

## Caravan of Thieves brings driving sound to The Queen



Gypsy-folk band Caravan of Thieves' unplugged sound will leap out at audiences during their concert at World Café Live at the Queen on Saturday, Feb. 11. The band is comprised of (from left) Ben Dean (violin), James "Fuzz" Sangiovanni (vocals and guitar), Carrie Sangiovanni (vocals and guitar) and Brian Anderson (bass).

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**Community News**

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Wilmington, Del. —

If The Beatles, Django Reinhardt and a handful of street performers were to host a party at Tim Burton's house, gypsy-folk band Caravan of Thieves would probably be the band they'd hire. The Connecticut band will steal the hearts of listeners when they grace the World Café Live at the Queen on Saturday. The concert begins at 8 p.m.

### **'Musical Thieves'**

In 2003 James "Fuzz" Sangiovanni (vocals and guitar) and his wife, then girlfriend, Carrie (vocals and guitar), formed an acoustic duo – inspired by the loose style of street performing and the melodic sounds of both gypsy-jazz icon Django Reinhardt and bands from the classic rock era. Wanting to expand their sound, the group enlisted the help of Ben Dean (violin) and Brian Anderson (bass), which birthed Caravan of Thieves in 2008.

Over the years, the band has experimented with incorporating junk instruments (such as pots, a keg bucket and a wooden chair) into their repertoire, with many of the objects being used for percussion. Fuzz and Carrie like using the unconventional instruments since they "never wanted to have a drummer," Fuzz said.

The combination of not using a drummer and instruments that don't need to be powered with electricity allows the band flexibility to perform at will.

"We wanted to keep it acoustic and perform [our music] anywhere, anytime kind-of-thing," Fuzz said. "If we wanted to set up on a street corner, we could."

### **'The Funhouse'**

Folks at The Queen can expect to hear tunes from Caravan of Thieves' new album: "The Fun House," which will be for sale at the concert, with a national release slated for Tuesday, Feb. 28.

Carrie says the overall theme of the album is sort of how "life is like a funhouse." The album offers a blend of upbeat and somber songs to mimic the highs and lows of real life, through folksy (yet conscious) tales dealing with themes such as celebrating the dead, and prejudging others.

For instance, “Raise the Dead,” an upbeat tune reminiscent of something you’d hear from The Beatles, “is about bringing back people from your personal past, or from history that you admire, to have a big party together and celebrate their accomplishments,” Carrie said.

Meanwhile, the song “Sister Went Missing,” tells the story of a man quickly accused of kidnapping a girl who has gone missing in her town. Shortly after the man is accused, the girl appears in the town unscathed.

“We don’t like to be preachy, but we do like to make people think,” Fuzz said.

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