

Contabile Fortean



1-3 February 2002

Hilton International Hotel, Basingstoke

Progress Report 1

Introduction

Welcome to PR1 for Contabile Fortean, the 14th annual British Filkcon. We'd intended to get PR1 out "Real Soon Now", and according to our calendar Real Soon Now fell on today (at least this time around). This PR will introduce you to our guests and provide some other details, including a membership form and payment details. If you've signed up already (and you're listed on the back page), we thank you, and can we suggest that you pass the form onto someone who hasn't signed up yet? Duplicate the forms as needed, or just include the information requested when you mail your registration. The next PR will include hotel booking information and more on programming, but please feel free to contact the committee now if you'd like to request a slot or if you have any suggestions you'd like to communicate.

Kristoph Klover & Margaret Davis

by Seanan MacGuire

Between the two of them, Margaret Davis and Kristoph Klover have almost forty years of experience in the world of music. Fortunately for the rest of us, it's been split into two diverse forms: Margaret, harpist, flautist and soprano vocalist, with a voice so pure that it startles and amazes the first time you hear it, and Kristoph, whose talents lie in the guitar, the mandolin, the oboe... and a rich, joyful tenor tone that can rouse you to laughter or to tears. Together, they are a powerful force of music, making melodies that will stay with you for years.

Margaret Davis was born and raised in Illinois, where she graduated from Knox College with a degree in Music. Along the way, she found the time to acquire professional training in flute and recorder. Following her arrival in California, she studied with world-renowned voice coach Lillian Loran, perfecting the soprano trill which has regularly enchanted those audiences fortunate enough to hear her in any of her numerous musical incarnations. She has been the lead vocalist and harpist for the medieval band Gai Saber, and performed as a solo vocalist with the Renaissance music group The Brass Menagerie. She also does

elaborate illumination and calligraphy work, bringing simple words to life with a visual poetry that only accents what it describes.

Kristoph Klover was born in California, and, with the exception of a brief period in Utah, has lived there for most of his life. He has never completed a formal degree (and is extremely proud of this fact), but has become a teacher of guitar and voice, as well as one of the foremost sound engineers in the filking community. His work has highlighted artists from Cynthia McQuillin and Dr. Jane Robinson to Kathy Mar and Bob Kanefsky. Somewhere in the middle of all this, he found the time to study vocal technique with James Schwabacher and Edwin Barlow, perform with the Marin Opera, and be a part of Dr. Jane's band, the Primordial Ooze. On the side, he has been helping to develop a duet called Spiny Norman, featuring what he calls his 'strange guitar sounds'. Most of the original material that Margaret and Kristoph perform together is of his composition.

Margaret and Kristoph have made music together in a variety of guises. As a major part of the bands Magic Fire and Avalon Rising, they have shown their skill at Celtic rock; performing with Four Shillings Short and the Celtic/Medieval band Broceliande, they have proven to be adept at more traditional forms as well. Kristoph lived for a time with author Marion Zimmer Bradley; perhaps that is why it came as no surprise when he and Margaret recorded "The Starlit Jewel", an album of Tolkien songs, including the musical settings which had been written by Marion herself. Together, they provide a perfect blend of the earthly and ethereal, making it hard to resist them.

When you listen to Margaret and Kristoph perform, you can expect not to know what you'll be hearing next. Their repertoire ranges from simple, almost pristinely traditional, ballads to French poetry set to original melodies, then back through modern rock and jazz to achieve a delicate sort of fusion that is very hard to describe -- really, it should be experienced directly, preferably several times to make sure that you've grasped the whole effect.

Margaret and Kristoph were married in 1991, and are looking forward to their tenth wedding anniversary. They currently live in the San Francisco Bay Area, sharing their home with a wide variety of cats and musical instruments.

Roger Robinson

by Brian Ameringen

Roger was born at an earlier age than most of us - he had to be, in order to cram so much in.

He started his working career in computers before many of us had even been introduced to our hot dinners, and will still talk about programming machines we've never heard of, using sophisticated technology like punched cards and Fortran (paper tape rolls are for wimps)!

He joined the Norwich SF group and hung around for a couple of years before his pun-gent wit (and a job opportunity) brought him to The Smoke. To the everlasting, um, something, of Fandom, he introduced Robert Lionel Fanthorpe in return.

He was involved in the Becon series of conventions in the 1980's and founded his Publishing Empire on the back of Speciality Convention Publications, Checklists and Bibliographies (ask him for his stock list). This enterprise has been aided by a couple of redundancy pay-outs which have fuelled his massive expansion programmes.

He published the series of Drabble Books, and contributed also, but only in episodes of 100 words each. And in the words of John Clute, his bibliographic work 'aspires to a greater methodological sophistication than is often found in SF scholarship'. He's been involved with Fannish games and quizzes since the beginning, both as a competitor and quizmaster, but in recent years has been known as a professional Quiz Competitor, and star of stage, er, podium, and screen. He's also well known as a collector of British SF Magazines, Children's SF Literature, pseudonyms, signatures and reference material, and he's always willing to lend a hand with researching the solution to interesting questions.

