

“The musicians in the audience last time Robin O’Herin played were impressed with the Lee, Mass woman’s tasty blues repertoire and versatility on three guitars; her performances are partially a history lesson, part original, classic and timeless throughout.”

Arthur Gonick  
Bailey’s Cafe Saratoga Springs, NY

“...an audience of music lovers seems to be developing in our community. We are still just in the beginning stages of developing this concert series and I feel that the quality of your performance will get some folks talking the series up. I’ll be in touch sometime early in the fall to touch base with you about a 2004 First Saturday date...By the way, I think your story telling gifts and your ability to share your thoughts and feelings between songs are very strong too. The songs and sharing really combine to create a warm and uplifting concert experience.”

So. Hadley Venue



Robin O’Herin  
Acoustic Blues  
& Gospel  
PO Box 667  
Lee, MA 01238



**R**obin O'Herin is a Berkshires-based, acoustic blues and gospel musician.



Her instruments include bottleneck and fingerstyle guitar and mountain dulcimer, and she plays both original and traditional American music. Robin specializes in historically rich, often interactive concerts for schools, libraries and small listening rooms. Her concerts are warm, affirming experiences she shares with the audience.

A 2006 Memphis Blues Challenge finalist, she has also opened for the Doobie Brothers in Pittsfield, MA., and for Vance Gilbert and Michael Powers in Sept 04. She was the headline act in the Resophonic Blues Festival in Pilzen, CZ. in '05 She played in Italy at the Tropea Blues Festival in the fall of '06. Her arrangement of "Old Country Rock" and her original, "Everhopeful" are being used in the soundtrack for the PBS "2005 Roadtrip Nations" Series (episodes 4 and 5).

### **Integrated Arts in Education**

Today's classrooms often include block scheduling which put pressure on teachers to hold their students interest for longer periods of time. Working with faculty and staff, Robin can create a curriculum that spans English, history, art appreciation and music. Some of the frameworks and standards addressed include Standard 6, Purposes and Meanings in the Arts; Standard 7, Roles of Artists in Communities; Standard 8, Concepts of Style, stylistic influence and stylistic change; Standard 9, Inventions, Technologies and the Arts; Standard 10, Interdisciplinary Connections; and Standard 11, Singing. Robin can help schools attain grants and can come in as a resident/guest artist for anywhere from one to four weeks, or just do a short assembly/program. Programs are customized for each grade level and topic.

# Integrated Arts in Education

**Congress declared 2003** to be the year of the blues. It celebrates a day in 1903 when composer, W.C Handy, while waiting in a train station in the South, recorded in his journal seeing a "tall, lean black man playing the weirdest music I ever heard." Thus began the first documented account of the blues as a genre.

With roots in slavery, poverty and the spiritual music that sustained black culture, the blues grew out of the fertile ground of the Mississippi Delta, as African Americans redefined their culture and struggled to assert their newfound political liberties and economic opportunities through both their sense of community and the freedom to move.



ASSEMBLIES AND CLASSROOM WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:  
Blues as American Art: A Celebration of Freedom  
Great Masters of Blues: Their Lives and Music  
Appreciating the Blues: A Listener's Guide  
The Harlem Renaissance: Literature and Music  
Composing Your Own Blues: Music and Lyrics  
Life in the Back-Beat  
The Influence of Early Blues from 1930-2003

Out of the power and passion expressed in this music came Jazz, Gospel, Rock & Roll as well as pop, R & B, hip hop and rap. It is probably safe to say that all popular American music today has its roots in the blues, one way or another.



Blues in the Schools gives students an opportunity to understand some of the history behind the music and to participate in its creative process. Using song, discussion and multimedia presentations, full or multi-period assemblies will instruct students about the men and women who created this unique music. They will see how the music evolved and grew into other genres and profoundly influenced American culture. Classroom presentations will give students a chance to create some of their own blues.



#### FOR ALL INQUIRIES:



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