



Nanci Griffith, Lyle Lovett, Lucinda Williams, Hal Ketchum, James McMurtury, Robert Earl Keen all have one thing in common, the first time we ever heard them was at the Festival when they were finalists in the Kerrville New Folk competition. Our path to discovering new songwriters from around the world is the Grassy Hill Kerrville New Folk Competition which accepted entries through February 28. The concerts featuring the 32 that are chosen from a field of 600 - 800 songwriters are on the first weekend of the Festival, Saturday May 26 and Sunday May 27 from 1 - 4PM.

As the weather is giving way to warmer temperatures I'm sure that everyone is venturing out more and more. I certainly worked from my home more this year than ever before, and got a bit spoiled by it. The change in temperature is allowing the work at Quiet Valley Ranch to begin in preparation for the festival in May. The property is undergoing many renovations for the comfort and safety of the folks that work there and all that attend the Festival.

We are having a Kerrville On The Road Tour this year, scheduling concerts of Kerrville Folk Festival artists around Texas in April and early May. (There is also one at SXSW in Austin on March 14th at the famed Threadgill's South) The venues include Saxon Pub in Austin, Poor David's Pub in Dallas, Galveston Old Quarter (Texas Music Magazine), Anderson Fair in Houston, Coupland Dance Hall, Bugle Boy in La-Grange and The Hilltop Café in Fredericksburg. The dates and artists are posted on the website www.kerrvillefolkfestival.org.

February saw us once again in Kansas City to hear artists from around the world at the annual Folk Alliance International Conference. We attended panels

and even presented a few. We featured Kerrville artists in showcases, in particular our New Folk Award Winners. This year in attendance from 2017 were Letitia VanSant, Rachael Kilgour and Mia Rose Lynne. The number of artists that we hear in 5 days far surpass what we could hear in any other way and many of the artists that play Kerrville Folk Festival were heard for the first time at these conferences. A few examples on the 2018 line-up; Seth Glier, Twisted Pine, All Our Exes are from Texas a band from Australia, Sultans of String, The Crane Wives, The Accidentals...

The Music at the Mansion Concert Series season line-up is complete. This is the collaboration between Kerrville Folk Festival and Schreiner University presenting Festival Songwriters to the community of Kerrville all year long. You may view the schedule on our Facebook page. Just search for Music at the Mansion.

The opening concert was on February 9, next ones up are March 9 with George Ensle and Verlon Thompson and April 6 with Steve Seskin & Allen Shamblin.

At the Festival, in addition to the nightly concerts, we offer schools and workshops for Songwriters, Guitar, Harmonica and Ukulele and they are ready to accept registrants. World class faculty will be on hand to work with you for several days of sessions for any one of these schools. Specific information about each one is on our website under the Activities tab.

www.kerrville-music.com

The 2018 line-up includes:

FIRST WEEKEND

(Thursday, May 24 - Sunday, May 27)

- Heather Pierson Trio
- The Peterson Brothers
- Jon Brooks
- Pierce Pettis
- The Sirens of South Austin
- In the Round with Susan Gibson, Walt Wilkins and Michael O'Connor
- Drew Kennedy
- Jaimee Harris
- Trout Fishing in America
- Seth Glier
- Johnny Nicholas
- Ordinary Elephant
- Amilia Spicer
- John Gorka
- Mary Gauthier
- Johnsmith

SECOND WEEKEND

(Friday, June 1 - Sunday, June 3)

- Beppe Gambetta
- Sam Baker
- Eliza Gilkyson
- Big Thief
- The Honey Dewdrops
- The Crane Wives
- Warren Hood
- David Ball & That Carolina Sound
- Pike & Sutton
- The Brother Brothers
- Twisted Pine
- Joe Filisko & Eric Noden
- The Accidentals.

THIRD WEEKEND

(Friday, June 8 - Sunday, June 10)

- Son of Town Hall
- Bob Livingston
- SONiA disappear fear
- Brave Combo
- Bonnie Hearne
- Remembrance with Tish Hinojosa
- Shake Russell & Michael Hearne
- Bill Hearne Trio and Albert & Gage
- All Our Exes Are From Texas (from Australia)
- Sultans of String

And as always we will close with our anthem "Heal in the Wisdom".

Please take a look here or just go to our website, <http://www.kerrville-music.com>.

You can join our mailing list for updates and specials by going to <http://www.kerrville-music.com/> and filling in your email when prompted.

Tickets are at a discount online so just go to the website to join us for the 2018 Kerrville Folk Festival!!!

If you have questions and want to speak to a person just call us at 830/257-2600. Our offices are on Quiet Valley Ranch property where the Festival is held 9 miles south of Kerrville on Hwy 16.

Thanks for reading about the Kerrville Folk Festival in Heart Beat of the Texas Hill Country.

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Eliza Gilkyson
Photo by Philip Rosenthal



Heather Pierson Trio