

QUARTERLY PROGRAMMING REPORT

The Current

October 1 to December 31, 2014

In studio performances

The Kooks perform live in The Current studio

October 6, 2014

On tour supporting their new album, 'Listen', the Kooks were in town on Saturday, Oct. 4, to play a show at First Avenue in Minneapolis. Earlier in the day, they stopped by The Current studio to play some songs off the new album and to chat with Bill DeVille.

Shovels & Rope perform in The Current studio

October 10, 2014

Touring in support of their new album, 'Swimmin' Time', Cary Ann Hearst and Michael Trent -- aka Shovels & Rope -- stopped by The Current studio to play some tunes and to talk with Mary Lucia.

Sloan perform live in The Current studio

October 10, 2014

Touring in support of Commonwealth, their 13th studio release, Toronto rock pioneers Sloan stopped by The Current to record an in-studio and to chat with host Mary Lucia before their gig at St. Paul's Turf Club.

The Afghan Whigs perform live in The Current studio

October 11, 2014

Touring in support of Do to the Beast, their first album in 16 years, the Afghan Whigs stopped by to record a session in The Current's studio and to chat with host and resident Afghan Whigs expert Barb Abney.

Royal Blood perform live in The Current studio

October 13, 2014

In town opening for Pixies, the UK's Royal Blood stopped by The Current's studio to record a session and to chat with host Mark Wheat about their sudden success around their self-titled debut that released Aug. 25, 2014 in the States.

BANKS performs in The Current studio

October 13, 2014

Not long ago, Jillian Banks was cutting her teeth at Los Angeles open-mics, but just last week, she played a sold-out show at First Avenue in Minneapolis. Singer-songwriter BANKS stopped in to The Current studio to perform some songs and to chat with Mark Wheat.

Pixies perform live in The Current studio

October 14, 2014

Touring in support of Indie Cindy, iconic indie-rockers Pixies -- Frank Black, Joey Santiago, David Lovering and Paz Lenchantin -- stopped by The Current's studio to record a session and to chat with host Mac Wilson before their gig at the State Theatre.

Field Report perform in The Current studio

October 14, 2014

In town as one of four bands featured in the Communion Club Tour, which comes to the Varsity Theater in Minneapolis tonight, Milwaukee-based Field Report stopped at The Current's studio to play some songs off their latest album, 'Marigolden', and to chat with Mary Lucia.

Delta Spirit perform in The Current studio

October 16, 2014

In town in support of their album, Into the Wide, Delta Spirit visited The Current's studio to play some songs and to chat with Mark Wheat.

The Preatures perform in The Current studio

October 17, 2014

After playing a show at the Triple Rock Social Club in Minneapolis, Sydney-based band The Preatures stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs off their album, 'Blue Planet Eyes', and to talk to Steve Seel.

The Rural Alberta Advantage perform in The Current studio

October 17, 2014

The Rural Alberta Advantage are in town for a show at the First Avenue Mainroom, touring in support of their new album, 'Mended with Gold'. The group stopped by The Current studio to play some tunes and to chat with Mark Wheat.

Angus & Julia Stone perform live in The Current studio

October 20, 2014

Ahead of their sold out gig at the Cedar Cultural Center, Angus & Julia Stone stopped by The Current studio to record a session with their full touring band and to chat with host Bill DeVille about their new self-titled album, what it was like working with producer Rick Rubin and, yup, Vegemite.

Boy & Bear perform in The Current studio

October 22, 2014

On tour in support of their second full-length, 'Harlequin Dream', Sydney-based Boy & Bear stopped in to The Current's studio ahead of their show at the Varsity Theater in Minneapolis.

Bahamas performs live in The Current studio

October 24, 2014

Singer-songwriter Afie Jurvanen - aka Bahamas - stopped by The Current studio for a live session and an interview with Jade before playing a sold-out show at the Triple Rock Social Club in Minneapolis.

Mike Mictlan performs live in The Current studio

October 27, 2014

Doomtree's Mike Mictlan stopped by the Local Show to perform tracks off his latest HELLA FRREAL and to chat with host David Campbell.

Reigning Sound perform in The Current studio

October 30, 2014

After moving to North Carolina from Tennessee, Greg Cartwright heard a slang term for his new state and was inspired. "Man, I've gotta find some way to put that in a song," he declared. The result is the first track on Reigning Sound's album, 'Shattered'. Hear the story of "North Cackalacky Girl" and more, as Reigning Sound visit Bill DeVille in The Current studio.

alt-J perform in The Current studio

October 31, 2014

Asked about the title of the album, 'This is All Yours', alt-J's Gus Unger-Hamilton says it 'seemed to sum up our approach to making music ... we don't have the final say over what our music necessarily means or is about. We give it to other people.' In town to play a sold-out show at the Myth Nightclub in Maplewood, Minn., alt-J stopped at The Current for an acoustic set and an interview with Mary Lucia.

Chris Koza performs live in The Current studio

November 4, 2014

With the recent release of his solo album In Real Time, Rogue Valley's Chris Koza stopped by The Current studio to record tracks off the new record and to chat with Local Show host David Campbell about what's to come for the local musician.

Israel Nash performs live in The Current studio

November 6, 2014

In town to play United States of Americana's fifth birthday bash, Israel Nash and company stopped by The Current to perform in our studio and to chat with host Bill DeVille before their gig at the Turf Club.

FKA twigs performs live in The Current studio

November 14, 2014

Before making her Twin Cities debut at the Fine Line Music Cafe tonight (and playing Prince's legendary Paisley Park tomorrow evening), FKA twigs stopped by The Current to perform songs off her new album LP1 and to chat with Music Director David Safar.

The Barr Brothers perform in The Current studio

November 15, 2014

"We're from Montreal, but this is our first snow of the year," says Brad Barr, gazing out the window of The Current's Maud Moon Weyerhaeuser studio. Although based in Montreal, The Barr Brothers draw from a world of influences. Before their gig at the Cedar Cultural Center in Minneapolis, the Barr Brothers stopped at The Current for a live session hosted by Bill DeVille.

Nikki Lane performs live in The Current studio

November 18, 2014

"Men seem to only notice when a woman is talking once she starts yelling," Nikki Lane tells Mark Wheat, but she never has to yell at Mark; instead, the two share some great stories and good laughs as Nikki Lane and her band stop by The Current's studio ahead of a show tonight (with Jamestown Revival and Hollow Wood) at the Cedar Cultural Center in Minneapolis.

Stars perform in The Current studio

November 21, 2014

Montreal band Stars have released their seventh album, but on their most recent visit to The Current, they opened the in-studio set by covering "Here Comes a Regular" by the Replacements. "It is one of the greatest sad songs ever written," says Stars' vocalist Torquil Campbell. Check out the full session.

Big Data perform live in The Current studio

November 21, 2014

Ahead of their sold out show in the First Avenue mainroom with Fitz and the Tantrums, Big Data stopped by The Current to chat with host Mark Wheat and to record tracks off their latest record live in our studio.

Mike Doughty performs in The Current studio

November 22, 2014

Mike Doughty is playing back-to-back shows at the Dakota in Minneapolis tonight, prompting The Current's Bill DeVille to ask him if such a gig is difficult. "Not really," Doughty says. "I prefer to be playing music than not playing music." Doughty stopped in to The Current's studio to chat with DeVille and to play a few tunes before the doubleheader.

Sarah Krueger performs live in The Current studio

December 2, 2014

Anticipating the release of her sophomore album Lustrous, Duluth resident Sarah Krueger stopped by The Current studio to perform tracks off the new record and to chat with the Local Show's host David Campbell.

Ian McLagan performs in the Current's studios

December 3, 2014

McLagan had been making and releasing music under his own name for 35 years, and he stopped by the Current's studios as he released his tenth solo album, 'United States'.

Nick Lowe, with Los Straitjackets, performs in The Current studio

December 3, 2014

In town for a show at First Avenue, Nick Lowe and Los Straitjackets visited The Current's studio for a session hosted by Mary Lucia. Originally scheduled to appear with Ian McLagan, the session includes a live version of "(What's So Funny 'Bout) Peace, Love, and Understanding," dedicated to McLagan. "He was a fellow who loved life," Lowe says.

We Are the Willows perform live in The Current studio

December 10, 2014

Celebrating the release of their new concept album Picture (Portrait), Minneapolis' We Are the Willows stopped by The Current to perform tracks off the record live in-studio and to chat with the Local Show's host David Campbell.

Doomtree perform before a live audience in MPR's Forum

December 17, 2014

Minnesota's own Doomtree visited MPR to put on an intimate and exclusive live performance as a part of their #LastBlowoutEver. "Every year, we want to outdo everything we've done," Sims says. Watch video and listen to audio of the performance, hosted by Mary Lucia.

Brandi Carlile performs in The Current Studio

December 30, 2014

In town for a couple of shows at the Varsity Theater in Minneapolis, Brandi Carlile and her band stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs off their forthcoming record, 'The Firewatcher's Daughter.' The session features the live radio premieres of three new songs, including one about which Carlile says, "It's my favorite song on the album, probably my favorite song ever."

Features on The Current

Interviews

Belle and Sebastian's Stuart Murdoch has secrets for surviving while on tour

October 6, 2014

Belle & Sebastian have been together since 1996 and have been playing shows around the world for just as long. Stuart Murdoch, the singer and songwriter of the group, gives some insight on how he's managed to keep his sanity while on the road.

Glenn Tilbrook

October 14, 2014

In town to play a solo gig at the Turf Club in St. Paul, Glenn Tilbrook of Squeeze dropped in to The Current's broadcast studio to chat with Mary Lucia about his projects past and present.

Sondre Lerche

October 17, 2014

In town to play a show tonight at the Turf Club in St. Paul, Sondre Lerche stopped by The Current's studio to talk to Jade about his new album, 'Please'.

Dee Dee Penny from Dum Dum Girls

October 22, 2014

Dee Dee Penny from Dum Dum Girls dropped by The Current's studio to chat with Barb Abney ahead of the band's show tonight at the Fine Line in Minneapolis.

Joseph Arthur talks about Lou Reed's enduring influence

October 27, 2014

When asked about his new record, Joseph Arthur unintentionally dropped a handful of big names. But now that the record is here only one name that matters: Lou.

Dan Auerbach of the Black Keys

October 29, 2014

Before their big gig at the Target Center with opening act Jake Bugg, Dan Auerbach of the Black Keys chatted with Jill Riley of The Current's Morning Show backstage.

Sound Unseen 2014: A conversation with Festival Director Jim Brunzell

November 7, 2014

Jim Brunzell, director for the Sound Unseen festival, stopped by to share the news for this year and talked about some of his favorite offerings.

Damien Rice

November 11, 2014

Damien Rice's third full-length album *My Favourite Faded Fantasy* releases today. The Irish singer-songwriter recently chatted with host Barb Abney about the new record and his life leading up to the release. After you catch the interview, enter The Current's Damien Rice *My Favourite Faded Fantasy* giveaway.

