

# River of the West Mandolin Camp 2012

(To apply, print page 7; fill it out completely; and, mail it along with your deposit.)

## OVERVIEW

The fourth annual River of the West Mandolin Camp (June 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012) will be held at the Menucha Retreat Center in the Columbia River Gorge, just 20 miles east of Portland, Oregon. This year's Camp is sure to be a good one as we have **Don Stiernberg** returning and have added **Rich DelGrosso, Brian Oberlin, and Marijke Weisenecker** as mandolin instructors.

There will also be, for the first time ever, guitar instruction (included with camper or commuter tuition). Teaching guitar will be **Don Stiernberg, Michiel Weisenecker, and Mary Flower**. Aside from the scheduled workshops, there will be plenty of time for relaxing, jamming, and mandolin-style socializing. The maximum student capacity is 45, and everyone will have the opportunity to attend all of the workshops.

## MANDOLIN INSTRUCTORS

**Don Stiernberg** will teach jazz, swing, and all of the chord grabs and licks that pertain to any style of music. Don's approach is among the finest, as his creative and effective teaching inspires musicians of all genres and playing levels.

**Rich DelGrosso**, this Country's premier blues mandolinist, will teach classic blues mandolin and all of the techniques that encompass this genre.

**Brian Oberlin** will teach the rigors of playing solo swing mandolin and techniques for enhancing bluegrass mandolin.

**Marijke Weisenecker**, this year's classical mandolin instructor, will not only teach the techniques of classical Italian mandolin, but will also delve into her theories on improvisation with folk music.

## GUITAR INSTRUCTORS

**Michiel Weisenecker** will teach guitar at the Camp the entire weekend, focusing on his multi-faceted approach to playing guitar. From classical to swing, jazz, blues, and finger style, Michiel's teaching is suitable for any guitarist, beginner to advanced.

**Don Stiernberg** (Saturday only) plays guitar just as well as he does the mandolin and will be teaching the techniques of rhythm guitar for swing and jazz.

**Mary Flower** (Saturday only) will teach the rhythm of rhythm and blues. She is a master at Piedmont Blues, ragtime, and finger-picking styles.

## CAMP ITINERARY

**Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>** - Campers and commuters should arrive at Menucha between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. for room assignments and materials. At 5:00 p.m., the Camp will begin with an opening ceremony with instructions and introductions. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m. After dinner, at 7:30 p.m., Brian and the other instructors will lead a mass workshop and play-along session.

**Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>** - Campers and commuters will spend the day taking three, 2-hour workshops with plenty of time to eat and relax. There will be organized jams in the evening.

**Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>** - Campers and commuters will have two, 2-hour workshops during the first half of the day.

At 4:00 p.m., campers, commuters, and rhythm guitar session attendees will enjoy a first at the Camp: the **Musicianship Workshop**. This workshop will focus on the protocol for playing in a band and how to share the rhythm responsibilities for guitar and mandolin. In essence, this is a guitar and mandolin workshop taught in tandem (one mandolin instructor and one guitar instructor). Students will be able to attend all three workshops from the pairs of teachers during the two-hour time frame. The paired teachers are as follows: Brian and Don; Rich and Mary; and, Marijke and Michiel.

The **Musicianship Workshop** is a study on how mandolins and guitars function as rhythm instruments. Campers and commuters are encouraged to bring guitars with them. This Workshop is included in the price of the Camp for campers and commuters.

***Guitar and mandolin players who are not campers or commuters, and are only interested in attending Saturday's Musicianship Workshop, should print and fill out page 7 and indicate you will only be attending this Workshop. The cost to attend just the Musicianship Workshop is \$70.00, which includes dinner and a ticket to the faculty concert on that evening.***

After dinner, there will be a faculty concert at 8:00 p.m.

**Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>** - After breakfast, Campers will have an opportunity to pack up their gear. At 10:30 a.m., there will be a student concert. Details about this concert will be discussed at the Camp. The Camp ends at noon.

## VENUE

The Menucha Retreat Center overlooks the spectacular Columbia River Gorge, just 20 miles east of Portland, Oregon. The Columbia River (formerly known as "The River of the West") is the largest volume river flowing into the Pacific Ocean from North America. It travels an impressive 1,234 miles from its headwaters in British Columbia, cutting through the Gorge, before it empties into the Pacific. The Gorge, which is 4,000 feet deep in some places, stretches for 80 miles and contains some of the world's most beautiful scenery, as well as the greatest concentration of waterfalls in the Pacific Northwest - just right for playing mandolin. The Menucha Retreat Center offers a pool, tennis courts, and lovely walking trails.

