

The Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio

*From New Orleans Jazz & Blues to
Rousing Americana and Poignant
Folk*



Hailing from New Hampshire's Mount Washington Valley, the **Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio** are three musicians from three very different backgrounds, bringing their skills, quiet charm, and down-to-earth honesty to bear on songs that bring to life the sounds of the streets of New Orleans and the valleys of Appalachia and everywhere in between. They burst upon the national folk scene with the release of their debut EP, *Still She Will Fly*, whose title track was the #2 single on the Folk radio charts for the year in 2015. The trio's live performances feature Heather's multi-genre songwriting, their instrumental virtuosity, and their stirring three-part vocal harmonies. With their "traveling music store" of instruments, this trio delivers heartfelt music with brilliant musicianship, stellar three-part vocals harmonies, and earthy charm. Their latest CD, 2017's *Singin'*, debuted at #1 on the Folk radio charts and was the #11 album for the year. A new full-length recording is currently in the works and planned for a mid-2019 release.



Heather Pierson (*lead vocals, piano, acoustic guitar, tenor banjo, ukulele, melodica*) is an award-winning singer/songwriter, pianist, and performer. From New Orleans traditional jazz to blues to rousing Americana and poignant folk, Heather's songs and musicianship embody joy, honesty, and a desire to share from the heart.

Davy Sturtevant (*acoustic guitar, cornet, dobro, fiddle, mandolin, harmony vocals*) is a sideman extraordinaire and an accomplished singer/songwriter of his own, wielding both an arsenal of stringed and brass instruments and a gorgeous tenor voice. With wit and flair, Davy performs in a way that moves listeners to tap their toes, nod their heads,



Shawn Nadeau (*bass, harmony vocals*) is a self-taught phenom who brings an unassuming rock-solid foundation and a keen awareness to every moment of every song, informed by over two decades of wildly varying musical performances, from punk rock to reggae to jazz.

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Performances



With over 200 shows a year all over the US, the Acoustic Trio have performed at a variety of venues during their national tours and local appearances, including clubs, folk festivals, theaters, opera houses, performing art centers, schools, libraries, private concerts, and park concert series. Shows are generally promoted via press releases to local media, live interviews with radio, television and print media, local calendars, the Heather Pierson Website, newsletters, and social media - Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and the Heather Pierson Podcast.



YouTube Performance Videos

Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio - *Singin'*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oo0_Y_SAXU

Heather Pierson - *Good Girl Blues*

<https://youtu.be/K2MNEmVTuHY>

Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio - *Still She Will Fly*

<https://youtu.be/mkvWpPYXXog?t=51>

Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio - *Starlight*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qz37EDvyWJQ>



Heather, her Acoustic Trio, and her Jazz Trio also enjoy performing for local charitable events, Earth Day festivities, presenting a Holiday Show - Charlie Brown Christmas - and each year working with students at the New Orleans Traditional Jazz Camp (Heather is adjunct-faculty).



Charlie Brown Christmas Show

Heather Pierson & The Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio

Career Highlights

- 2019 – *Singin’* placed in Top 200 albums of 2018 – Folk DJ charts
- 2019–Honorable Mention – Family Folk Chorale Songwriting Contest
- 2018 – ‘Heart Songs & Circle Songs’ songbook and CD release
- 2018 – NERFA conference – official showcase artist
- 2018 – 2 Honorable mentions –UUMN’s Silliman Congregational Song Competition
- 2018 – Kerrville Folk Festival – main stage performer
- 2018 – New Orleans Traditional Jazz Camp – adjunct faculty
- 2018 – ‘The Heather Pierson Podcast’ debuts
- 2017 – *Singin’* – debut HPAT CD, #11 album of the year on Folk Radio
- 2017 – SWRFA conference – official showcase artist
- 2017 – New Orleans Traditional Jazz Camp – adjunct faculty
- 2017 – Old Songs Festival – main stage performer
- 2017 – ‘Musical Meditations’ project debuts
- 2016 – NERFA – tricentric showcase artist
- 2016 – Woodstock Folk Festival – main stage artist
- 2016 – New Orleans Traditional Jazz Camp – adjunct faculty
- 2016 – WFMT Folkstage – featured performer
- 2015 – *Still She Will Fly* – debut HPAT EP, #2 single of the year on Folk Radio
- 2015 – South Florida Folk Festival – main stage artist
- 2015 – FARM conference – official showcase artist
- 2014 – SERFA conference – official showcase artist
- 2014 – *Motherless Child* CD release
- 2013 – Finalist – SolarFest Singer/Songwriter showcase
- 2013 – *The Hard Work of Living* CD release
- 2013 – 2nd place – Broward Folk Club Singer/Songwriter Competition
- 2012 – *The Open Road* CD release
- 2012 – 1st place – New England Songwriting Contest
- 2012 – 1st place – Singing Against Homelessness Contest

