE 17TH

10:00 Jugglers Grove, Hoop Making,
Art and Crafts
11:00 Funny Bone Logic with Giggly
Sprout and Gumbo Wobbly
12:00 The Giggle-Bubble Experience
1:00 Hunk-Ta-Bunk-Ta HUH?—
Calling All Families...
2:00 Drama Class and Star Search
Talent Show sign ups
3:00 10th Annual Telluride Kids
Talent Show

SUNDAY JUNE 18TH

10:00 Jugglers Grove, Hoop Making,
Art and Crafts
10:30 The Jammin' Jim Show
11:00 Funny Bone Logic with Giggly
Sprout and Gumbo Wobbly
12:00 Hunk-Ta-Bunk-Ta FUNsies—
Calling All Families...
1:30 Parade preparations
3:15 Children's Parade during set break
followed by a closing circle

THURSDAY JUNE 15TH

11:00 *Showcase San Juan*: Ben Williams,
Rose Morse, Mike Pale & Kate
Tallerday
12:00 *Telluride Troubadour Competition*:
Preliminary Round
2:00 *Showcase San Juan*: James
Patterson, Sean McNama, Christina
Callicott & Brad MacKenzie, Doud
Chard & Heather Flaker
3:15 *Troubadours in the Round*:
Troubadour Finalists
4:30 Hit & Run Bluegrass

FRIDAY JUNE 16TH

10:00 *Band Competition*:
Preliminary Round
12:30 *Mandolinians*: Sam Bush, Drew
Emmitt, Mike Marshall
2:00 *Songwriting*: Benny Galloway,
Danny Barnes, Dave Johnston
3:30 *Troubadour Competition*
Final Round
4:45 *The New Acoustics*: Noam Pikelney,
David Grier, Shad Cobb

SATURDAY JUNE 17TH

10:30 *Instrument Building*: Michael
Hornick & Bobby Wintringham
11:30 *Casey Driessen & the Colorfools*
Casey and special guests
12:45 *Troubadours in the Round*: Finalists
2:00 *Performance*: Greencards
3:30 *Performance*: Stephen Kellogg and
the Sixers
4:45 TBA

SUNDAY JUNE 18TH

12:30 *Sunday Jam*: Luke Bula, Sara
Watkins, Chris Thile and Special
Guests
2:00 *Troubadours in the Round*: Finalists
3:15 Gypsy, Jazz and Bluegrass with
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Tony Rice & Bryan Sutton

11:45 am–12:45 pm

Inside the cult of flatpickers, the names Tony and Bryan are spoken nearly as often these days as Martin and Gibson—Tony, the father of modern bluegrass guitar; Bryan, the crowned prince of the instrument's younger generation.

After turning heads with his technical perfection as lead guitarist for Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, Bryan's magnificently precise attack is now joined by a remarkable sensitivity to tone and phrasing. His performances with Hot Rize, Béla Fleck's acoustic trio, and Mark O'Connor in recent years have showcased a constantly developing stylist pushing himself both rhythmically and melodically. Bryan's latest CD is a collection of guitar duets with many of our friends and heroes, including Tony Rice.

Through his landmark work with the David Grisman Quintet and his own Tony Rice Unit, Tony has carried the vocabulary of the late Clarence White into the new harmonic realms of newgrass music.

Shawn Camp 1:00–2:15 pm

"I first knew Shawn as a fiddle player—and a good one, I might add. Since then I found he is a great songwriter. And when it comes to singing, he's a stylist, and Buddy, I like your style."

—Del McCoury

If you're a Del McCoury fan, you've heard songs by Shawn Camp. He's a songwriter who's provided material for artists ranging from Del, Ralph Stanley, and Ricky Skaggs to Garth Brooks and Brooks & Dunn. Shawn's also a multi-instrumentalist who's played with everyone from Yonder Mountain String Band and Alan Jackson to the Osborne Brothers and John Prine. "I dragged around a guitar from the time I could walk," Camp says. But it was with the fiddle that he first walked through the door to a career in music. Born and raised in Arkansas, Camp grew up surrounded by music—everything from his mother's Elvis and his father's Merle Haggard records to picking parties at his home to the sounds of living legends and local heroes at the bluegrass festivals his family regularly visited.

Camp's music sprawls across the lines that divide country, Americana, bluegrass and roots rock. Although his songs have been recorded by more popular artists, Camp's energetic new CD, *Fireball*, makes a compelling case that no one can do them better. We are excited to welcome Shawn and his band to the Telluride stage for the first time. Performing with Shawn will be Noam Pikelnny on banjo, Bryn Davies on bass, Mike Compton on Mandolin and don't be surprised if a few guests join in.

John Cowan Band 2:30–3:45 pm

John Cowan has been festival family for a long time. In fact, the year was 1975, when John first filled the Telluride valley

with his soaring tenor, echoing off the canyon walls in what has now become a familiar ritual. It was during those early years when New Grass Revival pushed the envelope and helped define the Telluride Bluegrass sound. Their approach to bluegrass included a blend of bluegrass, rock, jazz, blues and extended jamming that was reminiscent of Woodstock, not a bluegrass festival. When New Grass retired in 1989, John continued to perform at the festival with long-time musical partner Sam Bush and these days, John has put together a band of the highest caliber, and continues to grow as an artist and performer. John's latest recording, *New Tattoo*, is another stellar effort showcasing John and his band. Joining John are Wayne Benson on mandolin, Shad Cobb on fiddle, Noam Pikelnny on banjo and Jeff Autrey on guitar. When asked about the festival recently, John responded, "It's just all a part of this yearly 'planet' that seems to revolve unto itself at 8,745 feet above sea level in the southwest paradise of the San Juan mountains. Respect for the audience, the artist, the earth, for tradition AND the tradition of change, this is what we now know as Planet Bluegrass—Enjoy!" We certainly will....

Yonder Mountain String Band

4:15–5:30 pm

Colorado's most forward-thinking stringband has already outgrown the confines of the jamgrass genre they helped define. Working with rock producer Tom Rothrock (Beck, Foo Fighters) on their latest CD, the band has started to incorporate collaborative approaches to songwriting and fresh new sounds into their traditional bluegrass quartet lineup. As they are quick to point out, perhaps today the phrase "progressive acoustic" better captures where the band is and where they are heading.

Make no mistake, at its core, the quartet of Jeff Austin (mandolin), Ben Kaufmann (bass), Adam Ajjala (guitar), and Dave Johnston (banjo) is a bluegrass band—a bluegrass band with a deep respect for traditions. But this is also one of the most wildly popular bluegrass bands in the country with a legion of dedicated kinfolk eager to support their continuing growth.

With six straight years at Telluride behind them, nary a festivarion will be far from their tarp for this hotly-anticipated set. Will Yonder's "drive" still be "without the drums?" Where will the paths of experimentation, tradition, and bluegrass meet?

SATURDAY'S ARTISTS



June 17

SATURDAY'S ARTISTS

Missy Higgins 6:15-7:30 pm

Since making her Planet Bluegrass debut at last summer's Folks Festival, we just can't get enough of singer-songwriter Missy Higgins. There's something about the way she punctuates her vocals with those broad Australian vowels.

