



# Lonesome Sound

a site about  
**FREAKWATER**



Latest News

Team Roster

Biography

Discography

Lyrics

Reading Room

Gig History

Links

Hit Me Back

Janet Bean and  
the Concertina Wire  
*Dragging Wonder Lake*  
CD available now  
[thrilljockey.com](http://thrilljockey.com)



Catherine Irwin's  
solo debut  
*Cut Yourself  
a Switch*  
available now  
[thrilljockey.com](http://thrilljockey.com)



*This is a fan site for America's premier "alt-country" band. You can have Freakwater news & tour dates sent to your Inbox by joining the **Freakwater Yahoogroup** or subscribing to the **mailing list**.*

## From the Freakwater catalogue - 100% Legal Downloads

*These song downloads are taken with kind permission of the band. To download, right-click on the link, select 'Save Target As', then direct your computer as to where to store the mp3 file. The first two LP's are Catherine and Janet's recent solo works. The rest are Freakwater. Refer to the discography for more information. If you like what you hear, please tell a friend, then buy a CD or three from **Thrill Jockey Records**. Or you can get more mp3s at [emusic.com](http://emusic.com)*



**Cry Our Little Eyes Out** from Catherine Irwin's '02 *Cut Yourself a Switch*



**The Bluebird's Spindle** from Janet Bean's '03 *Dragging Wonder Lake*



**Picture in my Mind** from 98's *Springtime*



**Just Like You** from 99's *End Time*



**Waitress Song** from 95's *Old Paint*



**Your Goddamn Mouth** from 91's *Dancing Under Water*



**Are You Ready** from 93's *Feels Like the Third Time*

## LATEST NEWS

You're invited to post at this site's new **forums**.

If you think Freakwater deserves to be on PBS's **Austin City Limits**, you could drop a note into that show's **suggestion box**.

**July 4th, 2005**

Terri from the yahoo group posted it first. From *Billboard*:

Veteran Americana act Freakwater will release its first new album in six years, ***Thinking of You***, Sept. 13 via Thrill Jockey. The 12-track set is a collaboration with labelmates Califone, whose members join core Freakwater artists Cathy Irwin, Janet Bean, David Gay and Jon Spiegel in various combinations on each cut.

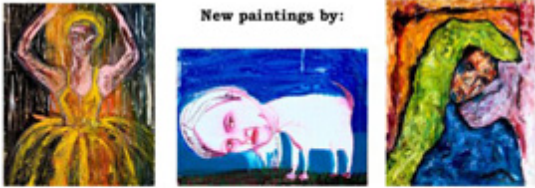
"Double Clutch" features guitar work from Jim Elkington, singer/guitarist of fellow Thrill Jockey band the Zincs. Another track, "Cathy Ann" was originally intended to appear on Freakwater's last album, "End Time." Says Bean, "I love singing with Catherine, and I miss it. I sort of view it like tennis: you can play it into your 80's; you just play it a little slower." The group is expected to tour later this year, but for now, its only scheduled show is Aug. 13 at Pickathon in North Plains, Ore.

## June 28th, 2005

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the **RIM** Show  
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viewable on-line at <http://members.iglou.com/maxson/Painting/RIM.html>

Catherine and some old friends are having a **show** in Louisville.

## May 19th, 2005

Freakwater's new album is complete! More info as it's available. . .

## May 6th, 2005

Freakwater will play **Pickathon** at **Horning's Hideout Camping and Festival Grounds** near Portland, Oregon, on August 12th and 13th.



## February 15th, 2005

On Saturday, March 5th at 2pm, Tower Records in Chicago (2301 N. Clark Street) will be hosting an event to promote the release of the new Thrill Jockey DVD **Looking for a Thrill**, which is a 5-hour collection of personal stories about

defining musical moments of inspiration for 112 musicians including Mike Watt, Thurston Moore, Hamid Drake, Bjork, Yo La Tengo, Tortoise, the Butchies, Jon Spencer, Vic Chesnutt, Kurt Wagner, Fred Anderson, and Giant Sand, the Urinals, Califone, Jesus Lizard, the Boredoms, Mekons, Slint, the Sea and Cake, Calexico and more. Freakwater, Eleventh Dream Day, Janet Bean (w/Jim Zinc and Nick Macri backing her), and other Thrill Jockey artists will be playing.

## January 4th, 2004

Lane says, "Freakwater will headline a Monday, 1/10 concert and auction event at the **Hideout** in Chicago, with all proceeds dedicated to tsunami relief. The show will start at 7:00 pm; in addition to Mizzes Irwin and Bean, entertainment will be provided by the Redmoon Theatre band Mocca Pazza and 'special guests.' Attendees are advised to bring their piggy banks for the silent auction of items donated by the likes of Thrill Jockey and Bloodshot Records, Wilco, Kelly Hogan, Steve Walters, Jay Ryan, Matt Daly, Tony Fitzpatrick, Marty Perez and others. Beneficiaries include Unicef, Americares and Mercy Corps."

## December 8th, 2004

Eleventh Dream Day will open for Yo La Tengo Saturday, December 11th at Maxwell's in Hoboken, New Jersey.

## December 7th, 2004



Everything went well at the "Bloodshot Records Holiday Happy Hour" at Carol's Pub in Chicago last Saturday. Being there felt a little like stumbling into some fundamentalist church where devotees of true country music could hang among their own kind. Devil in a Woodpile's Rick Cookin' Sherry belted it out like Ernest Tubb's wicked grandchild, while Jon Langford, the one and only Kelly Hogan, and the Pine Valley Cosmonauts again conjured up the smiling ghost of Bob Wills. It was a blast.

