

SNAPPIN' BUG MUSIC

presents



*Mark Tamsula & Richard Withers
with Dave Krysty and Ellen Gozion*

**TRADITIONAL APPALACHIAN MUSIC
OF SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA**

Pittsburgh area musicians give new life to regional heritage



Richard Withers *and* Mark Tamsula

Local old time music icons **Mark Tamsula** and **Richard Withers** are giving new life to a regional music tradition. Their 3rd cd Behind the Door presents 20 tracks of traditional Appalachian music historically rooted in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Mark and Richard perform tunes collected by the renowned music historian and Penn State professor Samuel Bayard. Bayard visited fiddlers and fifers in this region between 1928 and 1963, and published over 1000 of their tunes in two books, Hill Country Tunes, and Dance to the Fiddle, March to the Fife. Most of the tunes are performed on fiddle and banjo, the traditional "old time" instrumentation, but also include selections on the wooden flute, in keeping with the rich heritage of fife music Bayard drew on in preserving the music of this region. They are joined on several tracks by veteran guitarist **Dave Krysty**, also a pioneer in the revival of traditional music with local roots, and **Ellen Gozion** (of The Early Mays) who presents two beautiful samples of Bayard's unpublished song collection. Sam Bayard and his source musicians are gone, but Tamsula and Withers along with Krysty and Gozion, have brought their music back to life on fiddle and banjo, vocals, flute and guitar.

~QUOTES~

“Mark and Richard have once again drunk deep from the great Southwest Pennsylvania fiddle-tune collection of Sam Bayard. No reproduction or imitation here – pure oldtime Pennsylvania, freshly brought to life again by Mark and Richard.”

Alan Jabbour, folklorist and musician

"... an appealing aural anthology that revivifies the spirit of early Pennsylvania fiddlers and fifers, bringing Sam Bayard's collections to life in 3-D: dance, discovery, and delight."

Deane Root, Professor of Music;
Director, Center for American Music; University of Pittsburgh

“... The tunes flow forth not as artifacts but as living pieces of contemporary art. They pulse with an immediacy that is infused with respect, moving the listener with their immortality.”

Bob Buckingham of *Fiddler Magazine*

"Anyone who has been around the hill at Clifftop for the last decade has heard the beautiful and rare tunes that Mark has rescued from the hills of Pennsylvania. Now he and Richard bring us a marvelous cd that does for that region what Bruce Greene has done for Kentucky and Gary Harrison for Illinois."

Philip F. Gura, author of
*America's Instrument: The Banjo In America**

"Samuel Bayard was the most prominent scholar of traditional Pennsylvania music. It is wonderful to know that this tradition still lives through the playing of Mark Tamsula and Richard Withers. Bayard would have been proud!"

Carl Rahkonen, Ph.D., Ethnomusicologist, Indiana, PA.

"Nothing that Sam Bayard has written has ever been refuted."

Kenneth Goldstein, head of the University of
Pennsylvania's Folklore and Folklife department



~THE MUSICIANS~

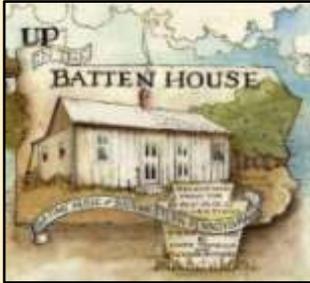
Mark Tamsula has been performing and teaching fiddle, banjo, guitar and mandolin in the Southwestern Pennsylvania region for over 30 years. Drawing from an ever expanding repertoire of tunes and songs, Mark regularly performs with the bands **Lackawanna Longnecks** (old time) and **Grand Bon Rien** (Cajun). www.appalachianmusic.net

Richard Withers has performed and recorded Old-time music on the banjo and Irish music on the flute, whistle and other instruments over the past three decades. He can be heard playing clawhammer banjo on recordings with the old-time string band **Lackawanna Longnecks** and Irish-style flute with **Hooley**, a Pittsburgh-based traditional Irish group. www.hooley.info

A lifelong resident of southwestern Pa., **Ellen Gozion** has been searching out, singing & cherishing traditional songs for nearly two decades. Her repertoire draws heavily upon the Scottish and English songs that became a staple for generations of singers in the Southern and upper Appalachians. She has recorded two solo collections of traditional songs and currently performs with **The Early Mays**. www.ellengozion.com

Dave Krysty visited and learned tunes from several of this region's older fiddlers, notably the late Fayette County fiddler Jim Bryner, one of Bayard's original sources. Dave [videotaped sessions with Jim and Jonas Hughes](#) in 1986, then in 1988 Dave recorded an album with Bill Lemons titled Folk Songs of Western Pennsylvania and since then he has supported the local tradition of fiddle music, songs and stories through his performances, and work with local arts organizations.

~ AUDIO SAMPLES ~



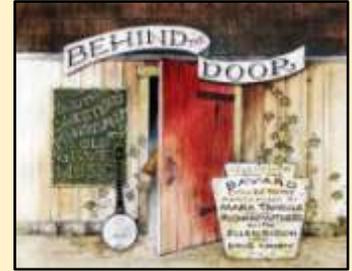
[The Lost Indian](#)

[The Carrolltown Breakdown](#)



[Up Jumped Joe In The Middle Of It](#)

[Snowy Hill/My Last Fall/O Dear
Mother My Toes Are Sore](#)



[Over The River To Charlie](#)

[The Grey Eagle](#)

~ VIDEOS ~



[The Soap Fat Man](#)



[Such A Gittin' Upstairs](#)



[Gardner Music Festival](#)

(16 min set)

~ INTERVIEWS ~

[Long-Dormant Folk Tunes Celebrate
Western PA's Place In Appalachian Culture](#)

by Noah Brode 90.5 WESA Jun 21, 2016



[The Saturday Light Brigade](#)

with Larry Berger

May 7, 2016



[Recreating the tunes of Western PA](#)
by Richard Gordon The Music Room on WVUD

November 5, 2013

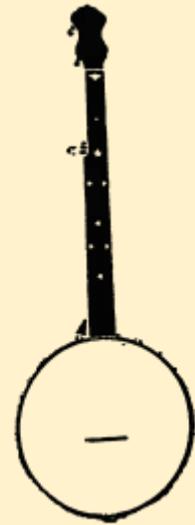
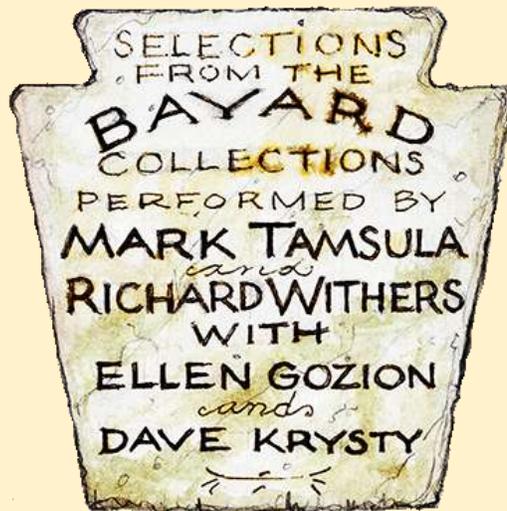


[The Saturday Light Brigade](#)

with Larry Berger

May 12, 2012





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~ PHOTOS ~

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Prof. Samuel Bayard