Of course, we're not alone. In Australia, Missy is a superstar—on the airwaves and in sold-out arenas. Her debut CD, *The Sound of White*, has been certified 8x platinum in Australia where nearly one in every twenty households own a copy of the disc. Last year Missy swept the ARIA awards—the Australian equivalent of the Grammy—winning an extraordinary 5 awards including "Album of the Year" and "Best Female Artist."

Now twenty-three years old, Missy's first single was a major radio hit in Australia before she had a record contract or a high school diploma. Rather than seize this moment of celebrity, she took six months to backpack in Europe and write more songs. Playful and honest, her songs mix jazz and pop melodies with a hint of youthful introspection and angst. In fact, her song "Scar," with its catchy piano hook, may be the best pop song we've heard all year.

For the first time ever in the US, Missy will be joined on the Town Park stage by her full band—guitarist Josh Cunningham (of the Waifs), bassist Brett Canning, and drummer Tony Floyd.

The Sam Bush Band 8:00-10:00 pm

Sam Bush; yes, you've heard that name before. And though he's claimed to be running for president more than once from this very Telluride stage, the current presidential namesake bears no resemblance to the king of Telluride, the musical master of the mandolin in the free world. Sam's a true uniter...with the power of music.

Who could have guessed that in 1975, Sam would begin a Telluride tradition lasting 31 years and still going strong. We've all been privy to some memorable moments over the past three decades. Sam has graced the stage with New Grass Revival, Leon Russell, Strength in Numbers, John Cowan, Emmylou Harris, Peter Rowan, David Grisman, Mike Marshall, Dan Fogelberg, Bruce Hornsby, Vince Gill, Jean-Luc Ponty and a few all star Thunder Jams to boot. And that's just a partial list. Sam's also been

known to jump on stage at any time of night or day, even in drag, but never without the power of his mandolin.

Sam also continues to maintain a busy schedule as a session musician, appearing on albums by artists including Alabama, Kenny Baker, Suzy Bogguss, Michael Bolton, Garth Brooks, Guy Clark, Neil Diamond, Steve Earle, Alison Krauss, Lyle Lovett, Dolly Parton, Tony Rice, Shania Twain, Doc Watson and Trisha Yearwood.

And each year at Telluride, Sam fronts his own band, performing this year as the Sam Bush Band with Byron House on bass, Scott Vestal on banjo, Chris Brown on drums and Steven Mouglin on guitar. You'll surely hear some new songs, as Sam also has a brand new recording, *Laps In Seven*, hot off the press, available at the Country Store all weekend. So sit back and enjoy another night of Sam and friends.

Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings

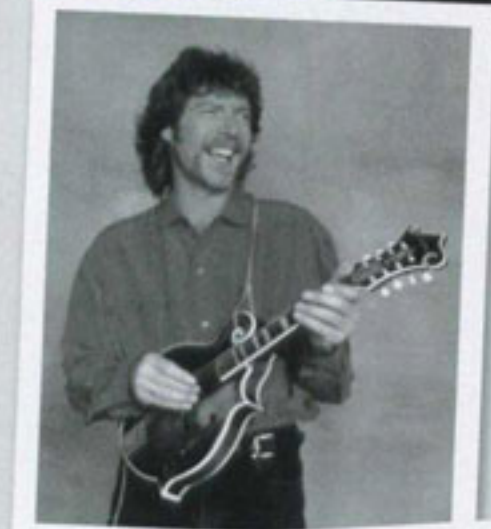
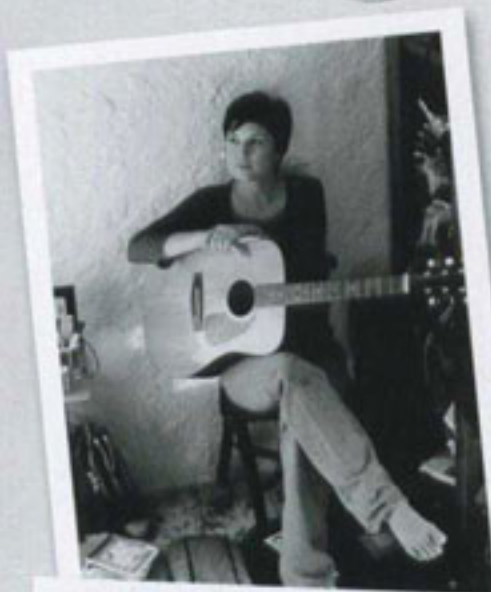
10:30-12:00 pm

The sun may have set over Town Park, but there is work still to be done. And at 5 feet tall (with heels), the queen of funk, Sharon Jones, is the one to do it. Braids flying and feet burning, she owns the stage. While her band the Dap-Kings carve a deep funk into the valley floor, she dusts off such classic moves as the Jerk, the Mashed Potato, and the Camel Walk. This is not digital MP3 music for the isolation of ipods. This is heavy funk music for the dance floor. Late night brassy soul.

Ms. Jones's funk pedigree can be traced to her birth, 50 years ago, in Augusta, Georgia, the town that gave us the Godfather of Soul himself: James Brown. Though she spent her early years turning in backup vocals for gospel, soul, and blues artists, she worked for years as a corrections officer at New York's Rykers Island. Until 1996, when she was "discovered" by Brooklyn funk-revivalists—inspired by her sweat-basted, lived-in talent.

Taking shape today as the Dap-Kings, these dapper gentlemen, dressed in matching soul suits, are dedicated to breathing life into pure, concentrated funk. Together they splatter slinky guitars and sterling horns over the boiled-down bass and drum grooves of vintage soul.

As Jones sings the first line of "This Land Is Your Land" in her smoky, sweet voice, all is clear, indeed. There is work to be done.



Wednesday, June 14

5th Annual Bluegrass Kick-Off Party with Yonder Mountain String Band, *Telluride Conference Center*, 8pm music, 7:30pm doors, All Ages, \$22 in advance

Thursday, June 15

Drew Emmitt Band, *Sheridan Opera House*, 11pm show, 10:30pm doors, 21+ Only (unless accompanied by parent), \$25 in advance

Wayword Sons, *Fly Me to the Moon Saloon*, 10pm show, 21+ Only, \$10 in advance

Friday, June 16

Yonder Mountain String Band, *Sheridan Opera House* **SOLD OUT!** 11pm show, 10:30pm doors, 21+ Only (unless accompanied by parent), \$30 in advance

Sweet Sunny South, *Fly Me to the Moon Saloon*, 10pm show, 21+ Only, \$10 in advance

John Prine, *Michael D. Palm Theatre*, 8:30pm show, 8:00pm doors, All ages, \$47.50

Saturday, June 17

Tim O'Brien Band, *Sheridan Opera House*, 11pm show, 10:30pm doors, 21+ Only (unless accompanied by parent), \$30 in advance

Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers, *Fly Me to the Moon Saloon*, 10pm show, 21+ Only, \$10 in advance

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TEQUILA

Sunday, June 18

Chris Thile, *Sheridan Opera House*, 11pm show, 10:30pm doors, 21+ Only (unless accompanied by parent), \$25 in advance

Vince Herman and Great American Taxi, *Fly Me to the Moon Saloon*, 10pm show, 21+ Only, \$10 in advance

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**JULY
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**PATTY
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NEKO CASE**

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BLUEGRASS, AMBER BEER, GREEN HEAVEN

(FORT COLLINS) Look what a savvy festival-goer you are—surrounded by the beauty of Telluride, great music all around, AND you've got the opportunity to offset your auto emissions thanks to the good folks at Planet Bluegrass. New Belgium recently did something similar. Even though we converted to wind power years ago, the brewing process still creates a certain amount of CO₂. The good news is that through the Chicago Climate Exchange, a company can agree to meet a certain standard in reducing its greenhouse gas emissions. We're shooting for a four per cent reduction below baseline. If we don't meet that standard, we pay into the system and the money goes to fund alternative energy projects across the U.S. If we hit our goal, we receive credits and get to feel good about reducing our emissions further still. Pretty cool.

