Goodybye to What's Up! Magazine

by Katie Ryoner

Today, we say goodbye to What's Up!, Bellingham's preeminent local music magazine since 1998. The publication, founded by Brent Cole, reflected the diverse music and art scene in Bellingham and the surrounding communities. Brent's passion for music and his dedication made the magazine the polished local treasure that it is.

Over the years, What's Up! has served as a word-of-mouth launchpad for local bands, as well as a space for up-and-coming journalists, photographers, graphic designers, and other creative types. The Bellingham community praises Brent for his work toward a more cohesive creative community, and this praise is well-deserved. But Brent's reply is a testament to his legacy: "I'm glad my community has served me just as much as I've served it. "My job was getting to cover local music," he says. "That's just a fantastic career. I couldn't ask for anything else." He's had a great job for 22 years. I can't complain at all.

If all goes to plan, What's Up! will have a send-off party, to quote Brent, "when we're allowed to." What's Up! is sure to go out with a bang, and it won't be one to miss, so consider attending when the details are announced.

And while you're thinking about the future, consider supporting local music. "Support local art. In particular, local music. I think it's really important," says Brent.

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The Microphones and Mount Eerie, represent the sound of the Pacific Northwest. Phil Elverum is an artist and human being who's given us some of our favorite songs. His music magazine, What's Up!, was born in the days before internet and newspapers were the only thing in town.

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Mariachi in Mount Vernon: Keeping the Tradition Alive!

by Joe Askay

The Lincoln Theatre, continuing in its efforts to bring virtual concerts to the Skagit Valley, featured a streaming concert by Mariachi Camarillo on Friday, October 16th, 2020. The group features traditional mariachi instruments: horns, violins, vihuela, guitar, and guitarrón. Members took turns singing in Spanish, and their harmonies were captivating. The group appeared to be quite skilled, and their performance was both entertaining and educational. The venue was filled to capacity, with many in attendance enjoying the music. After the performance, attendees were given the opportunity to buy tickets and merchandise, and many chose to do so.

Tell us how the mariachi programs have been introduced to school districts lately. Is this program seems to have started in California and is now gaining momentum.

I just finished this last year to expand the mariachi program at Mount Vernon High School. They have had a program with two classes at the High School and one at the Middle School. I taught mariachi in Wenatchee for 15 years and was recruited by Band Director at the Mount Vernon School District, to find out more about this traditional music and it’s local enthusiasts.

To a non-Spanish speaker, mariachi music is for every one, you think don’t need to speak Spanish to enjoy mariachi music. I teach the class in English, and we just sing in Spanish. Yes, it’s a folk music from Mexico that brings joy so the whole family can enjoy it.

Musical genres often cross-polinate and change with new generations. To what extent has this affected mariachi, especially now that young people are being involved in the school system?

Mariachi music used to be passed down by a family member to family members. Now that mariachi is taught in public education anyone and everyone can be part of this program. I see in the future there will be a hybrid of classic mariachi such as Cielito Lingo or Son de La Negra to songs sung in English and Spanish. I am just so proud that this new generation does not let this art form die. The youth will help make sure that mariachi music will live forever.

Are there classic bands, such as Mariachi Vargas, that listeners might investigate to sample mariachi music like wise, what new performers on the scene are making a name for themselves?

The standard of mariachi music is of course Ma- rachi Vargas, the best groups in the world, especially in Los Angeles. Mariachi Sol de Mexico and Mariachi Los Compadres are considered the gold standard for today’s Mariachi Groups. A big trend is that all performers, junior groups as much as professional groups, Las Angles and Mariachi Divas have shown that they can play at that gold standard also. They are both amazing mariachi groups.

Hoy Do Mariachi Camarillo get its start? Are there memorable performances you would like to share?

2000 has been a difficult year for musicians, live venues, and the whole music and art industry. I am very lucky that I can still teach music every day. But I know right now our community is looking at new ways to still have a concert. I have only been on the job for 2 months, I have worked with Roger from the Lincoln before with my Wenatchee Group. Mariachi Camarillo is from Camarillo, CA. They are my family group. My mom, sister and my two brothers are in the group and my brother Dominic is the manager. I told him about seeing if we can do a virtual concert. He got the group to record an hour show at the local high school. My brother Dominic and my brother Tony are both mariachi teachers in Oxnard, CA so they were able to record the concert and were able to send it to the Lincoln.

The other part, I was able to get our newly formed MVHS Folklorico team to do one dance to open the show. I also worked with our MVHS TV to help with the editing. I am so excited that people were able to watch this performance this past Friday. This concert was to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month which is from Sept 15- Oct 15.I thought this was a perfect way to end the celebration with a virtual mariachi concert.

This event was a win-win for everyone.

All the profits from the concert went to the Lincoln Theater to help them during these times of COVID. My students got to dance and perform in a big online audience. The whole Skagit Valley community had a bust about this concert. I have watched the video this past Friday night. This concert was to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month which is from Sept 15- Oct 15.I thought this was a perfect way to end the celebration with a virtual mariachi concert.

