

# BIO

**Pat Fitzgerald** was born the son of an iceman in Fairbanks, Alaska. He started playing drums at age thirteen and guitar at sixteen and has formed and fronted over ten major Alaskan bands since then, playing a healthy dose of “roots rock” and his own originals. These bands have opened for such acts as John Hammond, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Elvin Bishop, the Greg Allman Band and The Youngbloods. He has also played with Freddie Fender and has toured with Al Rapone & The Zydeco Express from Louisiana and The Grant Dermody Band from Seattle.



In the late 80's, Pat began performing solo at concerts, clubs and festivals around Alaska using guitar, fiddle and harp to present his hundreds of originals. This year he was honored to open for Peter Mulvey, Iris Dement and Loudon Wainwright (w/Robin Dale Ford). His songwriting creates a compelling hybrid of styles from Rock to Old-Timey and all convey a revealing urgency found in the lives of characters living on the fringe. He has released three recordings, “Soul on Fire”, “Last Frontier Sessions” and his latest CD on 10th Planet Records, “Wild Harvest.”

In Fairbanks, Pat is co-owner with Robin Dale Ford of a recording studio and record label, **10th Planet Records**, and is working on a new CD of originals with current hometown band, “dang!”.

**Pat Fitzgerald & Robin Dale Ford**, two of Alaska's foremost songwriters, have combined their solo acts into one intimate

and riveting show. They are constantly touring their great state of Alaska, and have just returned from a magical summer touring festivals all across the beautiful and gracious country of Canada.

## Pat Fitzgerald & Robin Dale Ford

When her childhood years as an Army “brat” were up, **Robin Dale Ford** went wandering in search of a place to call home and an instrument that was easier to hitchhike with than her piano. She found her banjo in Grayson, Kentucky and headed for Alaska where she spent the next few years in a band called The Sidewinders playing Old-Timey Stringband music at dances, concerts, clubs and festivals throughout Alaska.

Her focus shifted for a while to electric bass where she enjoyed playing Bluegrass, Jazz-grass, and ultimately all forms of American “roots rock.” Her bands have opened for Asleep at the Wheel, Stevie Ray Vaughn and Elvin Bishop, and she has toured with Al Rapone & The Zydeco Express from Louisiana and The Grant Dermody Band from Seattle.

Songwriting soon became her main passion, and in the late 80's she produced her first album of original songs “**State of Grace**,” called “a pop gem” by reviewers. After that, she turned once more to the banjo and began using it as accompaniment for more modern songs and her own originals creating a unique sound and presentation. In 1994 she released the CD “**Down in My Heart**,” a hauntingly beautiful collection of songs presented with only solo banjo and voice. She has just released a new CD of originals titled “**ain't that skippin' & flyin'**”.



*Photos by Brian Allen*

Robin and her banjo have had the pleasure of opening for such acts as Dar Williams, Iris Dement and Loudon Wainwright (with Pat Fitzgerald), Carrie Newcomer, Libby Roderick, Don McClean, Kevin Welch, Bill Staines, The Doug Dillard Band, Janis Ian, Tim O'Brien, Tracy Schwartz & Ginny Hawker.



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