We're also back with New Belgium's Team Wonderbike which we launched right here this time last year. Wonderbiker enrollment is closing in on 4,000 cyclists committed to commuting by bike or alternative transport at least two days a month. Even Senator Ken Salazar took the pledge when he was touring the brewery last



month. If everyone sticks to the program, we will eliminate 96,000 car trips over the next year. That's mind-bogglingly good news. If we're able to attain our goal of 10,000 Wonderbiker enrollees we will eliminate 20,000 car trips a month—240,000 trips over the course of a year. That's the power of joining Team Wonderbike—two rides a month for you and look at all the good you're doing. If that's not enough, we're giving out bike-related rewards via random quarterly drawings. Swing by the booth and join the Team—you'll be in good company with lots of sexy, smart commuters just like yourself.

Also, check out the new interactive bike sculpture in the Green Village from our own mad genius welder, Todd Kundla. Todd's work will be featured at Tour de Fats across the western U.S. this summer starting with Frisco, Colorado on July 8th. If you're along the Front Range we'll throw the Mothership show at New Belgium in Fort Collins on September 23rd. Visit newbelgium.com for this season's full schedule of events and folly. Don't forget to enjoy our new Skinny Dip at the beer tent—good times.



Enjoy the Ride.

Your Friends at New Belgium

Edgar Meyer and Mike Marshall
10:00 am-11:00 pm

The phrase "acoustic virtuosos" has become almost a cliché on the Telluride stage. But with multi-instrumentalists Edgar Meyer and Mike Marshall the term encompasses both the classical world's fanatical focus on studied mastery and the improvisational musician's depth of style and experience.

Florida-raised child prodigy, Mike Marshall, earned his way into the David Grisman Quintet in 1979 by circulating multi-track recordings of himself performing Grisman's developing music. In the ensuing 27 years Mike has performed an amalgam of bluegrass, classical, Brazilian, and jazz with Montreaux, Modern Mandolin Quartet, Psychogross, and collaborations with many of the world's finest string instrumentalists including...bassist and MacArthur Genius Grant recipient Edgar Meyer.

Equally comfortable composing music for symphony orchestras and jamming with bluegrass masters, Edgar once won a fiddle contest performing with his bass and bow. An athlete in "the extreme sport of bass playing," he has performed with both Yo-Yo Ma and Garth Brooks. Edgar's latest CD, a musical fantasy of classical country chamber music, finds him working alone in the studio performing piano, dobro, banjo, and his beloved double bass.

At opposite ends of the sonic spectrum, the pairing of bass and mandolin is a rich wide sound, leaving the entire midrange as an open playground. A playground which Mike and Edgar patiently and artfully share.

Linda Tillery & the Cultural Heritage Choir
11:15-12:15 pm

The Telluride Sunday morning gospel set has meant many things over the years—from Native American, to bluegrass, to modern American gospel. At its foundation is a musical moment to reflect and celebrate spirituality. This year we honor the roots of African music in America.

Long regarded as one of the San Francisco Bay Area's most versatile singers, Linda Tillery's powerful and flexible alto has been a key element in groups ranging from Bobby McFerrin's sublime Voicestra to the notorious Zazu Pitts Memorial Orchestra. "All the music I love and have ever sung is connected," explains the Grammy-nominated vocalist.

Beginning in the 1990's Tillery tapped the broad repertoire of African-American music, from slave songs to modern jazz. Together with vocalists Rhonda Benin, Elouise Burrell, Melanie DeMore, and percussionist Simon Monserrat, the Cultural Heritage Choir weaves myriad musical threads and cultural traditions into a stunning single fabric.

For Linda, putting together the Cultural Heritage Choir is "like putting on a pair of shoes that were made just for you

by the best cobbler in the world: they are comfortable, they are one with your foot, and you can walk all over God's heaven."

Peter Rowan and Tony Rice
Quartet 12:30-1:45 pm

Ah, Peter and Tony, two masters of acoustic music. The free Mexican Airforce meets the Manzanita Cowboy. Whatever this chemistry creates, they are two of the most influential musicians in American music today. Panama Peter Rowan, whose career has spanned from SeaTrain to Old & In the Way to numerous solo and ensemble projects with an ever-changing cast of musicians, is a soulful singer, a poignant songwriter and a veteran of 26 years at Telluride. Tony Rice, a veteran of the David Grisman Quintet, the Tony Rice Unit, the Bluegrass Album Band, the Rice Brothers and Rice, Rice, Hillman and Pedersen, is an unparalleled guitarist who has helped shape the newgrass guitar style. Together, they have collaborated on a recording entitled, *You Were There For Me*, released late last year. Peter has also just released a recording from the 1994 Telluride Bluegrass Festival with Crucial Country (including Sam Bush and Jerry Douglas) that will be available at the festival for the first time.

Del McCoury Band 2:00-3:15 pm

Forty-three years after joining Bill Monroe's band, life is good for Del McCoury. With his induction into the Grand Ole Opry in 2003, he and his band's nearly 40 IBMA awards—including a whopping nine "Entertainer of the Year" honors—the creation of his own record label, and this last February his first Grammy, Del is living right.

With his contagious love for life, it's hard to think things were ever otherwise for the man the Washington Post calls "a national treasure." "I used to travel forty miles and make seven dollars to play a night of bluegrass," Del McCoury says. These days he performs at the most prestigious venues in America with his stellar band—fiddler Jason Carter, sons Ronnie and Rob on mandolin and banjo, and newest member Alan Bartram on bass.

He once chuckled that a fan named their cat after him, "yep, they called her Del McPurry." The Del-heads have a lot to enjoy these days. Between the Del McCoury bobble-head dolls, the long-awaited Del McCoury Band gospel album *The Promised Land*, or a Sunday afternoon listening as Del serenades Town Park with the classic sounds of bedrock bluegrass, life is good for the Del-head nation.

