

Bag of Hammers, Firefly play the Churchill stage



Nicola Gell/Contributed image
Firefly will play May 13 at Churchill School.

By Lisa Britton
Go! Magazine

BAKER CITY — Musicians — local and one from afar — will grace the stage at Churchill School on Friday, May 13.

Bag of Hammers, featuring Luke McKern and Holly Sorensen, tour mostly around Eastern Oregon.

Firefly Walter, hailing from Santa Fe, New Mexico, is getting ready to spend the summer in Europe to study medieval and folk music.

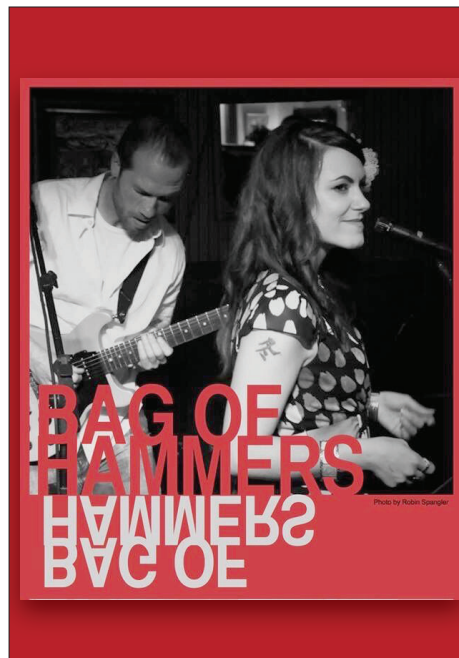
For the concert, doors open at 6 p.m. and the music starts at 6:45 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 in advance at www.churchillbaker.com, or \$15 at the door. Proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test is required. Admission is free for fully vaccinated youth age 15 and younger who attend with a ticket-holding adult.

BAG OF HAMMERS

McKern and Sorensen have played as Bag of Hammers for about 10 years. They, like so many musicians, are returning to playing again after nearly two years of no live performances.

"We're just getting it going again," McKern said.



Bag of Hammers/Contributed image
Bag of Hammers, featuring Luke McKern and Holly Sorensen, play May 13 at Churchill School in Baker City.

He describes their concerts as "live looping."

"We build all of our songs from scratch," he said. "We play a bunch of different parts that we layer together. It's like a recording studio on the stage."

Sorensen handles the vocals, and McKern plays the guitar, bass, drums and keyboard.

"It's a fun show — it's really energetic," he said.

FIREFLY

Firefly spent her childhood in Northern California, but often visited family in Baker City. As a child, she learned to play piano and clarinet but says it was "an immersion in folk classics and obsession with '90s female singer-songwriters" that led her to take voice lessons and teach herself guitar.

She toured along the West Coast for nearly a decade and released her first album in 2015. She joined the band The Seventh String in 2017.

She describes her music as "folktronica" — folk with electronic music production — and is inspired by tracing the European roots of her American heritage.

"Our ancestors' stories are shared through the songs," she said.

During her time in Europe this summer, she said she'll be "studying traditional and ancient music" with The Seventh String.

Her second solo album, titled "shape shifter," is available on multiple streaming platforms. To learn more, visit www.linktr.ee/fireflywaltermusic.

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