



SUSQUEHANNA SUMMER SOLSTICE FEST

week
END

Series
LINEUP

CONCERTS

A Celebration of American Roots Music
SusquehannaSolsticeFest.com

WED JUNE 16 - SUN JUNE 18, 2023
French Azilum, PA

FRI
JUNE
16
4:30 -
6:00 PM



Toby Walker
Fingerstyle Virtuoso

littletobywalker.com

Little Toby Walker is a blues guitarist extraordinaire, as will be clearly evident to the audience at SSSF. His finger picking technique and musicality are brimming over in every song- no need for a bass or backup musicians as Toby creates all the parts himself. He combines his originals and cover tunes of great American Blues with his wonderful vocals. If you love American blues and roots music like Blind Lemon Jefferson, B.B. King, Howling Wolf or even Jorma Kaukonen and Hot Tuna- then you'll love Toby. He's a one-man act who captivates and enthralls with his finger picking skill, great audience rapport and impassioned singing.

Toby is the first of three guitar acts on Friday night that we're calling "The Guitar Virtuoso Special." Toby starts us off at 4:30 - so be sure to arrive on time to catch this amazing musician. And as the low-down and sultry blues and even the uptempo jump blues are great for dancing you'll surely want to bring your dancing shoes.

Toby says that he had a fraught childhood and that the guitar and the blues really gave him an identity, which helped him as he segued into his late teens. His parents gave him a guitar at age 9 but he was more interested in baseball growing up in Long Island, NY. But at 16 he started playing Rolling Stones songs with his band and the local audiences at his hometown, Brentwood, NY responded positively.

Mostly self-taught from listening to records, he did get some help from guitarist, Glen Pettit. And then another guy in a music store offered some insights that "unlocked the kingdom" as Toby puts it. And he found a book of chords by Happy Traum and then Toby just kept playing. A road trip hitching across America got him in touch with our nation and its music in an authentic way.

Some may have caught Toby when he was featured at the North Branch Arts Festival in Wyalusing several years ago. He's also been featured on Bound For Glory, the radio show hosted by Phil Shapiro on the Cornell University campus.

Toby has a wide following here in the states and he's toured in England and throughout the continent many times. Toby shares his talent by teaching as well, and he has wide selection of courses available as DVD's. He also does private Zoom and Skype tutoring.