SUNDAY'S ARTISTS



June 18

SUNDAY'S ARTISTS

The Tim O'Brien Band 3:45-5:00 pm

Tim returned recently from some lonely rocky islands on the 60th parallel between Iceland and Norway called the Shetland Islands. As Tim writes from his recent journal entry, "The fiddle is king here, and the music is part of a greater North Atlantic tradition that runs from Scandinavia through Scotland, Ireland, and on to Canada and the United States. And when people come from off-island for events like the annual folk festival, the locals want to get as much of the new blood as possible. Meaning, the music will keep most of us going past sunup most nights." sound familiar anyone? At this point in his career, nearly 30 years after moving to Colorado where he would form his landmark band Hot Rize, repertoire is a major part of the Tim O'Brien story. For in addition to his own prolific and successful songwriting, this child of West Virginia and the WVVA Jamboree

has never stopped mining the American music canon for great material. He's a song sponge. Songs collect and abide in Tim O'Brien's world as comfortably as family heirlooms. They come from around the world, particularly the American South and Celtic countries. And his efforts are now making waves throughout the world. Tim's recording *Fiddler's Green* won a Grammy award for Best Traditional Folk Album at the 48th Annual Grammy Awards this year. He also holds the unofficial "most sets performed at Planet Bluegrass events" title as well. Tim's band includes Danny Barnes (banjo, guitar, vocals), Dennis Crouch (bass), Casey Driessen (fiddle) and Kenny Malone (percussion). We sure hope to see a lot more of Tim O'Brien.

Nickel Creek 5:30-6:45 pm

With each passing year of touring and recording, we are left to wonder... when will these kids rest? And when will we quit referring to them as "kids?"

Their story has been told and over-told: the two families met at That Pizza Place in Carlsbad, CA listening to Bluegrass, etc.; the 3 pre-teens—Chris Thile (mandolin), Sara Watkins (fiddle), and Sean Watkins (guitar)—formed Nickel Creek in 1989; they won the Telluride band contest in 1995, released their first major album in 2000, and won their first Grammy in 2003.

In the 3 years since Nickel Creek last officially played Telluride, they have forever altered the

acoustic music landscape. Rebellious teenagers now blare Nickel Creek CDs on Friday night. Older folks wander into record stores looking for CDs by nouveau bluegrass bands like "Pavement" and "Radiohead."

John Prine 7:15-8:30 pm

After undergoing treatment for throat cancer in 1998, Grammy-winning songwriter John Prine's voice dropped nearly a full octave. "So I changed the key on everything," he explains. "And when I did, a lot of the old songs became brand new for me. It was like I was hearing them for the first time almost."

Prine's "old songs" are classics by anyone's definition. His 1971 debut album plays like a collection of standards. Walk around this weekend's campground jams and you will hear "Angel from Montgomery" and "Paradise" in heavy rotation, as they have been for the past 35 years. Looking back, it's difficult to imagine an artist emerging as fully-formed as Prine. As Kris Kristofferson wrote in his original liner notes: "Twenty-four years old and he writes like he's two-hundred and twenty."

In the nine years since his last appearance at The Festival, Prine has continued to write classics—imbuing them with his everyman wit and articulate sincerity. And the accolades continue, with both a Grammy award and the Americana Music Association's Artist of the Year recognition in 2005.

Barenaked Ladies 9:00-11:00 pm

Following a recent performance on the Today Show, Barenaked Ladies (BNL) leader Ed Robertson answered his cell phone to find none other than Ricky Skaggs calling to compliment them on their "real nice quartet work." "If there is anyone on Earth I would pay millions of dollars to hear that from," recalls Robertson, "it was Ricky Skaggs."

This admiration for a traditional bluegrass musician like Skaggs might be a revelation to casual fans of the Canadian pop group—famous for its quirky classics "One Week" and "If I Had a Million Dollars." But fellow BNL leader Steven Page grew up immersed in the Toronto folk scene where his father ran a folk festival for several years. And for three years, they've been trying to get onto the Town Park stage—one year we went so far as to rent a jet to fly them in for an unannounced cameo.

The quintet, which includes Jim Creeggan (bass), Tyler Stewart (drums), and Kevin Hearn (keyboards), sets out to fulfill every dream of their Canadian youth everytime they hit the stage: whether triumphantly performing an a cappella showtune to an arena crowd or, at long last, headlining the Telluride Bluegrass Festival.



TELLURIDE BLUEGRASS ACADEMY

The Telluride Bluegrass Academy presents a variety of activities that embrace the Festival's rich musical diversity. The Academy offers music competitions, workshops, performances, and family activities, most of which are presented free to festivalgoers. Daily schedules are posted at the Festival box office, the Sheridan Opera House, Elks Park and the sponsor tent inside the Festival grounds (next to the Country Store). Also listen to KOTO radio (102.9) for late-breaking information.

Workshops

A long standing Telluride tradition, daily workshops are presented Thursday through Sunday at Elks Park encompassing a variety of unique musical collaborations and performances. Schedules are available at the box office, around town, and on KOTO radio.

Family Tent

The Family Tent provides whimsical, musical and educational activities for children and their parents. We are not a daycare facility so we ask that parents sign in and accompany their kids while in this area at all times. The Family Tent is open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day except Thursday (12:00-5:00), and most activities are free. Please see daily schedule in program center-spread and in locations around the festival.

Family Tent Highlights

The Living Folklore Clowns, Giggly Sprout and Gumbo Wobbly, combine imagination and humor to create a magical environment of fun and self-discovery for children and their parents (www.livingfolklore.com). This year is the 10th consecutive year of Living Folklore at The Telluride Bluegrass Festival! Giggly and Gumbo are happy to announce the release of their brand new DVD featuring many of the Clown Yoga and Funny Bone Logic games you have come to enjoy over the years at Bluegrass.

Juggling Anyone?

The Juggler's Grove offers lessons and free juggling balls for new and experienced jugglers each day. Join juggling veterans, Laurie Watson, Jammin' Jimmy Pomey, and Lee Rabadeux and also learn how to use the Diabola (Chinese yo-yo).

Craft Hoop Decorating 11am-5pm every day

Come join Betty Hoops once again for the best craft party of the summer. Kids & adults can decorate & keep their own hoop using fuzzy fabrics, rainbow colored tapes & 3D stickers. Adult hoopers can come & experience the newest & only collapsible hoop on the market. The Gaiam Hoop is a top of the line 6 segment collapsible hoop with a soft foam padding. Betty Hoops will have many for you to play with & will be teaching Hoop Dance throughout the festival all day, every day for free! For more info, visit bettyhoops.com.

Jammin' Jim Show

What do you get when you mix guitar play, singing, character roles, human levitation, comedy, and lots of juggling and footbag tricks? The Jammin' Jim Show!

Hunk-Ta-Bunk-Ta WHAT???

You'll just have to hear it to know what the heck it means! With zany props, musical instruments from around the world, and original songs and stories from 8 award-winning albums, Katherine Dines delights listeners from the cradle up in this highly interactive show.

Music Competitions

Once again, songwriters and bands from around the country will take part in the nationally recognized Telluride Troubadour and Band competitions, vying for beautiful instruments, cash prizes and well-deserved recognition. There is no charge to hang out and listen to the wonderful music of fine songwriters and great string bands, so check them out at Elks Park on Thursday and Friday.