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The October 16 live performance can be found on the Lincoln Theatre YouTube channel. If you are interested in participating in future Lincoln Theatre live stream broadcast projects email Roger Gietzen at exec.dir@lincolntheatre.org.

The Groove Jazz Cat

By Andrew Vein

Paul Sherman is a musical giant in our quintessential neck of the woods. Perhaps owing to his impressive depth and breadth of style, he is one of the most prolific laymen in the Anacortes music community. Sherman played mandolin and bass with the Bella Luka Croatan Dance Ensemble for over 10 years, playing beloved deep cuts from traditional favorites like Rizo Dalmatinke.

Perhaps his most well-known group in this earlier period is River Talk. Sherman saw them perform in 1995 and immediately clicked with the band. The style was different from the straight jazz he had been playing, into WorldBeat, Latin Jazz, and Reggae. When the bassist quit soon after that show he was brought on until around 2003 when the band split up. Five years later Sherman helped to reform River Talk, bringing on new lead vocalist Jan Baxter. They produced the debut album “Flow River Flow” in 2010, and continued to perform at all the big local festivals and even played the Oregon County Fair.

After River Talk, Sherman played bass with Newton’s Law, a groove jazz ensemble, for a few years. Then, in 2018, he and virtuoso guitarist Gary Tobin split off to form the incredible super group, Cascadia Grove. They’ve got gouding saxophone/lowdown, keys, the whole package. Sherman describes it as sophisticated funk jazz, ala Herbie Hancock, Larry Carlton, and Stevie Wonder. Cascadia Grove has quickly become a local favorite for every kind of festival in Skagit County and beyond.

Over the years Sherman has also collaborated with several other musical projects. For over a decade he’s played with Ken Pickard’s Zydeco Explosion, a uniquely New Orleans’ blues/jazz dance style. Also, for the past 6 years he’s loved playing with Peter Jackson’s gypsy jazz/swing project Dogtail Swing. Finally, putting the fun back in “funeral” Sherman joins Ray Hines’ alt-country back Gertrude’s Hearse a few times a year.

I asked Sherman what he looks forward to once the country opens back up. He is excited to get back outside and enjoy the amazing energy of live music and dancing bodies. Cascadia Grove is also producing a debut album that should be done in 2021. Needless to say we too are looking forward to enjoying any/all of the music projects he is involved in!

To see live performance recordings of Cascadia Grove, check out their YouTube channel.
Chime Chat with Cherry

in the tradition of the great personal advice column, Show Chime presents Chime Chat with Cherry. Do you have a problem you need help with? Are you wondering who you can turn to? Cherry doesn’t just dish out advice, she peers deeply into your soul to find the answers within you. She also specializes in naming bands, boats, and babies. Send your query to Cherry at theshowchime@gmail.com!

DEAR MILLENNIAL:
Yes, but obsolete things often become desirable. There’s also this thing called nostalgia that kicks in hard core. If he’s willing to put up with pilates and Zen coloring (neither of which will probably ever conjure nostalgia), you might have to live with the fact. The kids can have them for tea parties. They’re handy for scraping ice off your windshield.

Dear Cherry,
What is a Tiktok? And do I need one? Every time I ask my kids they just laugh at me. — Not so lucky

DEAR FREDY:
I’m fairly sure it’s a brand of grandfather clock. Cherry is old too. • Mindful Millennial

Chime Chat with Cherry

Town Talk

by Correspondent

Naung Mai Thai restaurant is moving. The popular Thai joint is moving from its somewhat shoddy location on 30th and Commercial further north to 23rd and Commercial.

A pop-up cupcake shop is happening November 7th in the Johnson Manor store downtown at 702 Commercial. La-Ri-Mi Cupcakes, from the San Juan island, will have cupcakes for sale from 11am-2pm.

Is Amazon coming to Skagit Valley? Rumors swirled that Jeff Bezos’ evil tendrils are looking to wrap around a vacant piece of land north of newly appointed Skagit Business Endowment. The entire collection is accessible through the Manieri Endowment. Access music, audiobooks, movies, ebooks, comics, and more via our mobile-friendly interface. Sign up with your library card at hoopla.app/library.

KINNEALY KEYS MUSIC
Kennelly Keys provides instruments, supplies, software, one, two, or hundreds of performance space, personal parties, and weddings. Check their website at www.kennellykeys.com/locations/anacortes/ for updates on their operating schedule.

MANIERI JAZZ & SWING COLLECTION
The Anacortes Public Library features the Manieri Jazz & Swing Collection—specifically recorded jazz, big band, and swing music. The Manieri Endowment, the entire collection is accessible for check-out with your library membership. You can see what’s next online just check out curated picks. Visit the library website for more information and for jazz streaming services.

