

Welcome to the TFMS pages...

The [Triangle Folk Music Society](#) is a non-profit [volunteer-staffed](#) organization formed in 1995 to present Celtic, Latino, bluegrass, singer-songwriter, blues, old-time, deep country, gospel, Cajun, Tex Mex and other ethnic and regional traditional music. Events and projects include concerts, workshops and lecture/performances, and this Web site with our [coming events](#), [past events](#), and a list of our [friends and neighbors](#) in North Carolina and on the World Wide Web.



(Like some folksingers we know, this collection of pages tends to ramble around, inviting hypertext digressions, but everything is connected and links back to this home page.)

TFMS Fall Concert Schedule



The season's concerts started out with gospel, labor songs, ballads, political songs, a touch of June in October, and now we have songs from a faraway place called Durham! (And your chance to write your own, too...) The **November 14** concert at the Skylight Exchange will be [Jez Lowe](#), author of "The Old Durham Road," "The Old Durham Waltz," and "Back in Durham Gaol."

The spelling of that last title, and the fact that the concert is co-sponsored by Triangle Music International, are hints that Jez is not from Durham, N.C. -- but he has been singing, writing and recording songs about his native Durham County in northeastern England since 1980. His songs have been recorded by Fairport Convention, The Tannahill Weavers, The Black Family and many others. He gets rave reviews from Britain to Boston and on to [Australia](#), where he toured earlier this year. [Rootsworld](#) has a few of those reviews online. He's been called "a fabulous entertainer, a warm-hearted communicator and a peerless chronicler of life in the North East," and his songs have been called "some of the greatest contemporary folk songs since early Richard Thompson..."



Back from the British Isles, **Peggy Seeger (Dec.6)**, singer, songwriter, instrumentalist, folklorist, author and activist now lives in North Carolina. She lived in Great Britain for 30-some years, writing and performing alone and with her husband Ewan McColl, who died in 1989. (His best-known song, "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face," was written for her.) She has also performed as half of the duo "No Spring Chickens" with Irene Scott.

"She doesn't call herself a folksinger but rather a singer of traditional and contemporary songs," according to one of her wonderful [Web pages](#). "She has one foot in the past and another in the present and is always walking towards the future." In 1995 Peggy and Jim Lloyd, a BBC producer, won the Sony Silver award for a 6-part series of half-hour shows in which Peggy talked about her life. Sibling of Pete Seeger and Mike Seeger, she is now back in the U.S., living in western North Carolina, and has just published a collection of 147 of her own songs.

[Peggy](#) has samples of her music linked to her Web pages, and a pile of records in the stores, so feel

free to get a head start on her concert. Her concert will be a rare chance to catch her in a small setting, the Skylight Exchange, on **December 6**.

Heading for the new year, the first-ever [TFMS Songwriters Contest](#) is on the agenda, with preliminary judging in December. To stimulate the muse, there will be \$600 in cash prizes, free studio time, gift certificates, and more. Entrants should be Triangle-area songwriters, and must submit an application, an audio cassette of two songs you have written or co-written, and a lyric sheet -- all by **December 15**. Applications and rules are available [right here \(click\)](#) and at Roots CDs & Vinyl in Carrboro, Poindexter Records in Durham, and the Skylight Exchange. For more information, call (919) 403-0028. For those of you who just want to listen, the final on-stage event will be Friday, **January 23** at the Skylight Exchange in Chapel Hill at 8 p.m.

So that's the fall schedule, and the New Year events list will be coming soon. You'll find links to other sources of music information farther along in the [TFMS Web pages](#) and Web sites we've just stumbled on, such as Festival Finder's [folk festival index](#).

(TFMS shows are usually at 8 p.m. at the Skylight Exchange, 405 1/2 Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, N.C. unless otherwise noted. For more information, please call 919/968-9600)

Advance tickets are usually available from 10 days in advance to 5 p.m. the day of the show at:

Chapel Hill: Monster Records, Skylight Exchange

Carrboro: Roots CDs & Vinyl

Durham: Poindexter's Records

Raleigh: Nice Price Books

About TFMS

The "Triangle" in our name is North Carolina's Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area, home of the Research Triangle Park (RTP) and [RTPnet](#), the community network that makes this page possible. Most of our concerts so far have been in Chapel Hill through arrangements with performance spaces including the Skylight Exchange bookstore/restaurant.

Our past seasons of concerts have included familiar and unfamiliar instruments (including Seleshe Damessae's literally triangular *krar* at the right), Irish music, blues, ballads, folksongs and tunes from all over by some performers who have been on our turntables for 30 years or more and some younger folks who've found their roots in traditional music.... We're keeping a series of online [scrapbooks](#) with the announcements of our past performers, including any Web links we located about them... from Ramblin' Jack Elliott to Cordelia's Dad and more...

Recent Shows

Our fall schedule got off to a rousing start with the **Whiteville Apparel Choir, September 20** at the Community Church on Purefoy Road, Chapel Hill. The choir members are textile factory workers and members of UNITE Local 1077 from Whiteville, N.C., where their on-the-job specialty is cutting and sewing men's suits. On stage, they specialize in well-crafted gospel and labor songs that are both

inspirational and empowering. Their sensational performance at the People's Music Network gathering in Durham in 1996 led them to a booking at Pete Seeger's Clearwater Festival in New York and inclusion in the soundtrack of a BBC/Discovery documentary!

In its TFMS concert, the Whiteville Apparel Choir lived up to its billing again. "I don't think that I have ever experienced that kind of emotional intensity on stage and in the audience at the same time," one first-time member of their audience said afterwards. "It was more than just stand up, clap your hands and sing loudly. There seemed to be vibrational freight train running through the crowd gathering momentum as the concert continued, scooping up anything in its path..."

June in October? [June Tabor](#) (Oct. 15) was named Vocalist of the Year so often that Britain's *Folk Roots* magazine retired the category and created a Hall of Fame honor for her instead. Reviewers use words like "haunting and powerful" to describe her voice. One says, "While many of her contemporaries generate excitement for daring to be more 'pop' in their repertoire and styling, Tabor instead uses understated drama and passion, a sometimes startling difference that secures her place as one of the most important vocalists to emerge in any musical genre." *Rolling Stone* has called June Tabor "one of the classiest, boldest and most respected folk singers in Great Britain."

Her TFMS concert was co-sponsored by -- and presented at -- The Arts Center in Carrboro. If you missed the show, you can still hear a few samples of her music and check for other appearances at her booking agency's [web site](#).

Be a part of TFMS!

Do you want membership information or information about volunteering, joining the board, or contributing vast quantities of money to the organization? [Nina](#) is the right person to talk to.

Do you want to suggest a folk musician to add to our schedule, get your publication added to the press release mailing list, write for booking information, or suggest additional concert venues? Contact [Steve](#), our booking coordinator.

Looking for a song to sing? A musician's biography? Or listings of other folk music organizations in the Triangle area and beyond? Check here:

[A sampler of folk music resources on the Web](#)

We've included local friends and neighbors, regional, national and international folk music connections on the Internet... including sites with audio samples of musicians from [Doc Watson](#) to [Albert Zamora](#)! Also, see the new [North Carolina Folklife Resources](#) page at UNC!

Web page comments, questions or suggestions of links? [Write to Bob!](#), who has long wished he was a [Blue Light](#) or within commuting distance of more [Frankie Armstrong](#) concerts, and who just stumbled on both of these old friends through [Rootsworld](#).

Last revision: 26 Oct 1997 by [Bob Stepno](#)
