

STYLGE

OUR 2010 RICHMOND
FOLK FESTIVAL GUIDE

WEEKLY



Echoes and Refrains

MUSIC FROM
ACROSS THE WORLD
AND THROUGH THE
GENERATIONS.



Sibirskaya Vechora

Fiddles and Oyster Shucking: DON'T MISS THESE

"I'm excited about some events we are doing this year that are unique to the festival," says Josh Kohn of the National Council for the Traditional Arts. "We have some things coming up that are a roll of the dice but I think they will be magical."

One of these unique events will be **"Fiddle Journeys: 400 Years of Tune Migrations,"** where four masters of the instrument from different regions and communities will meet to swap stories and songs. The stringed summit meeting will be a first for the instrumentalists in question — Brendan Mulvihill, Lester McCumbers, Charlie "Possum" Walden and Jim "Texas Shorty" Chancellor. "The performance will show how fiddle music has evolved in American hands and on American soil," Kohn says. "This won't just be a one-time workshop but a performance that will occur three times and change and evolve over the course of the festival."

As if "Tune Migrations" weren't enough fiddling about, the festival also will spotlight one of today's premier fiddle prodigies, **Benedicte Maurseth**. The Norwegian musician plays the Hardanger, a very special kind of violin with two sets of strings

that is unique to Maurseth's home region of western Norway.

Three other musical acts are helping to keep alive their cultural traditions. **Sibirskaya Vechora**, a quartet of Siberian musicians and musicologists led by Vladimir Dudinsky, will make its United States debut at the festival, performing traditional Russian and Siberian folk songs as varied as wedding ballads and war anthems. The group prides itself on involving the audience in its performances.

Otrov, a young band of Croatian-American musicians from Pittsburgh, is helping to preserve — and rejuvenate — the unique Balkan string band music known as tamburiza. Think of it as bluegrass music as played by traveling gypsies and you almost have it.

Andes Manta is four talented brothers from Hudson Valley, N. Y., who perform the energetic, transformative dance rhythms of the Andes Mountains. Fernando, Louis, Bolivar and Jorge Lopez can play more than 35 instruments, including the 6-foot-long Ecuadorian pan pipe known as the ronador.

Die-hard music lovers and seekers of the curious know by now that the festival's folk-life tents are where the action is. Curated by Jon Lohman of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, the Virginia Folklife Program plans two days of workshops called **"From Maritime to Mountain Time: the Coast to the Coal Fields."** A host of indigenous musicians will be on hand, from Northern Neck chantey singers to mountain bluegrass players. What Lohman calls the material-culture portion will feature working traditions of the Chesapeake Bay and the Eastern Shore, including sail making, boat building, menhaden-net mending, crab-trap building, Nansemond canoe building, muskrat trapping, decoy carving and, yes, an appearance by **Deborah Pratt**, the amazing Delmarva oyster shucker.

— Don Harrison



Andes Manta

"Fiddle Journeys"

SATURDAY
2-2:45 PM
Martin's/Union
First Market Stage

SATURDAY
4:30-5:15 PM
MWV Stage

SUNDAY
3:15-4 PM
MWV Stage

Otrov

FRIDAY:
8-8:45 PM
Altria Stage

SATURDAY
2:15-3 PM
Dominion Stage

SUNDAY
1:15-2 PM
Altria Stage

SUNDAY
3:15-4 PM
Dominion Stage

Benedicte Maurseth

SATURDAY
1-1:45 PM
Genworth
Family Area

SATURDAY
7:15-8 PM
MWV Stage

SUNDAY
1:15-2 PM
Dominion Stage

SUNDAY
3:15-4 PM
Altria Stage

Andes Manta

SATURDAY
12-12:45 PM
Altria Stage

SATURDAY
3-3:45 PM
Martin's/Union
First Market Stage

SUNDAY
1-1:45 PM
MWV Stage

SUNDAY
2:30-3:15 PM
Genworth
Family Area:
make and
play pan pipes.

Sibirskaya Vechora

SATURDAY
1-1:45 PM
Martin's/Union
First Market Stage

SUNDAY
12:15-1 PM
Dominion Stage

SUNDAY
2:45-3:30 PM
Martin's/Union
First Market Stage

"From the Coast to Coal"

SATURDAY
12-5:45 PM
CenterStage
Folklife Stage

SUNDAY
12-5:45 PM
CenterStage
Folklife Stage



Benedicte Maurseth