

music



The Corvallis Camerata

It's Winter, Already

Missing the Saturday Market? Heading to the coast for the weekend or up to Beaverland to see a real downtown? Don't miss these winter-blahs-beating music and art events. First is Florence's **Winter Folk Festival**, featuring Tom Chapin & Friends and the Limelights during a weekend of crafts, arts and pie contests – no joke. The festival brings folk music to the kids of Siuslaw, Reedsport and Mapleton districts and regularly sells out the more famous events while providing a continuous jam session (at places all over town) for fiddlers, flutists and the like. There's a mix of pricing for kids, for the headliner concerts and for the whole shebang, so call up the Florence Events Center at 541-997-1994 or 888-968-4086 to get what's best for you. The Florence Winter Folk Festival runs 10 am-7 pm Saturday, Jan. 19, and 10 am-3 pm Sunday, Jan. 20, at the Florence Events Center.

Next up: What do you get when Jan Roberts-Dominguez, Kathleen Dean Moore and the Corvallis Camerata Quartet descend upon one small spot? Why, the **Corvallis Mayor's Winter Concert**, of course, with even more artists, writers and musicians piling into the First Presbyterian Church.

They're there to fund the Camerata in its larger form (33 high school student string players) on a summer trip to northern Italy. So far, the Crescent Valley and Corvallis High students have five stops scheduled on that tour, including the Florence Youth Festival, where they'll meet musicians from all over the world. (EW predicts hook-ups; students getting lost before the bus leaves, causing frantic chaperones to buy lots of wine at dinner; and a lot of David light switches returning in the luggage). The weaker the dollar gets, the more money the Camerata will need. They're doing all kinds of crazy fundraising things, from dinners to selling Italian sodas to hiring out the quartets (Need a string quartet? Call 'em at 541-754-6462, or email gigs@camerataitaly.org). This one's relatively simple (despite its subtitle: "A Celebration of Music, Literature and Art") and certainly a deal with a sliding scale and open donations. The Corvallis Mayor's Winter Concert starts at 7 pm Friday, Jan. 25 in the First Presbyterian Church, 114 SW 8th St. – *Suzi Steffen*

that I love you, and I'd love to see you smile."

Andrew Heringer plays at 8 pm Wednesday, January 23, at Cozmic Pizza. Free. – *Anne Pick*

Cajun Revival

In the late 1960s, Louisiana teenager Michael Doucet was playing guitar in a rock band and planning to study poetry. Then he got interested in his own musical heritage: the Cajuns, descendants of French Canadians who'd been exiled from their homeland by the conquering British in the 1800s and settled in rural southwest Louisiana, bringing with them their plaintive, danceable French folk music that was gradually enriched by the rhythms of other American folk traditions. Thanks to a government grant, Doucet was able to systematically study this isolated, neglected – even reviled – musical treasure, interviewing many of the last surviving old masters such as Dennis McGee and the Balfa brothers, and preserving the songs they'd inherited.

Yet Doucet recognized that folk music is a living tradition; not content to freeze the old

music in amber, he formed his own band, **BeauSoleil**, to perform it and even continue its evolution by mixing it with other Louisiana traditions (Creole, Zydeco) as well as rock, country and more. For the past 30-plus years, Doucet (wielding a swinging fiddle and singing the old tunes), his guitarist brother David and other musicians (accordion, rub-board, percussion, bass) with deep roots in this glorious American music have been leaders in the Cajun cultural revival, bringing the lost sounds of old Acadia to listeners around the world, winning awards (including a Grammy), more grants and a wide audience.

Doucet has also served as an adviser to the Eugene-based Oregon Festival of American Music and performed often hereabouts, including a memorable turn in the late '90s. And now he and BeauSoleil return to the Shedd, carrying an irresistible musical history you can – and should – dance to. Michael Doucet and BeauSoleil perform at 7:30 pm Tuesday, Jan. 22, at the Shedd's Jaqua Concert Hall. \$22-\$30. – *Brett Campbell*

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