Band Contestants

Down With Naked, Boulder, CO
The Blackberry Bushes, Olympia, WA
Cadillac Sky, Burleson, TX
Widow Maker, Calgary, Alberta
The Dappled Grays, Atlanta, GA
Foxfire Bluegrass, Bloomfield, NM
Second Delivery, Del Mar, CA
The Lovell Sisters, Calhoun, GA
Drew and Ryan, Provo, UT
Poor Man's Whiskey, Santa Rosa, CA
Hell Roaring String Band, Carbondale, CO
Boulder Acoustic Society, Boulder, CO

Troubadour Finalists

Nels Andrews, Brooklyn, NY
Kristin Cifelli, Cambridge, MA
Emilia Dahlin, Portland, ME
Rachel Garlin, Berkeley, CA
Robby Hecht, Nashville, TN
Kathy Hussey, Nashville, TN
Frank Martin, Glenwood Springs, CO
Lisa Richards, Austin, TX
Stoll Vaughan, Lexington, KY
Gretchen Witt, New York, NY

Telluride Troubadour Contest

Preliminary Round

Thursday, June 15th, 12:00pm, Elks Park

Final Round

Friday, June 16th, 3:30pm, Elks Park

The Telluride Troubadour Winner performs a 15 minute set on the Festival Stage on Saturday, 5:45pm June 17th, before the final night performances in front of 10,000 happy festivalgoers from all over the world.

Telluride Troubadour Prizes

1st Place: Shanti Custom Koa "Lucas" Cutaway Guitar with red spruce top, \$200 & main stage set on Saturday, June 17th.
2nd Place: \$400, Crate "Limo" Portable Amplifier, and Little Martin Guitar
3rd Place: \$300 and Little Martin Guitar
4th Place: \$200 and Little Martin Guitar
5th Place: \$100 and Baby Taylor Guitar
6th-10th Place: \$100

Telluride Band Contest

Preliminary Round

Friday, June 16th, 10:00am, Elks Park

Final Round

Saturday, June 17th, 10:15am, Festival Main Stage

Telluride Band Prizes

1st Place: \$750, strings & a performance slot at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival, 2007.
2nd Place: \$450 and strings
3rd Place: \$300 and strings
4th Place: \$150 and strings

About the Art...

This year's Telluride Bluegrass Festival poster, expertly rendered once again by Willie Matthews, gathers together elements that Matthews feels symbolize the Festival. "I wanted to simplify and symbolize the various elements that make up the Festival—instrumentals, vocals, the fact that it's amplified and the mythic image of the Telluride waterfall." To this end, Matthews borrowed a 1936 Gibson amplifier from Kit Simon, owner of the Olde Town Pickin' Parlor in Arvada, CO; a vintage microphone from Kennard Machol of Intermountain Guitar & Banjo in Salt Lake City; and added his own Gibson mandolin. The mountain scene painted on the amp is, of course, straight from Telluride.

A nationally acclaimed watercolorist, Matthews began designing Telluride's poster art in 1984. He has produced all but three of the Festival's posters since then. Some, like this year's art, express the overall visual character of the event. Others, like the 1990 poster of the front porch fiddler, depict a particular event, the year that Mark O'Connor performed solo with all the lights out. "He played in the dark and you could hear the echo of the violin in the canyon," says Matthews. "It was so incredible that night."

This year's poster will be Matthews' last for the Festival. Reflecting on his years with the Festival, he says, "Trying to come up with something new and interesting has been a wonderful challenge over the years. I've said what I can say and it's time to pass the torch to the next generation. I look forward to seeing the creative solutions they come up with."



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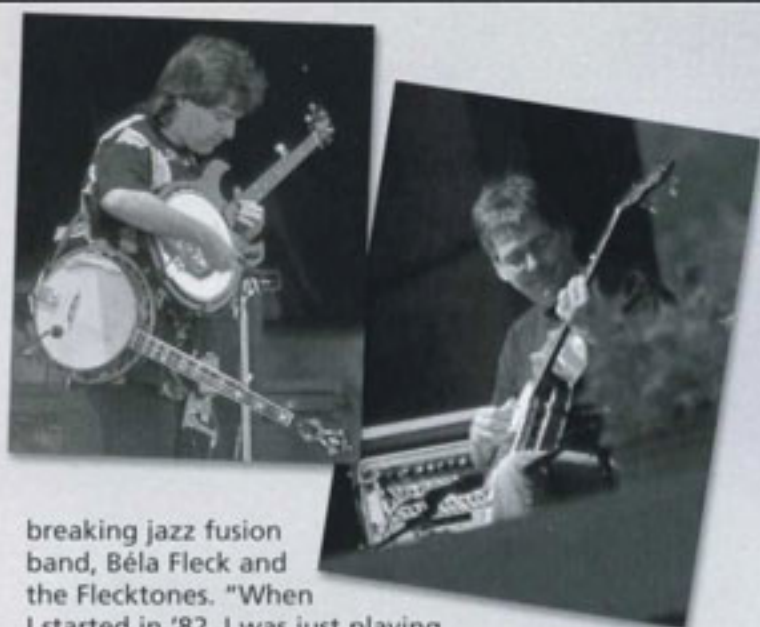
Béla Fleck: 25 YEARS at Telluride

Some folks are born to bluegrass, pickin' on the front porch as soon as they can hold a mandolin. Some are raised in families that faithfully tune their radios to the Grand Ole Opry every week. Others fall in love with bluegrass music much later in life when that high, lonesome sound resonates deep in their very souls. Telluride's passion for bluegrass was awakened through an indescribably dynamic band called New Grass Revival.

New Grass was famous—infamous in some traditional circles—for their bold and innovative approach to bluegrass. Using traditional bluegrass instrumentation (with the exception of electric bass), the band tackled everything from Bill Monroe tunes to r & b to reggae, punctuated by long space jams. Whether you knew bluegrass music or not, the band's musicianship commanded respect and their genre-crossing interpretations of songs made any listener feel at home (and in awe). Inspired by a New Grass Revival performance at the Walnut Creek Festival in Winfield, Kansas, members of the Fall Creek band—Fred Shellman, John "Picker" Herndon, Kooster McAllister and J.B. Matteoti—cooked up the idea for a bluegrass festival in the little town of Telluride.

For a decade New Grass' lineup included Sam Bush, John Cowan, Courtney Johnson and Curtis Burch. In 1981, Curtis and Courtney left to form another band, and Sam and John welcomed two new members, guitarist Pat Flynn and the banjo's most innovative up-and-coming artist, Béla Fleck—whose introduction to bluegrass banjo came through The Beverly Hillbillies' theme song. As amazing as the band's former incarnation had been, the new edition catapulted NGR into bold new territory. In the words of Rick Gartner of FRETTS magazine, with the personnel change "the New Grass locomotive [was] transformed into a bullet train."

1982 would be Béla's first year traveling to Telluride, to the Festival that was formed in honor of the band he'd recently joined. Béla says he was psyched about the Festival from the beginning. Band mates had regaled him with stories about the Festival all year. He spoke of his first venture into the canyon. "I remember it was like magic. Of course I was nervous as I was the new guy in a band that was very well loved at Telluride." At the time he couldn't have known that he would become one of the Festival's mainstays, performing as a guest with countless other bands, playing numerous solo and ensemble sets, and introducing the world to all manner of incredible musicians and musical styles through his ground-



breaking jazz fusion band, Béla Fleck and the Flecktones. "When I started in '82, I was just playing with New Grass Revival, and within a few years I was playing in lots of different sets. I feel like I grew up with the Festival. It's like a big family that welcomed me in." 2006 marks Béla's 25th year at the Festival.

Like so many of the artists who come to Telluride year after year, Béla appreciates not only the Festival's incomparable setting, but also the adventurous attitude of the Festivarians. "Telluride has a very smart audience, and it has developed over the years," he says. "We don't have to play down to them. You know you can try things here that you may not be able to in other venues. The audience actually encourages the musicians to try new things."

