

small potatoes

***"These folks are wonderful; fun, energetic, and great musicians.
They're two of my favorite performers."***

Bill Staines, Singer/songwriter

***"Behind the humble name hides a creative couple of singer-songwriters who know a thing or two
about keeping a crowd laughing, smiling, and occasionally crying."***

Bill Lynch, Charleston Gazette, Charleston, WV

22 Years, and a Million and a Half Miles...



Twenty-two years ago, Jacquie Manning and Rich Prezioso, the Chicago-area duo known as Small Potatoes, decided to hit the road. "In one year, we quit our jobs, bought a house, bought a car, and became full-time folk singers—not exactly the greatest combination, financially speaking, or what most people would call a sound business model. We didn't throw darts at a map, but we might as well have."

They might not have had the best plan, but what they did have were great songs and musicianship, and the ability to put on a show. Twenty-two years, more than a million miles, 3000 shows, and five Dodge Caravans later, they are listed as a "favorite act" by many coffeehouses, clubs and house concerts across the U.S. They have made repeat appearances at major folk festivals, including the **Kerrville Folk Festival**, the **Walnut Valley Folk Festival**, and **Philadelphia Folk Festival**.

From the start, they've called themselves eclectic-maniacs and described their music as "Celtic to Cowboy". They say it has taken them "years of careful indecision" to come up with a mix of music that ranges from country, blues, and swing to Irish, with songwriting that touches on all of those styles and more. Their four recordings, ***"Alive!"***, ***"Waltz of the Wallflowers"***, ***"Time Flies"*** and ***"Raw"*** demonstrate that "indecision" can be wonderfully entertaining. They both sing, they both play guitars and an array of other instruments. They even yodel.



"Jacquie Manning and Rich Prezioso combine cleverly witty with powerfully poignant songs, along with well chosen covers to present an unusually entertaining and involving repertoire engagingly delivered. Prezioso's song "1000 Candles, 1000 Cranes" is one of the most outstanding songs of the past 50 years."

Rich Warren, The Midnight Special - WFMT Radio, Chicago, IL

"SPUDS rule!"

Meredith Carson, Swallow Hill Music Assoc., Denver, CO



“Make ‘em Laugh, Make ‘em Cry, Make ‘em Think”

When you see Small Potatoes perform, you hear two great voices, some fine guitar playing, and a touch of tin whistle, flute, mandolin, bodhran, and other percussion toys. Together they present a truly rare blend of vocal and instrumental abilities, award-winning songwriting, and arranging talents. They have the unique ability to adapt to the style of music they happen to be playing, and they also pay attention to the little things, the warmth, the humor and a rapport with the audience that makes for a memorable performance.

Selected Appearances

Philadelphia Folk Festival, Schwenksville, PA
 Walnut Valley Folk Festival, Winfield, KS
 Summerfolk, Owen Sound, ON
 Kerrville Folk Festival, Kerrville, TX
 Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, Hillside, NY
 Musikfest, Bethlehem, PA Gamble Rogers Folk Festival, FL
 South Florida Folk Festival, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
 Kuumbwa Jazz Center, Santa Cruz, CA The Fret House, Covina CA
 Swallow Hill Music Assoc., Denver, CO
 Old Town School of Folk, Chicago, IL
 FitzGerald's, Berwyn, IL The Ark, Ann Arbor, MI
 The Ten Pound Fiddle, E. Lansing, MI
 Fiddle and Bow, Winston-Salem, NC Club Passim, Cambridge, MA
 The Nickelodeon Folk Club, Calgary, Alberta
 Godfrey Daniel's, Bethlehem, PA The Bluebird Cafe, Nashville, TN
 Uncle Calvin's, Dallas, TX Rouse House Concerts, Austin, TX
 Seattle Folklore Society, Seattle, WA



Some People We've Opened for or Shared Stages with:

Tom Paxton, Greg Brown, John McCutcheon, Utah Phillips, Cheryl Wheeler, Robin & Linda Williams, David Wilcox, Bryan Bowers, Peter Rowan, Kate & Anna McGarrigle, Bill Staines, Trout Fishing in America, Austin Lounge Lizards, Susan Werner, The Bobs, Steve Gillette & Cindy Mangsen, James Keelaghan, Cliff Eberhardt, John Stewart

For booking information, please contact:
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“There aren’t many groups, folk or otherwise, with a broader range than these tater tots, but Small Potatoes can turn heads with more than just it’s range. The duo brings an impressive mastery of detail to each genre...Small Potatoes is obviously steeped in the tradition of the entire folk spectrum.”

Rick Reger, Chicago Tribune

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a partial list of cover songs in several genres that we might play in addition to our own songs:

Classic Rock

Secret Agent Man	Johnny Rivers
Lay Down Sally	Eric Clapton
Layla	
The Boxer	Simon & Garfunkel
Me and Julio	Paul Simon
I've Just Seen a Face	The Beatles
Rocky Raccoon	
Bye Bye Love	The Everly Brothers
Dream	
Peaceful Easy Feelin'	The Eagles
Desperado	
Teach Your Children	Crosby, Stills and Nash
Up on the Roof	The Drifters
Under the Boardwalk	
She's No Lady, She's My Wife	Lyle Lovett
Volcano	Jimmy Buffett
California Dreamin'	The Mamas and the Pappas
Me and Bobby McGee	Janis Joplin
Brown Eyed Girl	Van Morrison
Moondance	
Forever Young	Bob Dylan
Angel from Montgomery	Bonnie Raitt
Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay	Otis Redding
Landslide	Fleetwood Mac

Country

Walking after Midnight	Patsy Cline
Crazy	
I Fall to Pieces	
Ghost Riders in the Sky	Vaughn Monroe
Tumblin' Tumbleweeds	The Sons of the Pioneers
Your Cheatin' Heart	Hank Williams
Lovesick Blues	
Jambalaya	
Past the Point of Rescue	Hal Ketchum
The Dance	Garth Brooks
Happy Trails	Roy Rogers and Dale Evans
Cattle Call	Eddie Arnold
Blue Eyes Cryin' in the Rain	Willie Nelson
A Fool Such as I	Hank Snow/Elvis
Don't Fence Me In	Cole Porter
Home on the Range	Trad.
Someday Soon	Suzy Boguss/Judy Collins
El Paso	Marty Robbins
That's the Way the World Goes Around	John Prine

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more...

Standards

As Time Goes By
Honeysuckle Rose
Sin to Tell a Lie
Makin' Whoopie
St. Louis Blues
The Best Things in Life are Free
Rte 66
What a Wonderful World
All of Me
I Got Rhythm
Summertime
That's Amore

Dooley Wilson
Fats Waller

Gus Kahn
WC Handy
Les Paul & Mary Ford
Nat King Cole
Louis Armstrong
Billy Holiday
George Gershwin

Dean Martin

Irish

The Unicorn Song
When Irish Eyes are Smiling
I'll Take you Home Again Kathleen
My Wild Irish Rose
Four Green Fields
Star of the County Down
Wild Mountin Thyme
Wild Rover
Whiskey in the Jar
Danny Boy
Loch Lomond/Red is the Rose
Finnegan's Wake
Molly Malone
Irish Washerwoman

The Irish Rovers
Bing Crosby/Various
Various

Tommy Makem
Trad.
Trad.
Trad.
Trad.
Trad.
Trad.
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