Eating and Drinking with The Growler's Joe Alton: Winter Carnival Beer Dabbler

November 12, 2014

The Growler's managing editor Joe Alton joins the Current's Morning Show to talk about the latest trends in the Minnesota craft beer scene.

Really Random Vinyl with comedian Paul F. Tompkins

November 13, 2014

Host Jill Riley of The Current's Morning show sat down with comedian Paul F. Tompkins for an edition of Really Random Vinyl, a new video series from The Current.

Comedian Hari Kondabolu on 'Waiting for 2042', Weezer and Burger King

November 14, 2014

Before making his Wits debut tonight at the Fitzgerald Theatre with musical guest OK Go, stand-up comedian Hari Kondabolu sat down to chat with Steve Seel of The Current's Morning show.

Rockabilly Riot: a conversation with Brian Setzer

November 14, 2014

With successful career that includes '80s hits with the Stray Cats and '90s hits with the Brian Setzer Orchestra, Brian Setzer has a new album out and he kicks off a Christmas tour tonight in his adopted hometown of Minneapolis. Setzer talks to The Current's Jill Riley about his music and about his guitar, which he has donated to the Smithsonian Institution, and how it got those signature dice knobs.

Robyn Hitchcock

November 21, 2014

In town to play back-to-back shows tonight at the Dakota in Minneapolis, Robyn Hitchcock dropped in to The Current studio to chat with Jim McGuinn. Although he's got two shows tonight, "None of the songs overlap," Hitchcock says. "You'll get two utterly different shows."

Hockey, beer and music: Sam Roberts chats with Jim McGuinn

November 21, 2014

Capping off a cavalcade of Canadian acts to come into The Current this week, Sam Roberts stopped in to the studio to talk to Jim McGuinn about hockey, beer and music. "I still maintain that 'Spinal Tap' is the most accurate movie ever made about life in a rock 'n' roll band," Sam says.

Death From Above 1979

November 24, 2014

Why did Death from Above 1979 call it quits in 2006? "Being in a band is not a natural state for a human person," is how Sebastien Grainger puts it. He and Jesse F. Keeler stopped by The Current to talk to Mary Lucia before their show tonight at First Avenue, a very big deal for a couple of Prince fans.

Shakey Graves talks suitcase drums and coffee-fueled songwriting

December 8, 2014

It was bright and early to come in to see Bill DeVille in The Current's studio, but Shakey Graves was happy to do it. On only his second time in the Twin Cities, Graves had sold out the Cedar Cultural Center the night before. "I had so much fun," Graves says. "It was a really wonderful crowd." Graves chatted with DeVille and even performed an on-the-fly, standup version of the song, "Call It Heaven."

Morning Show

Weekend Arts Roundup

Seeds and Beats

October 2, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Euan Kerr joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a couple of live shows that involve a lot of onstage creation and improvisation.

Falling in Love With Art

October 9, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about the artful happenings around town that will make you love Fall.

Art that Moves You

October 16, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about arts happenings that encourage you to get out there and move.

Trains and Treats

October 23, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a ballet production at Union Depot and about some Halloween arts treats.

Halloween Alternatives

October 30, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Sean McPherson (in for Jill Riley) to talk about two non-traditional Halloween offerings to check out this weekend.

Art This Way

November 6, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about the artful happenings around town this weekend.

Engaging in Dialogues

November 13, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about arts events in which dialogue is exchanged across generations, cultures and centuries.

Dancing Beavers

November 20, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about an allegorical play on modern warfare, an art gallery exhibit inspired by gardening, and a play featuring dancing beavers and a disguised Karl Marx.

Set Your Holidays on Edge

December 4, 2014

The holiday season is ramping up, but there's still plenty of heartfelt despair and bleakness happening on Twin Cities stages right now. As a counterpoint to all the joy and partying, MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about some productions that offer a bit of thought-provoking midwinter malaise.

Gathering Round the Fire

December 11, 2014

It's the time of year when it's getting colder, it's winter, it's the holidays . . . time to gather round the fire for some storytelling and shared experiences. MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley on The Current's Morning Show to talk about some heartwarming productions.

'Fashion and Bluegrass'

December 18, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Jill Riley on The Current's Morning Show to talk about arts events that are nothing to do with the holidays but have plenty of sparkle all the same.

Movie Maven with Stephanie Curtis

'Gone Girl'

October 3, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new mystery thriller starring Ben Affleck, Rosamund Pike and Neil Patrick Harris.

'Birdman'

October 24, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new film starring Michael Keaton, Emma Stone and Edward Norton.

'Nightcrawler'

October 31, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Sean McPherson (in for Jill Riley) to talk about a new thriller starring Jake Gyllenhaal.

'Top Five'

December 12, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jade to talk about a new film written, directed by and starring Chris Rock. "It's a refreshing film about a grown man facing a real crisis that real adults face," Stephanie says. Listen to the entire review and watch the trailer.

'Wild'

December 19, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new film based on the best-selling book by Cheryl Strayed.

The Sporting Life with Michael Rand

Lorde is Your Baseball Guru

October 6, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about why you should cheer for the Royals, The upcoming Wild season, and TCF will be seeing some action.

The Vikings and the Horrible, no-good, very bad day

October 13, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Sean McPherson about the awesome win for the Gophers, the awesome win for the Wild, and the horrible-no-good-very-bad-game from the Vikings.

A Tale of Two Football Games

October 20, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about a tale of two football games, and The World Series.

Unfortunate Week for the Gophers

October 27, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the Gophers losing a game they should have won, The Wild are winning, and will the Twins ever get a manager?

November 3, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the Twins new manager, Vikings beat Washington, and Rubio is staying with us.

Gophers Football Could Be Historic

November 10, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about Gopher's beat Iowa and that means more than you think, Adrian Peterson is still a long way from playing football, and Ricky Rubio is hurt.

November 17, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the outlook for Adrian Peterson, The Wild and The Wolves.

Gophers Hitting the Citrus Bowl

December 8, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about The Gophers hitting the Citrus bowl, a win from the Vikings, and the possibility of a major league soccer expansion in Minnesota.

Vikings Suffer a Loss

December 15, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about The Vikings loss, Twins newest member, and some talk about the Gophers women's basketball.

What's Up With The Wild

December 22, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about The Vikings still losing, the Wolves trading Corey Brewer, and The Wild aren't playing at their level.

The End of the Vikings Season

December 29, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the end of the Vikings' season, Citrus Bowl fever, and checking in on upsetting seasons for teams outside of Minnesota.

The Throbbing Hive with John Moe

Netflix News

October 7, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about Netflix's new project and the death of one of their competitors.

Meet Doctor Google

October 14, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Sean McPherson about Google trying out online doctor visits, and Apple Pay's launch.

How Long Can You Listen to The Dead Tune?

October 21, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about listening to the Grateful Dead tune their instruments for 90 MINUTES, and they discuss Spotify.

Meet Marcel the Shell

October 28, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about problems for Apple Pay, and a new Marcel the Shell video.

#AlexFromTarget

November 4, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the randomness of fame in the internet era, and you can now play 900 old arcade and console games on your browser for free.

Too Many Cooks

November 11, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the weird sendup to 1980's television intros that ran on Adult Swim, "Too Many Cooks", and we check out "Bee and Puppocat".

Chick Chick

November 18, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the new Facebook just for work, and a horrible new viral song, "Chick Chick".

Movie Trailers

December 2, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the new trailers for the Star Wars and Jurassic World movies.

Black Mirror

December 9, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the Sony hack and the television show Black Mirror

Wham Slowed Down For The Holidays

December 23, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about a drinking jacket that's getting some major love on kickstarter, and Wham's "Last Christmas" slowed down being an ambient mind-blower.

Eating and Drinking

James Norton: Le Town Talk

October 8, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Steve Seel and Jill Riley about the newly opened Le Town Talk.

Chuck Kanski: German and Austrian Wines

October 15, 2014

Today, Chuck spoke to The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about Fall wines. He focused on German and Austrian wine.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Co-Existing with Wolves

October 22, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the history of lambs and wolves in Minnesota and a woman who has found a way to co-exist with them.

James Norton: Autumn Pie Bracket

October 29, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Steve Seel and Jill Riley about Heavy Table's pie competition.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: How Much Does Your Food Really Cost?

November 5, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about real food costs.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Gluten-Free

November 19, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about gluten-free diets and dining.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Olive Oil

December 3, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about olive oil.

James Norton: What to Eat in Dinkytown

December 10, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Steve Seel and Jill Riley about some of his favorite places to grab a bite in Dinkytown.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Food Trucks Growing Roots

December 17, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the new trend of food trucks taking off the wheels and opening full blown restaurants.

James Norton: What to Look For in 2015

December 24, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Steve Seel and Jill Riley about the new eating and drinking trends to look for in 2015.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Bubbly

December 31, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about how to ring in a successful (and inexpensive) New Years Eve with sparkling wine.

Cube Critic

'20,000 Days on Earth,' 'Pride'

October 10, 2014

MPR's Cube Critic Euan Kerr joins Jill Riley and Sean McPherson (in for Steve Seel) to talk about a semi-documentary that follows a day in the life of rocker Nick Cave, and a new film about a GLBT group in the 80's raising money for the miners.

'Rosewater,' 'Legends of Ska'

November 14, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter and Cube Critic Euan Kerr joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about 'Rosewater', Jon Stewart's directorial debut. And guess what? It's not a comedy. Euan also mentions 'Legends of Ska', which screens on Sunday as part of the Sound Unseen film festival.

'The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 1'

November 21, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter and Cube Critic Euan Kerr joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about the latest film in the Hunger Games series. "This is the third in the trilogy of four movies," Euan quips.

'Point and Shoot'

December 5, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter and Cube Critic Euan Kerr joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new documentary that chronicles a man's quest to define his own masculinity while motorbiking across the Middle East.

Holiday Programming

The Current's Time Machine Weekend

November 26 – November 30, 2014

Over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, The Current is going back in time! Starting at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 26, we'll feature a different year each hour all weekend long, before we jet back to the present with the Local Show on Sunday, Nov. 30, at 6 p.m. Tune in to enjoy multiple blasts from the past.

Each hour is selected at random, so we'll bounce from rockabilly to grunge to punk to emo to old-school hip hop to Beatlemania and beyond. Don't miss Time Machine Weekend this Thanksgiving holiday from your friends at 89.3 The Current.

Top 89 of 2014

December 31, 2014

2014 was an incredible year for music. Each month saw a barrage of new singles and albums from a wide array of artists. We played the songs and you responded to each of them. Now, we're counting the songs down based on your votes in our annual Top 89 poll.

Theft of the Dial

Theft of the Dial: Sam Fogarino and Daniel Kessler of Interpol

November 20, 2014

Ahead of Interpol's sold out show in the First Avenue mainroom on Nov. 14, Sam Fogarino and Daniel Kessler of the band came by The Current studios to record a Theft of the Dial with host Barb Abney.

