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Chili sin carne

Lindsey Eck, Tombstone Bullies entertain as cooks compete at the 22nd annual Lone Star Vegetarian Chili Cook-Off

You're invited! The 22nd Annual Lone Star Vegetarian Chili Cook-Off is in Round Rock, Texas on Sunday, November 7, 11:30 a.m.–5 p.m. at Old Settlers Park.

This annual vegetarian event began in 1989, when four vegetarian societies from across Texas joined to form the Lone Star Vegetarian Network. In the years since, the cook-off has been held in multiple locations all across the state—for the last several years in Austin.

Each year, individual chefs and chili-cooking teams representing statewide vegetarian organizations, community groups, restaurants, grocery stores, and other businesses compete for trophies and cash prizes. Winners are selected by celebrity judges and also by popular vote. Meat-eaters and vegetarians alike attend to taste the 100% vegan chilis—and vote for their favorite, while getting a chance at several lovely door prizes.

Returning to entertain chili cooks and eaters alike are Blue Oak producer-publisher Lindsey Eck and his friends Tombstone Bullies (Michael T. Notarthomas and Gabriel Siklosi), who will perform, alternating with each other and LSVN announcements (including door-prize giveaways) from 1 to 5. This is an entirely

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Lindsey Eck and the Tombstone Bullies at the 2007 Lone Star Vegetarian Chili Cook-Off. Both acts return this year.

Marisa Manning signs with Blue Oak Record Group

Keyboard and vocal chops + spare, poetic lyric writing = radio-ready recording artist



Blue Oak Record Group is delighted to welcome Marisa Manning to its growing list of recording artists. Marisa's œuvre features vocal and keyboard excellence and a spare, imagistic approach to lyric writing along with a New Age sensibility. The result has the potential for

both artistic and commercial success.

Marisa lives outside Austin with her husband and two children. Coming from a family where music and the arts were all around her, she began singing at a very early age when her cousin would come to visit and play guitar while she would sing along. She began playing piano at age 7, when she taught herself to play Tchaikovsky, Mozart, and Beethoven. Later in life, she was given the gift of piano lessons and was classically trained in both piano and voice. Her summers were filled with dance as she sat in on classes at her aunt's dance studio. She also holds a black belt in kung fu, in the rigorous style of Shaolin-Do. (Shaolin Do of Round Rock is also the martial-arts home of Blue Oak honcho Lindsey Eck and recording artist—shaman Daniel Staite.)

As producer for this project, Lindsey is excited by the challenge of working out arrangements for Marisa's songs. "When I'm working with a band like Blacktop Bend or Illicit Response, they

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Chili sin carne continued

unplugged show, with an emphasis on roots music to complement the hearty food and leafy venue.

Lindsey will perform all five songs from his forthcoming EP Heartwood, along with much other new material. As usual, he brings a rock sensibility to his unplugged sets, with forays into bluegrass, traditional country, blues, reggae—even Latin jazz.

Tombstone Bullies' repertoire includes impassioned originals in the tradition and style of blues-rock fusion and R&B. Increasingly they grace some of the finer stages of Austin as a four-piece electric combo; for this event it'll be the duo that has always formed the core of the band, unplugged: Mike on guitar and lead vocals, Gabriel on slide guitar and vocals.

As in 2007, the two acts will overlap for a few songs. Mike will support Lindsey on vocals, reprising the baritone harmonies he brought to the Heartwood sessions. Lindsey will also join the Bullies onstage. Videographer **Rob Burneson** will be on hand to capture a few of Lindsey's songs for YouTube.

Admission is \$8 for adults (13 years and older), \$4 for children 6–12 years (free for children 5 and younger), and \$5 for seniors and college students with ID. Attendees get to taste all the vegan chilis and vote for their favorite.

The Lone Star Vegetarian Network consists of these Texan vegetarian groups: Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston & San Antonio. Visit www.lsvn.org for a link to each Vegetarian group's web site.

Old Settlers Park is next to the Dell Diamond, just to the northeast on Palm Valley Road. At least 15 to 16 chili teams and about 500–700 attendees are expected.

Vicit

www.veggiechilicookoff.com www.tombstonebullies.com

Staite book nears publication

Shaman, healer, and meditation leader **Daniel Staite**, creator (with composer-producer **Lindsey Eck**) of two CDs on the Blue Oak label, has completed final revisions for his book *Empathic Healing*, with publication expected by the end of 2010.

The volume relates Daniel's unique style of meditation, fusing East and South Asian with Canadian First Nations praxis, to lives and practice of healers, especially giving them techniques to avoid absorbing negativity from those they may be trying to help.

The book's release will coincide with a new promotional effort for *Meditation for Interpersonal Relations*, available from CD Baby. For more, visit www.thehealingstate.com.

Marisa Manning continued

mostly have the arrangements worked out and my job is mainly to capture their sound faithfully as is. Marisa plays enough guitar to suggest parts for me to accompany her, but I'll have the challenge of partnering with her to find the appropriate instrumental mix to complement her keyboard parts."

One advantage to this arrangement is that Marisa can create basic keyboard tracks in her own rehearsal studio, then overlay vocals and other parts at Blue Oak Studio Space in McDade. Lindsey may suggest overdubs on guitar, bass guitar, guitarrón, folk harp, or percussion among the many instruments available at the studio. Marisa has been busy writing and preparing keyboard parts for the project.

Sessions will begin before Thanksgiving, with a completed record expected early in 2011.

Grandmother Moon

Low and bright the moon is tonight
Her light dancing on the snow
The mist in the air turns to ice in my hair
Still I bask in this glow

Beneath these beams I am warmed by dreams
And cleansed in white light
Grandmother Moon, I feel so in tune
With you this cold winter's night

Memories of time race through my mind My hands stretched out in the air You flow through my veins, onto this plane With you my soul I share

Your soul so immense, your energy intense Words are hard to find Grandmother Moon, Madame la Lune Forever in my mind

Grandmother moon, light my way
Shine your light upon the waves
Guide me in my dreams
You're always with me

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Blacktop Bend keeps up busy studio, performance schedule

Blue Oak recording artists **Blacktop Bend** have continued their regimen of productive sessions at Blue Oak studio space. The CD remains on track for completion within the next couple of months. Singer-songwriter **George Rios** has now completed nearly all the guitar tracks, and there's no holiday for the band or producer **Lindsey Eck** on Veterans' Day, when George and banjo player **Janice Larsen** return to add more tracks to a full-length CD that is now over halfway in the can.

Find out why this bluegrass quartet's live shows are garnering so much enthusiasm at one of their upcoming Austin gigs—

12 Nov.: Green Mesquite, Southpark Meadows

20 Nov., 7 p.m.: Patsy's Cowgirl Cafe

23 Nov., 7 p.m.: Simplicity Wine Bar and Eats

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