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Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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Singer-Songwriter Showcase featured at Next Stage-
presents a Singer/Songwriter Showcase Jan. 30-

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TEXT BODY:

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Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present a
singer/_songwriter showcase, in person and via livestream,
featuring Paper Wings, Jason Scaggs, Emily Margaret, and
Michael Roberts at Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill Rd., Friday, Jan.
30 at 7:30 pm.

Southern Vermont-based ~~singer/songwriters~~ Scaggs, Margaret, and Roberts will perform an in-the-round set, followed by the Nashville-based duo Paper Wings.

Longtime friends and collaborators Emily Mann and Wila Frank, known together as Paper Wings, “dream up warm, pastoral folk songs suited to wandering through a forest or field, quiet contemplation, and long winding journeys,” organizers wrote in a news release.

With ~~delicate~~ banjo and ~~spellbinding~~ harmonies “so close you often can’t tell their voices apart,” Emily and Wila Mann and Frank deliver dynamic performances emboldened by the strength of their sincere songwriting. The duo has an uncommon ability to tastefully reference nostalgic sounds of American folk music ~~while maintaining~~ and their own ~~compelling~~ style of ~~artful and unpretentious lyricism~~ music.

“The strength and solitude one finds in the wilderness” is a theme throughout their writing, and they “lovingly transport listeners to open landscapes in which to find comfort and ask the questions which we all have in common,” said organizers.

~~Jason~~ Scaggs’s music ~~feels like a crossroads where~~ encompasses Appalachian roots ~~meet the adventurous spirit of~~ with southern Vermont sound. His songs “carry the warmth and grit of traditional bluegrass, but he bends those traditions with groove-forward rhythms and unexpected melodic turns,” Organizers said. “There’s a raw, lived-in quality to his vocals — equal parts storyteller and front-porch philosopher — that gives each performance an intimate, human edge.”

~~Emily~~ Margaret, an 18-year-old singer-songwriter from Guilford, began her musical journey early, picking up the ukulele at age 4 and the guitar at 7, and writing her first song by 9. ~~Emily~~ Margaret has ~~re~~ fin ~~developed~~ her craft under the guidance of industry veterans, including June Millington at the Institute of Musical Arts and two-time Grammy Award—winner Sonya Kitchell. Influenced by R-&-B and jazz, her music “explores deep emotions with lyrical sincerity, and her voice transitions

45 seamlessly from delicate to powerful, offering a captivating blend
46 of raw emotion and sophisticated melodies," [organizers wrote](#).

47 [Michael](#) Roberts is a guitarist, improviser, singer-
48 songwriter, and sound researcher living in Vermont. He founded
49 the indie folk band Wooden Dinosaur, leads the Americana
50 honky-tonk party band The Rear Defrosters, and composes
51 ambient guitar and folk albums through his solo work. As a
52 bandleader and sideman, [event promoters said](#), he has performed
53 at Carnegie Hall, the Newport Folk Festival, the Mongolian
54 National Sports Stadium, [and](#) the Thing in the Spring Festival, and
55 has shared bills with Iris DeMent, Bonnie 'Prince' Billy, [the](#)
56 Devil Makes Three, the Suitcase Junket, and Chris Smither,
57 among many others.

58 [Doors open at 6:45 PM. Tickets are available at](#)
59 [nextstagearts.org: \\$20 advance, \\$25 at the door, or \\$10 for the](#)
60 [livestream](#).

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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61 Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown
62 Putney. Tickets are \$20 advance, \$25 at the door, and \$10 for
63 access to the livestream. Advance tickets are available at
64 [nextstagearts.org](#). Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and
65 cocktail cash bar. For more information, call 802-387-0102.

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