

MAY AND SETH AT "THE ARK" IN ANN ARBOR
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In January of 2011 my daughter May Erlewine and fiancé Seth Bernard (they are now married) went to Ethiopia to help build schools in that impoverished country. They worked with a team of runners who ran across Ethiopia (some 250 miles) doing a marathon run each day to raise funds.

May and Seth went along as the musical ambassadors, playing in rural towns for kids all across that land. At some stops thousands of people turned out to greet them. Needless to say the whole experience was life-changing for both of them. And during that trip they wrote an entire album of music while they were there. That album ("New Flower") is now being released and their appearance at The Ark is one of these final CD-release shows.

They helped to raise \$200,000 which resulted in three schools being built in Ethiopia. Also, one half of the sales for their new CD go to help fund more education in Ethiopia.

For those of you who may not know The Ark, it is one of the preeminent folk, blues, jazz, and roots venues in North America. Everyone who is anyone has played there, even including me back in the 1960s. I also have served on the board of directors for The Ark, etc. Anyway...

This Thursday November 10, 2011 (8 PM) at The Ark located at 316. S. Main Street, Ann Arbor, May, Seth, and their incredible band will play one of the final concerts celebrating the Ethiopian tour and the wonderful music that came of it. Most of you know May and Seth. They have played all over the Midwest as well as both coasts but let me tell you something about this particular band. They are all pros, leaders in their own right, and the combination is seamless and electrifying.

On keyboards (and guitar) is Joshua Davis, the lead singer and front man for the band "Steppin' in It," one of the most awesome roots-music groups I have ever heard. Davis is also an incredible guitarist and he and Seth's guitar interactions are mesmerizing. Jazz drummer Mike Shimmin has played with many groups, including the Irish/Celtic group Millish. He is about to embark on an Irish tour to play there after this release tour. And last but not least is Brennan Andes, bass player and leader of the jazz-fusion group "The Macpodz" – electric jazz and dance music as you like it.

This group has now worked together for some time and this many key players in one band is rare and very much worth hearing. I have heard them a couple of times in these last weeks and they really have a tight group by this point. The music is so good. Trust me.

I know this concert at The Ark will be stellar. I will there, for sure. If you are in the area come on out and hear the music and say hi to me as well. I believe there are still tickets available.