

TWO CAT TANGO



Two Cat Tango is four piece combo from southern Rhode Island featuring tunes written and arranged by the band's members and done in the Two Cat style. Since everyone brings their musical experiences and tastes to the band, our music is a bit eclectic but definitely folk-based with a little pop-rock flavor and even some swing and blues influences as well. We play songs in a variety of styles- something for everyone! The strength of our band is in the collaborative approach we take with our arrangements, with each band member contributing their unique and varied perspectives to the mix. We think the result is fun and interesting music that you won't get anywhere else!

Rick McKinney, guitar and vocals, is a veteran of a number of bands in a variety of styles and brings his diverse influences to the Two Cat sound. After bouncing around a number of folk-rock ensembles he was a founding member of the influential alt-country touring band The Cartwrights, the jam-friendly ensemble Lazy Lightning that was active in the 90's, and later the eclectic Parallel String Band. Rick also played with the New Orleans bop band The Boogitos and world music favorites Chiva Bus. He writes most of the material for Two Cat Tango. His musical hero is Blu Cantrell, favorite color is green, and favorite Spice Girl is Scary Spice.

Dave Sienko, percussion and vocals, has been the rhythmic foundation of a number of bands including the trend-setting jazz fusion ensemble Second Shift. He has appeared alongside many notable musicians on the local scene in various jazz ensembles, and is the only TCT member to have anchored a power rock trio. Dave was also a member of The Boogitos and Chiva Bus. He brings a variety of rhythmic styles to Two Cat Tango, and writes the percussion parts for our material that gives everything that unique Two Cat sound. His musical hero is Steve Gadd, and favorite Spice Girl is Sporty Spice.

Maria Meleschnig, mandolin, guitar and vocals, has been a member of the local folk music for many years and contributed to several area bands. Recently coming off a stint as the lead singer for bluegrass favorites Saddle Up the Chicken, upon joining Two Cat Tango she has quickly become a major contributor to the Two Cat musical identity. Maria is responsible for the TCT's vocal arrangements, and keeps us all in line arrangement-wise and vocally on track. Her musical hero is Ryan Adams, and, despite being born in Chicago, she prefers thin-crust NY style pizza.

David Lukens, bass and vocals, is the newest member of Two Cat Tango and comes to the band from a diverse folk and old-time blues background. He has been in a number of eclectic ensembles including The Yams, old-timey favorites Fly Around, and the Root Farmers. With TCT he has the herculean task of coming up with bass parts to our decidedly non-bass friendly material, not an easy task but one he accomplishes with amazing results! David's musical hero is Tom Waits, and to his credit he doesn't have a favorite color or Spice Girl.

We all combine our diverse musical experiences and tastes to the band to give voice to our music, described as "...songs of rocket on distant trips, dreams of happiness mixed with sadness, of nearby stars seen from afar and finding your way to where you are." Our shows feature our own songs, many from our first cd titled "Two Cat Tango", with a few choice covers mixed in. Oh and nothing really to do with cats, except for that one song... Anyway check us out soon at a venue near you!