



Friday August 1st
4:40 Tani Diakite and
the Malian Blues Band
(*Blues from Mali*)

6:00 North Country
Drifters (*Western Swing*)

7:20 Swing Gitan (*Gypsy
Swing*)

8:40 Square Dance with
Mike Seeger, Chirps
Smith, and Tim Foss.
Caller Dot Kent.

Saturday August 2nd
12:00 Charlie Parr
(*Piedmont Blues*)

1:20 The Goose Island
Ramblers (*Polkabilly
Bluegrass*)

2:40 Adam Tanner Duo
(*String band blues*)

4:25 Mike Seeger (*Old
Time*)

6:00 Bluegrass Boys
Reunion show featuring
Mike Compton, Bob
Black, Tom Ewing, Mark
Hembree (*Bluegrass*)

7:30 TBA

9:05 Cajun Strangers
(*Cajun*)

**Camping,
Workshops, Kids'
Activities, too!**

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Festival builds on diversity in fifth year

MADISON, WI – Featuring blues, western swing, old-time country, bluegrass, Cajun and gypsy swing music, the 2008 Sugar Maple Traditional Music Festival has been called “the summer’s most robust and varied weekend of roots music” by the Onion. The festival, in its fifth year of presenting music by some of the country’s best performers, has earned “Best of Show” kudos from the Wisconsin State Journal for the past three years.

Blues music will come in many varieties, from the roots of the blues with **Tani Diakite** from Mali, to **Charlie Parr**’s gritty slide and steel, and the string band blues of the **Adam Tanner Duo**. The western swing of the **North Country Drifters** will bring listeners back to when country and jazz merged to create a sound influenced by the big bands of the 30s and 40s and the country and blues singers of the time. The great gypsy swing of Chicago’s **Swing Gitan** is sure to bring listeners to their feet. And of course, bluegrass fans will be invigorated by the **Bluegrass Boys Reunion** show, featuring Grammy-award winning mandolin player **Mike Compton**.

The legendary **Mike Seeger** will play for what promises to be the best barn dance of the year, with award-winning fiddler, **Chirps Smith** and bandmate **Tim Foss** of the New Bad Habits. “We’ve put together one of the most diverse festivals in the country, and people come year after year. They love it!” said entertainment chair Bob Batyko.

Festival-goers will interact with and learn from artists in workshops and jam sessions. A variety of kids’ activities will take place on both days, and kids under 12 are always admitted free. Tent camping is available-- musicians can sleep over and play around the campfire.

For tickets, visit: www.sugarmaplefest.org, Exclusive Company State Street, Whole Foods, Spruce Tree Music, and Willy Street Co-op.

Special note: Last week, we heard from **Hazel Dickens** that she will not be able to appear at the festival in 2008. While she is sharp as she’s ever been, in good spirits and her voice is clear as a bell, doctors have told her she should not travel. Festival planners encourage participants at the festival to send their best wishes to Hazel for a speedy recovery. An artist in place of Hazel will be announced in the next few days.