

william pint and felicia dale



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music and myth of the sea



William Pint and Felicia Dale have boundless enthusiasm for creating music and sharing it with their audience. Critics have delighted in their recordings and crowds have listened, laughed, shed a tear and sung along with them wherever they have played.

With guitar, hurdy-gurdy, mandolin, violin, whistles, harmony, joy and pure energy Pint and Dale entertain and

perhaps enlighten as well, giving listeners an insight into another age. There is humor and drama on a great scale.

William Pint and Felicia Dale rank among North America's most exciting interpreters of music based in the traditions of the British Isles and France... unconventional but spine-tingling...unique and mesmerizing..."

Tom Nelligan, Dirty Linen Magazine

Their airtight harmonies, solid musical arrangements and flair for the theatricality of song make Pint & Dale one of the best duos around."

Woods Hole Folk Music Society, Massachusetts

The hurdy-gurdy or *vielle-à-roue* (a rarely seen and heard musical instrument dating from the 12th century) features a keyboard and a cranked wheel. It produces sounds similar to a bagpipe with drones, melody and rhythmic percussion. Traditionally used in French dance tunes, it is capable of a wide range of musical expression.

William and Felicia record on **Waterbug**, one of America's most respected independent labels. At this time they have recorded seven critically acclaimed albums: *Port of Dreams*, *Hearts of Gold*, *Round the Corner*, *When I See Winter Return*, *Hartwell Horn*, *White Horses*, *Seven Seas* and *The Set of the Sail*. Six of these albums are devoted to music of the sea, primarily traditional songs from the great Age of Sail.

A concert performance will include traditional and contemporary songs and tunes gathered from their many travels, songs and music from the rich heritage of the sea, and, of course, the inevitable hands-on hurdy-gurdy demonstration to a group of fascinated onlookers.

LETTERS

Dear William and Felicia...

"...Seriously, you were awesome! I don't know if you met my friend Tom who lives in Santa Fe, but he is one of the most jaded music listeners I know (we call him 'the guy who hates more bands than most people have heard of'), anyway, after I got you dialed in, I went to the back of the room to see how it sounded and Tom turns to me and just says, 'Oh my God!' He was so blown away by you two (as was I.) I've never heard a duo sound so huge, even w/ that cheesy little sound system you sounded like 10 people. I have to confess I had not heard your music yet before your performance, and I was so impressed, after forty top notch performances, it was you guys, *JPP* and *Vasen* that stuck in my mind.

Please send me your touring schedules ...I'll come see you if you're within a few hours drive, ...I'll tell friends and family to go see you elsewhere.

Thanks again for playing!"

Mike Cutler
Special Events Coordinator
Elderly Instruments Lansing, MI

"...It was great to hear you perform a few weeks ago down in the South Bay Area. I had driven down from Alameda, right near Oakland, a distance of about 65 miles. I'd drive twice that distance to hear you perform again."

Sincerely,

Dan Reilly, California

"...My husband and I heard you at the Tanglewood Nature Center here in Elmira and we thoroughly enjoyed every second of music! We purchased your *Hearts of Gold* CD, and wish we had purchased more. Jennifer, my 14 year old daughter, plays it quite often (even in front of her friends!)"

Mary and Gerry Curns, Elmira, NY

"...It was a pleasure to find you at the Great River Festival in La Crosse, Wisconsin this past weekend! Your concert Sunday evening was wonderful. Your voices blend so beautifully and seem to suit your tunes so well. You sing in such warm and friendly tones, the gentle songs are so comforting.

I tried to tell you that though I don't typically listen to traditional nautical music very often, I do enjoy them occasionally, especially "live" at festivals where I can watch as well as listen. I bought *Hearts of Gold* because you seem to give the music a special sense of warmth & familiarity.

What I enjoyed most of all, is the spark & twinkle in your eyes and the way your faces simply light up when you perform. It is so good to see people taking such pleasure in their work! I guess happiness can be contagious - you seem to lift one's spirits. You made me feel good. Thanks!"

Best wishes,

Mary Ann O'Reilley

LETTERS

Dear William and Felicia...

"...I wanted to take a moment to tell you how much my wife and I enjoyed your concert at Living Traditions in Anaheim on January 20th. I can honestly say I have not enjoyed an evening of music that much in a very long time.

