



eTown
Music • Ideas • Community

New this week on eTown: John Craigie and Olive Klug

Plus, an interview with Dr. Brian Kwoba



This week's broadcast features two songwriters connected by sharp observation, alongside a conversation about history and activism.

John Craigie joins us with songs from his 2026 album *I Swam Here*, marked by wandering characters, dry wit and, above all, thoughtful storytelling.

Also with us is **Olive Klug**, whose growing online audience has helped make them an emerging voice in contemporary folk, writing songs rooted in honesty and vulnerability.



[In our interview](#), eTown host **Nick Forster** talks with historian and author **Dr. Brian Kwoba** about his new book, *Hubert Harrison: Forbidden Genius of Black Radicalism*, and the ideas and movements surrounding one of the most overlooked voices in early 20th-century America.

There's a restless, searching quality running throughout this episode, with songs and conversations that look closely at belonging. Thank you for listening, however and wherever that may be.

This week's songs:

John Craigie: "Edna Strange," "Call Me A Bullet," "Part Wolf" and "Nomads"

Olive Klug: "Taking Punches From the Breeze," "Train of Thought" and "Fleeting"

Finale: "I Won't Back Down" (Tom Petty)

Show highlights



Inspired by Marty Robbins and classic western gunfighter ballads, John Craigie’s [“Edna Strange”](#) unfolds like a modern outlaw tale, full of suspicion, attraction and looming danger. From *I Swam Here*, the song captures how quickly a stranger’s secrets can pull someone into trouble, carried by the vivid lines: “I saw it in her purse when she laid it on the floor. Saw it in her eyes when she double-locked the door.”



From their 2025 album *Lost Dog*, Olive Klug’s [“Taking Punches From the Breeze”](#) captures the freedom and uncertainty of searching for a place to belong. Olive turns self-doubt into observations about growing older without fully knowing where you’re headed, singing, “I told my friends in Brooklyn I might move out to New York. If the world is my oyster I’ve been poking at it

with a plastic fork.”



For this week's [finale](#), John, Olive, Nick, Helen and the eTones perform Tom Petty's "I Won't Back Down" from his 1989 album *Full Moon Fever*. With its plainspoken determination ("And I'll keep this world from draggin' me down"), the song closes the episode with a reminder that resilience can help us all keep our footing.

Featured event: Kathleen Parks of Twisted Pine



On Saturday, **Kathleen Parks**, fiddler, singer and songwriter with the progressive Americana and jamgrass band Twisted Pine, performs at eTown Hall, pairing virtuosic fiddle playing with a vocal style that *Strings Magazine* described as “smooth and brassy,”

drawing comparisons to Rachael Price.

Opening the evening is Denver folk multi-instrumentalist **Travis McNamara** of the Telluride Bluegrass-winning Trout Steak Revival.

[TICKETS](#)

Next week: Artist-in-Residence Hiss Golden Messenger



We're looking forward to welcoming our upcoming Artist-in-Residence, **Hiss Golden Messenger**, to eTown Hall next week for three unique events.

On [Tuesday, May 26](#), we have a Live Taping with Hiss Golden Messenger and special guest Emily Nenni, whose new album *Movin' Shoes* draws from Memphis soul, honky tonk and classic country songwriting.

On [Wednesday, May 27](#), Hiss Golden Messenger returns for a solo concert with special guest Patrick Dethlefs.

Then on [Thursday afternoon, May 28](#), we'll host *Behind the Songs*, an intimate conversation and songwriting event offering a closer look at Hiss Golden Messenger's creative process.

We're grateful to spend this time with Hiss Golden Messenger and thankful to the Live Music Society for supporting independent venues and helping artists and communities gather around live music.

We hope to see many of you at these events.

eTown thanks our local community sponsors



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