The Local Show

The Local Show featuring Ben Weaver, Andrea Swensson and Jay Gabler

October 5, 2014

This week on The Local Show, you'll meet traveling troubadour Ben Weaver, who's singing and songwriting are regularly (and deservedly) compared to both Tom Waits and Leonard Cohen. Ben will stop by to spin a few cuts from his latest I Would Rather Be A Buffalo, which is out October 10th via fledgling label, and used vinyl specialists, Hymie's Vintage Records. He'll also tell us about his upcoming national tour from Minneapolis down to New Orleans ... by bicycle!

We'll also check in with reporters Jay Gabler and Andrea Swensson for the latest from the Local Current Blog, including October artist of the month Bob Dylan, Doomtree Blowout X, and the release party at Paisley Park for Prince's two new albums.

Most importantly, you'll hear debuts from Rhymesayers rapper Prof, high schoolers Stereo Confession, Ecid, blues legend Dave "Snaker" Ray, Totally Gross National Product's RONiiA, Brian Laidlaw and the Family Trade, and a song first album in 7 years by psych pop assassins Basement Apartment.

The Local Show featuring Allan Kingdom, Andrea Swensson and Jay Gabler

October 19, 2014

This week on The Local Show you'll meet St. Paul rapper Allan Kingdom. Only twenty years old, he's already got three full lengths, an EP and a handful of singles to his name. More importantly, he has a uncompromising commitment to his own artistic vision - one of the most unique styles and voices in Twin Cities Hip Hop. You'll hear Allan perform three from his Future Memiors album, and we'll chat about the live debut of his new group, thestand4rd, which he formed producer Psymun, Bobby Raps, and the mysterious 16 year old internet sensation Spooky Black.

You'll also hear music from Oct. Artist of the Month, Bob Dylan, on the The Local Show this week. We'll spin a set of songs from some of his studio releases in the '70s - records like Planet Waves and Desire, and talk with Local Current reporter Jay Gabler about this period of Dylan's career.

You'll also hear debuts from thestand4rd, The Rembrandts's Phil Solem, bluesman Dave "Snaker" Ray, Chris Koza, The Ericksons, and more!

The Local Show featuring Andrea Swensson and Jay Gabler

November 23, 2014

This week on The Local Show we'll check in with Jay Gabler and Andrea Swensson for the latest from the Local Current Blog, which will include Jay's personal introduction to Aria Stiles and the Band Famous, and Andrea's thoughts on the joys of piano lessons as an adult. You'll hear debuts from Shiro Dame's Sarah White remixed by MYK, Red Daughters latest, The Melismatics, Rich Mattson and the Northstars, Chalk, and Duluth's Sarah Krueger. You'll also hear Minnesota classics from The Butanes Soul Revue, Babes in Toyland, The Replacements, and Dave King related projects Love-cars, and Halloween, Alaska. You'll also hear the latest from GRRRL PRY, K.Raydio and O-D Music, Little Man, BNLX, The Gang Font, Black Diet, White Boyfriend, Van Stee, Toby Thomas Churchill and the amazing Rupert Angeleyes!

The Local Show featuring Andrea Swensson, Jay Gabler, Barb Abney, and We Are The Willows

December 7, 2014

This week on The Local Show, Local Current reporters Andrea Swensson and Jay Gabler were in to deliver the latest from the blog, including the scoop on EDM technician Vaski and the forthcoming demise of Nye's Polonaise. Barb Abney made her TLS debut to introduce December Artist of the Month, Doomtree, and to drop their hot new single "Gray Duck" from the forthcoming album All Hands. Musical guests We Are The Willows were in to perform songs from their new concept album Picture (Portrait), built from 350 letters front man Peter Miller's grandparents exchanged when separated during WWII. You'll also hear an very interesting 7 at 7 this week on TLS, a collaboration between Mason Jennings and Pearl Jam's Stone Gossard. Most importantly, the rest of the show was almost 100% debuts. New music from Verskotzi, Nicholas David, Vaski, Rupert Angeleyes, Dream Brother, Theo Brown Music, Virginia Circle, Toby Thomas Churchill, RONiiA, Taggart And Rosewood, and more!

The Local Show: Critic's Picks Edition

December 14, 2014

The Local Show this week was our annual Critic's Picks edition. It's a two hour look back at Minnesota Music in 2014 via critics Chris Riemenschneider from the Star Tribune and Vita.mn, Reed Fischer from and Gimme Noise, Local Current's Andrea Swensson, and the new guy, Toki Wright, who's a freelance writer for Insight News, as well as a pretty darn good rapper. You'll hear the critics discuss their 2014 Minnesota music MVPs, their two favorite songs released this year, some things they felt we collectively missed the boat on, and make some predictions about what's to come in 2015. Hear TLS debuts from Kaleem The Dream, Freez, Manny Phesto, UP ROCK, the Miami Dolphins, Rupert Angeleyes and Sarah Krueger, as well as the latest from Lizzo, Trampled by Turtles, Ben Weaver, The Ericksons, Jeremy Messersmith, Haley Bonar, Thestand4rd, PaviElle, Hippo Campus, Shiro Dame and Toby Thomas Churchill. Not to mention a spectacular take on Darlene Love's Christmas (Baby Please Come Home) by Eric Mayson and Caroline Smith, and new/old Man Sized Action from their 1984 masterpiece Five Story Garage. It's a big one!

Guitar Collection

The Current's Guitar Collection: The Loar

October 1, 2014

By strange coincidence, a guitar make that we hadn't covered before was mentioned by two different guitar players within one week: Anthony LaMarca of The War on Drugs and singer-songwriter Justin Townes Earle both describe their acoustic guitars built by San Francisco-based The Loar.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Field Report

October 15, 2014

After playing a set in The Current's studio, Field Report's Chris Porterfield and Tom Wincek took some time to talk about their guitars. Both describe interesting modifications they've made, including why Chris's guitar looks like an antique.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Jack Moffitt of The Preatures

October 22, 2014

The Preatures' Jack Moffitt walked into a Sydney guitar shop on a whim and found an instrument he describes as "me in a guitar." Find out more about what Jack has to say about his Gibson 335.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Dave Hosking of Boy & Bear

October 29, 2014

When Sydney's Boy & Bear were in the studio for a live session, front man Dave Hosking took some time to talk about his vintage Gibson guitar. One of the things that drew him to the instrument was how "it sounded like all [his] favorite Neil Young records."

The Current's Guitar Collection: Matt Vasquez of Delta Spirit

November 5, 2014

While in the studio at The Current, Delta Spirit's Matt Vasquez played a Fender Kingman, which actually has a connection to Elvis in the movies. Matt explains, and he also describes some of his other favorite guitars.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Brad Barr of the Barr Brothers

November 19, 2014

For Brad Barr, his 1950s Gibson J-45 not only sounds great, it's a priceless memento of and tribute to a late, beloved uncle. "He was a great teacher to me, and I'm ever grateful to him," Barr says.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Nikki Lane

November 26, 2014

When Nikki Lane was in The Current's studio for a live session, she played a brand-new, shiny, black guitar. Asked about the instrument, Nikki shares a great story that involves a tour of the guitar factory and a great deal of respect for Johnny Cash.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Mike Doughty

December 3, 2014

Mike Doughty keeps two guitars at home so there's always one nearby when an idea strikes him. One of those guitars is always on tour with him, and Doughty took some time to tell us about it and the decals he's applied to personalize the instrument.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Nick Lowe

December 10, 2014

Nick Lowe accompanied a friend on an errand to a guitar shop in Portland, Ore.; implored to try a guitar by a store employee, Lowe originally dismissed the instrument as "ugly." But after playing it, Nick Lowe bought it. Read the story and learn about the guitar in the latest installment of The Current's Guitar Collection.

QUARTERLY PROGRAMMING REPORT

The Current

July 1 to September 30, 2014

In studio performances

Hamilton Leithauser performs in The Current studio

July 11, 2014

In town to open for Ray LaMontagne in the newly renovated Northrop Auditorium, Hamilton Leithauser stopped by The Current studios to chat with host Mac Wilson and to play tracks off his recently released solo debut.

John Mark Nelson performs live in The Current studio

July 14, 2014

With the recent release of his third album Sings the Moon, John Mark Nelson stopped by The Current before heading off to Paris to chat with Local Show host David Campbell and to perform tracks off the new record live in our studio.

Alpha Consumer perform live in The Current studio

July 15, 2014

With the recent release of Meat, Alpha Consumer stopped by The Current to perform tracks off the new record live in our studio. Between songs, Jeremy Ylvisaker, Mike Lewis and JT Bates of Alpha Consumer chatted with Local Show host David Campbell about the record's title, Louie C.K. and their upcoming gig at the Red Stag Block Party.

The Fresh & Onlys perform live in The Current studio

July 17, 2014

Ahead of their show at the 7th St. Entry, the Fresh & Onlys stopped by The Current studio to perform tracks off their new record, House of Spirits. Between songs, frontman Tim Cohen and Wymond Miles chatted with host Barb Abney about the band's beginnings at Amoeba Music in San Francisco, how the Fresh & Onlys' dynamic has changed over the years and what recording the new album at Lucky Cat.

tUnE-yArDs perform live in The Current studio

July 17, 2014

Ahead of tUnE-yArDs' sold out show at First Avenue, frontwoman Merrill Garbus and the gang stopped by The Current studio to perform tracks off the new record, Nikki Nack. Between songs, Garbus chatted with host Mary Lucia about their recent stormy Glastonbury set, studying Haitian drumming and how the Nikki Nack writing process differed from past records.

Sharon Van Etten performs live in The Current studio

July 18, 2014

Ahead of her show at First Avenue, Sharon Van Etten and band stopped by The Current studio to perform tracks off the new record, *Are We There*. Between songs, Sharon chatted with host Jill Riley about being a notable user of the omnicord, how the Everly Brothers shaped her voice and what her connection is to John Cale of the Velvet Underground.

Sylvan Esso perform live in The Current studio

July 28, 2014

Fresh off their gig at 10 Thousand Sounds Festival this past weekend, Sylvan Esso — comprising Amelia Meath and Nick Sanborn — stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs and to chat with David Campbell.

Dawes, Live In Concert: Newport Folk 2014

July 30, 2014

A heartwarming crowd-pleaser on stage and record, Dawes has become a Newport Folk Festival mainstay. The California roots-rock band performed at the 2014 Newport Folk Festival on Sunday, July 27.

Hollow Boys perform live in The Current studio

August 4, 2014

With the recent release of *Believe in Nothing*, Hollow Boys stopped by The Local Show to perform tracks off the new record live in The Current studio and to chat with host David Campbell.

PHOX perform live in The Current studio

August 5, 2014

Baraboo, Wis., six-piece PHOX have enjoyed a meteoric rise since the release of their 2013 EP 'Confetti'. In town to play a sold-out show at the 7th Street Entry, PHOX visited The Current's studio for the first time, where they played some songs and chatted with Mark Wheat.

Tori Amos performs live in The Current studio

August 6, 2014

On tour supporting her 14th studio album, *'Unrepentant Geraldines'*, as well as her rich back-catalogue, Tori Amos stopped by The Current's studio early on Sunday to play some songs and to have a chat with Bill DeVille.

