

MITHRIL

Bios

Tom Morley (fiddle, guitar, bouzouki, mandolin) has performed professionally in almost every style of music. Before moving to Fairhope in 1993, he worked as a studio and touring musician in Nashville, earning a gold album with a major country act. He has had two European tours as a jazz violinist. As an Irish/Celtic fiddler, he has twice traveled to Ireland to perform and research the music of County Clare and western Ireland, At Boston's Gaelic Roots Summer Workshop, he studied with famous Irish fiddlers Manus McGuire (Brock-McGuire Band, Moving Cloud) and Matt Cranitch and has performed alongside legendary musicians including Liz Carroll, Tommy Peoples, Donal O'Connor, John Doyle and Michael Tubridy. Tom has also performed with accordionist Jeff Taylor, who appears on The Chieftain's *Down the Old Plank Road* CD, and John Mock, who performs regularly with Maura O'Connell and the Dixie Chicks. Tom is a member of the Mobile Symphony and a founding member of the Silverwood Quartet, a chamber ensemble with an eclectic repertoire.

Andra Bohnet (Irish flute, whistle, Celtic harp) is a flutist who embraces a rich variety of musical styles and performs on flutes of all shapes and sizes; classical, traditional wooden, baroque and a variety of ethnic instruments, as well as Celtic harp. She holds the post of Professor of Music at the University of South Alabama in Mobile where she teaches flute, music history, and chamber music and is the principal flutist with Mobile Symphony and the Gulf Coast Symphony in Biloxi, MS. Andra is also a founding member of the Silverwood Quartet. As Silverwood's primary arranger, her works appear on all of their CDs, and she has also created the Mithril symphonic orchestrations. She has studied traditional flute playing at the Boxwood Flute Festival in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia and is on the faculty at the Wind on the Bay Flute Symposium in East Greenwich, Rhode Island.

Ben Harper (guitar, bass guitar) was raised in a family of musicians and has been playing one instrument or another as long as he can remember. He majored in flute at the University of South Alabama, studying with Mithril's own Andra Bohnet, and received a B.A. in music education. He has worked in all aspects of the music business, including retail sales and as an announcer and program director at WHIL Radio in Mobile. Since the mid-1990s, he has performed in a number of jazz and rock bands along the Gulf Coast (actually 9 at last count), and brings a high-energy rock sensibility to the music of Mithril.

David Hughes (bodhran, djembe, percussion, harmonium, melodeon) has been an active percussionist and composer for over ten years. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in music composition from the University of Mobile and has studied percussion privately since 1989. He has performed with many ensembles in a variety of genres including jazz, rock, gospel, and classical. David's path into hand drumming began with the study of Latin percussion which fueled further interest in the African and Middle Eastern rhythmic traditions. His diverse musical background offers an interesting array of colors to the Mithril soundscape.

Tour Direction:

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