



Frank Wheeler Mondell, Representative from Wyoming, with suffragettes at the Capitol, 1914.jpg

The Victorian Woman: Changing the World

The nineteenth century saw incredible changes in society and technology. Women were in the vanguard of some of the most important social movements of the day. They worked tirelessly to change one of the greatest injustices of the era, the lack of universal suffrage. Relive some of the joy, anger, humor and righteous indignation experienced by Victorian women with *The Proper Ladies*. Hear, and join, the songs that women sang as they led the major social struggles of the period, as they grew up and coped with the restrictions they faced.

In gorgeous Victorian dress, *The Ladies* capture the nineteenth century in a-cappella song. Women who led the fights for universal suffrage come to life through period music and their own words.

The songs for Women's Suffrage include **Vote it Right Along** and **Another Star**. Enjoy songs written by women such as **I'm Afloat** and the rousing **Room Enough For All**. Sing to the familiar favorites, **Grandfather's Clock** and **Daisy Bell**; sigh to the rare gems!

The Ladies read from diaries, reminiscences, speeches and journals of the prominent and the obscure including the Smith sisters of Glastonbury, CT., who became suffragists in their eighties; May Arkwright Hutton, the first woman elected as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention and many others.

The Proper Ladies invite you to experience the "Passion & Pathos, Humor & Nostalgia" of American songs of 100 and more, years ago.

Brief Bio:

Since 1994, Anabel Graetz & Deborah Goss, appearing as *The Proper Ladies* have made history come alive with their unique *a cappella* arrangements of folk and composed songs of the Victorian era. Based in Boston, MA., the duo has performed throughout the Northeast and in the Northwest at clubs, coffeehouses, museums and concert halls.

They have combed archives of museums, libraries and historical societies for songs published and sold during the nineteenth century. In these searches, they have found exquisite forgotten melodies (**Evening Song to the Virgin**), original versions of perennial favorites (**One Horse Open Sleigh**) and folk songs (**Grandma's Advice**) sometimes published in surprising arrangements. For more info: <http://bit.ly/1iUjJur>

Anabel, a native Nebraskan who has made her home in Lexington, MA. performs songs that reflect women's history in **Heroic & Outrageous Women** and the birth of the American pop music industry in **Women, Boston & the Songs that Were so Dear**. She is an accomplished actress, with many theatrical and TV credits. She has appeared in the award winning HBO mini series, **Olive Kitteridge** and Hulu's **Difficult People**. She will soon be seen in **Free Guy** opening in July, 2020. She is the founder of both the popular winter solstice event **The Festival of Light & Song**, and of the women's chorus **Laduvane** (Lah-DOO-vah-neh), and has been heard at the Winnipeg and Vancouver folk festivals.

A Vermont native, Deborah is a Boston actress and singer with a special interest in history. She has presented anti-slavery music programs in solo concerts, as well as with author Scott Gac at conferences workshops, symposiums and seminars in Massachusetts and New York State. As Abby Hutchinson Patton she tells and sings the story of **Sweet Freedom's Songs** - rousing anthems, ballads, and ditties popular in the 19th century anti-slavery and women's rights movements. Deborah also appears as some formerly famous American women such as actress Charlotte Cushman and as Mother Goose. Her CD **Songs of the Abolitionists** is available at www.cdbaby.com

The Proper Ladies recreate Parlour Musicales, Temperance/Suffrage meetings and other Victorian pastimes through music, stories, letters and anecdotes of the period. Subjects covered include the Civil War era, women's suffrage, temperance and seaport life. American cultural history in song ... and from a woman's point of view. Hear us live on Vimeo at: <https://vimeo.com/127571675> Or on the streaming broadcast of WGBH's **Let Freedom Sing: Music of the Abolitionists**; available anywhere, anytime, even right now! We sing the opening and closing songs. <http://www.wgbh.org/includes/playerPop.cfm?section=1&featureid=43539>

Programmes featuring *The Proper Ladies* have been funded by the New England States Touring program; New York Council on the Humanities, Vermont Council on the Humanities, Wal-Mart, Bell Atlantic and Costco, among others. The Longfellow* Adams* and Van Buren National Historic Sites; the Canajoharie Library & Art Gallery*, Canajoharie, NY.; the Bennington Museum, Bennington, VT. and the Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, DE. among many others, have enjoyed the "Passion & Pathos, Humor & Nostalgia" of *The Proper Ladies*.

