Patchwork In CONCERT LIVE!

"Stunning, soaring vocals—This group is a crowd pleaser every time!"
Bill Hutchinson, Cultural Affairs Entertainment Director, City of Gainesville.

"Patchwork is a Florida treasure of no small magnitude."
Scott Barnes, concert reviewer, Moon magazine.

"Patchwork is the best of a few worlds…I am so glad you are there for me to listen to after a hard day's work—thank you!" Sean S., listener and R.N.

"Patchwork has it all going on: impeccable musicianship, great songs, creative arrangements and the sterling harmonies of women who have shared life, music and friendship for over two decades. Their high spirits and passion for life effervesces and flows through their music, infusing their audience. These charismatic women leave you humming along and tapping your feet long after the last note has been strummed. We'd book 'em in a Minnesota minute." Greg and Kiki Webb, hosts, Saturday Cafe Concert Series, Longville, Minnesota

"Great harmonies--and lots of good old-fashioned musical energy! Loved having them on the show." Bill Dudley, host, Community Radio WMNF, Tampa

Available for concerts, festivals, conventions, schools, museums, dances and other events throughout the Southeast.

Cathy DeWitt: guitar, piano, vocals
Jolene Jones: mandolin, harmonica, vocals
Janet Rucker: guitar, banjo, vocals
Annie McPherson: acoustic bass, vocals
David Cook: dobro, guitar, mandolin

Patchwork is a group of five flat-pickin', fiddlin', family friendly musicians who love crossing musical boundaries. Blending the old with the new, this talented group uses an acoustic string band format to play bluegrass, country, classic rock, folk, rhythm & blues, jazz and swing -- all with extraordinary vocal harmonies.

Patchwork's unique **GirlGrass** sound is rooted in their incredible vocal blend, along with creative arrangements and unique treatments of an eclectic assortment of songs: from Duke Ellington to Dolly Parton, from the Beatles to Cindi Lauper, from Bill Monroe to Billy Joel! After singing and playing together for more than 20 years, these girls just want to have fun, and they make sure everyone else has some too. Each member plays professionally in a variety of musical settings and genres, adding their own unique talent and flavor to the mix.

With the intricate harmonies and sisterly rapport that can only come from years of singing together, Patchwork's performances are a delight to see and hear. They bring a spirit of camaraderie, humor and joy to their shows, often inviting audience members to sing along, and children to join them onstage. For music that makes people feel like kickin' up their heels while managing to impart a fondness for family, fun, and fiddles, Patchwork is an unbeatable combination!

The band plays at festivals, concerts, special events, museums, libraries and schools, and has been recorded for radio and television several times. In these troubling times, Patchwork is, as reviewer Scott Barnes put it, "a treasure of no small magnitude", bringing people together, broadening musical horizons, and celebrating community.

Patchwork.us • info@patchwork.us • 352-494-4731

Cathy DeWitt

An eclectic musician whose roots branch out from classical and folk music to jazz, Cathy plays piano and guitar and sings. Her original compositions on the Patchwork songlist include "The Waves Roll In," a winner in the 1999 Gamble Rogers Song Contest. She has played throughout the country, in the Virgin Islands and the U.K. She performed with Florida legend Will McLean and and has sung with Tom Paxton, Garrison Keillor, Dale Crider and others. She hosts "Across the Prairie," a popular folk music program on WMBT-The Wombat and was the Senior musician in residence for UF Health Arts-in-Medicine for over 20 years. Some of her awards include Gainesville Musician of the Year, National Penwomen award, Unisong, and the Stetson Kennedy Mother Earth and Fellow Man Award.

Jolene Jones

A graduate of the University of Florida's music program, Jolene is in demand for her wide vocal range. Her soaring harmonies, soulful harmonica, and rhythmic mandolin playing are a distinctive part of Patchwork's sound. She has performed in several local bands, as well as in the University of Florida production of "Madame Butterfly." As a former music teacher, she has presented various workshops at festivals and schools throughout the area, and her high-harmony vocals have graced many a studio project.

Janet Rucker

A multi-instrumentalist who plays guitar, piano, bass, and banjo, Janet is best-known for her distinctive voice, described by one producer as "fragile, yet powerful; vulnerable, yet confident." A veteran of countless bands, she is in high demand as a session singer at local recording studios. Her original songs compose a large part of Patchwork's repertoire, and her "Florida Home" was recently one of the winners in the Will McLean Best New Florida Song songwriting contest. She performed in the Hippodrome State Theatre's 1987 production of "Hair," and before forming Patchwork she toured the festival circuit from Colorado to Atlanta to Florida with her band, Country Love.

Annie McPherson

Annie grew up playing music and singing, influenced by her mother who was a trained vocalist and piano player. An eclectic musician, she won 2nd place in mandolin and 2nd place in beginning banjo at the Old Time Music Championships in 2001, and started playing acoustic bass with Patchwork in 2006! She also sings, plays piano, and loves to play bluegrass, old time, swing and country. Annie was one of Whitey Markle's Swamprooters, and now plays in the jazz group Bella Luna, and with bluegrassers Boilin' Oil.

David Cook

David Cook grew up in Texas playing the organ at church. He went on to play pedal steel and guitar with Marcia Ball and appeared with her band on the first Austin City Limits. He is a multi-instrumentalist who plays piano and all types of guitars, dobro, and the mandolin. He has been teaching music in Gainesville since 1986, and is the proud father of two musical proteges, Andrew and Elena. He plays classical, country, bluegrass and jazz standards. Besides playing in Patchwork he currently plays with The Shambles and Bella Luna.

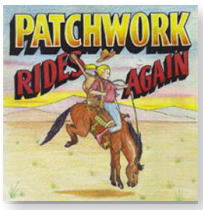
Patchwork Performance History

Patchwork has added their unique sound to all kinds of special events, including Octoberfest, arts festivals, folk and bluegrass festivals, live television shows and concert series. Performance venues include: the Appleton Museum in Ocala, the Cummer Museum in Jacksonville, the Museum of Natural History in Gainesville, the Menello Library in Orlando, Brick City Arts in Ocala. They've played special concerts in Jacksonville, Tampa, Avon Park, White Springs (the Telford Hotel), Clearwater and St. Petersburg. They are regulars at the Sunday Sampler in Dunnellon, the Will McLean Festival in Dade City, and the Florida Folk Festival in White Springs, the longest continuously running folk festival in the country.

The group has been broadcast live several times on PBS television, NPR and Florida Public Radio, and was the subject of a television show for Orange TV in Orlando. Their professional ease onstage, instrumental prowess, and beautifully blended voices have made them a favorite at festivals and other special events throughout the state, from Tallahassee to Tampa to Titusville. They opened for Rosalie Sorrels, Rosanne Cash, Doc Watson and Bill Monroe; and shared the stage with John McEwan, Emmy Lou Harris and John Hall. They donate their time and talent to benefit educational events, community causes, arts organizations, and healthcare programs like Stop Children's Cancer, the American Heart Association, and Shands Arts in Medicine in Gainesville.

Discography

Patchwork! Live in Concert



Patchwork Rides Again

Patchwork On Track