

Hausner + Lewis = One Morning Fair

By ART EDELSTEIN / Arts Correspondent - Published: February 12, 2010

Two talented acoustic soloists, Spencer Lewis and Carol Hausner have teamed up in a new duo, One Morning Fair, and their first performance will be an intimate one – a house concert – in Montpelier on Saturday.

While the combination of Lewis and Hausner may seem a strange one to those who have followed their solo careers, it works quite well. The two performed a short set at the recent Coco and Lafe concert at Montpelier's Black Door and showed just how well their voices blend and how well they interpret old-time and traditional songs.

Lewis has produced 20 albums in a career that goes back to the mid 1980s. He's mostly known for his instrumental albums that feature compositions created on violin and guitar, but he's also a solid singer and songwriter. Lewis cut his musical teeth on the music of Woody Guthrie and early on played traditional American music. His bluegrass guitar chops were evident at the Black Door concert.



Hausner released her first solo album in 2009 and it was favorably reviewed in The Times Argus. She also won a songwriting award last year at MerleFest in North Carolina. Her crystal clear southern inflected voice is well suited to bluegrass and traditional song styles.

The two met at a songwriters get-together last year, found they had a lot of music in common, and decided to team up.

As a duo Lewis and Hausner seem made for each other. Their singing voices blend seamlessly and their two guitars and Lewis' idiomatic fiddling are just right. Their repertoire of songs encompasses a wide scope of material from the Carter Family, Guthrie, old-time ballads, bluegrass, folk and their own compositions. Their sound is authentic and we may be witnessing the start of another Gillian Welch/David Rawlings duo.

Their Montpelier concert is a house concert – in a private home – and these tend to be intimate, non-PA system affairs. One Morning Fair is perfectly suited for this type of venue.