

VICTOR & PENNY *and their Loose change Orchestra*

Short Descriptions:

Swing-infused folk-jazz rooted in the riff-driven Kansas City style.

Swing-infused folk-jazz rooted in the riff-driven Kansas City style, delivered with class, joy, and soaring musical improvisation.

SHORT BIO

Victor & Penny deliver swing-infused folk-jazz in the band's signature high-energy style with joy, humor, and soaring musical improvisation. V&P were named "Best Folk Ensemble 2015" by the PITCH; "Standout Concert of the Year" by the Joplin Globe; and are two-time Folk Alliance International official showcase artists. Victor & Penny impress and delight with charm and hot licks and they are an "absolute rollicking blast."

LONGER BIO

Celebrating a time when style mattered and class was king, Victor & Penny feature tight vocal harmonies, dazzling guitar work, and a fiery ukulele. Victor & Penny deliver swing-infused folk-jazz in the band's signature high-energy style with joy, humor, and soaring musical improvisation. This corset-tight group crafts clever original tunes and brings a modern Kansas City voice to prohibition era jazz. V&P impress and delight with charm and hot licks. Named, "Best Folk Ensemble 2015" by the PITCH and "Stand-out Concert of The Year" by The Joplin Globe, they are an "absolute rollicking blast." The group released a new full-length CD, "Electricity" that debuted at #12 with the #3 song on the folk radio chart (March 2016).

"Victor & Penny infuse their music with a strong sense of swing rooted in the riff-driven style of Kansas City jazz to create their own distinctive style."

*-- Chuck Haddix, Host of the Fish Fry on KCUR FM 89.3
and co-author of "Kansas City Jazz: From Ragtime to Bebop – A History"*

Full Biography

Victor & Penny are Jeff Freling (Blue Man Group, Chicago) and Erin McGrane (George Clooney's, "Up in the Air" and cabaret troupe Alacartoon). Formally trained at Berklee School of Music (Boston) and the Conservatory of Music (Kansas City), Mr. Freling participated in the international program, The Acoustic Guitar Project in 2014 and is an accomplished composer, arranger, an outstanding instrumentalist. Ms. McGrane is an

ArtsKC Fund Inspiration Grant recipient and a Mid-America Arts Alliance Professional Development Grant recipient as well as a fellow of the ArtistINC program for which she currently serves as a peer facilitator and a workshop presenter. Classically trained reeds virtuoso James Isaac fronts his own highly respected jazz quartet, The James Isaac Group. Bassist Rick Willoughby attended the UMKC Conservatory of Music and is a member of Quixotic, The Snow Globes and the Barclay Martin Ensemble. Multi-instrumentalist Kyle Dahlquist (trombone, accordion, glockenspiel and vocals) rounds out the ensemble. The group just released their 4th album, 'Electricity,' which joyfully captures the energy, humor and soaring musical improvisation of their live show.

Victor & Penny was honored to represent Kansas City at a New York City press event as part the America's Creative Crossroads campaign, "Paris of the Plains Goes to NY." The pair has performed at such notable Kansas City events as the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts inaugural New Year's Event, the Missouri Governor's 2016 EDC Awards Luncheon and KC Union Station's Centennial Celebration, and KC Mayor Sly James' 2015 State of the City Address. Victor & Penny were invited official showcase artists at the prestigious Folk Alliance International Conference (FAI 2014 and 2015), the Southeast Regional Folk Alliance Conference (SERFA 2016), and the Northeast Regional Folk Alliance Conference (NERFA 2014). V&P were 2013 Escape-To-Create artists-in-residence in Seaside, FL. The group regularly tours the USA, having made nearly 1,000 personal appearances and traveled 180,000 miles in the last four years.

Quotes

"They were right-on; it's easy to tell the real deal when you hear it."

-- Angela Lutz, PITCH

"...this duo hits it out of the park with something charming and subversive at the same time."

--Chris Spector – Midwest Record

"McGrane and her partner, guitarist-singer Jeff Freling, have a natural chemistry that infuses their musical performance with an undeniable electric energy. Her solid ukulele strumming provides a heartbeat while he provides leadership and rapid-fire solos recalling Les Paul or Chet Atkins on his vintage Kay archtop. They had me breathless..."

-Kristen Shafel Omiccioli – KC Metropolis

"Their music is a rock-fueled take on jazz reflecting on prohibition-era swing."

– Clint Weiderholt, American Roots Magazine

"Flawless live performance...inspired performances...skilled musicianship...depth and amusement come hand in hand. The energetic guitar skills of Victor (Jeff Freling) impress, and Penny (Erin McGrane) adds to the appeal with her usual moxie on ukulele, not to mention the jazzy vocals and delightful harmonies between the two."

– Barb Corley, American Roots Magazine

"Freling's intense, complex guitar work embodied the...experience so fully that words were unnecessary. McGrane's voice was equally captivating, capable of joking and insisting at the same time."

--Angela Lutz, PITCH

"The duet soon makes it clear that the joy these two experience playing together is as high as this performance aims."

-- Danny Alexander, "Take 'Em As They Come" Music Blog

"Erin's vocal interpretations are engaging and perfect, and you'd swear that Jeff was channeling the deceptively smooth and fast style of Les Paul."

- Dana Seeley, The Seeley Foundation

ARTIST CONTACT

Website: www.victorandpenny.com

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/victorandpenny>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/victorandpenny>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/victorandpenny>

Instagram: @VictorandPenny

Email: Info@VictorandPenny.com

BOOKING

Heart Roots Music

Liz DiSessa

Liz@HeartRootsMusic.com

heartrootsmusic.com

508-274-2951

RECORD LABEL

Middle Class Records

1520 Grand Blvd

Kansas City MO 64108

Info@middleclassrecords.com

middleclassrecords.com

816-337-7553