Some Representative Appearances:

The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, MD.	Olana State Historic Site; Hudson, NY.*
Strawbery Banke Museum; Portsmouth, NH.*	Sagamore Hill NHS; Oyster Bay, NY.*
American Textile History Museum; Lowell, MA.*	Faneuil Branch Library, BPL; Allston, MA
First Night; Quincy, MA.*	Memorial Hall Museum; Old Deerfield, MA.*
Sturbridge Village; Sturbridge, MA.	Bremerton Blackberry Festival; Bremerton, WA.
Hudson River Museum; Yonkers, NY.	Bloedel Reserve; Bainbridge Island, WA
Mark Twain Days; Hartford, CT.*	Springfield (MA.) Armory NHS; Civil War Event*
Keene Public Library; Keene NH.	Sacramento Public Libraries; Sacramento, CA.*
U.S.S. Constitution Museum; Charlestown, MA.*	Festival of the Sea; San Francisco, CA.

Women's Rights National Historic Park, Celebrate '98; Seneca Falls, NY.

NOTE: Funding for *The Proper Ladies* is available through the New England States Touring program, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts: http://www.nefa.org/grants_programs/grants/nest_new_england_states_touring_grant

*Denotes return appearances.

The Proper Ladies

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The Proper Ladies

Anabel Graetz & Deborah Goss

What They Say About *The Proper Ladies*

What a lovely ending to a wonderful day at Cedar Hill Cemetery's 150th Anniversary Thank you ladies, you were the icing on the cake!
Imposters Impersonating History, via Facebook

Your efforts on **Darling Nelly Gray** are unmatched, by anyone, anywhere.
Steve Ball, Civil War Musician via FaceBook

Some Folks is one of the best (in my humble opinion) Foster tunes of the period, but not often heard. If you ever get the chance to hear The Proper Ladies do this tune, don't miss it. Stephen himself would be very proud of their rendition.
Steve Ball, Civil War Musician via FaceBook

After closing with a children's song that required the musical accompaniment of a tin pie plate and wooden spoon, the musicians left the stage, only to be called back by a standing ovation.
The Sentinel, Belchertown MA

...you had the audience eating out of your hand. ...enjoyed your performance.
First Night Danbury, CT

We did so enjoy having you here in Woodburn, in spite of the terrible circumstances of that week. Our audience members were really so ready to get away from their televisions and be lifted in spirit by your entertaining program
Woodburn Public Library, Sept. 13, 2001, Woodburn, OR

The audience participation was truly amazing. ...
The Proper Ladies' performance was a uniquely romantic, Victorian delight. The Chronicle, Newport, VT

You struck the proper balance between reverence and humor.
You folks were brilliant!!
Audience members

...thank you for your excellent performances...
Peter Scott, California Railroad Museum, 'Old Sacramento', Sacramento CA

Thank you for your participation in the Harley Davidson Mass Rally in Worcester. The booth display went beyond our expectations and was really wonderful, as was the fun interaction with the rally visitors. Just great!
NEET Events, Inc.; Worcester, MA

Loved the old songs – Great voices.
Audience member

The Proper Ladies ... delighted the crowd...
The Recorder; Greenfield, MA.

We are still hearing rave reviews about *The Proper Ladies* performance at the Hudson River Museum!
Thank you so much for a wonderful presentation.
Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY

The Proper Ladies were absolutely perfect!
Brenton Simons, New England Historic Genealogical Society