

## The Peregrines - BIO

The transatlantic string group "The Peregrines", features Grant Gordy (*guitar/vocals; NYC*), Ben Somers (*double bass/vocals/sax; London*), Joe Walsh (*mandolin/vocals Boston USA*). These three virtuosos are known internationally for their own work, as well as for their collaborations with such acts as David Grisman, Seal, the Gibson Brothers and Steve Martin.

Their music, both original and traditional, draws influence from bluegrass, old time, jazz, folk music and more. Their performances are like an improvisational musical conversation between the members, stitching together diverse styles with a deep connection that makes every show a unique experience.

Born in Oregon, raised on his father's roots and blues guitar playing, Brooklyn-based **Grant Gordy** was drawn to the guitar early on as a means of personal expression and intellectual curiosity. Moving to Colorado as he entered his 20s opened his musical horizons as he began playing innumerable gigs with local musicians in a wide range of different styles. Being asked to assume the guitarists' role in the fabled David Grisman Quintet, a spot previously held by such guitar notables as Tony Rice, Mark O'Connor, Frank Vignola and Mike Marshall, firmly established Gordy as one of the preeminent young voices on guitar. Just ask his boss, David Grisman, who says Gordy "belongs to the new elite of American acoustic practitioners who are pushing the ever-expanding envelope of a musical frontier."

Hailed by Nashville's Music Row Magazine for his "lickety-split mandolin work" and by CBC-Newfoundland as "one of the best mandolinists of his generation", Portland, Maine-based mandolin player **Joe K. Walsh** is known for his exceptional tone and taste, and his collaborations with acoustic music luminaries including legendary fiddler Darol Anger, flatpick guitar hero Scott Nygaard, folk legend Jonathan Edwards, and pop/grass darlings Joy Kills Sorrow have taken him all over the musical and figurative map. He's played with everyone from John Scofield to Bela Fleck to Emmylou Harris, and performed everywhere from festivals to laundromats to Nashville's Ryman Auditorium. After a number of years helping bluegrass super-group the Gibson Brothers rise to the top of the bluegrass world, Joe currently splits his time between a group with Grant Gordy, Darol Anger and Ethan Jodziewicz called Mr. Sun and a trio with Brittany Haas and Owen Marshall. An avid educator, Joe is a mandolin instructor at the Berklee College of Music, and teaches at music camps throughout North America.

**Ben Somers** is a bass player/singer/songwriter/saxophonist living in the centre of the London. Ben leads several of his own projects including his own bluegrass/old time string band and New Orleans brass group "Brass Hysteria". Equally at home in many genres, including bluegrass, jazz, and country music, he's worked with such notable musicians as Dr John, Dirk Powell, Darol Anger, Bruce Molsky and a few

others, and other credits include Taylor Swift , Seal, Mika, Jonathon Edwards and more. He also regularly teaches at the Sore Fingers Summer School.

**Special guest on the EP release tour**

Rounder, Trekky and Pinecastle Recording Artist **Bobby Britt** is a musical enigma. Nominated for the International Bluegrass Music Association's 2013 momentum award for Instrumentalist of the Year, Britt is equally as comfortable picking with a back porch bluegrass band, as he is laying down a groovy fiddle line for a dub step track (Which he did, and two tracks he recorded on were featured on MTV's The Real World. Britt's current band, Town Mountain, just won the award for 2013 IBMA Performance Band of the Year, and currently has a song on the bluegrass radio charts, coming in at number 6.