

Euphonia

euphonia [yoo-FOH-nee-uh]
n. 1. The quality of having a pleasing sound; the pleasant effect of a combination of agreeable sounds, as in speech or music.

Come bouncing along folk music's backroads with Euphonia, a café-style acoustic combo featuring soaring harmony vocals and sophisticated musicianship. This group brings together the compelling voices, restless minds and nimble fingers of four remarkable Northern California musicians.

- * Singer-guitarist **Sylvia Herold** (Wake the Dead, Cats & Jammers, Hot Club of San Francisco) delivers assertive guitar work and shoulders most of the storytelling with her clear, captivating voice.
- * Mandolinist **Paul Kotapish** (Wake the Dead, Kevin Burke's Open House) dispenses rhythmic drive and weaves tunes like vibrant musical threads through the songs' fabric while adding his own rich harmony and lead vocals.
- * Accordionist **Charlie Hancock** (Swing Farm, Crepes Musette) draws on his deep reservoir of dance-music performance to provide bounce and passion.
- * Bassist **Chuck Ervin** (The Dialtones, Crepes Musette) supplies a jazz-inflected pulse and contributes harmony and lead vocals.

In its newest recording, ***The Old Jawbone***, Euphonia offers American old-time songs amid fresh renditions of proven winners from John Hartford, Gillian Welch and the Sons of the Pioneers. Fiddle tunes from America and Europe are woven throughout. Guest percussionist Brian Rice adds jumping beans (in a can) along with a jawbone—of course—and a variety of homemade rhythm instruments, giving these folk songs an unexpected and compelling groove.

In its first album, ***Lovely Nancy*** (2005), Euphonia used innovative arrangements to breathe new life into songs drawn from the Anglo-Celtic tradition.

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