Whether the audience influenced those booking the Festival to venture into previously unexplored territory, or whether it was the other way around is impossible to discern. Either way, the Festival's open-minded booking policy fits Béla's own penchant for blending his banjo playing into virtually every musical genre. "The Festival has always been open to new ideas like solo sets. I could call them up on the phone and throw out ideas and they'd say, 'Sure, let's try it.'" From the mid-1980s Béla presented a solo set most years, joined by such stellar artists as Edgar Meyer, Mike Marshall, Tony Trischka, Bruce Hornsby, Jerry Douglas and countless others. In his solo sets he presented material ranging from his own original compositions to the Beatles to Bach. In 2004 he brought his duet set with Edgar Meyer to the main stage, a collaboration that had wowed standing-room-only workshop crowds at the Sheridan in downtown Telluride for years.

One made-for-Telluride group that would return to the Festival several years hence was the all-star ensemble, Strength in Numbers. Billed in 1988 as the Telluride All-Stars, Strength in Numbers included Béla, Sam Bush, Edgar Meyer, Jerry Douglas and Mark O'Connor. After their Telluride debut, the group produced an album titled *The Telluride Sessions*, featuring compositions that resembled classical chamber arrangements while showcasing the members' technical acumen. Béla explains the group's origin: "Edgar and I probably started the idea for that, and



Edgar first. Edgar thought we could be a band. He booked us all for his first solo album, called *Unfolding*, and I produced it for him. We worked together on it, put it all together. It was all his music, but I knew a little more about the studio at that time than he did so I was able to be helpful and get him what he wanted. So when I was talking to [original Festival director] Fred [Shellman] about the

festival I said, 'Hey you should let us play a gig that way.' Fred gave us that opportunity, and when it happened it really clicked. So when Craig [Ferguson, director since 1989] took over the Festival, he gave us the opportunity again and again. Then we ended up making a record."

After New Grass Revival disbanded in late 1989, members dispersed into different projects. In 1988, Béla had formed what was intended to be a single-performance ensemble to appear on PBS' "Lonesome Pine Special" series. That band included keyboard/harmonica virtuoso, Howard Levy; bassist extraordinaire, Victor Wooten; and the creator and master of the Synthaxe Drumitar, a mysterious character named Future Man. This was not to be a one-time gig, however. The band made their stunning Telluride debut in 1990 and have performed at Telluride, and all over the world, every year since (with the exception of 2005, when they took a year-long hiatus from Flecktone touring in order to pursue other projects).

As with New Grass Revival, Béla would break new

clarinet and flute to the mix), began touring with the group and continues to this day. Even after 18 years, the band continues to evolve and create new musical idioms.

Telluride offers them a great opportunity to stretch even a bit further. Depending on who's going to be at the Festival, the Flecktones like to alter their regular set to accommodate artists such as Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, Chris Thile, Bruce Hornsby and even Bonnie Raitt and Jackson Browne. The band has also introduced Telluride to a number of not so well known, but equally amazing artists such as ukulele virtuoso Jake Shimabukuro, Tuvan throat singer Congar ol Ondar, East Indian percussionist Sandip Burman and Theramin player Pamela Kurstin. Last year, during the Flecktones' sabbatical, Béla brought two completely different trios to Telluride, one that included legendary jazz musicians Stanley Clarke and Jean Luc Ponty, and the other that included fiddler Casey Driessen and guitarist Bryan Sutton. Béla has enjoyed the challenge of playing with so many diverse musicians and groups. "I love to put myself into risky situations, but I do like to be prepared and I want to feel that I can learn or be pushed



musically by the collaboration."

Reflecting on his 25 years at the Festival, Béla notes, "I feel that the spirit of the Festival is as it always has been. There are more hotels, and the town has changed but again the spirit is still there. It has been exciting to see the new musicians grow and come into their own." The spirit of Telluride that encouraged Béla to present an amazing palette of musical colors over the years continues to inspire others. "Jerry Douglas and Edgar were encouraged to be different and to do their own thing. We saw them grow up and get strong and successful. Now folks like Chris Thile are getting the same encouragement."

For his 25th Telluride Festival, Béla will return with the Flecktones for a set on Friday night. On Thursday night he will join another group of all-stars—Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, Edgar Meyer, Tim O'Brien and Bryan Sutton. As usual, Festivarians can expect some surprises when Béla and this cadre of Telluride stalwarts take the stage.

*Charlotte Bell is a yoga teacher, freelance writer, oboist and Festivarian since 1983. She is currently writing a book titled *Mindful Yoga, Mindful Life* that will be published by Rodmell Press in 2007.*



musical ground with the Flecktones, eventually garnering numerous Grammy nominations and awards, and reaching #1 on the jazz charts. When Howard left the band in 1992, they continued to tour as a threesome, occasionally inviting special guests to appear with them. In 1997 ace saxophonist Jeff Coffin (who also contributes

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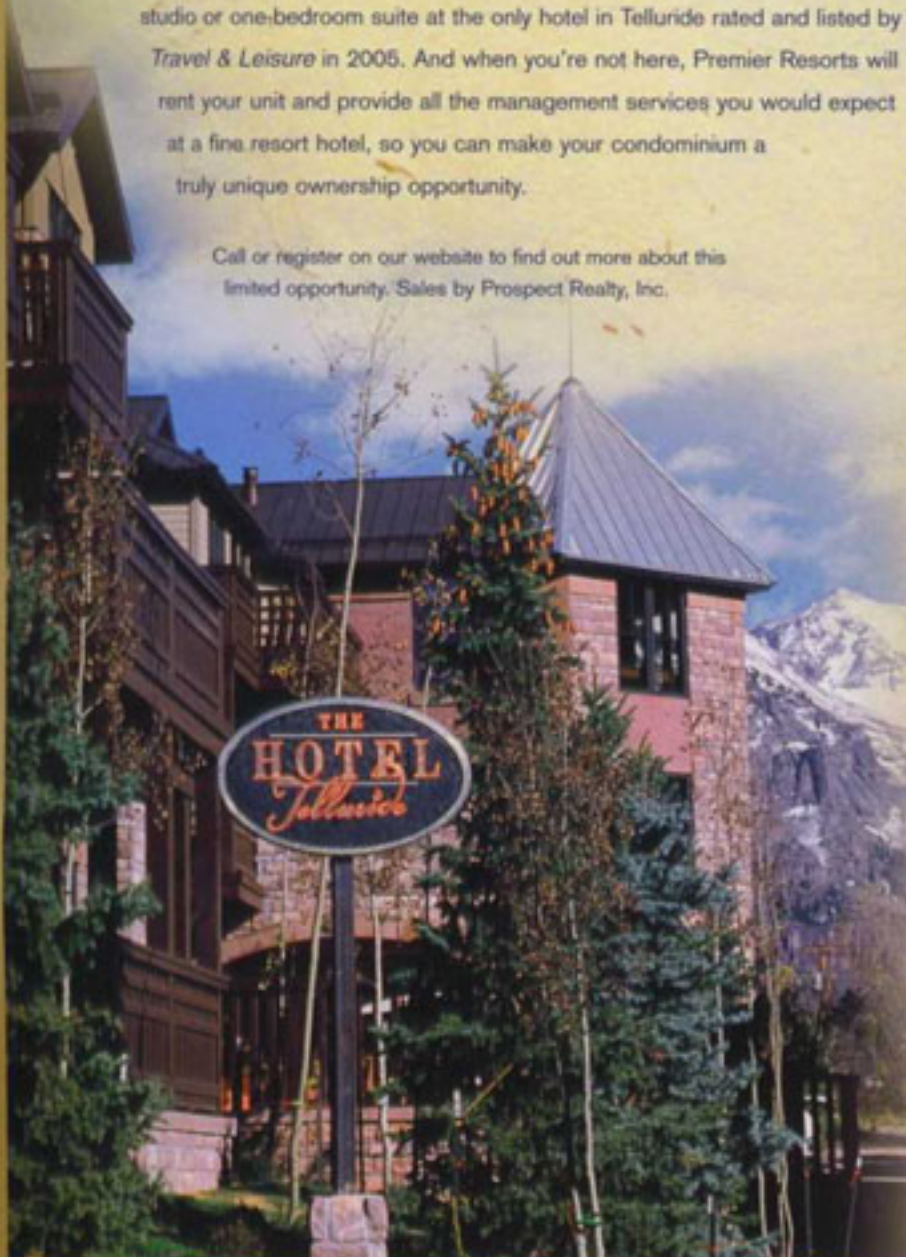