Chime Chat with Cherry

New Releases

From Karl Blu: Live From The Void
Perpetual Doom and Dear Life Records present Karl Blu. Live from the Void. Recorded in secret one early morning in late 2019, this one-time session captures new material, old favorites, covers, and traces of birdsong. Performed for an audience of zero, in an abandoned amphitheater somewhere on the East Coast. Released September 25, 2020 Perpetual Doom and Dear Life Records

From Lizzie Webber: How Does It Feel
Lizzie is proud to be releasing her latest single “How Does It Feel,” the title track off a new EP due in January of 2021. An anthem of gratitude, “How Does It Feel” explores the meaning behind feeling ‘safe’ and finding strength in yourself with the support of loved ones. All three songs were written in isolation amid the early days of the shutdown due to the pandemic; accordingly, this theme is explored throughout all three songs and focusses on what can truly be considered as a safe haven for all of us, and not just a momentary safe space.

Dear Cherry: I’m struggling to come up with the perfect song for the first dance at my pandemic wedding. Any suggestions? — Bridieza

Dear BLUZDAZIL:
It’s the End of the World by B.E.M. Is your veil a backwards face shield?

Dear CHERRY:
I secretly moved in with my boyfriend and things are going swimmingly but we have one major problem. He’s unwilling to get rid of his massive cassette collection, which takes up more space than me and my stuff put together. In fact, it keeps growing, and pretty soon I won’t have room to hold my weekly, socially-distanced, pilates and zen coloring gatherings! Besides, aren’t cassettes obsolete? — Mindful Millennial

Anacortes Music Channel

Do you know about the Anacortes Music Channel? One great pool of Anacortes music that really rocks—747! Each sound recording played at Anacortes Music Channel online radio has an Anacortes tie-in, a creative name, and distribution. Anacortes music is affected by or involves a person from our community. Tune in every day and night at anacortesmusicproject.org.

Music Resources


THE UNKNOWNS: Recording Studio: It’s an amazing place to record music. It sounds huge because it is huge. Our great collection of equipment and instruments plus the skills and familiarity with the space have made consistently great albums for people from all over the world who have traveled here to record. Email Nick Ah: nicholas@fonteefount.com

THE CONNECTION: Since 1997, The Connexion has been a family-run independent business providing Direct2Consumer sales, marketing, and I think she’s about 200 miles away? A great collection of instruments, festivals, concerts, fashion brands, musi- cians and bands, filmmakers, comedians, independent labels, food and wine. Headquartered in Anacortes, Washington, their great team provides white glove services to customers around the world. Learn more at TheConnexion.com.

GREAT WHITES: Missed your library? Check out Hoopla, a digital media platform provided by the Anacortes Public Library. Hoopla gives support from the Manieri Endowment. Access music, audiobooks, movies, ebooks, comics, and more. Check out one or two books on the user-friendly interface. Sign up with your library card at hoopla.app/library.

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Your support amplifies the music and musicians of Anacortes. In addition to the programming, content, and curation of the SHOW CHIME music calendar, AMP is committed to supporting the local musicians, developing a scholarship and mentoring program, continuing the development and collection of archives, past and present, and shaping exciting visual and audio experiences such as a space for our community’s very own radio station and music space. Your contribution is uplifting the culture of music in Anacortes and beyond.

Go to anacortesmusicproject.org and support the music culture of Anacortes!

AMP Swag for Sale

AMP t-shirts and stickers are now available! Support your local music scene by sporting some swag. Shirts and stick- ers can be purchased at AMP events or by becoming an AMP sponsor at anacortesmusicproject.org.

Stay In Anacortes

Coming to Anacortes for a show? Stay the night! Check out the range of options at www.anacortes.org/stay.

Get In Touch!

Want your music projects or shows mentioned on the Chime? Got a question you’d like to share? Please get in touch! theshowchime@gmail.com

Thank You!

Thank you to our sponsoring businesses, Mugy at The Red Snapper, Hal Sheny, and Ellis at The Brown Lantern, Nick and Lyn at Bikespot, Mark and Willy at Quesada Island, Rick Sabo at the Lighthouse Bar and Grill, Barrett Community Caring Project. Thank you Manieri board, Chris Reitell, and Keith Eyer at How To Wave. Thank you, community member sponsors; Laura Spehar, Victoria Melich, Patti Putman, Laura Damm, Terry Vivl, and JB Browne. Thank you to THE SAM Project for all they do to promote our causes. Thank you to Zack Wright of the Post- Art to Anacortes project for inspiring and organizing the artwork on our cover this month. Thank you, Laurie Rialcor, for editing and design. This November issue of Show Chime was printed by House of Cards, a Seattle based print shop. Card will be made possible by a grant from the Anacortes Public Library Manieri Endowment. Contact the Show Chime if you each month is a community effort! This issue was written, edited, printed, distributed, and read on the traditional lands of Samish, Skagit, Swinomish, and Puget Sound Salish peoples.