Hearts of Gold is living in my CD player right now, I give it some rest by listening to *Hartwell Horn* or *Port of Dreams*. I have not opened the other two yet, but that's okay, there's plenty of time. The two of you have done a truly lovely job with this music. Well, once again, thank you for a wonderful concert."

[JP Andrews, Anaheim, California](#)

"...It's my pleasure to thank you on behalf of Kent Parks & Recreation and the Kent Arts Commission for being a part of the Summer Concert Series.

I love your music! You are both so talented, and the music you create together is truly magical. Even though our audience was smaller than I had hoped for, I heard more positive comments about your performance than any other Thursday concert. People really enjoyed it.

It's really a pleasure to host such fine musicians in our community, and you two are a treat to work with.

Thanks again for a great performance."

Sincerely,

[Tracey Wickersham](#)
[Kent Parks and Recreation](#)

"...I just wanted to write this letter to say how much I appreciated your music. My wife and I

will be sailing from Cape Town, South Africa, to Miami in a few months. It is a long trip and I started looking for some nautical music for diversion on the trip.

I found your music along with a number of others on the Wooden Ships internet site. I must say that yours hands-down is the best. Your choice of music arrangements, performance, and accompaniment is without peer as far as nautical music."

[Tom and Betty Lee Walker, M.D.](#)
[Mobile, Alabama](#)

"...We really enjoyed you in concert here in Spokane last Christmas. I felt you stole the show with your joyful music. I bought your CDs at the concert and we have played them until they are almost worn out...Will you ever be playing Spokane again? We hope so...Thank you for keeping folk music alive and well. Please do put us on your mailing list. We can drive anywhere in WA to go to your concerts. Also we are planning our vacation around your concert in San Francisco. We are both from the bay area. We will be looking forward to your new CD."

Sincerely,

[Linda and Michael Foster](#)



Kill date:

For Immediate Release

Haul Away, Oh!

If you can't hear the wind in the rigging when William Pint and Felicia Dale break out in song, then you're not listening. This Seattle-based duo will present a lively program of maritime music old and new on

Be prepared to sing along. Pint and Dale make it easy. Whether it's a familiar tune like "*Cape Cod Girls*" or a new rendition of "*Handsome Cabin Boy*," Pint and Dale relish the added vocals. "There are only two of us," Pint points out. "It's nice to fill out the choruses and make it sound more like it would have sounded on the deck of a working ship." Pint hails from Milwaukee, but found himself--and maritime music--while on sojourn in the Puget Sound area. There he met Dale, a sea captain's daughter. In the ensuing two decades the couple has performed around the world, collecting songs from the British Isles, the coastal regions of France, the Canadian Maritimes as well as the Northeast U.S. Nine albums to date showcase their powerful harmonies and dramatic instrumental work (guitar, mandolin, fiddle, penny whistles, and hurdy-gurdy); their songs range from traditional work chanteys like "*One More Day*" to ghostly ballads like "*Tryphina's Extra Hand*" to true tales of courage like "*Harbo and Samuelson*" who dared to cross the Atlantic Ocean in a rowboat.

One of the attractions of their performances is Felicia's hurdy-gurdy, an instrument dating back to the 12th century. It is basically a mechanical violin, but is played by turning a crank while fingering a keyboard! In Felicia's practiced hands, it can wail like wild bagpipes, bark like a mad terrier, or roll like a gentle swell.

The Washington Post has described their work as
"...thoroughly entertaining, beautifully crafted and colorfully evocative"

Sing Out! Magazine says,
"...You won't regret setting sail on a musical journey with Pint and Dale"

Dirty Linen! Magazine says,
"William Pint and Felicia Dale rank among North America's most exciting interpreters of music based in the traditions of the British Isles and France... unconventional but spine-tingling... unique and mesmerizing "

Come and share life at sea with them for a few spellbinding hours. The concert begins at _____

Contact person: _____

Telephone: _____





Felicia Dale grew up in an environment steeped in the traditional lore of the sea. Born and raised on Vashon Island in Washington State's Puget Sound, she spent her childhood sailing Northwest coastal waters and cruising Canada's Inside Passage. Her father was a sea captain who brought back tales and treasures from exotic ports of call. From her mother, a transplanted Parisian, Dale learned French as her first language and acquired a lifelong love for the songs of the French seafaring tradition. Felicia's first musical venture was a duet with another *Waterbug* recording artist Kat Eggleston when they were both sixteen.