Between those two bands, Freakwater delivered their first show in eighteen months. Janet, Catherine, Jon Rice, and the mighty Jon Spiegel played eight songs, and four of them were new. The new one that struck the most was the first: It was sung from beginning to end with C & J in close harmony, and the lyrics were soaring and majestic the way "When the Leaves Begin to Fall" does but not sad and despairing like that one: "Jewels of the midnight sky. . . everything slipped from my hand, shining pearls from grains of sand." Something like that. It was pretty stunning. On the whole, the new material is strong, and left the listener feeling positive about what's next: Apparently, Freakwater intends to begin recording in January, supported by one, some or all of the members of the band Califone (Jim Becker of that band was mentioned specifically). At Thrill Jockey's Califone info page, Califone co-leader Tim Rutili says "Jim knows hundreds of 200 year old songs. He can play claw hammer banjo, fiddle, guitar, or mandolin like a pro and he can also make an ungodly noise on any of these." Maybe that's a good indicator of the sound Fw will be going for this time around.

And there's talk of more gigging with these new supporting musicians in the future. So, hold onto yourself. 2005 might be the one.

## November 9th, 2004

Neko Case's new CD *The Tigers Have Spoken*, the one with the Catherine Irwin cover, is out today to universally positive reviews. **Glide Magazine** sez "Hex' is a stunner—so heartfelt and perfect. . . I'm still wondering how it was captured so beautifully as a live track—let's just say Neko must have been "on" that night." Buy *Tigers* [here](#).

## October 25th, 2004

Hey! Freakwater, Devil in a Woodpile, and the Pine Valley Cosmonauts will play "The Bloodshot Holiday Happy Hour" Saturday, December 4th (an early show, 3 - 8 pm), at Carol's Pub, 4659 N. Clark, Chicago. Tickets are \$10 in advance, only at [bloodshotrecords.com](http://bloodshotrecords.com). Bloodshot says "buy your tickets in advance because Carol's only holds about 120 people."

## October 9th, 2004

Eleventh Dream Day will play the Metro in Chicago on Saturday, October 23rd with Mission of Burma and Pit er Pat.

## July 28th, 2004

Neko Case's appearance on PBS's *Austin City Limits* will be rerun on Saturday, July 31st. Neko covers Catherine Irwin's "Hex" in her set. Further, "Hex" will appear on Neko's live album, *The Tigers Have Spoken*, due November 9th.

## April 14th, 2004

Janet Bean will play a solo set on Saturday, May 15th at an art opening at the Gallery Augusta (1000 N. California) in Chicago.

Eleventh Dream Day and the reunited Antietam will play on Sunday, May 16th at the Empty Bottle in Chicago.

Janet Bean and the Concertina Wire will play Thursday, June 10th at Schuba's in Chicago.

## February 17th, 2004

Catherine Irwin will play at the Grey Eagle Tavern in Asheville, NC on Saturday, March 6th.

You're in for a treat thanks to **Hillary H.**, publisher of Louisville 'zine **Bejeezus**. There's a long & funny interview with Catherine in the #4 issue, and, when I asked to paraphrase a bit from it here, Hillary offered up the **entire article** (photos, too). Wow, thank you so much, Hillary!



## February 10th, 2004

Catherine Irwin and Sean Garrison will headline a benefit for **Wellspring-house**, which "works to promote the recovery of persons with severe and persistent mental illness", at St. John's, 637 E Market St., Louisville, KY, on February 20th. There are six acts on the bill. An art exhibit opens at 7, and the music begins at 8.

## January 4th, 2004

Janet Bean and the Concertina Wire will play the Empty Bottle in Chicago on Friday, January 9th.

**December 28th, 2003**

**Thomas Peake**, alluding to the tune "Louisville Lip", won the Thrill Jockey Limerick contest -

I went to the Second Street Bridge  
On advice from Irwin and Beveridge  
But the gold of Ali  
I just couldn't see  
Only Freakwater below and a midge.

Thomas wrote, in 1998, an article on Freakwater for Atlanta's *Creative Loafing*, and has allowed me to post it in the **Reading Room**.


There are new Eleventh Dream Day shirts available at **Thrill Jockey**, emblazoned with Catherine's re-drawing of their *Prairie School Freakout* album cover.

## **October 20th, 2003: Freakwater's *Old Paint* Reissue**



In October, 2003, Thrill Jockey Records reissued the *Old Paint* LP, which had slipped out of print for awhile. Good thing it's back: Even for casual Freakwater fans (hmm, are there any casual Freakwater fans?), *Old Paint* is an absolute must-have. The first three cuts are a devastating trilogy of despair and grief that by themselves make *Old Paint* worth the price of admission, including "Gone to Stay", which has Freakwater's oft-quoted line "There's nothing so pure as the kindness of an atheist". But that's not to say the album's front-loaded - there are deeply affecting songs throughout, anchored by the wonderful pedal steel of hired gun **Bob Egan**. Just have a listen to **Waitress Song** - perhaps Freakwater would be famous if this tune could find its way onto every Waffle House jukebox in America. . .

*You can view the news that appeared on this page prior to October, 2003 by downloading this **Adobe Acrobat file**.*

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