Hippo Campus perform live in the Current's studios

August 11, 2014

For a band who have yet to release an LP - or even an EP, for that matter - the young band Hippo Campus are doing pretty well for themselves. They're the toast of the local live music scene this summer, and they stopped by our studios to play a few songs and talk about their wild ride to critical and popular acclaim.

The New Pornographers perform in The Current studio

August 11, 2014

In town to play the Skyline Music Festival at Target Field in Minneapolis, Vancouver-rooted indie rockers The New Pornographers stopped in to The Current's studio to play some tunes and to talk to Mary Lucia.

The Baseball Project perform in The Current studio

August 11, 2014

In town for a show at the Cedar Cultural Center, The Baseball Project stop into the studio to play some songs and to talk baseball with The Current's Mac Wilson.

OK Go perform live in The Current studio

August 18, 2014

The morning after playing a sold-out show at the Fine Line Music Cafe in Minneapolis, OK Go stopped in to The Current's studio to play an acoustic set and to talk with Bill DeVille.

Strand of Oaks perform live in The Current studio

August 20, 2014

Just before playing a show at the 7th Street Entry, Strand of Oaks stopped by The Current studio to play some songs and to talk to Mark Wheat about songs that simply "needed to be written."

Nikki Lane, joined by Frankie Lee, performs at the State Fair

August 25, 2014

Singer-songwriter Nikki Lane performed a set at the MPR booth at the Minnesota State Fair on Saturday, Aug. 23. Frankie Lee joined her on backing vocals and second guitar; both of them spoke to Barb Abney and played in front of a live audience.

Sims performs live at the Minnesota State Fair

August 26, 2014

This week at the Minnesota State Fair, members of the local emcee collective Doomtree will be stopping by the MPR Booth on the corner of Judson and Nelson. On Monday, Sims performed tracks off his forthcoming Field Notes and chatted with host Mary Lucia about what's in store for him and the crew in the coming months.

Dessa performs live at the Minnesota State Fair

August 27, 2014

This week at the Minnesota State Fair, members of the local emcee collective Doomtree will be stopping by the MPR Booth on the corner of Judson and Nelson. On Tuesday, Dessa performed live and chatted with host Mary Lucia about what's in store the crew in the coming months.

Mike Mictlan performs live at the Minnesota State Fair

August 28, 2014

This week at the Minnesota State Fair, members of the local emcee collective Doomtree will be stopping by the MPR Booth on the corner of Judson and Nelson. On Wednesday, Mike Mictlan performed live and chatted with host Mary Lucia about what's in store the crew in the coming months.

P.O.S. performs live at the Minnesota State Fair

August 29, 2014

This week at the Minnesota State Fair, members of the local emcee collective Doomtree will be stopping by the MPR Booth on the corner of Judson and Nelson. On Thursday, P.O.S. performed live and chatted with host Mary Lucia about what he's been up to the last few months and what's in store for him and the Doomtree crew in the near future.

Haley Bonar performs live at the Minnesota State Fair

September 4, 2014

On the last day of the Great Minnesota Get-Together, Haley Bonar played a few songs off her latest album, Last War, and chatted with Mark Wheat during a live broadcast from the MPR booth.

The Jayhawks perform live in The Current studio

September 4, 2014

Celebrating their reissues and on the cusp of playing three nights of shows in the Twin Cities, the Jayhawks spent the better part of an afternoon in The Current's studio, playing songs and catching up with Mary Lucia.

Stereo Confession perform in The Current studio

September 7, 2014

On a special back-to-school edition of The Local Show, Minneapolis rock band Stereo Confession stop into The Current's studio to talk to David Campbell about their forthcoming album, about how high school is going so far and about what they have planned for after graduation.

Glass Animals perform in The Current studio

September 9, 2014

In town for a gig at the Cedar Cultural Center, Oxford-based band Glass Animals stopped in to The Current's studio on the fourth day of their U.S. tour to play some tunes and to talk to Mark Wheat.

JD McPherson performs in The Current studio

September 14, 2014

In town to play a couple of gigs at the Turf Club in St. Paul, JD McPherson and his band stop by The Current's studio to chat with Bill DeVille and to play some tunes they're currently road-testing in the run-up to the release of their next album.

Toki Wright and Big Cats perform live in The Current studio

September 15, 2014

Toki Wright and Big Cats stopped by the Local Show to chat with host David Campbell about their forthcoming album Pangea and to perform three new tracks off the record live in The Current studio.

The Bots perform in The Current studio

September 15, 2014

Fresh from their gig at Riot Fest in Chicago on Saturday and gearing up for a show tonight in the Nether Bar at Mill City Nights, Los Angeles duo the Bots stopped into The Current's studio to play some songs and to talk with Mark Wheat.

Chet Faker performs in The Current studio

September 16, 2014

Chet Faker (real name Nick Murphy) stopped in to The Current's studio for an interview with Mary Lucia and to play a few songs ahead of his show tonight in the First Avenue Mainroom.

Zeus perform in The Current studio

September 23, 2014

In town for a show at the 7th Street Entry on Tuesday, Sept. 23, Toronto rockers Zeus stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs and to chat with Mary Lucia.

The War on Drugs perform in The Current studio

September 24, 2014

Between their two-night stand in the First Avenue mainroom, the War on Drugs stopped by Minnesota Public Radio to chat with Jill Riley of the Morning Show and to perform tracks live in The Current's studio, including songs off their latest album, Lost in the Dream, and a fantastic Bob Dylan cover.

Justin Townes Earle performs in The Current studio

September 25, 2014

In town to play at First Avenue in Minneapolis, Townes Earle stopped in to The Current for a warm and very open conversation with Mary Lucia.

Features on The Current

Interviews

The Rural Alberta Advantage debut 'Terrified,' talk about new album

July 8, 2014

Anticipating the release of Rural Alberta Advantage's 3rd studio album, Mended with Gold, frontman Nils Edenloff chatted with New Hot host David Safar this week to debut "Terrified," the first single off the new record.

MN Bragging Week: An Interview with Mayor Betsy Hodges

July 16, 2014

Mayor Hodges joined the Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel to talk about her week of bragging about all the things that make Minnesota such a great place to live.

Interview: Jenny Lewis talks about 'The Voyager'

August 3, 2014

Ahead of her show Sunday night at First Avenue in Minneapolis, Jenny Lewis stopped by The Current's studio for a live interview with Mac Wilson. The two talked about Lewis's new album 'The Voyager' and her collaborations with Ryan Adams and Beck.

A Belle and Sebastian album cover come to life

September 3, 2014

Belle & Sebastian front man Stuart Murdoch has made his directorial debut with the film 'God Help The Girl'. The Sound Unseen Festival is presenting the movie's Midwestern premiere Thursday at a screening at the McNally Smith School of Music in St Paul. It's an appropriate site because at its heart Murdoch, said, the film is about music. MPR's Euan Kerr recently spoke to Murdoch about it.

Interview: Robert Plant

September 9, 2014

With a successful career spanning more than 45 years, Robert Plant isn't just a talented musician; he's a rock legend. Plant recently caught up with United States of Americana host Bill DeVillie to talk about his new album, Lullaby And... The Ceaseless Roar.

What's Happening at The Walker: An Interview with Curator Philip Bither

September 11, 2014

Philip Bither, McGuire Senior Curator of Performing Arts, stopped by The Current's Morning Show to talk to Jill and Steve about the upcoming season.

A conversation with MN Music Coalition's Ellen Stanley: Caravan Du Nord

September 26, 2014

The Minnesota Music Coalition's Caravan du Nord is trekking across our great state once again beginning Sept. 26. This traveling showcase of Minnesota musicians will embark on a journey through Austin, Detroit Lakes, Red Wing, Faribault, and Duluth. Historic theaters in each city will host music artists for full-day slates of performances, workshops, and community engagement.

Morning Show features

The Throbbing Hive with Wits' John Moe

Facebook's Social Experiment

July 1, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about Facebook performing emotional experiments on users, and testing attention spans with a challenging video.

Homestar Runner Returns

July 15, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the return of Homestar Runner, and the potato salad Kickstarter that broke the internet.

The Customer Service Call From Hell

July 22, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the Comcast call from Hell that went viral, and the viral video of the girl who truly believed her dad stole her nose.

Best Water Balloons

July 29, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about a Kickstarter project that will change how you think about water balloons, and Google is trying to map the body or something.

Flying to Mars

August 5, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley about an engine that's going to Mars, and Google is definitely scanning your emails.

The Return of Prancerise

August 19, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel about the return of the Prancerise lady (now with a friend!), and Facebook's move to tag satirical news stories as "SATIRE" in feeds so people don't get confused.

Digifest and Facebook Likes

August 26, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about experiencing a "Like"-free Facebook world, and John explains Digifest the best he can.

iPhone 6 and Drones

September 2, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about the iPhone 6 and drones.

RadioShack

September 16, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley about the death of RadioShack and Microsoft buying Minecraft.

Netflix Spoils You

September 23, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley about begging for bad reviews on Yelp and the new "Spoil Yourself" feature on Netflix.

Eating and Drinking

James Norton: Food Trucks

July 2, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the food trucks of summer.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdal: Cold Fermentation

July 9, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the fermentation trend in Minnesota.

Chuck Kanski: Summer Wines

July 16, 2014

Today, Chuck spoke to The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about summer wines that go great with grilling.

James Norton: Fusion Food

July 23, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Jill Riley and Steve Seel about his favorite fusion and multi-ethnic restaurants.

Joe Alton: In Cahoots

July 30, 2014

The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel hung out with The Growler's Joe Alton

James Norton: Payne Avenue Eats

August 6, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Steve Seel about the developing food scene in St. Paul's Payne-Phalen area.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Dining Faux Pas

August 13, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Steve Seel about dining faux pas.

James Norton: State Fair Foods

August 20, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Steve Seel about the new State Fair Food offerings.

Dara Moskowitz-Gumdahl: Antibiotics in Food

August 27, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Steve Seel about antibiotics in food.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Hops Madness

September 3, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley about harvesting local hops.

James Norton: Dining with Out-of-Towners

September 10, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Steve Seel and Jill Riley about where to take out-of-town guests to eat.

Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Eat Your Vegetables

September 17, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the secret value of vegetables.

James Norton: Italian Restaurants

September 24, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Steve Seel and Jill Riley about some local Italian eateries.

The Sporting Life with Star Tribune's Michael Rand

Soccer Selfies

July 7, 2014

Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about: Soccer players taking selfies, and the MLB all-star teams.

All-Star Game in Minnesota

July 14, 2014

Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about: the All-Star Game in Minneapolis, and LeBron heading back to Cleveland.

What's Going on With The Vikings

July 28, 2014

Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about: What to expect from The Vikings, Lynx winning again, and Twins trades.

Big Soccer Game at U of M

August 4, 2014

Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about: Championship soccer, big stars in town, and new Twins players.

Who Will Be The Vikings Starting Quarterback?

August 18, 2014

Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and producer Jade about: The possibilities for the starting Viking quarterback, and minor league baseball.

Kevin Love's Replacements

August 25, 2014

Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about Kevin Love's replacements, Gophers football, and The Twins.

