

PSP 008 March 2009 www.likelystories.us

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Likely Stories is:

Tracy Jane Comer
(vocals, guitar, cello)

Nancy Rost
(Vocals, piano/keyboard)

Dave Schindele
(Vocals, piano, percussion)

## Suggested tracks:

- 1) A Matter of Time
- 2) Golden Gate
- 3) Yellow Bike
- 5) American Gothic
- 7) Nicole

## Related links: www.likelystories.us

www.tracyjanecomer.com www.nancyrost.com www.daveschindele.com

Purchase link: www.cdbaby.com/cd/likelystories



## Likely Stories

Self-titled debut release

Elegantly arranged, lyrically driven originals. "Chamber folk" with female and male lead vocals, harmonies, piano, guitar, cello and hand percussion.

**Likely Stories**, the self-titled debut release from the Madison, Wisconsin-based acoustic trio, is a book of short stories brought to life. The songs range from reminiscences of a poor but happy rural childhood, to a romance between teenage suburban goths; from the inner lives of celebrities to the epiphanies of everyday people. Likely Stories takes the listener on an imaginative and sonic journey.

Elegant arrangements and engaging stories propel this collection of songs by performing songwriters **Tracy Jane Comer, Nancy Rost,** and **Dave Schindele**. The three alternate writing and lead vocals and accompany each other on a variety of instruments, creating a multi-flavored sound that allows the individual writers' sensibilities to shine through. Comer's intricate guitar work and rich cello, Rost's lush jazz chords, and Schindele's musical theater influences combine in unlikely ways to create a unique and varied sound.

"Elegant drama" - Scott Gordon, *The Onion*"Mature and soaked with talent throughout" - Smother.net
"Magic and sense of longing ... masterful lyrics" - singer-songwriter Phil Norman

The CD includes songs that have won awards and honors in folk ("Yellow Bike") and jazz ("Golden Gate"). The uptempo pop of "A Matter of Time", humorous blues of "American Gothic" and playful swing of "My Own History" contrast with soulful ballads like "This Ground" and "Shamu" for a satisfyingly well-rounded collection.

Veteran producer Randy Green produced the CD with Likely Stories. Green, called a "Madison Musical Legend" by *Madison Magazine* (2001), is also an award-winning songwriter, and contributes lyrics to "Yellow Bike" and the album's closer, "Silent Care."

About the group: Likely Stories is the collaborative project of three noteworthy Madison, Wisconsin songwriters: Tracy Jane Comer, Nancy Rost and Dave Schindele. The three share songwriting and lead vocals and accompany each other on backing vocals, keyboards, cello, acoustic and electric guitars, percussion, and more. These three musicians bring radically diverse styles together in an amazingly satisfying way, melding intricate folk guitar with lush jazz piano, soulful depth with witty wordplay, country blues with classical cello.



Because Nancy, Dave and Tracy share a love of making music with others, you can often find any of them performing with other colleagues or as part of additional side projects (mostly in the Madison area) as well as making guest appearances at each others' solo shows. See their individual websites (links at left or link from <a href="www.likelystories.us">www.likelystories.us</a>) for more information about each member and their other musical endeavors.

## *Likely Stories* track information (suggested radio cuts shown in bold/red)

TRACK	PERFORMANCE CREDITS	DESCRIPTION
1) A Matter of Time	Dave (piano/vocal) with Nancy (keyboard) and Tracy (backing vocals) and Randy Green (percussion)	Pop/easy listening; uptempo, engaging and rhythmic.
2) Golden Gate	Nancy (piano/vocal) with Tracy (cello)	Award-winning jazz-flavored ballad; about the Golden Gate bridge and its allure for suicide jumpers.
3) Yellow Bike	Tracy (guitar/vocal) with Nancy (piano) and Dave (backing vocals and percussion)	Award-winning contemporary folk; uptempo with intricate fingerstyle guitar work. Autobiographical childhood sketch - a favorite of Tracy's fans.
4) This Ground	Dave (piano/vocal) with Tracy (cello)	Dynamic and emotionally intense autobiographical ballad; about arriving and staying in Madison, WI.
5) American Gothic	Nancy (piano/vocal) with Tracy (electric guitar)	Blues style novelty song, mid-tempo, piano-driven; lots of humorous imagery and clever wordplay.
6) My Own History	Tracy (guitar/vocal) with Nancy (piano) and Dave (backing vocal and percussion)	Blues-folk with lighthearted use of a various metaphors and idioms; mid-tempo toe-tapper.
7) Nicole	Dave (piano/vocal) with Tracy (cello)	Soulful and dramatic ballad; written about Nicole Kidman.
8) Shamu	Nancy (piano/vocal) with Tracy (cello) and Dave (backing vocals)	Reflective ballad inspired by a photo of Southwest Airlines' Shamu aircraft.
9) Silent Care	Tracy (guitar/vocal) with Nancy (piano) and Dave (backing vocals)	Modal, sultry mood piece.



www.tracyjanecomer.com

Tracy Jane Comer's multi-flavored original music has been heard on MTV and on hundreds of radio and TV stations around the world. Originally from the south but now based in Madison, WI, Tracy has been called "North Carolina's gift to Wisconsin." She was named Instrumentalist of the Year in the 2008 Madison Area Music Awards and was nominated in previous years for Best Acoustic Artist (2004, 2005), Best Acoustic Album (2004, 2005), and Folk/Americana

Artist of the Year (2007). Tracy has also received a number of international songwriting awards and honors in rock/pop, adult contemporary, and folk genres. A lifelong musical explorer with years of formal education in music plus self-taught skills on a variety of instruments (5 and counting), Tracy is often lauded for her intricate fingerstyle guitar work and skills on cello and piano in particular, plus her lyrics and and a vocal style reminiscent of Judy Collins and Joni Mitchell. She opened several tour shows for Willy Porter in 2005/2006 and has also opened for The Wailin' Jennys, Holly Near, L.J. Booth, Ellis Paul, Peter Mulvey, Nathan Rogers, and others.

Tracy has published several CDs; see her web site for information.

Singer-songwriter-keyboardist Nancy Rost has been called "the love child of Tom Lehrer and Tom Waits" (KnowYourMusic.com). Her distinctive songs combine a jazz-influenced piano style with lyrics that are quirky, witty and heartfelt, often all at once. This former toy-pianoplaying street musician has



www.nancyrost.com

garnered songwriting awards in multiple genres, including pop/rock, folk, jazz and comedy. Nancy is known internationally for her participation in songwriting marathons (February Album Writing Month among others) and her versatility as a collaborator.

Nancy's performances are known for their energy and improvisation: "The laughter in the crowd is contagious, as everyone's thoughts are mixed in a tart, though refreshing, concoction of high witticisms and ardent applause."

- The Capital Times (Madison WI)

Nancy's work appears on several compilation CDs; see her web site for information.



www.daveschindele.com

**Dave Schindele** writes and performs music for voice and piano and has been described as a "piano poet." His music is contemporary in style, with elements of jazz, classical, rock and musical theater. Dave credits having grown up in a household where music of many forms was played and appreciated for shaping his musical development. He has written poetry and composed music for many years, but only began performing publicly since 2005. Favorite inspirations include singer-songwriters such as Carole King and Burt Bacharach, Broadway composers such as Stephen Sondheim, and Impressionists such as Claude Debussy.

Dave's songs explore original musical territory and try to provide a medium for forecasting, working out and encapsulating the inner life.