

ROBIN SPIELBERG'S AMERICAN TAPESTRY

Ensemble bios

Robin Spielberg (piano/composer/arranger/backup vocals) is one of America's most beloved pianist/composers. A prolific composer, Robin has been winning the hearts of listeners around the world with her compelling melodies and sensitive piano technique since debuting her first recording of original solos for piano, "Heal of the Hand."

Spielberg has sixteen recordings to her credit and appears on over 40 compilations around the world. Her discography includes albums of original piano solos, arrangements of American standards, original pieces for piano/ensemble, recordings for the holidays, a CD of Americana melodies, and a CD of lullabies.

Robin formed the American Tapestry trio after recording her concept-album "**Sea to Shining Sea: An American Tapestry of Music**". Her 16th CD, she describes the recording as containing "the songs that shaped us, the songs that live within us, the melodies of America" The CD contains music arranged for piano & ensemble, and features American Tapestry members Kate MacLeod and Catherine Bent.

Spielberg is a member of the prestigious Steinway Artist Roster. She is the recipient of the ASCAP Popular Music Award, and a finalist in the Great American Song Contest for penning "I Remember You" with Dave Goldman.

Popular with Asian audiences, Robin has released two CDs in Korea and is on several compilations on Asian labels. She has toured in South Korea making concert appearances at the renowned Seoul Arts Center, LG Arts Center and KBS Hall. She recorded a special concert for Airiang TV which aired throughout Asia. Many dance works have been choreographed to her music including ballroom waltzes on both PBS' "Great American Ballroom Challenge" and BYU Ballroom Dance Team presentations.

Robin Spielberg is serving her fourth term as Celebrity Spokesperson for the American Music Therapy Association. Her work with music and wellness has been documented in The New York Times and in segments on *LifeTime Live* and *ABC News*. *Beautiful Dreamer* was hailed by Child Magazine as one of "The Best of 2000", and also earned accolades in Parenting and The Washington Post.

Spielberg has toured from Maine to Florida, New York to California and every place in between. Highlights include three performances at Carnegie Hall, a month-long tour through rural Montana and Idaho (with Steinway in tow) and appearances on NBC, CBS & PBS television.

Ms. Spielberg graduated with high honors and a BFA from New York University. She is a founding member of the Tony-award winning Atlantic Theater Company. She resides in rural Pennsylvania with her husband/business partner, their thirteen year old daughter and four cats. www.robinspielberg.com

Catherine Bent (cello/hand percussion) English-born and New York-bred cellist and composer Catherine Bent divides her time between Boston and New York City, where she is an active freelancer. A musician of great stylistic breadth as well as depth, she has toured with Cirque du Soleil, played on Broadway in “Les Miserables” and “Cats”, and been principal cellist of the One World Symphony. Catherine has performed live and on TV with Kanye West, Greg Osby, Lee Konitz, Joe Jackson, Donna Summer, Enya, Anthony Braxton, Dafnis Prieto, Palm Beach Opera and Merce Cunningham Dance Company. Her cello has been featured in commercials for Jameson’s, Xbox, AmEx and Clorox. Among her recording credits is Robin Spielberg’s 2010 album “Sea To Shining Sea”, and she plays cello and hand percussion in the trio American Tapestry with Robin Spielberg and Kate MacLeod. Under the name Sweet Spot Strings, Catherine writes, records and produces string arrangements in collaboration with various artists (www.sweetspotstrings.com). She also directs the New England-based, Axis Ensemble (www.axisensemble.net).

Catherine is Assistant Professor of Ear Training and Adjunct Professor of Strings at Berklee College of Music. She has created a series of workshops in string improvisation to elementary and high school students, and teaches all ages in her studio. Catherine earned her Bachelor’s Degree in Music at Vassar College, and her Masters Degree in Jazz Studies at New England Conservatory. Catherine currently writes and performs her own music, with influences from jazz, European and Brazilian music.
www.catherinebent.com

Kate MacLeod (fiddle/guitar/vocals) Through many years as a performer of traditional music derived from Europe and North America, and with a pedigree of ancestors who began immigrating to North America in 1632, Kate MacLeod personifies the vision of Robin Spielberg's American Tapestry. Here, Kate performs as vocalist, guitarist, and fiddler. With innate sense for American folk song, Kate's vocals, accompanied by her acoustic guitar playing, express the poignancy of traditional songs with unaffected charm. Her violin playing has been steeped in genres that range across Classical, Celtic, Klezmer and Bluegrass. Kate adeptly incorporates this wide range of musical experience into a sound she has made her own. In addition to being recognized as an interpreter of traditional music, Kate is known as a composer of songs that constitute a natural and unbroken link between traditional music and cutting-edge contemporary songwriting. Kate has been hailed as one of the “Ten Acts to Watch” by the editors of The MusicHound Folk Essential Album Guide. Her latest solo recording, 'Blooming,' was produced by grammy-winning roots musician Tim O'Brien; and her 2011 release, 'Lost and Found,' has been among the top ten on the International Folk and Bluegrass Radio airplay charts. Kate's songs have aired on nationally syndicated radio shows including Tom May's “River City Folk,” Judy Collins' holiday program, “Peace on Earth,” and have been sung by other artists on “A Prairie Home Companion.” Her songs have been recorded by other musicians from California to the Czech Republic. Her recordings are available through Waterbug Records and Wind River from Folk Era Records. Originally

from the Washington, D.C. area, now she is based in Salt Lake City, Utah.
www.KateMacLeod.com.