CHRIS VALLILLO Guitarist | Songwriter | Folklorist

"Vallillo takes the audience on a musical journey, making history come alive with his excellent blending of music and storytelling."

– Phil Funkenbusch, Director of Theaters Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum

"A consummate professional"

– Maureen Reagan, Krannert Center for the Performing Arts





Bio

Chris Vallillo is a singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist with a natural affinity for American roots music. A master of bottleneck slide guitar, he weaves original, contemporary, and traditional songs and theatrical narratives into a compelling and entertaining portrait of the history and lifestyle of the Midwest. His 2016 project, **Oh Freedom! Songs of the Civil Rights Movement** was released on Martin Luther King Day and charted at #6 on the National Folk charts. His one man show **Abraham Lincoln in Song**, received the endorsement of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and the CD of reached #10 on Billboard's Bluegrass Album Chart.

Performance Programs

Oh Freedom! Songs of the Civil Rights Movement

Multi-instrumental performances and narration of pivotal songs that inspired and sustained our nation's Civil Rights Movement and resonate with audiences today.

Abraham Lincoln In Song The life of Abraham Lincoln spanned a period of change, growth and struggle in our young nation, and the music of his era movingly characterizes these times. Period music, Lincoln's own words and stories combine to tell the story of our greatest President, his life and his times.

Parallel Paths, The iconic poems of Carl Sandburg paired with Vallillo's **"Prairie Poet"** original songs and instrumentals as well as songs Sandburg himself collected as a folklorist.

American Melody From Shenandoah to Stephen Foster to early radio, classic American melodies and songs performed on bottleneck slide, 6 string guitars, hammer dulcimer and vocals.

Tour Highlights

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts Ravinia Festival Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum Trueblood Center for the Performing Arts Smithsonian Institution President Lincoln's Cottage (Washington) Red Skelton Performing Arts Center Lincoln Home National Historic Site Delphi Opera House Carl Sandburg Birthplace Cedarhurst Center for the Arts

Contact

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