

JEFF DAVIS - AMERICAN TRADITIONAL MUSIC
www.jeffdavisoldmusic.com

Jeff Davis is one of America's most respected collectors and interpreters of traditional music. He has traveled far to visit "source singers"--farmers and miners who remembered the old songs and tunes--and closer at hand to libraries and archives, always look for the best of the music that was once common in out towns and villages. An evening with Jeff might include New England ballads sea songs, African-American banjo tunes, cowboy ditties, rare Yankee fiddle tunes and more. You will "meet" singers and players from the North Carolina mountains and coast, Nova Scotia farmers, African-American sailors, New York loggers and many others. There should even be some music from right here in Connecticut. Jeff will play fiddle, banjo, mandocello, guitar, spoons, jaw's harps and a few instruments hand-made by some folk craftsmen.

Jeff has toured extensively throughout the United States and to festivals in Canada, England, Ireland, The Netherlands, and Norway. He has recently released a solo album, *Some Fabulous Yonder*; his most recent project before that was to be part of an English Anthology, called *Song Links*, of old English songs and their American variants.

Jeff's genuine love for and continuing fascination with the traditional music in every corner of his native land just shines out of his whole performance. He can not only sing this stuff and play intricate accompaniments on a variety of instruments, but he knows just about every chapter and verse on all his material.

Corinne Male in **Traditions at The Tiger** (England)

"Davis' repertoire, that lonely banjo tone he imagines, so full of time and distance, and also the wry, sly wit of his tongue-in-cheek introductions shocks you into sudden recognition that you are at a folk festival. He started off the final night of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival '09 with a set of classic American songs including a sing-along "Shortenin' Bread" that brought the Sunday night crowd to their feet."

Stephen Pedersen in **The Chronicle-Herald**, Halifax, Nova Scotia (Canada)

"As time passes, there will inevitably be fewer singers who can claim any kind of direct or even secondhand link to oral/aural tradition. ...I recognize in Jeff the privilege of having matured as a singer of old songs in particularly good company, coupled with a consequently stronger-than-usual sense of responsibility to the old singers and their ways. Not that he closes his ears to other influences. No singer worth his salt can or should ignore his contemporaries, and I think these odds and ends make a fine interpreter of traditional song even finer. Jeff Davis is worth a lot of salt."

Ian Robb in **Sing Out!** (USA)