

# The Brothers Blue



Rooted in the fertile tradition of Old-Time fiddle music, The Brothers Blue grow a sound all their own – offering a hybrid which unites fresh, original song-writing with elements from Country, Bluegrass, Cajun, and Irish musics. They weave three part harmonies through a rich tapestry of fiddle, banjo, and guitar. Their tight, groove-oriented arrangements prompted one fan to describe them as a “one-mind band” and another as “a dancer's dream.” Furthermore, each of their abilities to play multiple instruments makes their performances especially entertaining. As comfortable around a campfire as they are in a concert hall, the band is excited about any opportunity to share honest, heartfelt musical experiences with their ever-growing family of friends: “The Brethren Blue.”

In 2016, the trio released their debut album, *Ghost Town*. The CD was met with appreciation by fans and critics alike. It was hailed as “a well-honed, fine-tuned record that expertly cuts a piece out of the bluegrass lexicon” by Rochester CITY Newspaper. The Brothers Blue keep an active performance schedule frequenting the Buffalo, Rochester, Finger Lakes, and Southern Tier areas of upstate New York. And, with the support of their fans and friends, they will take their music even further throughout the northeast US in the coming year.

As teenagers, Benny Haravitch and Matthew Sperber began learning songs together on an acoustic guitar they brought on bicycle trips throughout the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier. Growing up together in Honeoye, NY, the boys came to appreciate playing music early on. As a child, Benny's mother played the spoons for a local contradance band and his next door neighbor fronted the Rochester-based jugband, The Wilderness Family. Now, as an award-winning banjo player, Benny makes his living teaching, recording, and playing music, and also as a geologist. Matthew made his way to Buffalo, NY where he immersed himself in studying a wide variety of musical styles, earning a Masters degree in classical guitar performance in 2010. He developed a career in music and today he teaches over 40 students a week on the guitar and bass and keeps a busy performance schedule as a classical guitarist. His involvement with the traditional Irish band, Crikwater, introduced him to a talented young fiddler, Charlie Coughlin in 2013. Charlie grew up in the cultural neighborhood of South Buffalo and began studying Irish fiddle at eleven years old. Today he makes his living by playing the fiddle and with wood-working.