



Stella!

Stella! is an all-female, American roots trio from southeast Michigan featuring three-part vocal harmonies and original songwriting. The band was founded by singer-songwriter **Jo Serrapere** in 2009 to showcase country-roots songwriting, vocals, and string instrumentation. The current line-up includes **Jo Serrapere** on guitar and percussion, **Jen Sygit** on acoustic and electric guitars and banjo, and **Julianna Wilson** on upright bass and ukulele.

Current Line-up

Website: www.TheStellaGirls.com

Jo Serrapere credits songwriter Tom Waits, early blues, jazz, and old-time country as her strongest influences. Her voice is a curious combination of sweet innocence and wry humor. She was a founding member of the old-time string band, **Uncle Earl** and has appeared twice on National Public Radio's "A Prairie Home Companion". In addition to Stella! Jo has recorded several solo albums and plays regularly as, **Jo Serrapere and the Willie Dunns** or **Jo Serrapere and the LaFawndas**. Her solo discography includes *Love Going South* (2009) and *Dollar Store Nation* (2016). It was a conversation Jo had with music writer **Dave Marsh** that sparked the idea to form Stella! In Stella! Jo plays acoustic guitar and percussion.

Jen Sygit is inspired by gritty lyrics and acoustic soul from the likes of Gillian Welch, Bob Dylan, Mavis Staples, Buddy Miller, and Patty Griffin. She provides the deep bluesy low end to Stella!'s three-part harmonies. In addition to performing with Stella! Jen has four solo albums to her credit, with her latest release, *It's About Time* (2018), earning her two Independent Music Awards in NYC (2019). In Stella! Jen plays acoustic and electric guitar, and banjo, providing leads and instrumental solos.

Julianna Wilson takes her cues from swing-era and early jazz vocalists and crooners such as Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, and Julie London. She contributes the high end in many of the three part harmonies in Stella!, with a voice that is smooth and timeless. Julianna also plays ukulele and performs as a duo with her husband Andy in their band **The Springtails**. The Springtails have two records, *Because We're In Love* (2013) and *Rain or Shine* (2016). In Stella! Julianna plays the upright bass and occasionally ukulele.

Recordings



Stella Tells the Truth (2022) was recorded at Goodfoot Studio in Lansing, Michigan. Inspired by Michigan and begun at the onset of a global pandemic, this album reflects the current lineup of the band and explores vulnerability and existentialism with a healthy dose of playfulness. Produced by **Stella!** and **Andy Wilson**.



Sorry, Stella (2011) was recorded in New York City under the guidance of **David Marsh** with fiddler **Tahmineh Gueramy**, bassist **Katie Grace**, and pedal steel player and guitarist **Skip Krevens**. Produced by Detroiters **Adam Druckman** and **Larry Eagle**.

Appearances & Venues

Festivals

Michigan Womyn's Music Festival (Hart, MI)
Flint Folk Festival (Flint, MI)
Earthwork Harvest Gathering (Lake City, MI)
Dunegrass Music Festival (Empire, MI)
Woodtick Music Festival (Hermansville, MI)
Kalamazoo Fretboard Festival (Kalamazoo, MI)
Spirit of the Woods (Brethren, MI)
Farmfest (Johannesburg, MI)
Ann Arbor Summer Festival (Ann Arbor, MI)
Cowpie Music Festival (Grand Rapids, MI)
Arts, Beats and Eats (Royal Oak, MI)
Great Bear Music Festival (Bloomington, MI)
Thumbfest (Lexington, MI)
WIMA fest (Traverse City, MI)
Ypsilanti Crossroads Festival (Ypsilanti, MI)
Nor-East'r (Mio, MI)
Porcupine Mountains Music Festival (Ontonogon, MI)
Wheatland Music Festival (Remus, MI)

Concert Series

Ten Pound Fiddle (Lansing, MI)
Elgin Community College Arts Center (Elgin, IL)
Roots on the River (Manistee, MI)
Old Town Concerts in the Courtyard (Lansing, MI)
Summer Black Box Series (Tecumseh, MI)
South Lyon Concerts in the Park (South Lyon, MI)
Paint Creek Tin Whistle Concert (Rochester Hills, MI)
Black Cat Concert Series (Charlevoix, MI)
The Pump House Concerts (Lansing, MI)
East Lansing Summer Concert Series (East Lansing, MI)
Concerts @ Karen's Place (Leonard, MI)
Comfy Couch Concert Series (Wixom, MI)

Live Radio

Dave Marsh's "Kick Out the Jams" Sirius Radio Program (NYC)
WLNZ Radio Road Show (Charlotte, MI)

Television

Backstage Pass - WKAR/PBS (East Lansing, MI)

Venues

Club Passim (Cambridge, MA)
Rockwood Music Hall (New York, NY)
The Ark (Ann Arbor, MI)
Hambone's Pub (Pittsburgh, PA)
Bell's Brewery (Kalamazoo, MI)
The Trinity House Theatre (Livonia, MI)
Salt of the Earth (Fennville, MI)
Gopherwood (Cadillac, MI)
Ore Dock Brewing Company (Marquette, MI)
Orpheum Theater (Hancock, MI)
InsideOut Gallery (Traverse City, MI)
The Avenue Cafe (Lansing, MI)
Howmet Playhouse (Whitehall, MI)
New Holland Brewery (Holland, MI)
Crazy Wisdom Tea Room (Ann Arbor, MI)
Short's Brewery (Bellaire, MI)
Woodruff's (Ypsilanti, MI)
Good Night Gracie's (Ann Arbor, MI)
Zingerman's Roadhouse (Ann Arbor, MI)
Johnny's Speakeasy (Ann Arbor, MI)
Moriarty's Pub (Lansing, MI)
Northern Natural Cider House (Traverse City, MI)
Holly Mills (Holly, MI)

Reviews

"They are a near-religious experience. Hearing them perform in an intimate setting is like going to an Appalachian mountain church and hollering hallelujah with a Bible in one hand and a bottle of hooch in the other. They're that sinfully good."

-- **Karen Koski**, syndicated music writer (Billboard), house concert host

*"Over the last six months that I have been listening to Stella!'s debut album 'Sorry, Stella', it has gone from being a nice folk album to being the near perfect American Roots record. Great original songs (plus one Tom Waits cover), beautiful three-part harmonies, and a wide variety of interesting musical settings. 'Sorry, Stella' ended up as number four on my list of favorite albums of 2012, as reported to the '3rd Coast Music' FAR Chart." -- **Tom Jackson**, WLUW Chicago, Host of "New Orleans Music Hour" and "Somebody Else's Troubles"*

Booking & Promotion
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