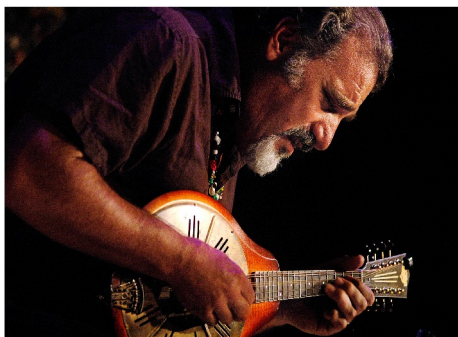
## INSTRUCTORS



**Brian Oberlin**, founder of the Camp, is a singing multi-instrumentalist who lives in Portland, Oregon. Being self-taught has heightened Brian's teaching ability, something which he has shared with thousands of students in private lessons and countless workshops. He has played the mandolin for 17 years and has studied many styles of mandolin music. Brian is an award-winning songwriter who has played a myriad of concerts throughout the United States with several bands, one of which was recognized in 2003 with Michigan's "Jammie" Award. Nowadays, he performs frequently as a solo act and can also be found on stage as a soloist with various orchestras, as well as touring the world with the Ger Mandolin Orchestra and with bassist Josh Feinberg with their duo *bass+mandolin*. Brian is the Music Director of the Oregon Mandolin Orchestra.



**Don Stiernberg**, a versatile and busy musician, hails from Chicago. This is Don's fourth year teaching at the Camp. Don was inspired as a teenager when he took mandolin lessons from the great Jethro Burns. He later became part of the Jethro Burns Quartet. Don's expansive recordings include four newly released jazz mandolin albums as well as dozens of recordings by other artists, from bluegrass to pop and children's music. One very special recording project to Don is Jethro Burns' final recordings on the Acoustic Disc label which Don co-produced and played rhythm guitar. Don is also a faculty member at the Mandolin Symposium, Steve Kaufman's Acoustic Kamp, Carlo Aonzo's International Mandolin Academy, and other workshops around the world.



Mandolin Symposium 2011

photo by Maria Cimillo

Having received seven Blues Music Award nominations, **Rich DelGrosso** is a performer unique in keeping the mandolin alive in the blues. His latest recording with Jonn Del Toro Richardson, *Time Slips On By*, has received critical acclaim worldwide, including a four-star review in *Downbeat*, which listed it as one of the best of 2011 and a Blues Blast Music award nomination for *Best Traditional Blues Recording of 2011*. Rich was a writer/editor for *Blues Revue* magazine since the very first issue in 1991. His column, *Take It On Home*, was a regular feature for 16 years. He has also written articles for *Living Blues*, *Mandolin Magazine*, *Frets*, *Sing Out!* and *Footsteps*. He has published four instruction books for Hal Leonard Publishers, including *Mandolin Blues: From Memphis to Maxwell Street*.



**Marijke Weisenecker**, born in Amsterdam, picked up the mandolin at the age of ten. She studied classical and baroque mandolin at the Conservatory of Music in Cologne, and in February 2007, finished her studies as a performing artist. Marijke also plays baroque mandolin, guitar and bass guitar and is musically inspired by composers Gabriele Leone and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. She enjoys the likes of mandolinists Bill Monroe, Dave Apollon, Howard Frey, Yank Rachell and Giovanni Giovale. Marijke currently lives in Wuppertal (Germany) and gives concerts and workshops in the Netherlands, Germany, and abroad. She teaches at the Musikschule der Stadt Bottrop, conducts two mandolin orchestras, and is regularly asked to be a jury member of different competitions. Since 2011, she has taught at the Artesis Conservatory of music in Antwerpen, Belgium.

**Michiel Weisenecker** was born in Amsterdam and started playing the guitar at the age of nine. In 2001, after the release of the duo's (Marijke and Michiel's) first cd, "Wouldn't Listen," Michiel followed his sister to study classical guitar with at the Conservatory of Music in Cologne. In 2008, he completed his master study at the Robert Schumann Conservatory of Music in Düsseldorf. Michiel plays a classical guitar made by Boguslaw Teryks, a steel string Martin, electric guitar, and a baroque guitar by Frank-Peter Dietrich. During his studies, he also discovered the world of general bass, and he occasionally picks up the baroque mandolin.



**Mary Flower** is a world-class guitarist and lap slide player who swings the blues. Along the way, she has mastered the intricate, harmonically subtle Piedmont style, which forms the foundation of much of her work. Mary is an unrivaled interpreter of Mississippi blues and an ingenious composer in her own right whose tunes take American music into uncharted waters. In the rarefied atmosphere where Mary operates, she's recognized everywhere as one of the pre-eminent finger style guitarists, continuing in the rich acoustic blues tradition. She has twice placed in the top three at the National Fingerpicking Championship in Winfield, Kansas – the only woman to do so. She has been nominated in two categories, "Acoustic Artist" and "Acoustic Album," for the 2012 Blues Music Awards in Memphis. Mary is a warm singer who ranges far in the byways of blues, pop, and jazz. Mary's recently released album, *Misery Loves Company*, has received multiple accolades.

