Published on *International Bluegrass Music Association* (https://ibma.org)

Introducing: The John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band [1]

By Taylor Coughlin

As a pioneer of American gypsy jazz guitar, your first thought of John Jorgenson may not be of him whipping out ?Whiskey Before Breakfast? on mandolin, flawlessly, to a standing-room-only crowd at Nashville?s Station Inn. But he did, and it was with his newly-formed John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band made up of legendary musicians Herb Pedersen on banjo, Jon Randall on guitar, and Mark Fain on bass.

On July 25, the too-fresh-for-a-bio John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band indulged the crowd at The Station Inn with the Seldom Scene hit "Wait a Minute" written by Pedersen, ?Whiskey Lullaby? written by Randall, Desert Rose Band tunes (Jorgenson and Pedersen were founders and bandmates), Scruggs classics, and more. There was warmth, and storytelling, and lots of laughter as this fresh band of legends invited Roland White, an old bandmate of Pedersen?s from The New Kentucky Colonels days, onstage to play. Jorgenson asked White what instrument he should play, to which White replied, ?Is there anything you don?t play?? White told Jorgenson to pick up the mandolin.

The John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band made their debut at Music City Roots in Nashville the night before their Station Inn gig, but with their expertise combined, you would think they had been playing in this configuration for years.

The John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band formed out of Jorgenson?s proverbial itch to play bluegrass with some of the best he could gather. Being so newly formed, they have no originals under the new band name yet, so hearing them play each other?s songs as well as familiar traditional favorites is a special treat. The band says they want to play as much as possible, and will be announcing tour dates in the near future, with a great possibility of recording. To keep up with the John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band visit www.johnjorgenson.com [2]

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