Media Comments

"[Heather] has created a new trio that embraces Americana styles and gives it a new perspective. Blending jazz, folk, blues with three part harmonies and stellar instrumentals, this band turns heads!"

Ron Olesko | Sing Out! Magazine | WFDU

"One of my favorite songwriters of recent years, Pierson guides her trio through original tunes and choice cover songs that run the gamut from folk to jazz to blues. It all flows together into a cohesive whole through Pierson's quiet charm, versatile voice and multi-instrumental skills. Band members Davy Sturtevant (strings and cornet) and Shawn Nadeau (upright bass) add a lot to the mix, too. This concert previewed a few new songs that would appear on the album 'Singin', released in June, including the title track, 'Take a Deep Breath and Smile' and 'Sometimes I Can't Believe My Luck,' a humorous (in hindsight) tale of how life as a touring musician can go wrong."

Chris Kocher | The Press & Sun-Bulletin | Binghamton, NY

"Heather Pierson and her trio explore relationships, both human and terrestrial, in a rootsy vein on Still She Will Fly. On Motherless Child, she pursues blues themes via the jazz piano route. One exception to the blues motif is her interpretation of "Norwegian Wood." The beauty of its minor key treatment left me misty-eyed. Heather's bell-like alto lends itself well to both genres. Her overall virtuosity is astounding."

Richard Cuccaro | Acoustic Live NYC

"Heather's Trio gave one of the most entertaining, artistic, and engaging performances we've hosted in our 46 years! Their consummate musicianship, gorgeous vocal harmonies, and excellent songwriting held me and our full-house audience spellbound. Individually, the three of them are terrific. As a trio they are astounding... The walls of our little venue hold many wonderful sounds and memories. We've just added some of the best."

Dave Humphreys | Two Way Street Coffeehouse | Downers Grove, IL

"If you're one of those people who likes any style done well-- old-school jazz, folk, pop, classical--you'll love this prodigiously talented threesome. Keyboards, brass, all sorts of strings, and beautiful singing make for a dynamic show packed with energy and surprises."

Sarah Craig | Caffe Lena | Saratoga Springs, NY

"Heather is like two great acts in one, sliding from sweet acoustic Appalachian old-timey vibe with Patty Griffinesque lyrics to brassy New Orleans blues piano with a bone thrown to Bessie Smith."

DC Bloom | Lone Star Music

"Pierson joins forces with talented bassist Shawn Nadeau and gifted multi-instrumentalist Davy Sturtevant, who plays fiddle, cornet, dobro, mandolin, guitar, and banjo as well as providing worthy harmony vocals.

The album title provides the key, Singin'. Pierson's full, versatile, fluid voice combines maturity with freshness. She knows how to work her way around and through a song. While she penned most of the songs on this CD, for reference points she includes Dark as a Dungeon and (I'm) Confessin' (That I Love You). The songs range from bluesy to ragtime to straight-up contemporary singer-songwriter as Pierson, who plays guitar and piano, easily leaps between styles."

Rich Warren | The Midnight Special & Folkstage | 98.7 WFMT & nationally syndicated Magazine

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