Her exposure to the *vielle-a-roue* or hurdy-gurdy was first through several Seattle area players and then from a performance by the French group *Cabistan* while on tour at the Mystic Seaport Festival of the Sea in Connecticut. Upon her return to Seattle, she immediately commissioned an instrument from California luthier Michael Hubbert.

Felicia's striking vocal harmonies are matched by her creative use of the hurdy-gurdy and Irish pennywhistles, taking these traditional instruments far beyond their usual roles as she blends them into the texture of a song or departs on improvisational romps with equal ease.

William Pint was led astray into the folk world in 1970. The folk/rock sounds of *Steeleye Span* and *Fairport Convention* wooed him away from his early rock and roll influences (*The Who*, *The Kinks*, and *The Beatles*). This led to a growing interest in the more traditional, less electric music of such artists as Martin Carthy, John Renbourn, *The Chieftains* and the eclectic songs of the *Incredible String Band*.

In 1977, he headed west to escape the cold Wisconsin winters of his native Milwaukee and to pursue music. The salt air of Puget Sound and the rich, seafaring history of the Pacific Northwest soon led him to explore the songs and lore of the deepwater sailors. In 1979, with his band *Morrigan*, he recorded an album of Irish tunes and nautical songs *By Land or By Sea*, for **Folkways** Records. Along with composer Paul Ely Smith and Robert Kotta in the group *Ellipsis*, he investigated the unusual combination of minimalist, folk and classical music. **Flying Fish Records** released their 1984 recording, *Ellipsis* produced by the famed Irish musician Michael O'Domhnaill. The same trio also performed and recorded as *Copperfield*, a popular Northwest band specializing in traditional British Isles and Celtic music.

In performance, William Pint's emotionally expressive singing is complemented by his powerful guitar and mandola work with which he can supply settings of great delicacy or wild, driving rhythms.



Pint and Dale have performed at festivals and concert halls and folk clubs and live radio broadcasts all across the United States, Canada, England, Germany and Europe sharing stages with the finest artists of the folk music world including:



Martin Carthy
David Bromberg
John Gorka
Gordon Bok
Bill Staines
Kate Rusby
Stan Hugill
Louis Killen
Garnet Rogers

Tom Paxton
John Roberts & Tony
Barrand
The Voice Squad
Bob Zentz
Jez Lowe
Artisan
and more.

Previous ENGAGEMENTS INCLUDE:

UNITED KINGDOM
Festival of the Sea, Edinburgh, Scotland
Mersey Shanty Festival, Liverpool
Redditch Folk Festival
Festival of the Sea, Portsmouth
Festival of the Sea, Bristol
The Black Swan, York
Cecil Sharpe House, London
Warwick Folk Festival
The Fylde Folk Festival
Bromyard Folk Festival
The Four Fools Festival
The Broadstairs Folk Festival

U.S.A.

The Philadelphia Folk Festival
Mystic Seaport Music of the Sea Festival
The Texas Maritime Museum Sea Music Festival
The Acoustic Brew, Lamont, Pennsylvania
California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco
The National Maritime Museum, San Francisco
The Chicory House, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania
Bound For Glory Radio Broadcast, Ithaca, New York
River City Folk Radio Broadcast, Lincoln, Nebraska
Musikfest, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
The White Horse, Virginia Beach, Virginia
Lark on the Mountain Festival, Ashford, Washington
The Wooden Boat Festival, Port Townsend, WA
Bristol Renaissance Faire, Bristol, Wisconsin
The Kendall Whaling Museum, Massachusetts
Great River Music Festival - La Crosse, Wisconsin
The Fiddle and Bow Society Festival, North Carolina
among others

CANADA

The Calgary Folk Festival
The Lunenburg Folk Festival
Owen Sound Music Festival
Vancouver Winter Roots Festival

EUROPE

THE NETHERLANDS

The International Shanty-Festival - Workum,

GERMANY

The Am Ith Folk Festival

POLAND

Ilawa Shanty Meeting 99 Festival

The Jastarnia Festival

ESTONIA

Shanty 2002 Festival, Paide

IN CONCERT



BUZZ MAGAZINE

U.K.