Vikings Win Big

September 8, 2014

Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley the Vikings big win, The Saints big move, and the Twins big disappointment.

Talking About the NFL

September 15, 2014

Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Sean McPherson about the NFL and The Wild.

NFL Has A Problem

September 22, 2014

Today, Michael Rand chatted with Jill Riley and John Munson about The Vikings big loss, the NFL in general, and Twins season is nearly over.

Weekend Arts Roundup with MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs

Dance, Dance, Dance

July 10, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about three events that get people out and inspired to move.

3 Playful Things to do This Weekend

July 17, 2014

Marianne Combs joins The Morning Show to talk about the fun and playful weekend activities happening in the Twin Cities from July 17-21.

Performance Art Abounds

July 24, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about three events that engage the community through performance art.

ENERGY!

July 31, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jade (in for Jill Riley) to talk about three energy-infused events opening this weekend, a big weekend for arts in the Twin Cities.

Peak of Summer

August 7, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Jill Riley and Sean McPherson (in for Steve Seel) to talk about arts events going on during early August.

August 14, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about arts events featuring rousing rhythms, rarely seen artworks, outdoor opera and a Japanese lantern-lighting ceremony.

Arts at the State Fair

August 21, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jade (in for Jill Riley) to talk where to find arts exhibits and activities at the Minnesota State Fair.

Arts on the Go

August 28, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about art along a train line, in garages and out on a lake.

Mind-Bending Art

September 4, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about arts events that will take you to new mental places. For instance, would you sell your shadow?

World Premieres

September 18, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Jill Riley and John Munson (in for Steve Seel) to talk about three brand-new works opening in the Twin Cities.

Ballrooms, Bombs, and Puppets

September 25, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jade (in for Jill Riley) to talk about productions that present three diverse ways of storytelling.

Movie Maven

'Dawn of the Planet of the Apes'

July 11, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about the latest film that continues the story of how ultra-intelligent simian Caesar presides over the fall of human civilization.

Lucy

July 25, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Mary Lucia and Bob Collins (in for Steve Seel and Jill Riley) to talk about a new science-fiction film starring Scarlett Johansson and Morgan Freeman.

'Rich Hill'; Swazye Daze of Summer

August 15, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new documentary and about an event that benefits the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network's PurpleRideStride 2014.

'If I Stay'

August 22, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jade (in for Jill Riley) to talk about a new drama starring Chloe Grace Moretz.

'Frank'

August 29, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new music-based comedy from director Lenny Abrahamson.

'The One I Love'

September 5, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new film starring Elisabeth Moss, Mark Duplass and Ted Danson.

'The Drop'

September 12, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new crime drama that features James Gandolfini in his final film role.

'The Equalizer'

September 26, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about a new action-adventure film starring Denzel Washington.

Cube Critic with Euan Kerr

'Guardians of the Galaxy'

August 1, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter and Cube Critic Euan Kerr joins Steve Seel and Jade (in for Jill Riley) to talk about a new film inspired by Marvel Comics characters.

'Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles'; 'Into The Storm'

August 8, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter and Cube Critic Euan joins Jill Riley and Sean McPherson (in for Steve Seel) to talk about two new summer releases.

'The Skeleton Twins', 'The Maze Runner'

September 19, 2014

MPR's Cube Critic Euan Kerr joins Jill Riley and John Munson (in for Steve Seel) to talk about a new dramatic film starring Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig, and a new film based on series of popular young-adult novels. Kerr also shares insights on the recent election result in Scotland.

Holiday Programming

A to Z Weekend

July 3 – July 7, 2014

Celebrate July 4th with 89.3 The Current! Starting Wednesday at 9 a.m. the staff of The Current will spend nearly 5 days filling the holiday weekend with our favorite songs from A to Z - from "About a Girl" to "Ziggy Stardust" - all in alphabetical order. You'll hear "My Doorbell" next to "My Generation" next to "My Girls" then ...well, you get the idea.

Block Rockin' Weekend

August 30 – September 1, 2014

It's a three-day weekend and we're playing with blocks — blocks of three-song sets, that is. Tune in to The Current all through Labor Day weekend to hear blocks of three songs by all your favorite artists. We'll even be airing special three-song-block versions of Teenage Kicks, Radio Free Current, United States of Americana and The Local Show.

Theft of the Dial

Theft of the Dial: Ray LaMontagne

July 14, 2014

Ahead of his trippy performance at the newly renovated Northrop Auditorium on Saturday, June 28, Ray LaMontagne stopped by The Current studios to record a Theft of the Dial with host Bill DeVille.

The Local Show

Best of 2014 (So Far) featuring Chris Reimenschneider, Erik Thompson and Andrew Swensson

July 20, 2014

On this week's edition of The Local Show, we take a look at some of the best Minnesota releases of 2014 (so far). Host David Campbell was joined by Chris Riemenschneider, a columnist for *vita.mn* and *The Star Tribune*, and Erik Thompson, who writes for *Citypages* and *Gimme Noise*, who both recently published articles on the subject. Local Current reporter Andrea Swensson rounds out the quartet. Each guest shared a bit about their favorite Minnesota releases from the last six months, and a few things they are looking forward to in the next six months. In hour two, you can hear highlights from a private show *Trampled By Turtles* performed last week at The Cedar Cultural Center in celebration of the release of their new album *Wild Animals*, and more from July Artist of the Month, Prince.

The Local Show featuring Hollow Boys and Andrea Swensson

August 3, 2014

This week on The Local Show, David Campbell was joined by Hollow Boys in The Current studios for a performance, and a chat about their new album Believe in Nothing.

Music reporter Andrea Swensson stopped by with the latest from the Local Current Blog, including the news from the wonderful world of the Doomtree crew, one last post on Prince and Purple Rain, and The Current's road trip to Duluth where she discovered Sarah Krueger.

Also, The Local Show debuted new music Spooky Black, Sarah Krueger, Sophia Eris, and Sarah White, and played the latest from Low, Mark Mallman, Tropical Depression, tiny deaths, Allan Kingdom, and the new Doomtree single.

Plus, The Local show took a closer look at the Minnesota artist of the month for August, Sean Tillmann, aka Har Mar Superstar.

The Local Show featuring Hippo Campus and Andrea Swensson

August 10, 2014

This week on The Local Show we were joined by Hippo Campus, an impossibly likeable quartet of young men ages 18-20. They stopped by The Current Studios to perform a few songs, including the fantastic single "Little Grace." Host David Campbell spoke with the band about their forthcoming debut, The Halocline, and the challenges of maintaining a fan base as you make the jump to venues that your fans can no longer attend because of their age.

We also checked in with reporter Andrea Swensson for the latest from the Local Current Blog. This included news on a new Totally Gross National Product project called Jason Feathers, which includes Astronautalis, Justin Vernon, Ryan Olson and S Carey, and Doomtree member Sims' next release Field Notes.

Debuts this week included songs from Howler side project Dee Dee Mayo, Van Stee, Allan Kingdom, and a track from the aforementioned Sims release, as well as the latest from tiny deaths, Actual Wolf, Phantom Tails, Hollow Boys, the Doomtree crew and more!

The Local Show featuring Lazerbeak, Andrea Swensson and Jay Gabler

August 24, 2014

This week on The Local Show we were joined by Doomtree producer (and all around great guy) Lazerbeak. He stopped by to give you the inside scoop on the crew's amazing new retrospective photo book, Every Single Day, which they'll release on August 26th. Beak also let us know about all of the exciting things that are going down in the land of Doomtree in the next six months, including a Mike Mictlan release, a full crew record, Doomtree Blowout X, and the new Sims release Field Notes - from which we debuted a track.

We also caught up with reporters Andrea Swensson and Jay Gabler for the latest from the Local Current blog, including Jeremy Messersmith making it big time, The Local Show's upcoming Back to School episode, and a new video feature called Minnesota Music Sleuth.

Finally, The Local Show debuted new music from soul singer Pavielle, Chastity Brown, Eric Mayson, Coastal Cabins, Flora Cash, Phantom Tails, and the mighty Hammerhead. In addition to the debuts, we included the latest from Lizzo and Caroline Smith, Stereo Confession, The Ericksons, and Toki Wright and Big Cats.

Guitar Collection

The Current's Guitar Collection: Benjamin Booker

July 2, 2014

When Benjamin Booker stopped in to The Current for an in-studio session, he took some time to tell us about the hollow-body guitar he purchased without even playing it. Fortunately, it's worked out very well for him.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Jeremy Ylvisaker

July 16, 2014

In The Current's studio to do a session with the band Alpha Consumer, Jeremy Ylvisaker spoke to us about one of his guitars, a Squier Jazzmaster, that he bought in Minneapolis a couple years ago, just before heading out on tour with Andrew Bird.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Tim Showalter of Strand of Oaks

August 27, 2014

Strand of Oaks' frontman tells us about the Fender Telecaster he received as a gift -- and how he almost lost it in New York's Lower East Side.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Dave Bayley of Glass Animals

September 17, 2014

Glass Animals' front man Dave Bayley loves Hofner Guitars, even though he says they are made of 'annoyingly cheap' wood. But it's the guitars' sound that draws him in and has made him a collector.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Mikaiah Lei of The Bots

September 24, 2014

When you're 21 years old, as Mikaiah Lei of the Bots is, a guitar built in 1993 qualifies as 'vintage.' Mikaiah loves guitars; he's got a shedload of them, many of which are in for maintenance right now. But he shares their stories and also talks about his road-ready effects board.

QUARTERLY PROGRAMMING REPORT

The Current

April 1 to June 30, 2014

In studio performances

Benjamin Booker is living the dream in a couple of ways

June 30, 2014

On tour supporting his highly anticipated debut album release, Benjamin Booker stopped in to The Current studios to talk to New Hot host David Safar about how he was discovered and signed to ATO records. Booker also plays a few songs off the forthcoming album, scheduled for Aug. 19.

Courtney Barnett performs live in The Current studio

June 24, 2014

Before making her Minnesota debut with a sold out show at the Varsity Theater, Aussie Courtney Barnett stopped by The Current studios to perform a few songs off A Sea of Split Peas. Between songs, Barnett and host Mark Wheat talked about her charming, quirky lyrics, what it was like touring with Billy Bragg and, of course, the World Cup.

Kaiser Chiefs perform in The Current's studio

June 20, 2014

On tour supporting their fifth studio album, 'Education, Education, Education & War', Kaiser Chiefs stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs and to chat with Steve Seel.

Ian McLagan performs in the Current's studios

June 18, 2014

Ian McLagan is a living legend of popular music. Inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a member of the Small Faces and the Faces, McLagan has played with the Rolling Stones, Chuck Berry, Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen, and any number of other musical luminaries.

Atmosphere perform live in The Current studio

June 17, 2014

Between yesterday's announcement of their big gig at TCF Bank Stadium opening for electronic rockers Imagine Dragons as a part of the 2014 MLB All-Star Game weekend and their late night performance on Conan this Thursday, June 19, Atmosphere (Slug, Ant and Plain Ole Bill) stopped by The Current studios to play a few songs off the new Southsiders record and chatted with Mary Lucia.

