Randall Kromm

singer-songwriter

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For a newcomer on the folk scene, Randall Kromm is doing pretty well for himself.

A lifelong musician, Kromm reinvented himself as folksinger in 2009, playing at coffeehouses, open mikes and clubs in the greater Boston area. Since then, he has performed a sold-out show at **Club Passim**, New England's premier folk venue, released his first CD (*Water Wheel*) and received a multitude of accolades from the music community, including **Christine Lavin** and **Don White**.

Why all the attention? He's different. Kromm creates music that touches people. With his unique personal outlook, he plays beautifully crafted songs of ordinary life, capturing experiences and feelings that we all share. He has a sense of humor, too, enabling us to laugh about life's challenges and difficulties.



On the title track of his CD, the water wheel is used as a metaphor for Kromm's appreciation of those whose "useful work in this one place" provides a solid foundation for their families, friends and communities.

Christine Lavin, Don White White hail Water Wheel

"Randall's songs are presented like a conversation with a friend over a dinner table. Intelligent yet fun, relaxed yet musically interesting, introspective yet universal. I find my thoughts returning to his music long after each performance."

Tom Smith performing folksinger

Lavin, a nationally touring folksinger, called the song **a "modern classic."** In fact, she called Kromm out of the audience at a recent show in Portsmouth, N.H., to play the song for her fans.

"Water Wheel" was also covered by White, a New England performing legend, on his 2010 release, *Winning Streak*. For White, who has recorded 11 CDs, it was the first time he had ever included someone else's song on one of his albums.

"My hope is that now lots of people will make the effort to discover the work of this very talented man," he said.

Varied styles and themes

In his other songs, Kromm uses a variety of different musical styles to examine love, family, hopes, and the uncertainties of everyday life – with insight and wit. **A criminal lawyer, he wrote "Where I Raised You,"** based on the stories of disappointment from parents whose children have led troubled lives. In the wryly humorous "Forgetting on Purpose," Kromm reflects on the unavoidable consequences getting older.

Midwest roots, then on to Harvard

Raised in Manhattan, Kansas, Kromm grew up with the Kingston Trio, Joan Baez and the Beatles. He attended Williams College in Western Mass., then moved to Boston, where he worked as a grant writer and union organizer by day, and played in rock bands by night. Several years later, he shifted his career into law and public policy at **Harvard University**.

After graduating from Harvard, he married and started a family. Kromm lives in the greater Boston area with his wife, Pam, three daughters and a son.