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Oh Freedom! The DVD Is Here!!



Greetings!

After MONTHS of mixing, editing and late nights, I am delighted to say the DVD of *Oh Freedom!* is finally available! We recorded the April 11th live show to 24 tracks of audio and 4 cameras of HD video then mixed and edited the whole thing down.

This is the full length version of that show featuring myself, Rocky Maffit on percussion, Ben Willis on bass and Eric Lambert on guitars along with the 42 voices of the Western Illinois University Singers under the direction of Dr. James Stegall.



Check out the trailer here:

<https://youtu.be/JJiyK2Y-DqE>

GIN RIDGE MUSIC PRESENTS
CHRIS VALLILLO
With the
Western Illinois University Singers
Under the Direction of
Dr. James Stegall



I'm offering the DVD for \$20.00 plus shipping. You can also get the *Oh Freedom!* CD for 15.00 plus shipping, but as they used to say on those cheesy late night TV commercials years ago, "But wait, there's more!!!!" If you order before midnight tonight you can get both the *Oh Freedom!* DVD plus the CD for just \$30.00 and **free shipping!** Isn't that amazing?"

[Click here for details:](#)

This would make an excellent, unique gift with a message that resonates with the holiday spirit of peace, love and brotherhood. Most of this music is based on classic American Gospel that evolved over time to become a source of strength and bonding for the countless Americans who struggled for the right of equality for all.

In related news I am in conversations with the Illinois Broadcasting Council about offering an edited version (shortened to fit TV requirements of 57:00 minutes or so) for broadcast on Illinois Public TV stations. WSIU in Carbondale has agreed to assist in this process. A big "Thank You" goes

out to **Greg Petrowich** and his staff for their support in this. I'll keep you in the loop on that, but if all goes well, we will be offering the show for free broadcast in time for MLK Day 2019 and Black History Month.

There is also exciting news on the horizon about the touring version of *Oh Freedom!* I'll be presenting the full theatrical version of the show at **John A. Logan Community College** in Carterville, IL on May 10th, 2019 and am in conversations about a Juneteenth performance (that's June 19th, commonly referred to as the Black 4th of July) at another location. I'll let you know more about that if the funding is confirmed. I'd love to bring *Oh Freedom!* to your community as a full production or as a smaller performance. Call or email if you want to know more.

Work continues with the Illinois Humanities Council/WFMT Radio Network series *Illinois Turns 200 Concerts* being held around the state. Our first two shows, Alton and Vandalia, were exciting and challenging, but a great success! Last week we brought the performances to Atlanta IL (Route 66 Museum) Peoria (GAR Hall) and Galesburg (Carl Sandburg Birthplace). Each show combines music, interview and audio clips from the Studs Terkel Archives to explore Illinois through these selected communities, past, present and future. I'm the Music Director for the series (think Paul Shaffer with more hair and without the flashy clothes) and I perform at each show and back up guest artists. We have two more shows to go, December 2nd at Ottawa, IL at the Tangled Roots Brewing Company and December 3rd at the Hideout in Chicago. See the tour schedule below for details and join us if you can.

Last, if you're looking for something bigger to put under the Christmas tree or need a "suggestion" to give that certain someone, take a moment and check out my side project *Orphan Instruments*. As most of you know, I restore vintage instruments as a side line as time permits. I currently have 3 parlor guitars, 2 mandolins, 2 mandolinettas and one banjo uke for sale. I've finally updated the *Orphan Instruments* web page and you can now access it directly at www.orphaninstruments.com. Here's a chance to get



excellent vintage instruments in playing condition at working folk prices! I brought a batch to the Folk Alliance Midwest Conference a couple weeks ago and they were a big hit!



My tour schedule through the end of the year is below and up on my web site. Hope to cross paths with you down the road!

Have a great fall,

Chris

Saturday 11/17/18 7:00 PM
Hickory Ridge Concert Series
Dickson Mounds Museum
10956 N Dickson Mounds Rd, Lewistown, IL 61542
Admission \$8.00

Andy Hatfield and Solly Burton. This guitar, mandolin duo is composed of two multi time National Bluegrass Champions from the Winfield Festival competition. This should be an amazing show! Of course, I'll perform a couple myself!

Sunday 11/18/18 7:00 PM
5th Annual LarryPenn Tribute @
Anodyne Coffee
224 W. Bruce Street (Walker's Point)
Milwaukee, WI.

the 5th Annual

LARRY PENN

TRIBUTE CONCERT



Sunday • November 18
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm



Anodyne Coffee Roasting Company
224 W. Bruce Street • Milwaukee
www.anodynecoffee.com
414 276 8081

MARK DVORAK • LI'L REV • WILL BRANCH
BOB & DIANA SUCKIEL • CHRIS VALLILLO
THE PENN FAMILY
PATTY STEVENSON & CRAIG SIEMSEN

★ Celebrating Larry's legacy in song, story, poetry & lore ★

★ Songs about work, labor, social justice & trains ★

Songs for children ★ Songs about trucks ★ Songs about family

\$10 general admission ★ To benefit the Larry Penn Memorial Fund

Sunday, 12/2/18 3:00 PM

Illinois Bicentennial Program

Twisted Roots Brewing Co, Ottawa, IL

812 La Salle St, Ottawa, IL 61350

Admission: FREE!

6th of 7 of a series of bicentennial performances and conversations being put on by the WFMT radio Network and the Illinois Humanities Council in celebration of Illinois'200th birthday. The focus: Rivers and rails.

Monday, 12/3/18 3:00 PM

Illinois Bicentennial Program

The Hideout

1354 W Wabansia Ave, Chicago, IL 60642

(773) 227-4433

Admission: FREE!

the 7th of 7 of a series of bicentennial performances and conversations

being put on by the WFMT radio Network and the Illinois Humanities Council in celebration of Illinois'200th birthday.

Thursday 12/13/18 7:00 PM

Music at the Museum Concert Series

502 S Spring St, Springfield, IL 62706

Admission \$10:00

I'll host MN duo Curtis and Loretta for a special Holiday show. Of course, I'll perform a couple myself!

Saturday 12/15/18 7:00 PM

Dickson Mounds Museum

10956 N Dickson Mounds Rd, Lewistown, IL 61542

Admission \$8.00

I'll host MN duo Curtis and Loretta for a special Holiday show. Of course, I'll perform a couple myself!

I use and endorse the following products

Click on the logo to check out all of Tony Klassen's amazing instruments.

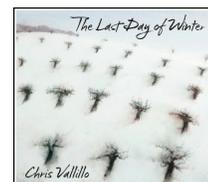
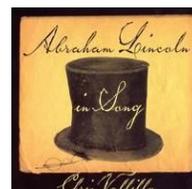
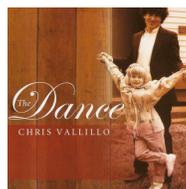
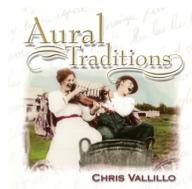
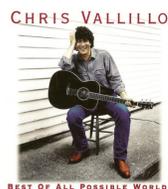


Click here to learn about John Pearse strings, the only strings I've used for over 25 years!



You can hear all my music by visiting CD Baby

Just click on any of the CD covers below.



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