

# Peg Roach Loyd

## Singer/Songwriter

### Guitar/Bodhran/Bones/Irish Whistle

**Peg Roach Loyd** (singer/songwriter, guitar/bodhran/bones/Irish whistle) has a soothing voice that hints of her Irish ancestry. She writes clever and engaging songs in traditional Celtic and American folk styles that tell stories of Irish history, emigration, musical craic (the Irish word for fun), love and parting.

Peg grew up in St. Louis, Mo., before moving to Little Rock, Ar., in 1987. Her Irish ancestors emigrated from counties Cork, Limerick and Kerry. Peg began singing as a young child under the influence of her father, an Irish tenor, and her mother, who instilled pride for all things Irish. Her interest in traditional Irish music took hold when she patronized **John D. McGurk's Irish Pub** in Souland, south of downtown St. Louis, where Peg can occasionally be found singing a song or two with long-time friends Mike Wallace and Sean Conway from the popular band, the **Irish Brigade**.

Peg is the former lead singer of the band, **Cairde**, a Little Rock-based traditional Irish folk band. Cairde formed in 1998 and across eight years became the most prominent and successful traditional Irish band in the region. Cairde played six straight years at **CelticFest in Jackson, Ms.**, and appeared for the third time at the **2007 North Texas Irish Festival in Dallas, Tx**. Cairde's debut CD, **Blessings Rare**, sold out within two years of its release. The title of the CD is taken from a song Peg wrote entitled, "**Man Who Brought the Cradle**." Cairde was a finalist in the **2003 Arkansas Acoustic Festival Showdown** at the University of Central Arkansas.

Also in 2003, Peg received Honorable Mention for her song, "**The Fiddler's Feet**" in the **Waltons Irish Songwriting Competition at the Milwaukee Irish Fest**. This song was featured on the website for the **St. Louis Tionol** music festival on which the song was based ([www.Tionol.org](http://www.Tionol.org)). In 2004, Peg was a featured songwriter and performer at the **Songwriter's Showcase** at the **University of Arkansas-Little Rock** and the **2006 Songs Across America Festival at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway**. Peg participates in the **Arkansas Chapter of the Nashville Songwriters Association International**, is former president of the **Arkansas Celtic Music Society** and **Irish Cultural Society of Arkansas**. **Peg is pleased to announce the release of her debut solo CD, *Carving in Stone*, in 2007.**

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