

July, 2009

For Bookings, CDs and Materials: **Josh Dunson; rpmjosh@aol.com**

To Listen: **<http://www.realpeoplesmusic.com/performers/jb/music.htm>**

For more on Jeni & Billy: **<http://www.jeniandbilly.com/>**

Jeni & Billy – Fine Harmonies and New Old Songs Rooted in Appalachian Culture Exclusively Represented by Real People's Music

Real People's Music is proud to announce the exclusive representation of Jeni & Billy, the Nashville-based duo, whose 2008 *Jewell Ridge Coal* received airplay **on more than 100 folk and bluegrass radio stations**. In concert, Jeni & Billy present original and traditional songs that draw from Country, Appalachian, Old-time, Country Blues, Bluegrass and Folk music styles to create a sound uniquely their own. Jeni, a student of Pulitzer Prize winning Northern Irish poet (and sometime rock lyricist) Paul Muldoon, includes her "rascal" poetry in concert and offers a poetry writing class. Together, Jeni & Billy offer several other workshops, listed below.

A sampling of Jeni & Billy's credits includes:

- Seedtime on the Cumberland (KY)
- The Buskirk-Chumley Theater (Bloomington, IN)
- Bristol Rhythm & Roots (VA/TN)
- Beverley Folk Festival (UK)
- Eddie's Attic (Atlanta, GA)
- McGlohon Theatre (Charlotte, NC)
- International String Band Festival (Calhoun, GA)
- Birchmere (Arlington, VA)
- Kirksville Arts Association (MO)
- Lonestar Cafe (New York)
- Kennedy Center (DC)
- Grand Ole Opry
- Music on the Square (TN)
- Ram's Head On Stage (Annapolis, MD)
- Columbia Lakefront Festival (MD)
- Richlands Citizens for the Arts (VA)
- Philadelphia Society for Art, Literature & Music
- Champlain Valley Folk Festival (VT)
- North Wales Bluegrass Festival (UK)
- Virginia Mountain Music Festival
- Collier County Libraries (FL)
- Erlanger Public Library (KY)
- Staunton Public Library (VA)
- University of NC - Asheville

WORKSHOPS – Jeni & Billy offer a number of workshops designed to appeal to musicians, songwriters, poets, and just plain folks, young and old, including:

- Writing and Performing the Contemporary Appalachian Ballad
- Music of the Coalfields
- Duet Harmony Singing in the Traditional, Country, and Folk Music Styles
- Song Arranging for the Stage and the Studio
- What's in a Name? A Melody
- Writing & Performing Poetry (Jeni) and Fingerstyle Guitar for Song Accompaniment (Billy)

Introductory Fee Discounts for Colleges, Concerts, Libraries and Schools: Substantially discounted fees are available for a contracted commitment made by December 1, 2009 for dates prior to and after December 1, 2009. Some fees would be plus travel or share of travel, usually by car.

For details, please e-mail rpmjosh@aol.com or call Josh Dunson at 708-386-1252.

www.realpeoplesmusic.com

JENI & BILLY

Jeni Hankins & Billy Kemp perform New Old Music with roots deep in the heart of Appalachian culture — original songs that draw on the Traditional Country, Folk, Bluegrass, Old-time, and Appalachian ballad styles. Poetry too.



Discovery of the month (or maybe the year) is Jeni & Billy, whose release *Jewell Ridge Coal* arrived a few days ago. I finally got it in the player yesterday, and have been totally captivated by it. The songs are great and Jeni's voice makes the hairs stand up on my neck — a pure mountain voice that is beautiful.

*Mike Kelsey, WFHB Community Radio,
Bloomington, IN*

Jeni & Billy provide acoustic music lovingly dressed with graceful phrasing and old-time charm. It's soothing, relaxing, heartfelt and richly steeped in the traditions of old-time country and bluegrass. Better yet, it provides many great stories of a "Miner's Reward" and a "Tazewell Beauty Queen."

Joe Tennis, Bristol Herald Courier

They sound so natural together, it feels calming and clear. It's as if you were there sitting on a back porch in the old-timey South and they were right there with you and just stumbled upon some instruments .

Nicole Levitz, Feminist Review

ACCOLADES

- Champlain Valley Folk Festival, 2008 Winners of the Open Stage Contest
- Tazewell County Fiddler's Convention, Tazewell, VA, 2nd Place Guitar (Billy) 2007 & 2008, 2nd Place Flatfoot Dance (Jeni) 2008, 3rd Place Folk Song (Jeni) 2008
- 2008 Laurel Bloomery Fiddler's Convention, Laurel Bloomery, TN, 2nd Place Guitar 2007 (Billy), 3rd Place Duet Singing (Jeni & Billy), 5th Place Folk Song (Jeni)
- Jeni: Thomas J. Watson Fellow, researching Religious and Popular Devotionalism in Europe and Japan
- Billy: University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 2006 Outstanding Alumni Award in the Visual and Performing Arts

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