He's been involved with British Filk from the earliest days, preferring to use the might of his Publishing Empire to reproduce and disseminate some of the more scurrilous ditties - but kindly does not usually assault your ears or sensibilities with creations of his own. As an Auctioneer, he is well known for his ability to extract the contents of a silk purse in exchange for a sow's ear...

Overall he's a useful and helpful person to have around and if you see him in the bar, just go over and intone the mystic quatrain "Would you like a drink, Roger?"

Memberships

Please check the membership list on the back page. If you're not a member and you'd like to be, please fill out the form on the bottom of this page and follow the directions appropriate to your country. If you're already a member, thank you! Why not pass the membership form on to a friend? Membership rates until the end of the year are:

	UK	Germany	US
Waged attending	£25	75 DM	\$35
Unwaged attending or			
Waged supporting	£12	36 DM	\$17
Children aged 5 or under,			
or stuffed toys	£1	at door	at door

UK Attendees

Please make your cheque payable to Contabile-14. Send the cheque and membership form to:

Contabile-14
34 Star Road
Isleworth
MIDDLESEX, TW7 4HB

German Attendees

Unsere deutschen Teilnehmer senden die Anmeldung bitte an obige UK Adresse und können in DM auf Rika's deutsches Konto überweisen:

Kontoinhaber: Erika Koerte
Kontonr.: 1045 / 881834
Bei: Hamburger Sparkasse
BLZ: 200 505 50

Bitte unbedingt bei "Verwendungszweck" alle Namen & C-14 angeben!

US Attendees

Please make your check payable to Janet Maughan, and send the membership form and check to:

Janet Maughan
2138 Buhl Avenue
North St. Paul, MN 55109

All others

Virtual memberships are available if the other options aren't available to you. Please fill out the registration form and send it to either the UK or US address, to let us know that you plan to attend.

Membership Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL (if available): _____

BADGE NAME (if required): _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (circle one):

Waged attending / Unwaged attending / Supporting / Child

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

The Hotel

Our host for the weekend will be the Hilton International in Basingstoke. This is a modern built hotel on the edge of town. This hotel was used previously for XIlophone and so many members of the convention will remember it, hopefully fondly.

For those of you who were not at XIlophone or who, like me, have trouble sorting one hotel from another after any length of time here are a few details on what we will have available to us. The main function room is rated for 100-150 people and has a lobby area suitable for siting the dealers' tables. There are a further 10 function rooms ranging from 20 to 70 in capacity. It is our intention to have at least one of the smaller rooms for workshops and smaller circles. If finances allow, additional rooms will be booked and made available for small circles or rehearsal space. The hotel offers an impressive array of bar food and has added a coffee and pastry bar to the main lounge area. In addition to explaining how much beer a filkcon can drink, the committee is endeavouring to explain to the hotel how many chocolate cakes and pastries a filkcon can eat. For the more athletic the hotel has a small gym and pool.

The hotel does not have a lift but a number of rooms are available on the ground floor for those who do not want to deal with the stairs. All function space is on the ground floor. The room rate will be £35 for half a twin or double room with a £10 supplement for single rooms

Contacting Us

Snail mail:

34, Star Road, Isleworth, MIDDLESEX, TW7 4HB

Email:

contabile-14@filk.org.uk

Web:

<http://www.contabile.org.uk/>

Members

Current Membership List (sorted by surname but showing only badge name if one was indicated)

Lissa Allcock	Square Bear
Philip Allcock	Janet Maughan
Kate	Robert Maughan
Andrew Barton	FanTom
DJ	Erica Neely
Marion	The Magician
Chris Bell	Nigel
Brian Biddle (supporting)	David Peek
Dawn Everett Biddle (supporting)	Alisdair Prett
Catherine Biddle	Jessica Prett
Jenny	Rick
Alan Cash	Wendy
Janet Cash	Nicky
Keris	Mike Richards
Rafe Culpin	Alison Richards
Lawrence Dean	Tony Rogers
Caitlin	Songbird
Miki	John Stewart
Katy	Barbara Stewart
Sue Edwards	Kirstin
Simon	Volker
Talis	Teddy
Brian Flatt	Melusine
Martin GK	Rufus
Andy	Maeve
Gwen Funnell	Peter Wareham
Rowan	Heike
RickH	Thomas
Christine Hintermeyer	Kathy Westhead
Ju	Mike Westhead
Valerie	Peter Westhead
Rhodri James	Karen Westhead
Rika Körte	Hitch
Minstrel	Mike Whitaker
Joy	Anne Whitaker
Steve Macdonald	

Typesetting: Mike Whitaker
Covert Art: Tom Nanson