

THE ANNUAL HARVEST GATHERING: THE 1960s REDUX
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I am a child of the 1960s, was there back then before they began, totally during, and so far I am still here. The '60s were a special time for me and for a lot of people who lived them. I am frequently asked what they were like and of course it is hard to describe that time to someone who was not there, which brings me to the Harvest Gathering celebration. They don't call it a music festival.

When I went to my first Harvest Gathering, I thought I was just going to another music festival (there is that phrase again), since two of my daughters perform regularly, one of them (May Erlewine) full-time. And since it was already autumn, I had been to more festivals than I probably wanted to that year. To my amazement, the Harvest Gathering was the closest thing to being back in the 1960s that I had had experienced since that time: three days of music and being together in an almost family-like atmosphere. Three days and nights (for the music is almost non-stop) and the best food I could have imagined and the company of hundreds and hundreds of musicians.

Three days, three stages, 85 bands

More information at:

<http://www.earthworkharvestgathering.com/>

The Harvest Gathering is all about musicians and that is why it is not advertised, a place for musicians to play with and for other musicians – a gathering of music players. Since there is little to no advertising, the Harvest Gathering is almost like a private party. Perhaps a couple thousand other people (non-musicians) find their way there by word of mouth. It is an incredible and wonderful experience for me.

Today we are heading for the 11th annual Harvest Gathering on the third weekend in September 16, 17, and 18, 2010, and there is enough infrastructure now in place to accommodate a few more folks, so thus my writing about this event. Last year there were 85 bands, which means a lot of musicians in one place. There are three stages going on all the time, not to mention lectures and workshops as well. There are tents for kids activities, a vast camping area, strings of lights at night, and so forth. You get the idea.

I will be working the event and hope to see some of you there.

Michael

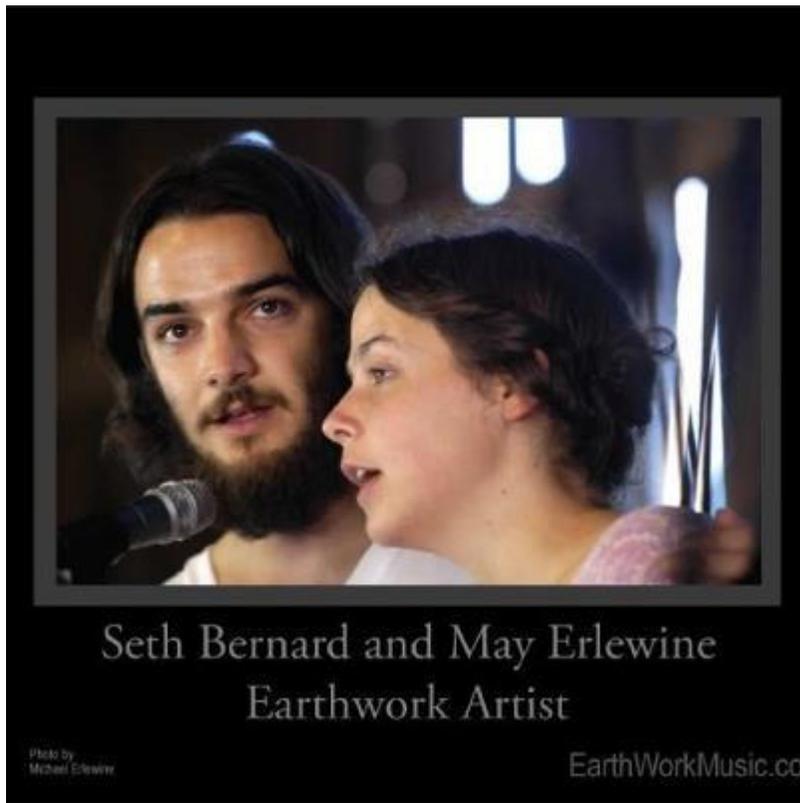
Here are some links to photos:

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.209082842657.161809.587252657&type=1>

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.209120567657.161822.587252657&type=1>

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.209193137657.161849.587252657&type=1>

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.209148027657.161828.587252657&type=1>



[Photo: My daughter May and our new son-in-law Seth Bernard singing at the Harvest Gathering.]