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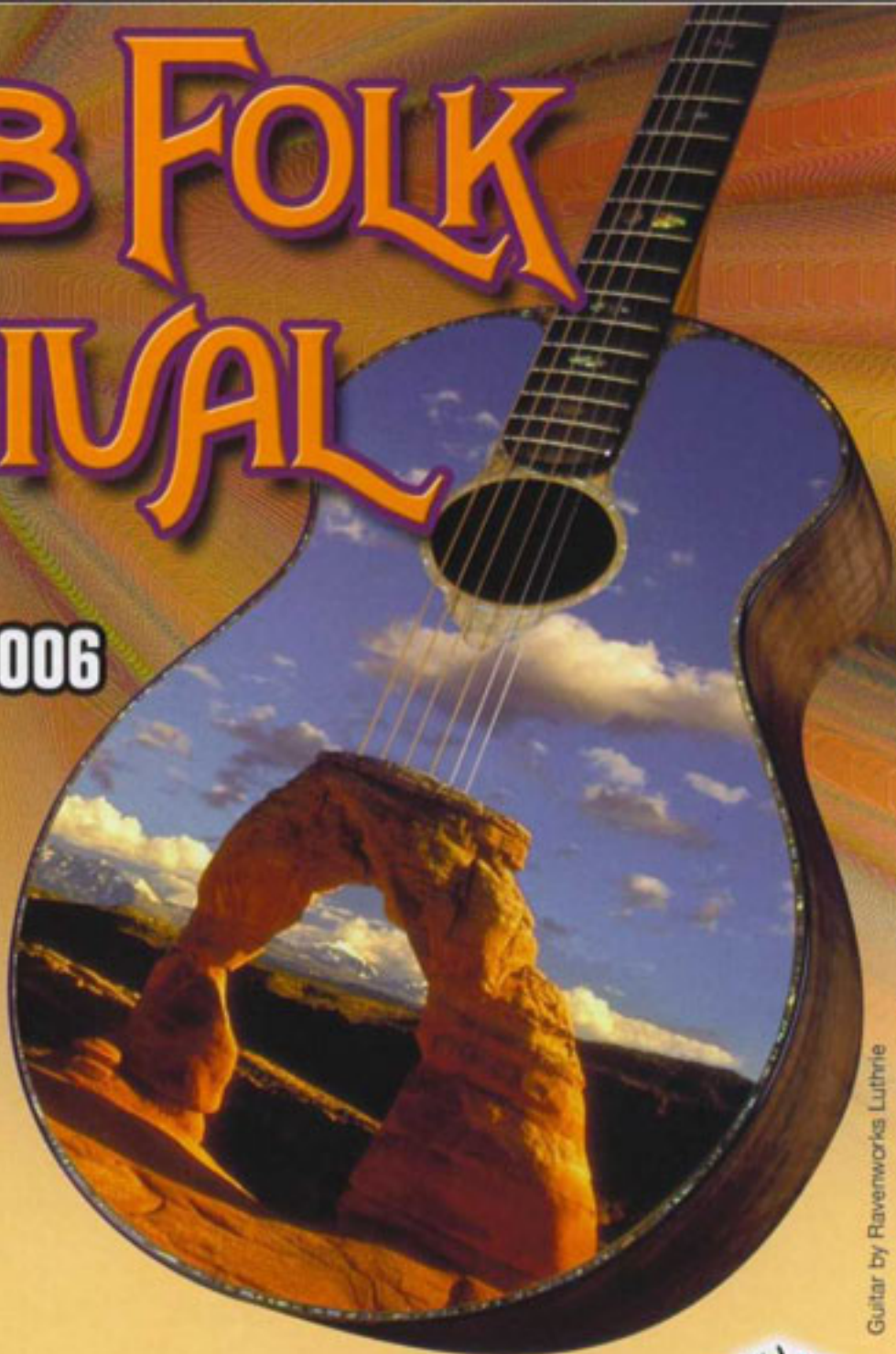
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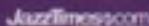
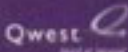
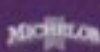
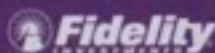
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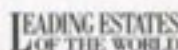


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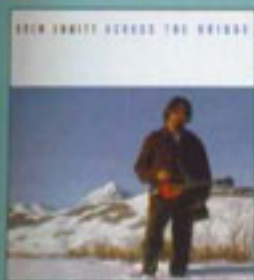
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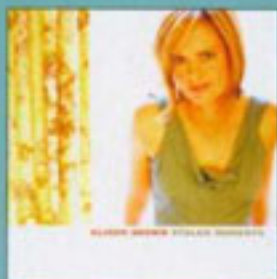
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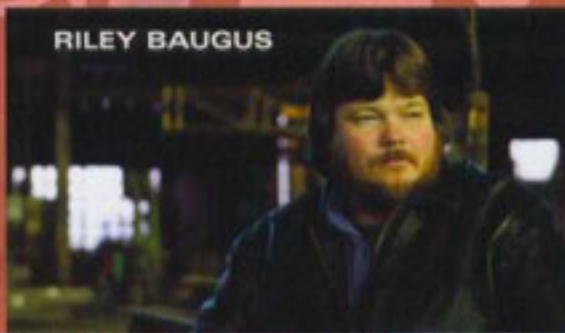


