

LE BRUIT COURT DANS LA VILLE

Lisa Ornstein, Normand Miron, and André Marchand are legends of Quebec's traditional music scene. Fiddler Lisa and guitarist/singer André first met as bandmates in *La Bottine Souriante*, the iconic trad super group which kickstarted Quebec's folk music revival. Normand is a marvelous singer and accordionist who grew up surrounded by family musicians in Lanaudière, the epicenter of Quebec's folk scene. As a trio, *Le Bruit Court Dans La Ville's* music is deeply-rooted, innovative, nuanced, and spontaneous. André's meticulous accompaniment and gorgeous vocals complement Normand's pulsing accordion, grit-and-polish vocals and irrepressible spirit, while Lisa's fiddle combines soaring harmonies with fiery tunes until dawn learned over years of kitchen visits with old masters.

LISA ORNSTEIN

Fiddle virtuoso Lisa Ornstein is an outstanding interpreter of the traditional music of French Canada and Appalachia, blending compelling and inventive playing with impeccable tune choice. She's also a tune hunter, the rare kind of fiddler who sifts through all the many tunes she's learned at the feet of tradition bearers and pulls forth great gems that excite the imagination of her many followers. Befriended by North Carolina fiddle legend Tommy Jarrell while she was in her teens, Lisa quickly became an accomplished fiddler in the Round Peak style. A musical friendship with Franco-American fiddler Louis Beaudoin set her on a path to Quebec in 1978. When *La Bottine Souriante* – Quebec's internationally renowned traditional supergroup – invited her to join the band, Lisa's projected six-month stay began to stretch, eventually lasting a dozen years. Nowadays Lisa lives in Oregon and may be frequently seen at the Portland airport headed out for another *Bruit* reunion. Her performances are marked by finesse, passion, and stories which bring to life the people and places behind the tunes.

ANDRÉ MARCHAND

André Marchand is one of the leading figures in Quebec's trad scene. He began his musical career as a cofounder of *La Bottine, Souriante*, the group most responsible for kickstarting Quebec's folk music revival. As a guitarist, he basically defined how to accompany Québécois music, drawing inspiration from Montréal jazz, American folk, and Irish guitar. His melodious vocals, inventive guitar accompaniment, imaginative compositions, atomic-clock foot percussion, and wonderful sense of humor make him an irresistible stage presence.

From 1976 to 1990, André played all over the world with *La Bottine*. Since then, he has been a part of many well-known groups in Québec including the award-winning *Charbonniers de l'enfer* (an a cappella quintet which exploded onto the Quebec scene in the 1990s) and goodtime band, *Les mononcles*. He also has performed as a duo with American multi-instrumentalist and singer Gray Larsen. Nowadays, however, his first love is playing with *Le Bruit court dans la ville!*

NORMAND MIRON

Talk about the real stuff! Normand Miron grew up steeped in the traditions of his home village of Ste-Melanie, where traditional music and song were integral elements of daily life. Inspired by his grandfather and uncles, who were excellent musicians and singers, he took up the harmonica and the accordion at an early age. In the mid 1970s, he was in the inner circle of a group of musicians who started *La Bottine Souriante* and rapidly gained a reputation as one of the most respected and influential musicians of his generation. Many of *La Bottine's* best-known songs come from his vast family repertory.

Normand brings to the stage a musical grounding and a presence so full of life and joy that it is impossible not to get swept along. For the past twenty years, his dynamic singing and incredible musical swing on accordion and harmonica have enlivened some of Quebec's top traditional bands, including *Guignolée* in 1990, *Les frères Labri* in 1993, *Les Charbonniers de l'enfer* in 1996, and *Les Mononcles* in 2007. He has traveled widely with these groups in the U.S., Canada, and Europe, and is an accomplished performer, teacher, raconteur, and *bon vivant*.