Asgeir performs in The Current studios

June 14, 2014

On tour supporting his album 'In the Silence', Asgeir and his band stopped in to The Current studios to play some songs and to chat with Bill DeVille.

Bob Mould performs in The Current studio

June 13, 2014

Celebrating the release of his new album, 'Beauty & Ruin', and in town for a special appearance on 'Wits', Bob Mould stopped in to The Current's studio to play songs and to talk to Steve Seel about how the new album came together.

Eagulls perform in The Current studio

June 9, 2014

In town to play a gig at the 7th Street Entry in Minneapolis, Eagulls stopped in to The Current's studio to chat with Mark Wheat and to play some tracks off their self-titled, debut release.

First Aid Kit perform in The Current studio

June 8, 2014

In town to play a sold-out show at the Varsity Theater in Minneapolis, sisters Klara and Johanna Soderberg -- better known as First Aid Kit -- stopped in to The Current's studio to chat with Bill DeVille and to play some brand-new songs and a longstanding favorite.

St. Paul and the Broken Bones perform in The Current studio

June 6, 2014

Alabama-based St. Paul and the Broken Bones were in town for a sold-out show at the Varsity Theater when they stopped in to The Current for a session hosted by Jill Riley. This band came together when two friends decided to record some songs as a "last hurrah" - happily, it was just the beginning.

Conor Oberst and Dawes perform in The Current studio

June 2, 2014

Between gigs at their two-night stand at First Avenue in Minneapolis, Conor Oberst and Dawes stopped in to The Current's studio to play an acoustic set and to chat with Mark Wheat.

Jessica Lea Mayfield performs in The Current studio

May 20, 2014

On tour supporting her new album, 'Make My Head Sing', Jessica Lea Mayfield stopped in to The Current's studio before playing a show at the Turf Club in St. Paul. While at The Current, Mayfield played a few songs and chatted with Mark Wheat.

HAIM perform in The Current's studio

May 19, 2014

In town to play a sold-out show at First Avenue, HAIM stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs off their album, 'Days Are Gone', and to talk with Mark Wheat.

Haley Bonar performs in The Current studio

May 16, 2014

With a new album, 'Last War', scheduled for release on May 20, and an album-release party tonight (May 16) at the Varsity Theater in Minneapolis, Haley Bonar came to The Current's studio to play some new songs and to talk with Mary Lucia.

Two Harbors perform in the Current's studios

May 9, 2014

Two Harbors, already a successful and acclaimed local rock outfit, are taking their sound to the next level with their new album *The Natural Order of Things*, just released on Record Store Day.

Cloud Cult recorded live at the Fitzgerald Theater

May 7, 2014

In early April, Cloud Cult sold out two nights at the Fitzgerald Theater, where they performed two sets -- one acoustic and one electric. In this program, you'll hear selections from both of those sets, featuring songs new and old.

Max Frost performs in The Current studio

May 5, 2014

On tour promoting his emerging career, Max Frost and his band stopped in to The Current's studio for a live interview and performance hosted by Bill DeVille.

Lo-Fang performs in The Current studio

May 5, 2014

Lo-Fang, whose given name is Matthew Hemerlein, is touring in support of his debut album, 'Blue Film'. After playing a sold-out show at the 7th Street Entry, Lo-Fang stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs and to chat with Mac Wilson.

Angel Olsen performs in The Current studio

May 2, 2014

Fresh off playing a gig at The Cedar Cultural Center in Minneapolis last night, Angel Olsen and her band stopped in to The Current's studio to play a few songs and to chat with Mary Lucia.

Sonny Knight and the Lakers perform live in the Current studios

May 2, 2014

This world isn't fair, but every once in a while, good things happen to good people - and that's definitely the case with Sonny Knight, the Minnesota soul music veteran who's reaching a new career peak in his mid-60s.

Bombay Bicycle Club perform in The Current studio

April 30, 2014

Touring in support of 'So Long, See You Tomorrow', their fourth album in five years, Bombay Bicycle Club stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs and to chat with Bill DeVille.

Temples perform in The Current studio

April 24, 2014

In town to play a gig at First Avenue in support of their debut album, 'Sun Structures', Temples stopped in to The Current's studio to play a few songs and to chat with Mark Wheat.

MaLLy performs in the Current studio

April 22, 2014

For the past several years, MaLLy has been one of Minnesota's busiest and best MCs. His new album "The Colors of Black," produced by Last Word - MaLLy's longtime concert DJ - is an ambitious effort featuring wide-ranging lyrical reflections on the artist's life and times, and has already attracted national attention from the likes of Chuck D.

G. Love performs in The Current studio

April 18, 2014

In town to play a show at First Avenue in Minneapolis, G. Love stopped in to The Current's studio to play a solo acoustic set and to talk to Barb Abney about his forthcoming album, 'Sugar'.

The Both perform in The Current studio

April 17, 2014

Aimee Mann and Ted Leo -- each one an accomplished artist in her or his own right -- have recently teamed up on a collaborative project they've dubbed The Both. On the week of their self-titled album release, The Both visited The Current studio to play some songs and to talk with Jill Riley.

Dan Wilson performs in The Current studio

April 14, 2014

On the day before the release of his new album, 'Love Without Fear', Dan Wilson visits The Current studio to play some songs and to chat with Mary Lucia.

London Grammar perform in The Current studio

April 11, 2014

On only their second tour in North America, London Grammar have been playing a string of sold-out shows, including one at the Varsity Theater in Minneapolis. The platinum artists stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs and to chat with Jill Riley.

Heiruspecs perform in The Current studio

April 9, 2014

In the run-up to the April 22 release of their forthcoming album, 'Night Falls,' St. Paul's own Heiruspecs join David Campbell in The Current studio for a performance and interview on The Local Show.

Tinariwen perform in The Current studio

April 7, 2014

Tinariwen, a band composed of Tuareg musicians from the Sahara Desert region of northern Mali, stopped in to The Current's studio ahead of their show Sunday night at The Cedar Cultural Center in Minneapolis.

Dum Dum Girls perform in The Current studio

April 4, 2014

Fresh off playing a gig at the Triple Rock in Minneapolis, the Dum Dum Girls stopped in to The Current's studio to play a few songs and to talk to Steve Seel about their recent short-film project, their influences and their most recent album, 'Too True'.

S. Carey performs in The Current studio

April 1, 2014

S. Carey -- well known for his percussion work with Bon Iver --stopped in to The Current's studio for a chat with Steve Seel and to play some solo-piano arrangements of tunes off his brand-new album, 'Range of Light', which gets released today.

Features on The Current

INTERVIEWS

Interview with songwriting hall-of-famer Dennis Morgan

June 30, 2014

Born and raised in Tracy, Minn., Dennis Morgan is a songwriter who has had a quite a bit of success in Nashville since the late 60s. Besides Bob Dylan, Morgan is the only other Minnesota-born writer on the Country Songwriters Hall of Fame. Morgan spoke to Bill DeVille on United States of Americana.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Bob Mould

June 18, 2014

During the week his new album, 'Beauty & Ruin', released, Bob Mould visited The Current to do an in-studio session with Steve Seel, to visit with David Campbell on The Local Show, and to perform on 'Wits' alongside author and comedian Jen Kirkman. Despite his busy schedule, Mould took some time to tell us about his signature blue Stratocaster.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Browan Lollar of St. Paul and the Broken Bones

June 11, 2014

St. Paul and the Broken Bones visited The Current's studio following their show at the Varsity Theater. At the end of the band's rollicking in-studio set, guitarist Browan Lollar took some time to talk about his Reverend Gil Parris signature guitar.

Spoon reveal details about new album before playing Rock the Garden in Minneapolis June 22

June 5, 2014

Spoon's Britt Daniel and Jim Eno reveal details of the band's first new album in four years. The Rock the Garden headliners' new album 'They Want My Soul' is due out Aug. 5.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Taylor Goldsmith of Dawes

June 4, 2014

On tour with Conor Oberst as both his opening act and backing band, Dawes stopped by The Current's studio during a two-night stand at First Avenue in Minneapolis. Taylor Goldsmith of Dawes took some time to tell us about his trusty Gibson acoustic guitar -- and about an important life lesson he learned from a taxi trip in Chicago.

A Conversation with Josh Homme of Queens of the Stone Age

May 30, 2014

Before taking the stage at the Roy Wilkins Auditorium in St. Paul, Minn., on May 6, 2014, Josh Homme of Queens of the Stone Age sat down for an informal conversation with The Current's Jill Riley.

Entrepreneur and visionary Russell Simmons to speak at MPR News Top Coast Festival

May 30, 2014

Our sister station, MPR News, is presenting the inaugural Top Coast Festival this weekend, where big ideas meet new solutions. Among the keynote speakers is Russell Simmons, a master entrepreneur and visionary.

Interview: Conor Oberst

May 21, 2014

On the week of the release of his new album, 'Upside Down Mountain', Conor Oberst joined Bill DeVille down the line to talk about the record and about his upcoming First Avenue shows.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Valerie June

May 14, 2014

Valerie June visited The Current's studio on August 10, 2013, to play a few songs and to chat with Mac Wilson. After the session, the Memphis singer-songwriter took some time to talk about her then-new acoustic guitar and the mystical connection she felt with it. Valerie June plays Rock the Garden on Sunday, June 22, 2014.

Interview: Dan Auerbach of the Black Keys

May 13, 2014

On the day of the release of the Black Keys' new album, 'Turn Blue', The Current's Bill DeVille talks to one-half of the Nashville-by-way-of-Akron-Ohio duo.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Angel Olsen

May 7, 2014

When Angel Olsen stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs the day after her gig at The Cedar Cultural Center, she took a few minutes to tell us about her Gibson guitar and about the cool shop in Nashville, Tenn., where she bought it.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Jamie MacColl, Bombay Bicycle Club

April 30, 2014

When Bombay Bicycle Club were in The Current's studio ahead of their show at the Varsity Theater in Minneapolis, Jamie MacColl took a few moments to talk about the band's custom-built Farida guitars.

The Current's Guitar Collection: G. Love

April 23, 2014

When G. Love stopped in to The Current's studio to play some songs off his new album, 'Sugar', he had a few moments to tell us about his guitar before heading off to First Avenue. It turns out G. Love's guitar is more than an instrument; it's his autograph collection.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Dan Rothman of London Grammar

April 16, 2014

London Grammar's Dan Rothman, after playing a session in The Current's studio, took some time to tell us about his guitar, a circa 1980 Gretsch BST he recently acquired in Los Angeles.

Everything You Need to Know about the Minnesota Music Summit

April 10, 2014

The Minnesota Music Coalition is planning all-ages festival for artists, fans & music geeks Thursday through Saturday, including free workshops, industry panels, networking events and concerts. Get the scoop from MMC Director Ellen Stanley and artist Charlie Van Stee.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Steve Harris of Gary Numan's band

April 9, 2014

Steve Harris, the guitarist for Gary Numan, spoke to us about his Gibson Les Paul guitar, including how he found it and the bit-crush effects he uses when playing with Numan.

