

Matt Brown



Matt Brown is an engaging performer of American roots music. An accomplished multi-instrumentalist and singer, he performs toe-tapping square dance tunes, haunting banjo pieces, and a variety of songs from the blues to ballads. With an expansive repertoire and a wry sense of humor, Matt delights his audiences with a sound that is both authentic and inventive.

Thanks to a banjo-playing father, Matt grew up with roots music; attending festivals and listening to recordings of the early string bands. He began violin lessons on his fourth birthday, and was soon playing fiddle tunes on the instrument. He added the guitar and banjo in his teens, and started singing soon thereafter. He has had a number of influential mentors, including David Holt, Dirk Powell, Ginny Hawker, Bruce Molsky, Paul Brown (no relation), Charles Williams, Tracy Schwarz, Dick Swain, and Bruce Greene.

Matt Brown tours nationally as a solo artist. He has performed with Paul Brown, Rhythm in Shoes, Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble, and Flynn Cohen. Matt has appeared as a guest musician with Tim O'Brien, Uncle Earl, and The Wilders. He has performed at a variety of prestigious venues, including Millennium Stage at The Kennedy Center, Club Passim, the Annenberg Center, the Philadelphia Folk Festival, The Wheatland Music Festival, The Appalachian String Band Music Festival ("Clifftop"), The New England Folk Festival, and on Jay Ungar & Molly Mason's radio program, Dancing on the Air.

Matt's debut album, Lone Prairie, was recorded with Paul Brown on banjo and Beverly Smith playing guitar and singing. Matt's second studio release, Falls of Richmond, demonstrates his versatility as a solo musician and singer. Matt's new album, My Native Home, is a delightful mix of solo performances and collaborations featuring four remarkable guest artists: Tim O'Brien, Ben Krakauer, Brittany Haas, and Mark Schatz. The repertoire is from across the Appalachian south as well as Matt's home state of Pennsylvania.

Matt Brown has been on staff at The Colorado Suzuki Institute, The Swannanoa Gathering, and Southern Week at Ashokan. In addition to being a performer and a teacher, Matt is also an active producer, studio musician, and partner in 5-String Productions, an independent label specializing in acoustic music.

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