

# ARTIST Testimonials

## *In support of Abbie Weisenbloom Presents*

“Abbie’s House is the best venue in Portland” is something that I’ve been saying for years. My conviction arises both from my time on her stage and in the audience.

As a performer: my acts are presented in a most respectful way to a happy audience in a beautiful environment, without the hassle of a middle-man, sound-man and other unpleasanties that go with club venues.

As an audience member: where else can I see a purely acoustic show, inches from the stage in a venue with a delicious (pot-luck) buffet and great drinks available before the show and at intermission? And where else can I consistently find such a great community of music-lovers, with time and space to enjoy the music and also each other and to get to know the artists as well.

I should also note the quality of the artists Abbie brings in from all over the world. One of my favorite parts of an Abbie show is spending a few quiet moments with the year’s performance calendar in the kitchen - stellar artists from such a wide variety of musical styles, one after the other, often 4-5 per week, a reminder of Abbie’s commitment to excellence that has enabled her to build a large and loyal mailing list across genres.

In short, Abbie’s house concert series is filling the exact role that years ago a good folk/jazz listening room used to fill: connecting well-known and up-and-coming artists with audiences who trust the programming, in a pleasant room that they all love to keep coming back to.

***Tim Connell, Mandolinist***

What Abbie is doing for the Portland music community is an incredible gift. She hosts in a way that is effortless, professional and makes me feel like I have come home all at the same time. The community she has built around her series is a direct reflection of her passion and love of music as well as her inspiring desire to share with family (bringing the best right into her living room) and with the world.

***Annalisa Tornfelt, Singer & Fiddle player Black Prairie***

At our concert at Abbie's we asked one couple how they heard about our music. They said, "We didn't, we just come to Abbie's concerts whenever we can make it because whatever she books is always wonderful." This is why her concerts are always so successful--with a satisfied audience in the room and online. People go to Abbie's because they know that the music there is always first rate. So, this response made us feel even more delighted to perform there--she sets a high bar for her performers!

It's difficult to overstate the value of Abbie's concerts to both her audience and to traveling musicians. Our hope is that other house concert hosts will learn from her sterling example of how one should present artists to their community. What she is doing with her brilliant

programming and online presentation of performances is so simple and compelling, it's almost a shock that others are not catching on quicker.

***Joe Seamons***

***Blues Musician & Teacher at Community Arts Create***

I have performed at Abbie's many times and it is always a wonderful experience. Abbie and her family are not just super hosts, they are big music enthusiasts who have transformed a major part of their house into an intimate concert room with a stage, lighting and the ability to broadcast the concerts live on the internet! Their living room is a comfortable and cozy space and encourages one to get into the spirit of playing good music. Let's not forget to mention the pot luck that occurs before the concerts, not just because the food is good, but the sense of community that happens at Abbie's is one of the things that makes playing here an informally rich experience, and breaking bread and chatting with the audience beforehand really emphasizes that. Many thanks to Abbie and her family for all of their gracious hard work in hosting so many fine musicians as they pass through town.

***Courtney Von Drehle***

***Accordionist (3 Leg Torso and other projects)***

Abbie Weisenbloom's house is one of my favourite places to play! Abbie and her family make you feel right at home and the audience is always receptive and appreciative. I've played there with four different performing groups and ever time has been a delight. There's nothing quite like playing in someone's living room with natural acoustics, and this is among the best.

***John Reischman***

***Mandolin Player***

Abbie has created an incredible, warm and enthusiastic community with her house concert series. performing in her beautiful home is intimate and unique and i'm psyched to be part of the broad circle of musicians who get to grace her stage!

***Stephanie Schneiderman***

***Musician & Vocalist***

Abbie Weisenbloom's is the crown jewel of house concerts in Portland, Oregon. As performers, we have experienced her nourishing setting over the years - we even played a sold-out show on the day of my dad's death because, in spite of everything, we knew we could release our songs - and hearts - in that room with the best audience in town. Along with her compassionate hosting, Abbie is a bright professional with every tool in her kit honed to fill her audiences with the finest live music imaginable right there in her living room - and Portlanders are well-tuned to respond and show up at Abbie's ready to hear whatever she has lined up for them. Abbie Weisenbloom's House Concert is a dream come true for musicians and audiences alike.

***Kate Power & Steve Einhorn***

***Quality Folk***

Abbie Weisnebloom (Presents) is a special treat for the traveling performer. From the Portland, OR locale it can broadcast to the world great live music and performances, without losing the intimacy of an up close house concert. We can't wait to come back!

***Mollie O'Brien & Rich Moore***

The Weisenbloom House Concert Series is a beaming Lighthouse among houses. The family atmosphere is warm and friendly while still maintaining professionalism and keeping the artist comfortable. The audience is full of seasoned concert goers and listeners that respect the art; making even the smallest crowd a joy for the performer. Well done Abbie!!!

***Brian Oberlin***

***Mandolinist in Portland, OR***

One of my favorite places to perform is Abbie's living room. Her hospitality sets the stage for a warm and wonderful experience for performer and audience alike. Everyone I know who has either performed or attended concerts at her house feels her warm welcome, and is enriched by the quality of the concerts. Her ability to extend her living room to the wider world, through live-streaming, allows performers from far-flung places to share this experience with their family and friends from all over the world. Abbie has created a gem of a venue.

***Betsy Branch, Fiddler***

***Associate Music director of the Portland Christmas Revels***

We've had the pleasure of performing at this series a good many times, and have seen it grow-- even from the first time we were amazed by the great organization and hospitality of the hosts, making a venue which any touring artist could rest assured in that a wonderful night was in store. the charming ambience of the space, the logistics of running the show taken care of, the friendly atmosphere generated, all of the stars align for a venue which artist and audience member alike leave with a cherished experience. From the get-go, Abbie has known how to thoughtfully create this, and refined it through the experience in running countless successful shows-- serving as a valuable place in the music community, if anyone could make a great thing better, it's Abbie, and this series is so dearly deserving of your support!

***David Brewer***

***The Fire, Molly's Revenge***