



Ronnie Reno, the eldest son of the legendary **Don Reno**, carries a tradition and legacy like no other act in Bluegrass Music, the "**Reno**" name. Ronnie started playing Mandolin and singing with his father's band at the age of ten. Ronnie would help to create the signature sound of Reno and Smiley by recording on many of their albums in the late 50's and 60's. History would acknowledge Don as the innovator of the three-finger roll on the five-string banjo. Ronnie, of course, had no idea that he would become part of musical history and truly a second generation bluegrass artist and innovator in his own right. Ronnie now looks back on that time as the solid foundation that has carried him throughout his career as a songwriter and performer.

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After ten years with **Reno and Smiley**, Ronnie was drawn to yet another legendary group, **The Osborne Brothers**. It was the sound of the harmony they created together that inspired Ronnie to stay with the group for five years. While with The Osborne Brothers, Ronnie helped provide a vocal blend that was the cornerstone of the harmony for which they are now famous.

While The Osborne Brothers were touring as an opening act for **Merle Haggard**, Ronnie's vocal talents came to Merle's attention. Merle was so impressed with Ronnie's vocals and the blend of their voices that he offered Ronnie a job as his opening act. It was so popular that Merle asked Ronnie to stay on stage during Merle's set and harmonize with he and Bonnie Owens. This led to a nine-year relationship with the legendary Merle Haggard.

Ronnie's roots were still in Bluegrass and that's what he longed to do. In the family tradition Ronnie called upon his younger brothers, reluctantly said goodbye to his good friend Merle and formed **The Reno Brothers Band**. From twenty years of playing with some of the musical greats in both Bluegrass and Country music, Ronnie's experience led him to create his own unique sound. That, he realized, is what creates legends in any musical genre. For the next fifteen years, Ronnie Reno and the Reno Brothers toured together and played most of the major Bluegrass Venues and Festivals in the country.

During this time Ronnie also created, produced, and starred in his own cable television show, **Reno's Old Time Music Festival**. Ronnie's talents and the success of the show were rewarded with a nomination for television's prestigious **Cable Ace Award for Best Musical Series**.

Now, Ronnie has taken another step in his musical journey. With the formation of **Ronnie Reno and The Reno Tradition**, Ronnie steps up to share the tradition and legacy set forth by he and his father in the early days of Bluegrass. To accomplish this, Ronnie has selected some of the finest musicians in bluegrass music in Danny Roberts, Heath Van Winkle, Jackie Miller and Mike Scott. **The show is that musical journey**. It takes you through the musical life of **Ronnie, Don Reno, The Reno Brothers**, and the legends that Ronnie has had the privilege to play and record with over the years. You'll hear the **original songs** written and recorded by Ronnie, his father, and **the songs and sounds Ronnie helped create** throughout his career. **The show is a high-energy presentation with tight harmonies, driving instrumentals and a stage presence that only years of entertaining can bring. It's a wholesome family show that will leave your audience on the edge of their seats and calling for more.**

Contact:

RENO ENTERPRISES

92 Plumlee Drive
Hendersonville, TN 37075
Office Phone

615-826-9341

After Hours Phone

615-824-1169

e-mail

renobro1@aol.com

Web Site

ronniereno.com



DANNY ROBERTS

Playing mandolin and singing bass vocals on the quartets, Danny is a Nashville picker that originally hails from Leitchfield, KY. A small town in south central Kentucky and stone's throw from Rosine (the father of bluegrass music, Bill Monroe's birthplace), you simply don't get much closer to the bluegrass bone than this.

Prior to The Reno Tradition, Danny is an original founding member of the band New Tradition, who he toured heavily with for eighteen years (1982 - 2000). He is a musician, songwriter, artist and entertainer in his own right. A creative force in New Tradition, Danny has penned songs for the band and others through the years and is best know for his song, Grandpa's Way.

