

BILL COOLEY- Guitars

A native of Santa Barbara, CA, Bill has been a stalwart Nashville veteran for over 20 years, called "one of Nashville's most respected sidemen" by Guitar Player magazine. After working with Merle Haggard in California in the early '80's, he moved to Nashville in 1985 and has toured and recorded with Reba McEntire, Alan Jackson and Hal Ketchum. Bill has played guitar for Kathy on stage and in the studio for the last 17 years. As a songwriter, he's had his songs recorded by Kathy and Reba, among others.

Cooley's first CD, titled "Unravel'd," was released in 1997 and nominated for Instrumental Album of the Year at the Nashville Music Awards (he lost to Chet Atkins!). Music Row magazine called it "a magical gem of a guitar record," and Wood & Steel magazine said it was "a terrific acoustic guitar album - Unravel'd is satisfying in the way good music should be."

Bill's second CD, "A Turn in the Road" was released in 2004, again to stellar reviews, and his new CD, "The Return Journey," is an inspired, cohesive work that has garnered his best reviews yet. MusicRow.com says "his acoustic instrumentals on his new, third collection are consistently dazzling." Dirty Linen Magazine writes "he also takes you to interesting places....this album will leave you with the feeling that you've just heard some very fine traveler's tales of new places seen by an old friend." It also appeared on some 2009 end-of-the year lists such as, Musicroad.blogspot.com "Best Music of 2009" and was an album winner in NYC's 37th Annual "Pazz & Jop" Village Voice Critics Poll 2009 as one of the years best in music.

Bill is musical director and bandleader for Kathy's "Moving Mountains" tour, as well as the current "Songs and the Season" Christmas tour.

EAMONN O'ROURKE- Fiddle, Mandolin, Vocals

Eamonn O'Rourke was born in County Donegal, Ireland. He grew up in a very musical family and took an interest to music at a very young age. Eamonn plays bass, guitar, violin, and mandolin. He began his professional career in his late teens, playing with small, local Irish bands. Eamonn moved to New York in 1993 to further his musical career. Since moving to the United States he has had many wonderful opportunities, working with a wide variety of artists throughout the United States and Canada. He was given the chance to study with the great Mark O'Connor, and has also had a successful career as a session musician.

Eamonn has enjoyed producing and composing numerous albums in his studio on Long Island. In 2002 Eamonn was given the wonderful opportunity to join Kathy Mattea. He is delighted to rejoin Kathy and her band, as a musician and friend, as she embarks on her new acoustic tour.

DAVID SPICHER- Bass, Vocals

A native of Nashville, TN, David is the son of session fiddle king Buddy Spicher. He has performed with Crystal Gayle, Pam Tillis, the Jerry Douglas Band, Carolina Rain, Jim Lauderdale, Nickel Creek, polka queen Lynn Marie, the Nashville Symphony, John England & the Western Swingers, and his family's own Nashville Swing Band.

RANDY LEAGO- Keyboards, Woodwinds, Percussion, Vocals

Randy Leago is one of the most creative and in-demand musicians in Nashville. His career has been marked by performances, tours and recordings with a wide range of artists; country giants such as Rodney Crowell, Deana Carter, Waylon Jennings and Dixie Chicks; pop music legends such as Janis Ian, Duane Eddy and Engelbert Humperdinck, and rockers like Lucinda Williams, Amy Rigby and Guster. He is currently multi-instrumentalist with Kathy Mattea, singing and playing a large collection of keyboards and woodwinds.

Randy has performed on stage and television throughout the USA, Canada, Asia, Europe and South America. He moved to Nashville in 1988, after study of woodwinds, piano and voice at the prestigious music school of the University of North Texas. His passion for exotic rhythm and the music of Brasil is evident on his self-produced CD LET THEM TALK. Instead of golf or a bass boat, he passes his time studying Portuguese and learning traditional Brazilian musical instruments. Gemini, on the cusp with Cancer.