

Winners Circle Art Gallery & Apollo's Lyre Presents *Live* the 2nd Grayling Concert of **Ann and Will Rowland**



Ann and Will Rowland began performing together in 2002 after several years of marriage and the blending of two distinctively different musical tastes. The process has paid off and gained them the admiration of their peers and audiences as one of the most respected husband and wife duos around.

From the Beatles to The Stones, and Cat Stevens to Crosby Stills and Nash, Will's musical background leaned more to Rock N'Roll; while Ann's ear was tuned toward artists like Nanci Griffith, Jimmy Driftwood, John Gorka, and Emmylou Harris; a stark difference in style and influence. From that, they've developed a sound all their own, which they call "Midwest Folk". There's no twang, or angst. It's an intelligent and tasteful combination of guitars and mandolin underscoring vocal harmony that is often so tight that it's hard to tell where one voice leaves off and the other begins.

Ann writes story driven songs that give listeners a peek into the stuff that makes up their life; simple pleasures, loss, faith, regret and love, and sings them with a voice that invites listeners to draw up a chair and stay awhile. Her relaxed comfort with the audience creates a connection that has been described by many as pure *magic*.

Ann's quiet nature is countered by Will's energy and sense of fun. It's most evident in performances where he gives meaning to "playing music". Yet his buoyant style and ability to bring the audience along for the ride doesn't get in the way of tasteful licks or his convincing, soulful voice. Equally skilled on guitar and mandolin, his deft touch lends just the right tone to the arrangements, without clutter.

Ann and Will have been repeat performers on many of Michigan's foremost folk stages, including Thumbfest, Noreast'r Festival, the Hiawatha Music Festival, Mama's Coffeehouse, Trinity House Theatre, and Blissfest. More intimate settings; house concerts, churches, coffeehouses and school groups, are favorites for Ann and Will, where they enjoy the closer connections with their audience and their ever-growing fan base.



"Ann and Will Rowland are two of the most seasoned musicians I've run across. Whether singing and playing a heart-wrenching ballad or diving into an earthy, up-tempo tune, Ann and Will have a sound that is always clear, pure and strong. I really love these two." - **Brad Aspey ~ Interlochen Public Radio**

"I applaud this talented couple for capturing the essence of each song and applying just the right production and attitude. It's refreshing to hear Ann & Will Rowland for their willingness to make an entertaining CD of songs they love - and you will love them, too." - **John Lamb ~ Singer/Songwriter www.springfed.org**

"Ann has written some masterpieces. The songs say so much with so little and the music matches the words beautifully." - **Chuck Brodsky ~ Singer/Songwriter www.chuckbrodsky.com**

"12 gems! Picture of You is pure delight. Beautiful melodies, engaging harmonies. Music that comes right from the heart. Don't miss this one!" - **Johnathan Rand ~ Author www.americanchillers.com**

"It's music that tells a story by two people who believe what they are saying in the song. Every song bleeds originality." - **Mike Reling ~ WMJZ FM Radio**

Saturday, Oct. 24th - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Winners Circle Art Gallery and Apollo's Lyre

203 Michigan Ave ~ Grayling, MI

Admission: \$10.00