Interview: Andy Summers and Rob Giles of Circa Zero

April 4, 2014

When you say the name Andy Summers, most people think of The Police, but this iconic guitarist continues to be creative. Steve Seel talks to Summers and his bandmate Rob Giles about their new project, Circa Zero.

The Current's Guitar Collection: Martin Courtney of Real Estate

April 2, 2014

Real Estate front man Martin Courtney's sea-foam green Fender Stratocaster certainly catches the eye. Courtney tells us how it also caught his ear.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING

Holiday Programming/Events

Rock the Garden 2014

June 24, 2014

Rock the Garden has come and gone, but after ten bands, thousands of people and countless smiles, we can say that the Garden has officially been rocked. Find all the coverage here, and tune in this weekend to hear our Rock the Garden broadcast.

THEFT OF THE DIAL

Theft of the Dial: Dan Savage THE CURRENT'S MORNING SHOW

June 27, 2014

It's Pride Weekend! Dan Savage of the It Gets Better Project had a radio show on what is now KEXP from 1994-1997, so when he came to our studios, the political activist dug up his radio roots and gave us a taste of his music mind for a Theft of the Dial.

Theft of the Dial: Jim DeRogatis of Sound Opinions

June 10, 2014

Music journalist Jim DeRogatis is no stranger to listeners of the Current: he's co-host of Sound Opinions, which airs on our station every Sunday night from 8:00 to 9:00. He visited our studios in April to meet with our Local Current college contributors, and while he was here he took a few minutes to talk with Barb Abney about his mentor Lester Bangs, the R. Kelly story that landed him in court, and the song that most reminds him of his time living in Minneapolis.

Theft of the Dial: St. Vincent

April 10, 2014

Ahead of her fantastic performance at the State Theatre on April 3, St. Vincent came by The Current studios to record a Theft of the Dial with host Mark Wheat.

QUARTERLY PROGRAMMING REPORT

The Current

January 1 to March 31, 2014

In studio performances

Sean Anonymous and Dreamcrusher perform in The Current studios

THE LOCAL SHOW

January 5, 2014

Sean Anonymous knows his way around the Twin Cities music community. At this point, his name is ubiquitous due to nonstop gigging and collaborations. Over the past year, you've likely caught him performing with the likes of Wide Eyes, Dimitry Killstorm, Phillip Morris, Lizzo and Rapper Hooks. But the main stage set-up you've probably witnessed him in is with improvisational rock band Dreamcrusher.

Buffalo Moon performs live for The Local Show

THE LOCAL SHOW

January 12, 2014

Three years since their last performance in our studios, Buffalo Moon has gone through big changes in that time. Most notably: lead singer Karen Freire made the move to New York to clear her head after some personal trials. That transition follows the path of so many other local acts in recent years -- members splitting time between Minnesota and other places out-of-state.

Grizfolk bring SoCal and Stockholm to The Current studios

NEW HOT

January 21, 2014

Adam Roth left the south to pursue music in Los Angeles. It was there he met up with two producers from Stockholm who inspired him to meld his Americana roots with electronic production. Thus, Grizfolk was born, and it's been a quick ascent to the spotlight since then.

The Colourist perform in The Current's studios

THE CURRENT'S MORNING SHOW

January 22, 2014

On tour supporting Panic at the Disco, The Colourist stopped in to The Current's studio to play a few songs and to chat with Jill Riley about their recent EP and their upcoming full-length -- and about what it's like for people from Orange County, Calif., when it's -12 F in Minnesota.

St. Lucia perform in The Current's studio

IN THE STUDIO

January 27, 2014

Fresh from playing a gig at the Fine Line in Minneapolis last night, Brooklyn-based St. Lucia stopped into The Current's studios to talk to Mary Lucia and to play a few songs off their new album, 'When the Night.'

Jake Bugg performs live in the UBS Forum

January 28, 2014

On tour promoting his second album in as many years, singer-songwriter Jake Bugg returned to The Current last week to perform an intimate show inside Minnesota Public Radio's UBS Forum. Between songs, The Current's Mark Wheat talks to Jake Bugg about Bugg's new album, 'Shangri La', and about his career trajectory thus far.

Actual Wolf performs live for The Local Show

THE LOCAL SHOW

February 4, 2014

It's been quite the ride since Eric Pollard released his debut, self-titled album under the name Actual Wolf last fall. He performed tracks off the roots-rock record at The Current's 9th Birthday with an impressive backing band of local artists including brothers Jake (guitar) and Jeremy (drums) Hanson, Erik Koskinen — to whom the record's "vibe" is attributed — and Low's Steve Garrington.

Arctic Monkeys perform live in The Current studio

February 14, 2014

Ahead of their very sold out gig at First Avenue on Valentine's Day, Arctic Monkeys' Alex Turner and Matt Helders came by The Current studios to record an intimate live in-studio session with host Mary Lucia.

SCRNS perform live on the Local Show

THE LOCAL SHOW

February 18, 2014

Howler's Max Petrak is gearing up for a tour with Howler in support of their album World of Joy out March 25, but in his spare time he makes music with former Miami ballerina Erin Ross and just over a year ago, SCRNS was conceived.

Dr. Dog perform in The Current's studio

February 18, 2014

Philadelphia-based band Dr. Dog stopped by The Current's studio while they were in town to play a couple of shows at First Avenue. Dr. Dog spoke to The Current's Mark Wheat about their most recent album, 'B-Room', about creating a rapport with the audience and about their favorite sports mascot.

Stephen Malkmus and the Jicks perform in The Current's studio

February 19, 2014

Stephen Malkmus -- who helped define the indie sound of the '90s with the band, Pavement -- continues his enduring career with his band, The Jicks. Stephen Malkmus and The Jicks stopped by The Current's studio to play a few tunes off their new album, 'Wig Out at Jagbags', and to talk with Steve Seel.

Lucius perform live in The Forum

February 28, 2014

Continuing their extensive touring, Lucius played a sold-out show at The Cedar Cultural Center last Thursday, Feb. 20. That afternoon, they stopped at The Current to play an exclusive live show in the Forum at Minnesota Public Radio and to talk with Mary Lucia.

Kins perform live in The Current's studio

March 7, 2014

Formed in Melbourne, Australia, and now based in Brighton, England, four-piece dream-pop band Kins stopped by The Current's studios to play some songs off their self-titled album and to chat with Mark Wheat.

GRRRL PRY Perform in The Current Studios

THE LOCAL SHOW

March 9, 2014

People tend to think of GRRRL PRY as a party band--which is understandable, they acknowledge, given that they do have "PRY" in their name--but there are dark dimensions beneath the group's bouncy beats. They don't have much music available to hear on your headphones, but this week they helped to bridge that gap with a fiery performance in the Current's studio.

Web of Sunsets perform live in The Current Studios

THE LOCAL SHOW

March 17, 2014

Web of Sunsets brought their smoothed out, psychedelic country sound to The Local Show for a few songs from Room of Monsters and a conversation with David Campbell.

Features on The Current

MORNING SHOW INTERVIEWS

Weekend Arts Roundup: Despite the Cold

January 2, 2014

Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about ways to get out and enjoy the arts in spite of the deep cold.

The Sporting Life with Michael Rand: Chris Kluwe is Back

January 6, 2014

Today Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about Chris Kluwe's return to the news, the Packers loss over the weekend, and the 0-9 record for the Timberwolves.

The Throbbing Hive with John Moe: Doge

January 7, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about the Roku tv that's on the way, and the meme we've been avoiding, Doge.

Eating and Drinking with James Norton: Three Tastes From 2013

January 8, 2014

James Norton stopped by The Current's Morning Show to talk to Jill Riley and Steve Seel about his favorite three tastes from 2013.

Weekend Arts Roundup: Jan. 9, 2014

January 9, 2014

Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about two arts openings this Friday: visual artist Anne Labovitz's 'Layers' exhibition, and 'Griffelkin', an opera staged by Minnesota Opera's Project Opera youth-training program.

Movie Maven: 'Her'

January 10, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven and Cube Critic Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to discuss the new romantic comedy/drama starring Joaquin Phoenix and directed by Spike Jonze. Plus, Cube Critics discuss 'Her' and artificial intelligence in film.

The Sporting Life with Michael Rand: New Coach for The Vikings?

January 13, 2014

Today Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about a possible new head coach for the Viking, the Wild finally winning some of their games, and where you can see some outdoor hockey.

Eating and Drinking with The Growler's Joe Alton: Cider

January 15, 2014

The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel hung out with The Growler's Joe Alton to talk about the newly opened Sociable Cider Werks and the upcoming winter Beer Dabbler.

Weekend Arts Roundup: Big Week in Local Arts News

January 16, 2014

Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about four big news stories in the local arts scene, plus two new events you can check out this weekend.

Movie Maven: 'Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit'

January 17, 2014

MPR Movie Maven and Cube Critic Stephanie Curtis talks to Steve Seel and Jill Riley about the reboot of the films based on the Tom Clancy espionage character. Plus, the Cube Critics take a look at cinematic reboots.

Eating and Drinking with The Heavy Table's James Norton: The Rabbit Hole

January 22, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton spoke to Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the newly opened restaurant The Rabbit Hole.

Weekend Arts Roundup: Theater, Gallery, Dance

January 23, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about three can't-miss events that span a number of the arts: musical theater, dance and photography. They just might warm the cockles of your heart.

The Sporting Life with Star Tribune's Michael Rand: Minnesota Bids for a Super Bowl

January 27, 2014

Today Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about Minnesota tossing their hat in the ring to host a Super Bowl, TwinsFest, and Kevin Garnett heading home.

The Throbbing Hive with John Moe: Moby's Just Giving His Music Away

January 28, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about Moby giving away new tracks through Bit Torrent and asking people to remix and play with isolated component tracks, and to gear up for the Super Bowl they listen to the latest Bad Lip Reading video of the NFL.

Eating and Drinking with Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: A Look at 2014

January 29, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about the big changes ahead for the Minneapolis - St. Paul food scene in 2014. Big deal chefs are moving here, good restaurants opening up, healthy choices abound, and the continuation of the distilling boom.

Weekend Arts Roundup: Three Reasons to Get Out of the House

January 30, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about three reasons to get out of the house this weekend despite the snowy, wintry weather.

Interview with Sound Unseen's Jim Brunzell: Sundance Film Festival

January 31, 2014

Jim Brunzell, director for the Sound Unseen festival, stopped by to talk about his recent trip to the Sundance Film Festival and some of the music movies he saw this year.

The Sporting Life with Star Tribune's Michael Rand: A Minnesota Captain

February 3, 2014

Michael Rand stopped by to talk to the Morning Show about the Super Bowl, Minnesota representing at the Olympics, and high school football players signing to colleges.

The Throbbing Hive with John Moe: Flappy App

February 4, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about Facebook's new app for the iPhone and a new game app called Flappy.

Eating and Drinking with Heavy Table's James Norton: Rocking the Suburbs

February 5, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton spoke to Jill Riley and Steve Seel about a couple of restaurants opening out in the suburbs.