## STUDENT LEVEL AND CAPACITY

The maximum capacity of the River of the West Mandolin Camp is 45 students (ages 14 and older). Although the Camp is intended for **all levels of mandolinists**, absolute beginners (people who have no idea of how to hold or play anything on the mandolin) are encouraged to take private lessons before attending the Camp. In other words, an attendee at the Camp is someone who can, at least, play an open G, C, and D chord, keep a rhythm, and have basic knowledge of how to read tablature or music notation.

## LODGING

**The Habitat** includes two very large dormitory-style rooms, each sleeping up to 8 persons, with two showers, two toilets and three sinks, each in separate areas. Bedding and linens are provided, but campers should bring a pillow/sleeping bag if they so desire.

**Wright Hall** accommodates 50 people in bunk bedrooms with 6 beds in most rooms. There are several meeting spaces in the building including the Great Hall, which is comfortable for 90 persons on the main floor and up to 30 persons in the Balcony. The Conference Room on the main floor and the Meeting Room in the basement each have space for approximately 15 people. The Great Hall has a huge stone fireplace. The basement of Wright also contains a recreation area with ping-pong and foosball tables. Bedding and linens are provided, but campers should bring a pillow/sleeping bag if they so desire.

Visit the Menucha Retreat Center website ([www.menucha.org](http://www.menucha.org)) for more details regarding accommodations, as well as several photos of the Center.

## MEALS

Menucha accommodates vegetarian, as well as omnivorous diets. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner include a salad, juice, fruit, coffee, and dessert bar. **If you have any special dietary requirements, please note them on your application form.** Students should bring snacks and beverages for in between meals, as there are no vending machines. There is an espresso bar in Wright Hall which is open in the morning and afternoon. There is a general store located a couple of miles away in the town of Corbett.

## CAMP SCHEDULE

### Thursday - June 9

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Check in  
5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Opening ceremony  
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner  
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Mass workshop

### Friday - June 10

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Breakfast  
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Workshops  
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch  
1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Workshops  
4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Workshops  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Dinner  
8:00 - ? Mandolin-style Lounging

### Saturday - June 11

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Breakfast  
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Workshops  
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Workshops  
4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Musicianship Workshop  
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner  
8:00 p.m. - Faculty Concert

### Sunday - June 12

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Breakfast  
10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Student Concert  
12:00 p.m. Checkout

## WHAT TO BRING

Any instrument within the mandolin family and guitars are welcome. Please bring a **portable music stand**, writing utensils, and a notebook. Each student will be provided a folder to hold handout materials. **If you intend on buying any merchandise that the instructors will be selling, please bring cash or checks.**

### River of the West Mandolin Camp - Cost and Deposit

The cost of the River of the West Mandolin Camp is \$440.00. This amount includes all activities, housing, and all meals, beginning with dinner on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012, and ending with breakfast on Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

The Camp is open to commuters. The cost for commuters is \$400.00, which includes all meals and all activities.

**For those interested only in the Saturday guitar workshop, dinner, and faculty concert, the cost is \$70.00. To register only for the Saturday guitar workshop, dinner, and faculty concert, send in your application, along with the full payment of \$70.00, by May 3, 2012.**

To secure your spot at the Camp, as a camper or commuter, a \$150.00 deposit is due with your completed application, \$25.00 of which is a non-refundable application fee. **The balance of the tuition is due by May 3, 2012.** We are unable to offer refunds for cancellations made after May 3, 2012. Mail your completed application and deposit check (payable to "Mandoberlin") to:

Mandoberlin  
P.O. Box 3614  
Hillsboro, OR 97123

If you have any questions, e-mail [brian@mandoberlin.com](mailto:brian@mandoberlin.com)

### Directions

#### From Portland

Take I-84 East to Exit 22 (Corbett). Drive up Corbett Hill Road to the Scenic Highway. Turn left and drive 1.25 miles East to the gate at Menucha (left side of road). The driveway winds down to the Retreat Center. Once you are on campus, follow the signs to Wright Hall, and look for the "Mandolin Camp" sign.

Address to Camp: Menucha Retreat Center  
38711 Historic Columbia River Highway  
Corbett, Oregon 97019  
(503) 695-2243

# River of the West Mandolin Camp 2012 Application

Full name of registrant: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender (circle one): Female Male Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle one of the following:**

*Camper (\$440)*

*Commuter (\$400)*

*Saturday Guitar Workshop Only (\$70)*

If under the age of 18, please provide the contact information of a parent or legal guardian:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**All registrants**, please provide the name of an emergency contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Any other special needs: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the River of the West Mandolin Camp? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any specific **roommate** request(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like your name (first name only) to appear on your name tag? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle one of the following, that best describes your mandolin-playing ability:**

*Beginner*

*Beginner/Intermediate*

*Intermediate/Advanced*

*Advanced*