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**Notes from editor (not for publication):**



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Soubrettes celebrate 20th anniversary, new album with  
2 Guilford concert

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 The Soubrettes, the Vermont Jazz Center’s lively 19-voice  
6 choir, will be celebrating their 20th anniversary and the release of  
7 their album *Town* with a 6:30 p.m. concert Wednesday, June 17,  
8 at the Guilford Community Park Pavilion on 24 Church Drive  
9 next to the Guilford Community Church.

10 The choir was founded in 2006, when Eugene Uman  
11 invited Anna Patton to lead a harmony singing class at the Jazz

12 Center. Over the years, participants honed their skills of singing  
13 syncopated rhythms and close sophisticated harmonies, and  
14 Patton became a more adventurous arranger.

15 Their debut album “is a testament to the hard work,  
16 creativity and fun of tackling musical challenges together,” wrote  
17 event promoters in a news release.

18 *Town* was conceived in the quarantined months of 2021  
19 when the choir was rehearsing over Zoom. Like many singing  
20 groups during that period, they turned to recording technology as  
21 a way to hear their voices together while singing alone. Singers  
22 recorded their parts, one at a time, into a mic on Patton’s porch,  
23 with audio cables draped out her office window.

24 An array of instrumentalists added accompaniment to the  
25 project, including Patton’s father, Will Patton, on bass and  
26 mandolin, Eugene Uman on keys, and Patton, herself, on clarinet.  
27 The title track of *Town* is a Brattleboro-themed riff on a Mose  
28 Allison instrumental, celebrating the town’s boggling array of  
29 opportunities to dance, learn, eat, hear music, and generally get  
30 off the couch and go see what’s happening.

31 Other songs appearing on the album that will also be  
32 featured in the June 17 concert include Irving Berlin’s “Lazy,”  
33 celebrating the art of relaxation, Kris Delmhorst’s “Invisible  
34 Choir,” a meditation on leaving something behind to inspire those  
35 who come after us, and Ben Patton’s “There Aren’t Enough Love  
36 Songs,” which contains a “cacophonous interlude” that quotes  
37 no less than 13 love-songs from the American Songbook.

38 The concert will feature guest instrumentalists Will Patton  
39 and Ben Patton, Cathy Martin on keys, and Julian Gerstin on  
40 percussion.

41 This performance is part of the Joinery Summer Music  
42 series put on by the Guilford Community Park, presenting music  
43 at the nexus of folk, swing, and gospel. All Joinery concerts are  
44 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., with admission by donation. (suggested:  
45 \$15–\$25) with no one turned away.

46 A lawn chair or blanket is recommended, and perhaps a  
47 parasol as well for the sunny start of the evening. Letti's Besitos  
48 will be serving tacos and the playground will be open. In case of  
49 rain, The Soubrettes concert will be held next door in the  
50 Guilford Community Church.

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