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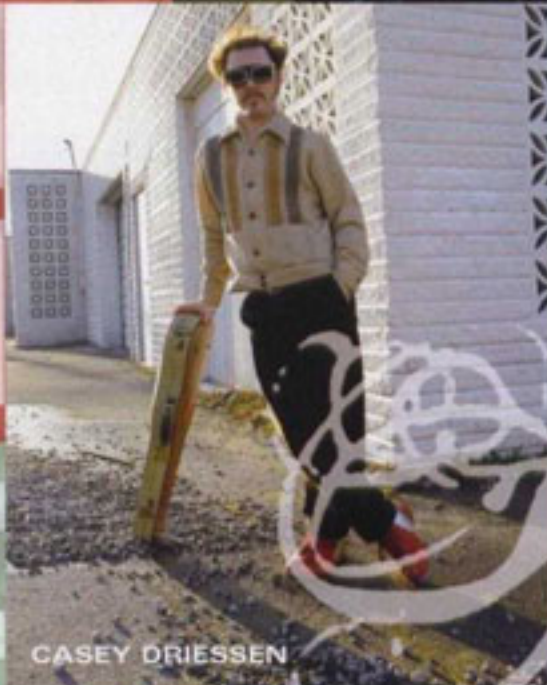
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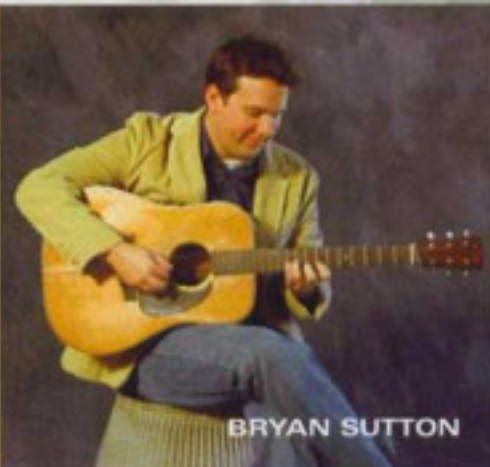
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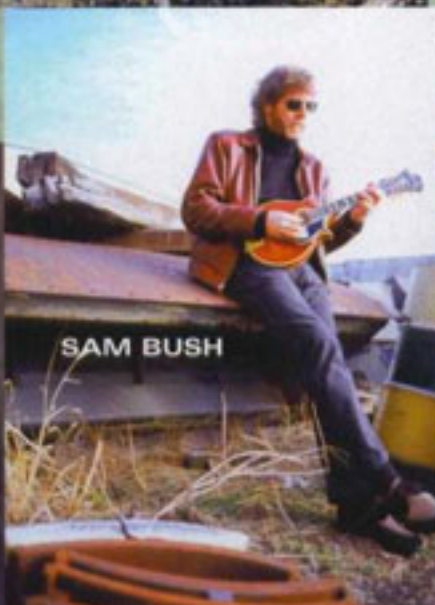
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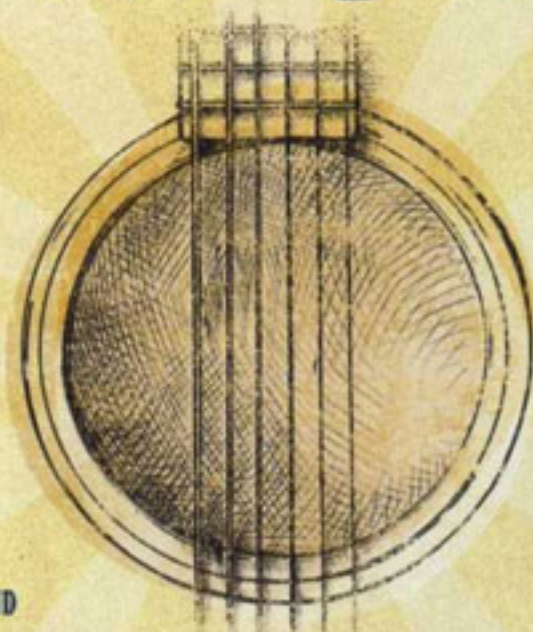


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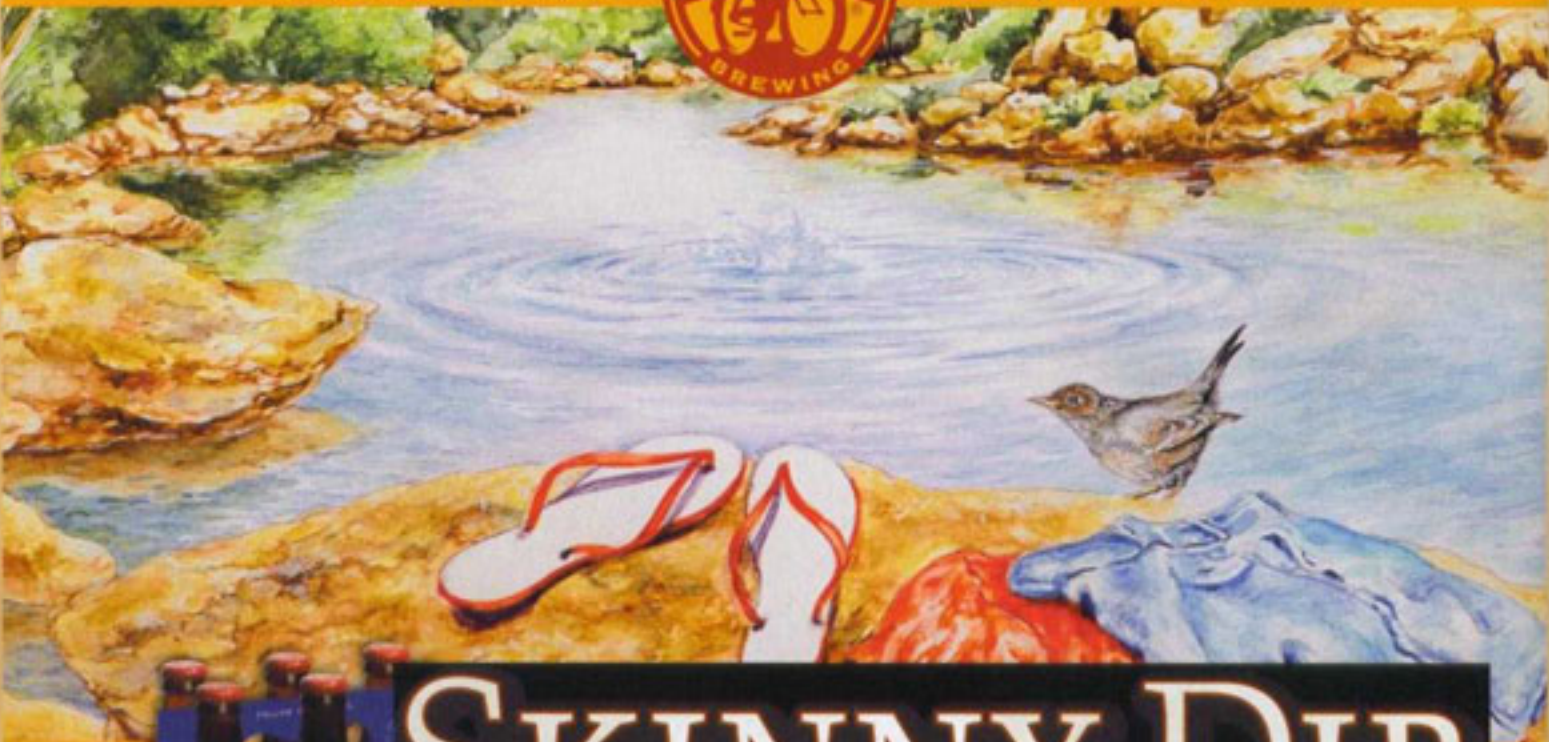
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