While the rest of us may be addicted to beer, football etc, Jim Schofield is addicted to running Folk Clubs and a good job he does of it too. The Cross Keys is another venue under Jim's wing. I'm an infrequent visitor there, but it's always a good night. Pint & Dale were no exception

"a well balanced and precisely delivered set of songs that held everybody in the room enraptured."

hailing from Seattle, Washington State, USA, they specialize in songs of the sea, both traditional and modern. Now Uppermill is about as far away from the sea as you can get in this country, but on this occasion the tide was in and the waves were lapping at the door. Felicia Dale plays the hurdy-gurdy and William Pint a strange

looking guitar with some of the braces on the outside. These two instruments together with their voices and occasional Tin Whistle from Felicia were used to produce a well balanced and precisely delivered set of songs that held everybody in the room enraptured.

William's guitar style was exceptional, being able to change instantly from a strong driving rhythm to the melody without any audible seams. His voice was deceptively powerful for such a slight man. Felicia, no mean singer herself, is the first person I've ever seen play the Hurdy-Gurdy quietly and sensitively as a background instrument, although I suppose Jake Walton's work with Jez Lowe was in the same mould.

Together they produced as good a night in a Folk Club as I've ever had."

I started the evening with pen and paper poised, intending to make a record for this article. However when they had finished their final encore I still hadn't written anything down, I couldn't take my eyes off William's guitar playing.

I journeyed home from Saddleworth with 'Leave Her Johnny' ringing in my ears and looking forward to two years time when they hope to tour again. I'll be there!"

"Together they produced as good a night in a Folk Club as I've ever had."

RECORDINGS

THE SET OF THE SAIL

"Pint and Dale have command over a plethora of instruments and use them to great effect in backing songs in dynamic and encompassing fashion...These are two people with a firm grip on their material and their talent. They know what they want to do and are able to do it."

Roy Harris, The Living Tradition Magazine

SEVEN SEAS

The lyrics and music, combined with the strong, engaging voices of Pint and Dale, create a delightful aural and, yes, visual mix... This release is that good and deserves placement on the Best of 2004 lists.

Kevin McCarthy

Their voices and harmonies are strong and their rhythms tight, but the most distinctive part of their acoustic arrangements is Dale's spine-tingling hurdy-gurdy.

Dirty Linen

WHITE HORSES

"stronger than ever ...a wonderfully varied selection of songs"

Folk Roots

"...few modern interpreters of sea chanteys capture their spirit and energy as well ...some of the best saltwater music you can find."

Dirty Linen

HEARTS OF GOLD

Winner MegaGuide to CDs

'Best Folk Album of the Year'

"...a real treat for the ears ...William Pint and Felicia Dale take sea music to places it's never been."

The Canton Voice

"GREAT...Rousing... Haunting...Fanciful... Superb!"

Canadian River Music

"great sea songs sung in magnificent harmonies and bedecked in superbly expressive music."

FAO CASA Gazette,

Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

PORT OF DREAMS

"...One of the most wonderful nautical tapes ever to cross my deck...stands out for excellent sound as well as excellent music.

This comes with my highest recommendation."

Steve Winnick, Dirty Linen

RECORDINGS

ROUND THE CORNER

“...modern, harmonious and sometimes rocking, but always true to the saltwater spirit...”

DIRTY LINEN

“...their musicianship is stellar ”

Sing Out!

WHEN I SEE WINTER RETURN

“A splendid Yuletide tribute... sounds to warm the darkest winter’s night... Oh the whole album is enchanting; just go buy it and make this holiday season a special one!”

Victory Review

“...a jewel among the albums I have received and played so far this year from all of the record companies.”

Country Folk Radio Show

Buende (Germany)

HARTWELL HORN

“...songs that should keep you entertained for hours and hours...You don’t have to be a folk aficionado to like this album.”

G21 POWERSOUND

“...an amazingly full, energetic sound...”

Victory Review

