



# RICHMOND FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY

*Bringing the finest traditional folk music to Richmond, Virginia*  
The Richmond Folk Music Society is a not for profit organization dedicated to preserving and encouraging traditional folk music. From September through May, we present monthly acoustic concerts featuring a variety of traditional music styles.

**Saturday, March 27, 2010**

## **Jeni Hankins and Billy Kemp**

**Songs of Coal, Hard Living and Salvation**

**TICKETS \$12.00 in advance/\$15.00 at the door**



*“With exquisitely spare accompaniment and performances that are never rushed, Jeni & Billy’s harmonies harken to a lost time and reverberate with a rare honesty, as they inhabit the lives of miners, preachers, ramblers, lovers, and plain-living folks.”*

Acoustic duo Billy Hankins and Jeni Kemp will draw you into captivating narratives of heartache and hard living, of true life blues and unexpected grace. Images of coal & crowns, trash & trailers, and glass and gasoline recur, and Jesus and the Great Speckled Bird are never far off.

Jeni comes by her mournful, lonesome voice honestly. Born in the coalfields of Southwest Virginia, her singing has been compared to that of Mother Maybelle Carter and Hazel Dickens. Billy grew up with the sounds of Tin Pan Alley and his mother’s piano at home in Baltimore, but spent his weekend nights high atop a hill in the nearby community of Oella — the home of Appalachian migrants who came to the city looking for work in the mills. Fired on by dreams of the Grand Old Opry and his passion for the sound of Flatt & Scruggs, Billy headed to Nashville and toured with country bands all over the US, Canada, Germany, and right onto the stage of the Opry.

### **JENI’S TRIP AROUND THE WORLD QUILT**

This year Jeni & Billy will be touring in the USA, Canada, and the UK with a new CD, *Longing for Heaven*, due out at Easter! As part of the tour they are giving away a three song CD, *Pretty Fair Miss*, to any audience member who brings Jeni a piece of fabric. Jeni says *“In November, Billy and I will be heading to the John C. Campbell Folk School, where he will study woodworking and I will study with the famous North Carolina quilter Georgia Bonesteel. So, every piece of fabric we collect will become a part of a quilt that will remind me and Billy of all of the kind people we have met and the beautiful places we have visited in 2010”*. Learn more about this project at [www.thelittleyellowsewingbox.com](http://www.thelittleyellowsewingbox.com).

Concerts held at Congregation Or Ami, 9400 W. Huguenot Rd., Richmond, VA. For more information or to purchase/reserve tickets visit [www.richmondfolkmusic.com](http://www.richmondfolkmusic.com) or call 804-647-7856. Doors open at 7:15, concerts starts at 8:00. Light refreshments (coffee, tea and cookies) will be available.