Weekend Arts Roundup: A Valentine's Day Guide

February 6, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about ways to express your love on Valentine's Day through the arts. These tips can help enrich your life and relationship -- and they can also help you avoid that last-minute Valentine's Day rush.

Movie Maven: 'The Lego Movie'

February 7, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven and Cube Critic Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to review the animated feature based on the popular, colorful bricks.

The Sporting Life with Star Tribune's Michael Rand: Could Michael Sam be the First Openly Gay Football Player?

February 10, 2014

Today Michael Rand chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about Michael Sam, Vikings stadium tickets, and an Olympic update.

The Throbbing Hive with John Moe: Say Goodbye to Flappy Bird

February 11, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about the end Flappy Bird and the first meme of the Sochi Olympics, courtesy of figure skater Ashley Wagner.

Eating and Drinking with Solo Vino's Chuck Kanski: Mulled Wine

February 12, 2014

Today, Chuck spoke to The Morning Show's Steve Seel and Jill Riley about the what do drink to keep you warm in these sub-zero temperature days: mulled wine. He had Jill and Steve try his special blend and shared a couple of his favorite recipes.

Weekend Arts Roundup: Open Your Heart

February 13, 2014

With Valentine's Day tomorrow, MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about three events that look at different meanings of love.

Movie Maven: 'About Last Night'

February 14, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven and Cube Critic Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about an updated remake of the 1986 romantic comedy of the same name. The new film stars Kevin Hart and Regina Hall.

Eating and Drinking with Heavy Table's James Norton: Missing Places

February 19, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton asked to Jill Riley and Steve Seel to imagine the restaurants that don't exist in Minnesota, but should.

Movie Maven: 'Tim's Vermeer'

February 21, 2014

MPR Movie Maven and Cube Critic Stephanie Curtis joins Jill Riley and Steve Seel to talk about a new documentary in which a man attempts to re-create the work of Dutch Master Johannes Vermeer.

The Sporting Life with Star Tribune's Michael Rand: Jason Collins Signs

February 24, 2014

Talking lasting memories from the Olympics, Soccer, and Jason Collins with Michael Rand for today's The Sporting Life.

Eating and Drinking with Dara Moskowitz-Grumdahl: Dim Sum

February 26, 2014

This week Dara spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley and Steve Seel about her favorite brunch: dim sum.

Weekend Arts Roundup: Union Depot, Mixed Blood and Matisse

February 27, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jill Riley to talk about public art at Union Depot, a new production at Mixed Blood Theater and an Henri Matisse exhibition at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Interview with FINNEGANS Jacquie Berglund: Reverse Food Truck

March 3, 2014

The Morning Show's Jill Riley sat down with FINNEGANS CEO Jacquie Berglund to learn a little bit more about the company, their mission, and what the Reverse Food Truck is all about.

The Sporting Life with Star Tribune's Michael Rand: Twins Player Search

March 3, 2014

Michael Rand shares his thoughts on Miguel Sano's injury, welcoming The Wild back to Minnesota, and questions that the only quarterback the Vikings have is Christian Ponder.

The Throbbing Hive with John Moe: CarPlay

March 4, 2014

Today John Moe chatted with The Morning Show's Jill Riley about Apple's new CarPlay system, and scientists shooting lasers at flies to make them mate with wax.

Eating and Drinking with Heartland Table's Amy Thielen: Gather at The Walker

March 5, 2014

This week Amy spoke to The Morning Show's Jill Riley about her residency this month at the Walker Art Center.

Weekend Arts Roundup: Moving the Body

March 6, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Jill Riley and Sean McPherson (in for Steve Seel) to talk about arts events that reflect this thawing weather and inspire movement and fun with motion.

Movie Maven: 'The Wind Rises'

March 7, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven and Cube Critic Stephanie Curtis joins Jill Riley and Sean McPherson (in for Steve Seel) to talk about a new film from Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki and about her reactions to last week's Oscar picks.

The Sporting Life with Michael Rand: Jared Allen Says Goodbye

March 10, 2014

Today Michael Rand chatted to The Morning Show about NFL free agent signings, Jared Allen leaving the Vikings, and a local tweet that's causing a lot of negative attention.

Eating and Drinking with Heavy Table's James Norton: Brunch and Shakshouka

March 12, 2014

Today on The Morning Show's Eating and Drinking, James Norton chatted with Jill Riley about a great new brunch spot.

Weekend Arts Roundup: March 13, 2014

March 13, 2014

MPR News Arts Reporter Marianne Combs joins Steve Seel and Jade to talk about three arts happenings around town this weekend -- on stage, in song and in textiles.

Movie Maven: 'The Grand Budapest Hotel'

March 14, 2014

MPR's Movie Maven and Cube Critic Stephanie Curtis joins Steve Seel and Jade to talk about the new Wes Anderson film.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING

Holiday Programming/Events

Black History Month featured artists: Otis Redding, Ella Fitzgerald, The Roots, Sam Cooke

February 2014

For Black History Month 2013, The Current is spotlighting a different legendary African-American musician each week. This week, we're featuring soul legend Otis Redding. Tune in to hear tracks from his catalog throughout the week, and come to the website to read more about his career.

Your Favorite Love Songs

Feb 14, 2014

Valentine's Day is coming up, and that turns our thoughts to matters of the heart: sometimes that means new or enduring love — and sometimes that means the end of love.

Whatever Valentine's Day means to you this year, we're asking you to submit your requests for Love Songs and Break-up Songs. Listen on Friday, Feb. 14, as DJ Mark Wheat spins your love requests from 6 to 10 p.m.

Arcade Fire live at the Target Center in Minneapolis

Mar 8, 2014

In one of the most-tweeted moments of Arcade Fire's March 8 performance in Minneapolis, Win Butler declared, "This is the perfect song for the Target Center. It's called 'The Suburbs.'" ...

Countdown: Women Who Rock

Mar 12, 2014

March is Women's History Month, and we want to celebrate women who rock. So we decided to take a poll of The Current listeners favorite female artists to inform our "Women Who Rock Countdown."

With your help, we compiled a list of over 200 of our favorite female artists, you voted, and here are the results. Rock on!

The Current's March Music Madness

Mar 24, 2014

Here at The Current, we love all music and don't believe it should be judged or criticized. No one artist is better than another and all our kids are above average. It's March Music Madness time and there's nothing more fun than judging, criticizing, and arguing about who's gonna be in the Final Four.

THE CURRENT PRESENTS

January 19, 2014

The Current Presents: Grammy preview

Mac Wilson gives us a preview of The GRAMMYS, which will be awarded on January 26, 2014.

February 24, 2014

The best-selling Minnesota albums of all time

Who are the best-selling Minnesota musicians of all time? It's a big question, and after digging into the sales data for hundreds of Minnesota releases, it's proven to be quite a complicated answer.

February 24, 2014

40 years of album sales data in two handy charts

Earlier this week we asked you to guess the highest-selling singles and albums to come out of Minnesota--and the answers to those two big questions will be revealed this Sunday night on the Current Presents: The Best-Selling Minnesota Artists of All Time. But before we get down to brass tacks, I wanted to share a few notes from my research. This kind of stuff can get pretty dry, so I'll try to keep it as lively and interesting as possible with the help of some pretty fascinating graphics from the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). Everyone likes graphics.

February 25, 2014

The Best-Selling Minnesota Singles of All Time

This week's Current Presents special was dedicated to tracking down the numbers and determining the best-selling albums and singles to come out of Minnesota--and as promised, the singles category delivered some surprises.

THEFT OF THE DIAL

February 4, 2014 Sandra Bernhard

When Sandra Bernhard came to town for a show at the Dakota Jazz Club last month, the Wits alumna came by The Current studios for a Theft of the Dial with host Barb Abney.

LOCAL SHOW

January 5, 2014

On this episode of The Local Show, Sean Anonymous and Dreamcrusher stop by for in-studio performance. Program Director Jim McGuinn gives us the scoop on our 9th birthday party celebration at First Avenue. Jay Gabler introduces our artist of the month for January. And of course: loads of premieres!

Jan 12, 2014

Buffalo Moon will be our in-studio guest in the 6PM hour, fresh off a sold-out release show at Icehouse. David Campbell will also talk with the Cedar Cultural Center about some of the artists featured this year for the 416 Club. Andrea Swensson will highlight the upcoming benefit concert for the victims of the Riverside explosion, as well as Rogue Valley's contribution to the >Secret Life Of Walter Mitty soundtrack. Plus, loads of debuts from the likes of Erik Koskinen, Teammates, Kristoff Krane, Strange Names, Web Of Sunsets, Bomba De Luz (with Dem Atlas and Xela), Big Tree Bonsai, VAYNS and much more.

February 2, 2014

On this edition of The Local Show, Andrea Swensson stops by to chat with host David Campbell about the Minnesota musicians that were recognized at the GRAMMYS, shares highlights from the Best New Bands showcase at First Avenue, talks about Alan Sparhawk's recent collaboration and Prince's latest battle with the Internet. In the 7 p.m. hour Actual Wolf is joined by the Hanson brothers, Erik Koskinen and Low's Steve Garrington for an in-studio session, David premieres new music from forthcoming Hold Steady record, plus Mary Lucia talks about Bob Mould, our artist of the month.

February 9, 2014

On this episode of The Local Show we highlight the best of our 9th Birthday Parties that took place at First Avenue Jan. 24 and 25, 2014. Lizzo appropriately kicks off the show with "Happy Birthday" and later is joined by her troupe GRRRL PRY, plus you'll hear performances by the Cactus Blossoms, Caroline Smith, Har Mar Superstar, Howler, Actual Wolf, Heiruspecs and Strange Names.

February 16, 2014

On this episode of The Local Show you'll meet SCRNS, a collaboration in synthpop between Howler bassist Max Petrek and vocalist Erin Ross. They'll perform new songs, including the incredible single "TTYN."

Gunslinger Erik Koskinen also stops by to chat with Radio Heartland's Mike Pengra and performs tracks off his forthcoming America Theater.

Andrea Swensson will introduce us to a new jazz label in town, Shifting Paradigms Records and the latest album from Prince collaborator Andre Cymone.

And to top it off, we debut a new track from American Scarecrows.

March 9, 2014

In celebration of Women's History Month, this week you'll hear exclusively from some of your favorite women in the Twin Cities music scene.

You'll hear their stories about the acts who have inspired them, and you'll hear songs by influential female artists past and present.

You'll meet Desdmona, a spoken-word artist, MC, and organizer in the local hip-hop community. She'll bring in her record collection and school us on some of the best under-the-radar acts.

And then... It's time for a GRRRL PRY.

Lizzo, Sophia Eris, and Manchita will blow the doors off the Current's studios and show us why they're the most exciting new group to blast onto the local scene.

March 16, 2014

Shhhh! This week on The Local Show quiet is the new loud. You'll meet Web of Sunsets, whose beautiful new album Room Of Monsters is a spacey and minimalist meditation on the ultimate quiet of both dusk and dawn. The band will joined me in The Current studios to perform and talk about the joy of making quiet music, and the battle to be heard.