

Marianne Payette Carter & Voyager



Travel the world with Voyager, a fresh and original voice in World Music. Midwest roots and travels to Bali, Morocco, Ireland, Jamaica, Mali, and India give Marianne Payette Carter's music a unique perspective and a rockin' world beat. In league with a coterie of fine musicians, (dynamic accordionist John Thompson, inspired banjo and slide guitar artist Leo Posch, and expressive world percussionist Derek Sharp) Marianne weaves perceptive lyrics and artful melodies with global rhythms and textures to form an uncharted cultural fusion that finds the common ground in us all.

Sometimes quirky, always eclectic, Voyager is adventurous, eloquent, and just plain fun.



Marianne Payette Carter: violin, guitar, and vocal

Marianne Payette Carter's music is inspired by her world travels but grounded in her Kansas roots. She believes travel fosters a cultural triangulation that creates a much needed understanding of self and world.

Raised in Wichita, KS, her interest in both music and travel began early and was encouraged by her parents. Later, while living in Australia, she began to send musical "letters" home to friends and

family translating her impressions and experiences there into song. Now, many years and travels later, creating and sharing her musical travel logs continues to be her passion. Her latest travels have taken her to central Montana, central Mexico, and the West African country of Mali. Marianne also tours her solo shows, presents World Music, American Folk Music, and Songwriting workshops, and teaches guitar, voice, and violin at **Prairie Music**, her studio in Lawrence, KS.



John Thompson: accordion and vocal

John began playing the accordion at the age of eight at the Marsh Accordion Studio in Topeka, KS back in the '60's. He has always enjoyed the diversity of styles in the accordion repertoire, and finds his broad scope of musical interests very useful in playing with Voyager. John studied tuba at the University of Kansas in the late '70's, and later received a degree in Culinary Arts from Johnson County Community College. Over the years he has taught accordion and played in a variety of bands with styles

ranging from Salsa to Swing. In his non-musical life John is a Certified Chef de Cuisine at **Maceli's Catering** in Lawrence, KS.



Leo Posch: banjo, mandolin, resonator guitar, and guitar

Leo's Grandpa's both played music for dances, barn raisings, and other social functions down in the Fredonia, Kansas area from the 1920s to the 1960s. Now, Leo continues that family tradition on stage by playing banjo, guitars and mandolin, but the musical styles he has chosen to play are a bit more

eclectic. Leo is seldom far from an instrument. Having gained a reputation as one of the best repairmen and builders of stringed instruments in the country, he splits his time between Voyager travels and his home shop the "**Versatile Workbench**" where he builds "**Wildflower Custom Instruments**". The guitar and mandolin that Leo plays on stage are instruments he made. The banjo, originally a 1930s era Gibson tenor banjo, has a new 5-string neck he made for it a few years ago. The National resonator guitar is also from the 30s.



Derek Sharp: world percussion and vocal

Derek holds a B.A. in music with emphasis in percussion from Washburn University. He has taught percussion privately for 21 years and likes chocolate ice cream with strawberries and almonds. He is often invited by music educators to be a guest lecturer on world music, ethnic percussion, and ethnomusicology. His love of teaching world

percussion has sparked performances and hand drum workshops at various schools, universities, and community centers through which he has organized drum circles for youth clubs, private functions, and at-risk youth camps. Derek is the owner of **Supersonic Music**, a retail drum and guitar store with locations in Topeka, KS and Lawrence, KS and he also builds and markets his own "**TreeHouse**" brand custom drums.

30 second PSA:

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Marianne Payette Carter & Voyager will be appearing at: