



**OXFORD AMERICAN'S 2018**  
**NORTH CAROLINA MUSIC ISSUE**  
**CELEBRATION**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FROM RALEIGH TO ASHEVILLE: THE *OXFORD AMERICAN* CELEBRATES  
NORTH CAROLINA MUSIC WITH A STATEWIDE TOUR OF STORIES AND SONGS**

October 2, 2018—LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS—The *Oxford American* magazine's celebration of its twentieth annual Southern Music issue, this year featuring **North Carolina**, will be held **Monday, November 26 - Saturday, December 1, 2018**. This weeklong celebration, co-presented by Hillsborough, North Carolina-based **Yep Roc Records**, and designed in partnership with North Carolina-native singer-songwriter **Tift Merritt**, will be comprised of music events featuring a Statewide Singing Circle and literary readings highlighting stories from the issue. "As a proud member of the *Oxford American* family, I was thrilled they turned their gaze to North Carolina for their music issue," Merritt said. "Our musical family tree has as many branches as it does roots and I look forward to seeing how the *Oxford American* paints us."

The celebration will **kick-off Monday, November 26** with a reception at the **Governor's Mansion** followed by a concert at **Fletcher Opera Theater in Raleigh** and will conclude at **Malaprop's Bookstore & Café in Asheville on December 1**, with events in Durham and Charlotte in between. The Statewide Singing Circle, led by Tift Merritt, will vary from city to city, but will feature a diverse group of beloved North Carolina musicians coming together in intimate collaborations to create a unique once-in-a-lifetime show. A few of the many special guests include **ASM** (Alexandra Sauser-Monnig of Mountain Man), **Shirlette Ammons**, **Chatham County Line**, **David Childers**, **Chócala**, **Pat Mother Blues Cohen**, **Phil Cook**, **Alice Gerrard**, **Big Ron Hunter**, **Thomas Rhyant**, **Tyler Ramsey**, **Chris Stamey**, and **Shannon Whitworth** among many others, as well as surprise guests to be revealed later. The reading events will also include literary luminaries **Jill McCorkle**, **Wiley Cash**, and **Malinda Maynor Lowery** and will be emceed by *Oxford American* deputy editor **Maxwell George**, a North Carolina native.

The live programs are made possible with the support of co-presenting sponsors **North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources** and **North Carolina Humanities Council**. Additional major partners include North Carolina Arts Council, Visit North Carolina, ArtsGreensboro, Bob Nocek Presents, Maxx Music, Isis Music Hall, The Pinhook, Letters Bookshop, Free Range Brewing, and Malaprop's Bookstore & Café.

All events are co-presented by Yep Roc Records in addition to the local presenting partners noted on each event. Tickets to all events will go on sale to the public **Friday, October 5 at noon EST**. Below, find a listing of the full suite of events and ticket details.

**For more information, visit [OxfordAmerican.org/NC2018](http://OxfordAmerican.org/NC2018) or call 501-374-0000.** *The lineup below is current as of October 2, 2018, and subject to change.*



**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2018**

**Governor's Mansion**

Raleigh, North Carolina, 5:30pm-7:00pm

The *Oxford American* will host a reception with readings and music, to be followed by a full 90-minute concert at Fletcher Opera Theater. Entry is limited via Ticketmaster.com as part of a VIP admission to the Fletcher Opera Theater concert that evening.

***Statewide Singing Circle - Raleigh***

**Fletcher Opera Theater**

2 E South Street

Raleigh, North Carolina, 7:30pm

*Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.com and range from \$27 (balcony) | \$32 (orchestra) | \$65 (VIP)*

Presented in partnership with Bob Nocek Presents, join us for a Statewide Singing Circle featuring Tift Merritt, ASM (Alexandra Sauser-Monnig of Mountain Man), Shirlette Ammons, Chatham County Line, Phil Cook, Alice Gerrard, Big Ron Hunter, Chris Stamey, and other surprise guests.

\*Note that VIP tickets include entry to the pre-concert reception at the Governor's Mansion\*

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2018**

***Stories From the Issue - Durham***

**The Pinhook**

117 W Main Street

Durham, North Carolina, 6:30pm

*Free to the public*

Presented in partnership with The Pinhook and Letters Bookstore, join us for stories from the issue featuring Dasan Ahanu, Sarah Bryan, Benjamin Hedin, Jill McCorkle, Mark Powell, and Tom Rankin, and musical guests Tift Merritt and Phil Cook.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2018**

***Stories From the Issue - Charlotte***

**Free Range Brewing**

2320 N Davidson Street

Charlotte, North Carolina, 7:00pm

*Free to the public*

Presented in partnership with Free Range Brewing, join us for stories from the issue featuring Rebecca Bengal, Lina María Ferreira Cabeza-Vanegas, Lauren Du Graf, Jon Kirby, John Thomason, and Dave Tompkins, and musical guest Tift Merritt.



**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018**

***Statewide Singing Circle - Charlotte***

**Booth Playhouse - Founders Hall**

130 North Tryon Street

Charlotte, North Carolina, 7:30pm

*Tickets are available via [CarolinaTix.org](http://CarolinaTix.org), and range from \$20 (balcony) / \$25 (orchestra rear) / \$28 (orchestra front)*

Presented in partnership with Maxx Music, join us for a Statewide Singing Circle featuring Tift Merritt, Chócala, Phil Cook, David Childers, writer Lina María Ferreira Cabeza-Vanegas, Benji Hughes, Bill Noonan, Thomas Rhyant, and other surprise guests.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2018**

***Statewide Singing Circle - Asheville***

**Isis Music Hall**

743 Haywood Road

Asheville, North Carolina, 8:30pm

*Tickets are available via [IsisAsheville.com](http://IsisAsheville.com), and are \$20 (general admission)*

Presented in partnership with Isis Music Hall, join us for a Statewide Singing Circle featuring Tift Merritt, poet Nickole Brown, Pat Mother Blues Cohen, Mike Guggino, Amanda Anne Platt, Jimmy Landry, Michael Libramento, Tyler Ramsey, Graham Sharp, Shannon Whitworth, and other surprise artists.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018**

***Stories From the Issue - Asheville***

**Malaprop's Bookstore & Café**

55 Haywood Street

Asheville, North Carolina, 3:00pm

*Free to the public*

Presented in partnership with Malaprop's Bookstore & Café, join us for stories from the issue featuring Nickole Brown, Wiley Cash, David Joy, Jon Kirby, Melinda Maynor Lowery, and C.L. White, and musical guest Tift Merritt.

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**ABOUT THE OXFORD AMERICAN**

*Oxford American* is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization and national magazine dedicated to featuring the very best in Southern writing, while documenting the complexity and vitality of the American South. The *Oxford American* is committed to the development of young individuals aspiring to work in the publishing industry and to the production and presentation of multidisciplinary arts events in and around Little Rock, Arkansas. Billed as "A Magazine of the South," it has won four National Magazine Awards—including the 2016 Award for General Excellence in the category of Literature, Science and Politics—and other high honors since it began publication in 1992. The magazine has featured the original work of such literary powerhouses as Charles Portis, Roy Blount, Jr., ZZ Packer, Donald Harington, Donna Tartt, Ernest J. Gaines, and many other distinguished authors, while also discovering and launching the most promising writers in the region. The magazine has also published previously unseen work by such Southern masters as William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Walker Percy, James Agee, Zora Neale Hurston, James Dickey, and Carson McCullers, to name just a handful. *Oxford American* is published in partnership with the University of Central Arkansas. For more information, visit [OxfordAmerican.org](http://OxfordAmerican.org).



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