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**THE SHELDON**  
CONCERT HALL & ART GALLERIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **THE HILLBENDERS HEADLINE 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ST. LOUIS FOLK & ROOTS FESTIVAL**

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon and KDHX announce the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Louis Folk and Roots Festival, Thursday - Saturday, March 22 - 24, celebrating folk and roots music throughout Grand Center. The festival line-up includes Friday and Saturday night concerts at The Sheldon, Murder Ballad Ball Kickoff on Thursday, March 22 at KDHX, Saturday instrument workshops, square dance and Late Night Saturday show at The Stage @ KDHX. Visit [FolkandRootsFestival.com](http://FolkandRootsFestival.com) or [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org) for more information and a full schedule of events.

#### **Michael Daves with special guests Kaia Kater and Steve James Friday, March 23 at 8 p.m.**

Sheldon Ballroom: \$20 general admission

Heralded as “a leading light of the New York bluegrass scene” by the *New York Times*, Atlanta native and New York transplant **Michael Daves** has garnered attention for his work with Chris Thile, Steve Martin, Tony Trischka and Rosanne Cash in addition to his solo performances. African-Canadian roots phenom **Kaia Kater’s** old-time banjo skills, jazz-fueled voice and deft song-craft have garnered acclaim from *Rolling Stone*, BBC Music and *No Depression*. **Steve James** has been acclaimed for the depth and humor of his material, and live shows imbued with a crackling energy.

#### **The HillBenders with special guests Kieran Kane and Rayna Gellert Saturday, March 24 at 8 p.m.**

Sheldon Concert Hall: \$35 orchestra/\$30 balcony 1 / \$25 balcony 2

A dynamic bluegrass quintet from Springfield, MO, **The HillBenders** - with their high-octane shows, tight harmonies and stunning instrumental prowess - have been winning fans and making waves at festivals and concerts across the country since their formation in 2008. The HillBenders recognize their ability to bridge the gap between mainstream music and the bluegrass genre, selecting material that defies any hillbilly stigmas. The band recently played the very traditional Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival and the esteemed Philadelphia Folk Festival. The HillBenders Instrumentation: Mark Cassidy – banjo, Gary Rea – bass, Jim Rea – guitar, Nolan Lawrence – mandolin, Chad “Gravy Boat” Graves – dobro.

**Kieran Kane** has been referred to as “the godfather of Americana music” for his seminal work in The O’Kanes and Kane Welch Kaplin, as well as co-founding the independent label Dead Reckoning Records. **Rayna Gellert** turned to Appalachian old-time music at a young age, becoming a prodigious fiddler and leading a new revival of American stringband music through her work with the acclaimed roots band Uncle Earl.

**Folk and Roots Festival Package: \$60** includes Friday and Saturday night concerts at The Sheldon, Murder Ballad Ball Kickoff on Thursday, March 22 at KDHX, Saturday instrument workshops, square dance and Late Night Saturday show at The Stage @ KDHX. Packages and single tickets go on sale **Monday, February 5 at 10 a.m.** through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, The Sheldon’s website at [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org), or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org).

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*Presented in partnership with KDHX*