



Short History of the Ensemble

S·E·A is the collaboration of folk musician Steve Eulberg and musical sisters Erin and Amber Rogers. The trio has a long history of friendship and musical companionship. They met for the first time in 1998 at a “Dulcimer-Friendly Worship Service” Steve and his campmates were hosting. Erin and Amber came, carrying a mountain dulcimer and fiddle, respectively, and did their best to play along, though they were just beginning to learn their instruments. A year later, they again met up at that festival. This time, Erin excitedly taught Steve a new tune she had learned called “Spotted Pony.” Fast forward nearly fifteen years, and S·E·A uses that very tune to take children on a “spotted pony ride” while teaching them about different rhythms, tempos, and time signatures. This story is very representative of the symbiotic nature of the trio’s work. Each member of the ensemble brings different areas of expertise, musical influences, and passions to the table.

Many years have passed since that first meeting in a campground. Steve, Erin, and Amber often found themselves at the same places and made it a point to share tunes, song stories, and music experiences with one another. Gradually, they began to perform the songs they had shared and grown to love. In recent years, S·E·A has begun to intentionally schedule performances and educational programs together.

S·E·A incorporates mountain dulcimers, hammered dulcimer, fiddle, banjo, harmonica, and other traditional folk instruments into each of their shows. They blend their voices into authentic old-time harmonies and share intimate stories behind the songs, giving audiences a glimpse into their lives and the culture of the music. Additionally, the ensemble focuses on teaching young people about music, movement, and culture through singing and dance. S·E·A delights in passing on a knowledge of traditional American music.

Both Steve and Erin are also cancer survivors—Steve of thyroid cancer in 2013 and Erin of Hodgkin’s Lymphoma in 2007. This experience further united the ensemble and cemented their conviction about the importance of music in the healing process. S·E·A believes that music is a powerful tool for communicating and expressing joys, sorrows and hope—one that transcends cultural and language barriers.