Today, with The Reno Tradition, Danny's love and passion for the music shines through in his ability to musically reach out and touch an audience. With his powerful musicianship and his performance on stage, some show soon, you may actually get to see him break the bounds of gravity. Great vocals, dynamic mandolin solos and a chop that defines what a mandolin can do in a band, Danny is simply the complete package.

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JACKIE MILLER

Resident fiddlist and singing baritone vocals, Jackie will wrench a tear out of you and have you up on you feet and, if you're not careful, sometimes in the same song. A fourth generation musician (dad, grandpa and great grandpa, all, made music), Jackie has played from Nashville to Ashville and in styles ranging from bluegrass to Southern gospel.

Originally from East Tennessee, Jackie cut his musical teeth on guitar, mandolin and fiddle and playing locally with his well known father (Harlan Miller) in his father's Bluegrass Harmonizers. He's performed extensively at Dollywood and around the Gatlinburg area with the band True Blue. He's appeared with Keith Whitley, Carl Storey's Rambling Mountaineers and is a five year veteran of Mike Scott's All American Band.

Simply one of the most under recognized fiddlers in bluegrass music today, listen for the trappings of great bluegrass fiddle playing. In every show, in every fill and every break you'll find soul, expressiveness, and the fire that brings the music alive again and again. Exciting components, to be sure.

HEATH VAN WINKLE

On acoustic upright bass and singing tenor vocals, Heath's performance with The Reno Tradition is simply full of highs and lows. In this case, that's a good thing as Heath sets the standard for what has become The Reno Tradition sound.

From his first family performances in the Big Hill/Berea area of Kentucky, singing and playing at his grandfather's church, Heath's musical career has been wide and varied. Early duets with brother Donovan and Traveling Grass and as a member of The Charlie Sizemore Band and Tim Graves & Cherokee continued the romance for the music. Appearances with the likes of Wilma Lee Cooper, Josh Graves & Kenny Baker, Jim & Jesse and at venues ranging from The Renfro Valley Barn Dance to The Grand Ole Opry, have brought Heath to the level of stature he enjoys today and a respected name in bluegrass music.

Heath is exceptional at both upright bass and tenor. He provides the foundation for the tight, driving rhythms and powerful, moving harmonies and with a blend that typically takes family to produce.

MIKE SCOTT

Featured on banjo and singing baritone vocals, Mike's smooth, clean, driving attack and uncanny stylistic flexibility on banjo brings unparalleled excitement to diversity of The Reno Tradition show.

Originally from East Tennessee, Mike has long been part of the tradition of American acoustic music. He's been on stage, entertaining audiences since 1972, when he was ten. You've heard the name, "Mike Scott," lighting up audiences in the early eighties as part of Carl Story's Rambling Mountaineers. Again, you've heard of Mike in the mid-eighties helping to define the tradition with Jim & Jesse and The Virginia Boys. In the mid nineties, Mike's appearances as part of Danny Davis' Nashville Brass gave you a sense of how far bluegrass banjo has truly come. Since 1986, you've seen Mike, with his All American Band, at festivals, fairs and concerts throughout the U.S.

Today, as a featured artist with The Reno Tradition, Mike's polished banjo capabilities and dynamic stage presence bring still one more dimension of high-energy excitement to The Reno Tradition show. Give this man a banjo and he'll flat entertain you.



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CD RELEASES

- For The First Time MCA Records
- Kentucky Gold Webco Records
- Acoustic Celebration Pinecastle Records
- Swing West Pinecastle Records
- Drawing From The Well Pinecastle Records
- Three Part Harmony Pinecastle Records
- PORTFOLIO Shell Point Records

SELECTED TV APPEARANCES

- Host of Reno's Old Time Music Festival
- Austin City Limits (with Merle Haggard)
- Nashville Now (TNN)
- Heart To Heart (with host, Stan Hitchcock)
- Old Country Church (Americana Network)

CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Cable Ace Nomination for Best Musical Variety Series
- Toured with Merle Haggard, Mel Tillis, Tom Wopat and The Osborne Brothers
- Songs recorded by Conway Twitty and Merle Haggard, "Boogie Grass Band," "Hero For A Day," "I've Got A Darlin," and "Union Station"
- Board Of Directors of International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) from 1994-2000

AWARDS

- Recorded Event of the Year - Bluegrass Now
- BMI Award for writing "Boggie Grass Band"
- NAIRD Award for "Reno and Smiley video"
- Academy Of Country Music (ACM) for Band Of The Year while part of the band, "The Strangers"
- Country Music Association (CMA) while with The Osborne Brothers
- Fans Choice Award - Bluegrass Now award for Vocal Group Of The Year

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“With over forty years in the business, its purely devine intervention when an artist can surround himself with four musicians of this caliber at one time. These fellas have been a blessing to me and its a joy to bring it to our audience. Listen and see for yourself.”
Ronnie Reno, The Reno Tradition

“Ahhh, how sweet it is to hear the real stuff - Bluegrass music, that is.”
Louisville Music News.com

“These folks deliver a series of impressive performances, as one would expect... This recording celebrates and extends the Reno heritage. **(PORTFOLIO)** exhibits an admirable diversity of tempos, keys, material and style, always keeping the listener’s interest.”
Bluegrass Unlimited, January 2003

Portfolio is great music from a group that's destined to leave their mark in bluegrass. This project by The Reno Tradition covers a diverse array of music and it will appeal to a wide audience.
Bluegrass Now Magazine

“Traditional, Reno style. With the help of outstanding players, this CD is cookin'! Tight vocals and precision pickin. Ronnie works hard to preserve tradition.”
Acoustica Magazine

“Without enough people noticing, Ronnie Reno has quietly built a distinguished career in bluegrass and country music. The material from his new CD, Portfolio, reaches as far back as hits for his dad, Don Reno, and includes Ronnie's best-known composition, "Boogie Grass Band", a number one hit for Conway Twitty. Though it's a nicely varied program, Reno's strength lies in his interpretations of his own distinctive songs.”
Jon Weisberger/ Country Standard Time



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Latest Project - PORTFOLIO

To acquire a portfolio sometimes can take a long time and a lot of hard work. Ronnie Reno has accomplished this with his latest release. "Timing is everything and it couldn't have been better. I was in the right place at the right time to be involved in five great careers." Those being: Reno & Smiley, The Osborne Brothers, Merle Haggard & The Strangers and The Reno Brothers (their TV show, "Reno's Old Time Music Festival," was nominated for cable television's ACE award).

PORTFOLIO covers a portion of all of these times in Ronnie's career, beginning with Reno & Smiley's *I Know You're Married But I love*

You Still and *I'm Using My Bible For A Roadmap*, which was their first hit. *Listening To The Rain* and *The Pain Of Loving You* were two songs performed during his tenure with The Osborne Brothers. A couple of tunes, the self-penned *September In Miami* and *Travelin'*, which Ronnie sang on Merle's 30th album, are selected



from a time when he toured with Merle Haggard. The Reno Brothers helped on *Sweetheart Slayer* and *Kneel Down*. Ronnie shows off his super band, The Reno Tradition, on *Freight Train Boogie*, *Highway Of Love* and the rest of the CD, including a hopping arrangement of Ronnie's song, *Boogie Grass Band*. This is the first time Ronnie has recorded the song, which was a #1 hit for Conway Twitty. The CD cover appropriately features memorabilia of Ronnie's varied musical experiences, including his dad's banjo picks and Merle Haggard's plaque from his dressing room door at Harrah's Casino in Lake Tahoe.

Bluegrass and roots music are enjoying great success and Ronnie feels that's due to a lot of hard work from the legend's and the new musicians, taking it to the next level. He also feels that fans need something solid from the music to hold on to. **We know you'll find PORTFOLIO a solid, traditional CD - done in the art form that only time can achieve.** Wholesale inquiries are welcome.

THE STUFF

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