

# BIOGRAPHY

## DAROL ANGER & BARBARA HIGBIE

Windham Hill Records Recording Artists

Latest album: Tideline, WH-1021 and WT-1021 (cassette)

"Higbie is among the most remarkable and versatile young performers I have ever heard...full of life, and brilliant in her playing."

Phillip Elwood, San Francisco Examiner

"Anger is one of the most prominent fiddler/violinists in today's rapidly evolving music scene."

Jim Hatlo, Frets Magazine

"Higbie...is a consummate musician... (she has) a deft ability to cover a range from cosmic seriousness to pure whimsy."

M. Eisenhardt, BAM Magazine

"Anger is a staggering talent on the violin."

Derk Richardson, S.F. Bay Guardian

Violinist Darol Anger is well-known and highly respected for his inventive work with the ground-breaking David Grisman Quartet, of which he was a founding member. Anger, mandolinist Grisman, and the other members of the D.G.Q. have collectively forged a new genre of acoustic string band music, with Darol's "awesome technical command and improvisational chops" (Frets magazine) often in the forefront. In the 1980 through 1984 Frets readers' polls, Anger placed second among the world's top jazz and blues fiddlers (behind the legendary Stephane Grappelli and ahead of the great Jean-Luc Ponty).

Born in Seattle, Washington in 1953, Darol took up guitar at age nine. He switched to violin before high school, first playing in the school orchestra, then teaching himself to play by ear, exploring the violin's potential as an electric rock instrument. While attending the University of California at Santa Cruz, Anger devoured the local jazz and bluegrass scenes, and honed his craft in countless bars, festivals, and fiddle contests before teaming up with Grisman in 1975.

Since joining the Quartet (nee Quintet), Anger has appeared on all the group's albums (The David Grisman Quartet, Hot Dawg, Quintet '80, Mondo Mando, Dawg Grass/Jazz, Acoustic Christmas) as well as playing violin and cello on LPs by guitarist Tony Rice, Jim Messina, Holly Near, and Windham Hill artists William Ackerman and Alex De Grassi (Passage, Past Light, and Clockwork, respectively).

In 1979 Darol released his first solo album, Fiddlistics (Kaleidoscope F-8), to critical acclaim. In addition to recording and performing all over the world with the D.G.Q. and sharing the Carnegie and Avery Fisher Hall stages with violinists from Ricky Skaggs to Stephane Grappelli, Darol has produced and released a duo album with D.G.Q. guitarist Mike Marshall (The Duo Rounder 0168), which placed second in the 1984 Frets readers' poll for album of the year (behind Dawg Jazz/Grass, on which he and Marshall also appeared). While touring Europe in 1977 Darol met Barbara Higbie playing her violin in the subways of Paris, where she was studying language at the Sorbonne.

Barbara Higbie was born in Coldwater, Michigan in 1958. She began picking out tunes on the family piano when she was only three, and began taking classical lessons a few years later. When her family moved to Ghana, she took up guitar, and added fiddle to her repertoire of instruments when she returned to high school in Orange County, California.

She received her BA. in music from Mills College, and then went back to Africa for nine months on a Watson Fellowship Grant to study and collect traditional music. Although she considers fiddle her second instrument after piano, she recently ranked sixth in the womens' division at the National Old-Time Fiddlers' contest in Weiser, Idaho.

Besides appearing on (and composing one tune for) Darol's Fiddlistics album, Barbara composed about two-thirds of the material for Tideline, and has released a well-received duet album with feminist R&B singer Teresa Trull, entitled Unexpected (Olivia/Second Wave 22001) and has appeared on albums by Holly Near, Robin Flower, Mike Marshall and Blue Gene Tyranny.

Currently she and Darol form two-fifths of Saheeb, an "anything-goes" group of eclectic, innovative multi-instrumentalists including the D.G.Q.'s Mike Marshall and Rob Wasserman.

Of her exciting and unique approach to music, Higbie says: "I try to either support or challenge whatever's going on. I like activating people to interact on a more intense level...When you're an artist, your responsibility is to integrate everything you believe into what you're doing."

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