

Amy Fradon – Bio

Amy Fradon was raised on a farm near Danbury, Connecticut. Her father, Dana, was a cartoonist and author [eg. **“Breaking The Laugh Barrier”** [1961], **“Insincerely Yours”** [1978] and **“A Knight As Told by His Trusty Armor”** [1988] etc.], is probably best known for his work with New Yorker Magazine, while her mother, Ramona, worked on the Brenda Starr comic strip as well as for DC/Marvel Comics. Enrolled at New York University as a dance major, with an already impressive CV that included school dance productions and acting in plays, Fradon auditioned for the Rathskeller Coffeehouse, and literally launched her singing career, by default.

In the late seventies Amy settled in Woodstock, and remains an Upstate NY resident to this day. She was subsequently invited to join a band that featured support players such as Cane Roberts [Alice Cooper, Eric Parker [Joe Cocker and Steve Winwood], Gary Bonner [The Turtles] and Robbie Dupree. Later she formed her own band, Amy and the Shoppers, and also began contributing to numerous session recordings, including works by Maria Muldaur, Happy and Artie Traum, Livingston Taylor, Ed Sanders and The Fugs, Orleans, Peter Yarrow, Tiny Tim, Rick Danko and Tim Moore.

Later, Fradon landed a role in the touring production of the hit Broadway musical, **“Pumpboys And Dinettes.”** With Ed Sanders, she appeared in productions of **“Legend of Cassandra”** and **“Requiem Songs”** and was also a support singer on Artie & Happy Traum’s live radio concert series on WAMC, **“Bring It On Home.”** In the late eighties, Fradon formed a duo with Leslie Ritter, a partnership that saw the release of half a dozen albums, on the Alcazar and Shanchie/Cachet labels, before the pair went their separate ways in 1995. These days Ritter is married to, and performs in a duo with famed acoustic producer, Scott Petito.

Fradon has been performing her own folk/pop tinged songs and touring with a band, currently called Small Town News, for the last five years. Concurrently, Amy has been a member of Vanaver Caravan’s Woody Guthrie tribute show **“Pastures Of Plenty,”** and the group has toured Scotland, Germany, Czech Republic, Canada as well as throughout the States. Fradon made her solo debut with the eleven song, cassette only, release **“Amy Fradon Live”** and two full CD albums have followed, the latest, **“Small Town News”** having been released in the early summer of 2003. Among the many venues that Amy and Small Town News have played, are the Philadelphia Folk Festival, Clearwater Revival, Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, New York’s The Bottom Line and the now defunct Weavers in North London, England.

Discography :

with Leslie Ritter : **“Crystal Song”** [1988] ; **“Flyin’ On The Wings of Heaven”** [1988] ; **“Amy & Leslie”** [1990] ; **“Delphys : Sacred Spaces”** [1991] ; **“Delphys : Ocean Born”** [1992] ; **“Take Me Home”** [1994] ;

with The Gathering Sun : **“The Gathering Sun”** [1999] :

with Vanaver Caravan : **“Pastures of Plenty”** [2000] :

Solo : **“Amy Fradon - Live”** [1996] ; **“Passion Angel”** [1999] ; **“Small Town News”** [2002] :

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